

THE BEAUMONT NEWS

Official Newsletter of the Beaumont Residents' Association

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MAY-AUGUST 2013

B.R.A. NEW COMMITTEE 2013



Your new committee for 2013-2014 - (left to right top row): Joseph Roche, Barry Doyle, Cecelia Roche and Tony King. (Bottom row): Joan Ennis, Anthony Meehan, Des Maguire and Ann Cullen.

**Beaumont Residents Association
Minutes of AGM
Held on 9th April 2013
In Mercy College Hall
At 8p.m.**

The Chairman Des Maguire opened the meeting at 8.06 pm and welcomed all present. A brief overview of the meeting and its proposed running order was given. The Minutes of last year's AGM were published in the 'Beaumont News'. There were no issues arising and the Minutes were proposed by Cecilia Roche, seconded by Noreen Maher and adopted unanimously by the meeting following a show of hands.

A free prize draw was held for all members present and there were six lucky winners.

Garda & Neighbourhood Watch Report: Due to pressure on time and resources, Gardai were unable to attend the meeting. Noreen Maher read a Neighbourhood Watch Report to the meeting. This was proposed by Jo Buggy, seconded by Margaret Tobin and accepted following a show of hands.

Ratification of Trustees: The Chairman explained the role of Trustees within the organisation and the Trustees, Noreen Maher, Joan Ennis and Barry Doyle, were

proposed and their positions deemed ratified by the meeting following a show of hands.

Secretary's Report: The Secretary's Report was read by Ann Cullen, giving details of community events which were organised and all actions taken by the Committee on behalf of the organisation over the past year. The report was proposed by Tony King, seconded by Angela Lee and adopted following a show of hands.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was read by Barry Doyle, giving details of all income and expenditure for the year. A full breakdown of where spending had increased and decreased was given. The report was proposed by Frank Gurry, seconded by Marie Mclaughlin and adopted following a show of hands.

Election of New Committee: Suzanne

DOG FOULING

Dog owners have a responsibility, both social and legal to clean up after their dogs. Just do it!

Please visit and LIKE our

facebook

Page;

<http://www.facebook.com/BRA.Beaumont>
Please share with your friends and ask them to LIKE.

The Page is updated daily and is a great way of Communicating and Sharing information.

Hyland had stepped down from the Committee during the year. John Ryan announced that he would not be putting himself forward for re-election this year. John will continue as Road Rep for Coolatree Road and Coolatree Close. The Chairman thanked them both for their service to the Association.

New Committee member Anthony Meehan was proposed by Des Maguire.

The seven outgoing Committee Members (Ann Cullen, Barry Doyle, Des Maguire, Joan Ennis, Tony King, Cecilia Roche and Joe Roche) offered themselves for re-election. All were proposed and seconded and elected unanimously by a show hands.

Road Reps: The Chairman offered special thanks to the following serving Road Reps for their commitment and work on behalf of the Association: Frank Gurry, Aidan Buckley, Kay Maguire, Martin Culhane, Derek Doyle, Patrice O'Sullivan and Lisa Whelan.

New Road Reps: Jackie Doyle and Cathy Colclough volunteered their services and were welcomed. The Chairman also thanked the many helpers who gave a hand at events during the year.

Subscriptions: It was agreed that the annual subscription should be left at €15.

City Bin Company: The Committee were asked if they are endorsing the City Bin Co., Chairman replied that we are bringing an offer forward from the company, but people have a choice who they engage. He said the offer from City Bin Co. is a good offer @ €99 for the year, with an undertaking from the City Bin Co to pay the Association €10 for every client who transfers to them by 30th April 2013. This amount will be taken off the annual BRA subscription for the member.

