

*The residents association committee have produced this newsletter to give the residents an insight into the activities that the committee are currently working on. We hope you find this of interest and if you have any comments or issues that you would like raised please let us know.*

### IMPORTANT SAFETY NOTICE

It has come to the committee's attention that an incident occurred recently whereby a male in a red car intimidated a girl who was walking to school alone. If your child is allowed to walk to/from school, it is important to remind him/her regularly of the importance of never talking to or approaching strangers/cars and of walking in pairs/groups rather than alone.

### A brief history

Riverwood Residents association was formed in 2006 and initially included Riverwood Copse and Chase. This was formed from a group of residents who had setup a Neighbourhood Watch on the 2 roads to combat a number of antisocial incidents which occurred mainly on the green. The Neighbourhood Watch group had been setup in 2002 and over the years this group got involved in other issues eg maintenance of green, planning issues and felt a formal residents association was required. An initial AGM was held in February 2006 and a committee was formed. The following year residents from Riverwood Glen were added to the group and last year residents from Riverwood Dene, Dale, Drive and Glebe also joined into the group. While we try to represent the issues for these roads we would welcome any resident from the Riverwood Estate into the Association, and would hope over time that the association would represent residents from all roads in the Riverwood Estate.

The issues that the Residents association have been involved with include

- Liaising with Community Gardai/Participation in Neighbourhood Policing forums
- Liaising with departments in Fingal County Council
- Planning Submissions for Carpenterstown
- Participation in D15 Community Council
- Any other issue that affects the residents in Riverwood

The effectiveness of the Residents Association is very much dependant on the residents for their input and effort. The committee will try and address concerns that residents raise, but needs the support of the residents to make it as successful as it can be. This includes participation in clean-up-days, responding to email queries from the committee, suggestions on improvements for the estate and ensuring the estate is maintained and kept secure from unwanted antisocial behaviour.

Riverwood Residents Association is online at

<http://www.riverwoodres.com>

Do you want to be included on our email distribution list ? Send an email to [riverwoodres@yahoo.ie](mailto:riverwoodres@yahoo.ie) with your details.

### Tennis court update

The Tennis Courts on the Riverwood Copse/Chase green are now being actively used for tennis, with Parks Tennis and Fingal County Council holding regular Tennis Coaching for the last couple of years, primarily for junior players. Last year they started tennis coaching for adults and some players are trying to establish a regular playing session and hopefully a club may evolve from this. Adult coaching will be starting again shortly - if anyone is interested in getting involved in playing tennis please contact us and we will pass on the relevant information

As one of the last remaining public tennis courts with functioning nets, the committee is eager that the courts are well maintained and as such have been active in trying to ensure only tennis is played and have discouraged any football from being played in the courts. Football causes damage to the nets and prevents tennis players from playing. Other public tennis courts have deteriorated over time and the committee are adamant that the Riverwood courts are maintained in good condition. Fingal County Council Byelaws also prohibit the use of football in the tennis court.

### People Power - Minipitch defeated

Last year the residents association objected to a Fingal County Council proposal to put a minipitch on the Riverwood Copse/Chase green. We believe that locating this facility in the middle of the Riverwood estate was inappropriate and are relieved that this is not progressing any further by Fingal. Thank you to everyone who wrote or emailed the council during this campaign.

### Clean-up-days – Get involved !

Each spring a clean-up day is arranged to try and tidy up the areas in the estate. Depending on the number of volunteers this generally means digging up the weeds at the road edges and picking up litter on the open areas. We would encourage everyone to get involved in the next clean up day and notice will be give via the website and flyers in advance.

