

Cois Inbhir Residents' Association

Issue number 2: July 2008

Newsletter

Not a member?

If you are interested in joining the Residents' Association and we have not managed to talk to you at your door, please email us at coisinbhir@dub.ie.

Items Currently on agenda

The residents' association has now been in existence for the past seven months and are well settled at this stage. Most of the paper work associated with setting up an RA has been completed and we have established a strong relationship with Fingal County Council as well as other local groups such as Tidy Towns and Neighbourhood Watch.

Our focus at the moment is working with the council to take ownership of Cois Inbhir. Other items on the agenda include road safety measures which are discussed later and organizing a summer BBQ and clean up fun day.

House Alarms

You may have seen the advert on the television advertising monitored alarms. The advert shows a family eating out in their back garden while their neighbour's alarm is going off. They sit and shout across to each other as the alarm is sounding but do nothing because it is a regular occurrence and nobody pays attention to the alarm anymore. Monitoring your alarm may or may not be a solution but if you are going away, try to leave a key and the alarm code with a friend so that they can turn it off if it is activated. They can also investigate if something goes wrong when you are away.

Going on holidays

If you are going on holidays, you can make your house less attractive to the chance burglar by doing a few simple things:

- 1) Ask a neighbour to cut your grass when you are away.
- 2) Ask your neighbour to take in your post from the hallway on a regular basis, nothing says we are on holidays like lots of post inside the front door.
- 3) Leave a radio on in the house on low volume to give the impression that somebody is home.

Summer @ Cois Inbhir

As promised, we are going to have a Summer @ Cois Inbhir event. The RA are hoping to hold the fun day in late August, weather permitting.

Some of the planned activities for the day are face painting, a BBQ, clean up activities in conjunction with Donabate Tidy Towns and fun games for the younger residents.

We are keeping an eye on the weather and will notify you as soon as a clear dry day is forecast.

Donabate Tidy Towns

The Donabate Tidy Towns committee is hard at work planting, cleaning, sweeping and sprucing the town for this year's competition. Although projects happen all year round, the surprise judging is in June and July so we have to be particularly on the ball during these months.

Projects that we have completed in 2007 and 2008 include landscaping the area beside the northbound car park at the train station, planting the area at "The Hand" (junction of Beaverstown Rd/Portrane Rd), collecting 48 sacks of litter on our National Spring clean day, litter picking along the entrance to the Rogerstown Estuary, planting two urns outside the Catholic church, planting two beds in the village green and planting and improving the Donabate stone sign before the petrol station. We have also worked closely with Fingal County Council to rebuild the wall at the green in the village and the wall around the Donabate sign at the garage. For more information about our work log onto donabatetidytowns.blogspot.com.

We are always looking for volunteers and send out emails to our distribution list of forthcoming projects. If you would like to get involved please email Blaitin O'Donnell at donabatetidytowns@dub.ie

Cois Inbhir now part of the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

The Donabate Neighbourhood Watch committee have been working in conjunction with the Gardaí to establish a Garda presence in the Donabate/Portrane peninsula. As a result, a new policing initiative from the Gardaí in Swords has kicked off. A "sub-unit" consisting of a marked patrol car and two uniformed Gardaí on the beat will be deployed on a regular basis. The first deployment on the peninsula was Friday evening on the 29th of February.

A further addition to the Neighbourhood Watch scheme is that Cois Inbhir is now a member. Every six

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weeks, the Neighbourhood Watch committee meet with the Gardaí from Swords and discuss any incidents that have happened in the previous six weeks. If there is a recurring issue in an area, it will be put on the patrol car list and visited on a regular basis.

To ensure Cois Inbhir is included, a member of our Residents' Association committee will attend the Neighbourhood Watch meetings. If you see or are concerned about any activities that need to be brought to the attention of the Gardaí, please email coisinhir@dub.ie or contact Swords Garda station.

Friendly Call

Friendly call is a service that is available to residents in Donabate, Portrane and Balheary. The service offers:

- ✚ A free call five days a week to check that people are well and kept informed of other services available to them.
- ✚ Reminders of hospital and doctor appointments.
- ✚ If no response is received within a set period of time, the contact person will be notified.

For further details contact 8436074 or log onto <http://www.friendlycallservice.com>.

Other sites of interest are:

<http://www.ageaction.ie>

<http://friendsofthelderly.ie>

Road Safety

Earlier in the year, we delivered a leaflet into every house asking for your vote on the installation of ramps. The aim would be to reduce the speed of vehicles that are currently entering Cois Inbhir at higher than recommended speeds.

Originally, the plan was to count any non votes as a yes for ramps, however some residents felt that this was not the correct method and therefore we are only counting the votes that we received. The results are as follows:

<i>Answer</i>	<i>Count</i>
Yes	55.9%
No	44.1%

Based on the results, the committee will now review all options and consult with Fingal County Council on the most suitable option for Cois Inbhir.

In addition to this, we have ordered three signs to remind drivers to reduce speed on entry to Cois Inbhir as there are more than 100 children living here and their safety is paramount.

Finally, we have contacted the Road Safety Authority and they have supplied us with information on road safety including a DVD of the Safe Cross Code (old and new version) which we will be playing at the summer BBQ event. Any parent wishing to get a copy for their own home can contact the RA.

New Proposals for Rogerstown Estuary

Fingal County Council intends to develop a natural amenity area at Rogerstown Inner Estuary in Donabate.

As a special area of conservation, Fingal County Council must ensure the protection of these nature conservation areas which are an important wintering and breeding ground for birds.

The works proposed by Fingal County Council are:

- ✚ New entrances on Turvey Avenue plus 120 car spaces
- ✚ 250 allotments plus 3 kilometres of walkways
- ✚ New bridge adjacent to the railway bridge
- ✚ Woodland and hedgerow planting plus hay meadows
- ✚ Introduction of cattle on grasslands and interpretative facilities.

The plans are available on display at Fingal County Council Offices in Swords and in Donabate Community Centre on Portrane Road.

Written submissions are invited and you should write to Fingal County Council, Swords on or before 27th August 2008 or email maria.quill@fingalcoco.ie.

Story supplied by Michael Kennedy (TD for North Dublin) and Councillor Darragh Butler (Fingal Co. Co.)