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THIS IS WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR 29c PER WEEK



The Beaumont Residents' Association now has a very successful SMS Messaging system which alerts us about dangers in our area and other related matters. ● It represents the area at the **Neighbourhood Watch** Meetings and liaise with the gardai for the good of the community. ● It organises a **Christmas Party** for the Senior Citizens of the area. ● It holds a **Summer event** for the younger members and it also holds a **Party at Christmas** at which Santa visits. ● It is a **lobby group** for the greater good of the residents of Beaumont. **BRA Website and New Facebook Page and Newsletter. Remember the greater the number of people that join the association the stronger it becomes.**
29c by 52 weeks is €15.08 which is 8 cent more than a membership.

THE CHAIRPERSON'S ADDRESS

I am delighted that our Text Messaging service is being warmly embraced and valued by our Members. The good news is; we are continuing with the service and even enhancing the communications links. A small number of Members who do not have mobile phones are receiving our voice messages to their fixed line phones. Text messaging will become even more important and essential for our Members as we move forward.

A potential threat to our personal safety and our home security could be coming down the track to us in the next few months and years. Cut-backs in the Garda budget resulting in diminishing Garda resources is now beginning to have consequences on the ground and means there are not enough Gardai to patrol our area in a manner which we have been accustomed to in the past.

Fewer Garda Stations, Fewer Gardai and fewer cars, means fewer patrols on the ground. Our Community liaison Gardai have been withdrawn and redeployed to frontline duties, leaving our Community with a serious breach in our security. It won't be very long until this breach is identified and the void left by our redeployed Gardai is occupied by Burglars and other assorted Criminals. We must therefore, prepare and make Beaumont a hostile place for the incoming unsavoury Criminals. I believe that doing nothing is not an option but others are happy to adopt a wait and see approach. I believe that a proactive approach is the most effective way to go.

Each household needs to take a much more proactive approach to their own security than heretofore. Only a couple of years ago we boasted that Beaumont had almost zero crime and was the safest place in Dublin to live. We are no longer near zero crime and we could be looking at much larger crime figures in the future if we don't take steps to protect ourselves and make Beaumont a hostile place for Criminals.

Let's get connected and keep the criminals out. A well connected community is a tight knit, well informed, safe, secure environment -an environment criminals hate. BRA are leading the way in getting this community connected. BRA has just launched a new dedicated 24/7 helpline for Members. This number will be printed on the new BRA Membership cards and will go live on 1st June. Many Members are apprehensive about calling the Gardai in respect to suspicious persons or activities they may see, lest it is a false alarm or for fear they may get targeted as a result. I can understand their reluctance and this is one of the reasons for setting up our new helpline. If you see something unusual, suspicious vehicles, activity or whatever; call the helpline. Remember to try and glean as much description of the event as you can (colour, type, reg no of vehicle, No of occupants, direction travelling, time, etc) Please note; our helpline is not intended to replace the Emergency Services 999 number.

I strongly encourage you to provide us with your phone number - preferably a mobile number. Without your number, we cannot communicate with you. Write your phone number on the subscription envelope. Your phone number is safe with BRA.

'Road Reps' will call to collect your subscription envelope at the time specified on the envelope. Please have the envelope filled out with the information requested including your phone number. Don't forget the membership fee - it is still only €15.00. Road Reps will have photo ID (passport or drivers licence) when they call. Please check the ID if you do not know your Road Rep. There are a number of Roads without Road Reps. If you live on any of these roads your envelope will state that there is no Road Rep for your road -so no one will call back to collect the envelope. Please drop your completed envelope into a BRA Post Box in Beaumont House Off-licence or in the Post Office - before 1st June. Help us to help you.

Sincere thanks to our many members (almost 60% of the area) for your support. I invite the other 40% non-members to please join Beaumont Residents Association and play your part in keeping our community safe. If you live in our community -regardless of whether you own or rent your home, you enjoy the benefits of personal safety and security promoted by BRA and its Members. We need you now to help us help the community. The same goes for shops and businesses in our area. Let's get connected and fight the potential threat to our security.