**The AGM is planned for 25 March at 8.00pm in Castleknock Community College and would invite everybody to attend and highlight what they want from the Residents Association and the issues that concern them.**

## Meeting with Gardai

The Residents Association meets with the Community Gardai on a regular basis. Recent issues that we have highlighted to the Gardai, include the increase in Graffiti, speeding in Carpenterstown and antisocial behaviour in the area. The Community Gardai also host a Clinic where a Community Garda is available for an hour in Laurel Lodge Community Centre on a Wednesday night between 7 and 8. We have also attended 2 Policing forums for the general D15 area hosted by the Superintendent for the Finglas and Blanchardstown area in the last year. This has allowed residents and community groups air their grievances with criminal/antisocial activity and also the provide feedback of the general performance of the Gardai and the public's perception of them.

If there is something you want us to raise with the Gardai please let us know, or we would encourage any resident to go to the Clinic in Laurel Lodge.

**Regarding speeding on the ring road, as part of the planning submission for the Porterstown Link Road, Traffic Calming Schemes for a number of roads in the environs of the Porterstown Link Road are to be prepared and brought before the Castleknock Mulhuddart Area Committee of the Council for consideration, so we will wait and see what is planned what affect they may have.**

## What is the Dublin 15 Community Council ?

Since forming as a Residents Association we have also become a member of the Dublin 15 Community Council (D15CC). This is essentially an umbrella organisation for residents associations across Dublin 15. They discuss important issues like transport, educational and recreational infrastructure. They provided us with very useful advice in our campaign against the minipitch. This year, our representative on the community council, Damien Carbery, was elected Chairperson. You can learn more about D15CC on their website: <http://www.dublin15cc.com/>

## Litter bins - finally

After 3 years of requesting litter bins from Fingal County Council, a new bin has been installed at the pedestrian crossing between Riverwood and Woodbrook, hopefully it won't be another 3 years before we get the doggy bin that we have requested.

## Something for nothing ! A free noticeboard

Last November we erected an outdoor noticeboard beside the playground. We use this to keep residents informed of activities and events. Castlethorn graciously paid for it so we did not have to use any of the subscription fees.

**Have you forgotten the dates for the different bin collections ? We have updated our website with dates for the different collections**

## Is the roof over your bay window leaking?

Over the past few years a number of residents have noticed that water has been leaking in the bay windows whenever it rains. This would appear to be related to the way the slates were laid on the last row of tiles, and some rain water is blown back under the tiles and can leak into the bay window. Some residents have managed to get this fixed by contacting roofing companies to get the last row of slates laid correctly. If you want more details on this please contact us at [riverwoodres@yahoo.ie](mailto:riverwoodres@yahoo.ie)

## Fingal update

Almost 10 years after the completion of the last phase of Riverwood, not all areas of the estate have been handed over to Fingal County Council which gives rise to confusion and delay when issues arise. While most of the green space is now maintained by the Parks Department only 4 roads have been transferred to the Roads Department. We are currently trying to get clarification from Fingal on this process and the current obligations of the developer in the estate. We have recently met Ruairi O'Dulaing, the head of the Parks Dept raising issues relating to the open areas in the estate.

## Dog fouling – less but still there

Then number of people picking up after their dog has grown and this is appreciated by everyone. We all know that there are still a number of irresponsible dog owners throughout Carpenterstown. Litter wardens can fine such owners €150.

## Website and mailing list – Keep informed

We have our own website which contains recent news for the association and we try to keep it up-to-date with relevant info for the estate. If you want something added or feel that we are missing something please let us know and we will add it. It also contains a list of community links that we feel will be useful to residents. We also have a mailing list which we use for some news items and requests - if you do have an email address please email [riverwoodres@yahoo.ie](mailto:riverwoodres@yahoo.ie) or logon to <http://www.riverwoodres.com> and select the option to “contact us” with your details and we will add your address to our list.

## Parking on footpaths

We would ask all residents to be considerate when parking their vehicles in the estate. Every day pedestrians, including children in buggies, are forced onto the road because of cars parking on the footpaths.

**Residents committee members : Frank Lynch, Mark McMenamin, Des Colomb, Damien Carbery, Gabriel Shanley, Dermot Whooley, Gavan Quinlan, Cormac Brophy & Emmet O'Hanlon.**