BRA incurred a significant deficit in 2012 and we aim to be more prudent this year. The 'Kids Sports & Fun Day' will not be held this year. This decision was taken on the basis of the cost of the event and the turnout. The numbers attending were much too low and can no longer be justified. We have substituted the event with a Free Prize Quiz for Family tickets to Dublin Zoo. The tickets can be used at a time to suit during the year. The text quiz will take place in early June. The senior Members Christmas party and Santa's party for the children will go ahead. - **Des Maguire**

ARE THERE ANY UNWANTED PENDANT ALARMS OUT THERE?

If you are in possession of a Pendant Alarm and no longer need it, please give to a committee member or Road Rep. BRA can get these used alarms refurbished and ready for use by others in need.

At this time we have a small number of refurbished Pendant Alarms available for Members. There is a cost of €50.00 for installation and €66.00 per annum thereafter for monitoring. Call the helpline if you need an alarm.

**HELPLINE NUMBER ON NEW MEMBERSHIP CARD
CHECK AND SEE IF YOU HAVE ONE?**

AGM MINUTES FROM PAGE 1

Any Other Business:

New Helpline: Our SMS messaging system was agreed to be extremely satisfactory. Our voice messaging service seems to have had some blips, but it is hoped these will be ironed out in the near future. Chairman gave details of a proposed new helpline for members. A dedicated number will be set up and committee members will take turns manning the phone for a month at a time. If no one is available to take the call, a message can be left and a call back can be made. Although not intended to take the place of contact with the Gardai, it is believed that a local contact number for members may be advantageous in helping to deal with local issues.

Local Deals: The Chairman asked the Meeting if they were using the 'discount deals' for Members. Only a small number of Members availed of the discounts offered by certain businesses to BRA Members. Since the offers were not availed of, it was agreed that they will not be renewed for the coming year.

Local Property Tax: Local Property Tax was discussed and it was agreed that the best way forward is to consult with neighbours and the property price register website, to ascertain local prices for individual roads. The general valuation band for the area (according to Revenue's website) is €200k - €250k.

Footpath adjacent to the MACE: The issue of parking at the corner adjacent to the Mace shop and in the general vicinity of the block of shops was raised. Parking in this area is very poorly organised and it was felt that it is only a matter of time before there is an accident. It was stated that the footpath and triangular raised area immediately in front of the MACE entrance door should not be used for parking vehicles. The particular raised area is in a poorly maintained state and hazardous for pedestrians. The Committee were asked to investigate and seek to address the issue of chaotic parking adjacent to the MACE. A Member raised the issue of delivery trucks (to the MACE) driving up on the grass verge at the junction of Shantalla Drive/Shantalla Road, destroying the grass and creating pot-holes. It was felt that the erection of bollards and planting trees at this junction would act as deterrents to the current unacceptable parking and driving behaviour.

It was stated that security needs to be addressed by MACE as there have been several robberies in the recent past -one of them an armed robbery. Members raised the issue of 'unsocial behaviour' by groups of young people congregating around the MACE.

Chairman asked that written details of all the issues with the MACE be provided to the Committee, together with suggested solutions and the Committee will take the matter up with the MACE, Dublin City Council and whoever else may be responsible.

Closure of Laneway on Shantalla Drive/Park/Beaumont Grove: A request was made to the meeting by Members residing adjacent to this lane, for a financial contribution from BRA funds towards the cost of erecting gates to close off a laneway linking Shantalla Drive/Park and Beaumont Grove. This particular area is experiencing problems with anti-social behaviour for many years.

The application was made on the grounds that the lane closure will have positive effect on the lives and security of many people living in the area. The cost of the gates is €4,500. Immediate neighbours are willing to meet most of the cost. It was suggested that an amount bearing direct relationship to the subscriptions in the immediate environs could be considered. The Chairman and Barry Doyle (Treasurer) checked the Membership numbers in the affected area and calculated the subscription amount to be €600.

The meeting agreed unanimously, by a show of hands, to contribute €600 towards the required gates/lane closure.

This concluded the business and the meeting closed.