

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF METROPOLITAN JOINT POLICING SUB COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, MERCHANT'S QUAY, LIMERICK ON MONDAY,
21ST MAY, 2018 AT 12.30 P.M.**

IN THE CHAIR :	Councillor Seán Lynch
MEMBERS :	Councillors Hurley, Keller, Ó Ceallaigh, Costelloe, Gilligan, Hogan
LCCC OFFICIALS :	Mr. J. Clune, A/Senior Executive Officer Ms. L. Creamer, Staff Officer, Corporate Services
GARDA NOMINATIONS:	Superintendent D. Smart Superintendent F. Pattwell
COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES :	Ms. Monica McElvaney, Adapt Services
APOLOGIES :	Inspector P. Byrnes

At the outset, Councillor Lynch, Chairman, apologised for the delay caused by the longer than usual Metropolitan District Meeting.

It was agreed that if there was a large agenda for the Metropolitan District Meetings in future then the Metropolitan JPC Meeting would be rescheduled to a different date.

MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor Lynch, seconded by Councillor Gilligan and unanimously agreed to approve Minutes of Metropolitan Joint Policing Sub Committee Meeting held on 19th February, 2018.

1. UPDATE FROM SUPERINTENDENT DEREK G. SMART

Members voiced their concerns regarding the following issues :

- Large groups of teenagers congregating in areas drinking, some of whom are underage, smoking and intimidating residents and referred specifically to Old Cratloe Road, Castletroy and Annacotty. These groups increase during the summer months due to school holidays. Members requested that garda patrols be increased in these areas;
- Sulky racing on main roads especially during rush hour and in particular on Ballyneety Road, some of the individuals involved are children. Horses being retained in back gardens in the city centre and this includes Lamas also. Horse Control Committee going to visit Clondalkin, Dublin to see their horse project. Members asked that the policy on sulky racing be updated;
- Anti social behaviour taking place in Johnsgate Village;
- Additional gardai required on the city streets;
- Strategy required for dealing with people partaking in anti social behaviour and who are living in Council housing . These people should be evicted. Community policing very important and brings stability to an area, Request additional community gardai in areas where anti social behaviour is taking place;

- Increase number of fines issued to non disabled people parking in disabled parking spaces;
- Begging in the city centre becoming an increasing problem;
- Examine the issue of horses in Greenpark Race Course and also on Vances Land;
- Check to see if the CCTV at the back of the Baggot Estate is working;
- Members of the public should be encouraged to report more matter to the Gardaí;
- Concern was expressed at graffiti on walls of private dwellings and enquired if it would be possible to make parents of individuals carrying out these acts aware of this and be required to carry out corrective action;
- Concern was expressed at anti social behaviour taking place in the vicinity of the Regional United Soccer Club and increased Garda patrols were requested for the area;
- Members received complaints from Traders regarding anti social behaviour and vandalism in the Market area and asked that the matter be addressed;
- Members referred to the problem of horses grazing and being ridden in Rathbane Municipal Golf Course and Pike Rovers Football Club. A golfer was knocked down by somebody riding a quad bike in the golf course. A request was made to install CCTV cameras and electronic access and railings at the Golf Course. Request update on same.
- Members stressed the importance of telling members of the public to report incidents to the Gardai;

Superintendents Pattwell and Smart replied to the above queries as follows :

- A definite line of enquiry was being followed in relation to the incident where the golfer was knocked down by a quad bike in Rathbane Municipal Golf Course. He agreed to monitor the issue of horses in Rathbane Golf Club on a regular basis and, if necessary, the horses will be seized. Garda patrols would be increased to monitor activity at Regional United Soccer Club;
- Issues re the Baggot Estate will be passed on to the regular Garda patrol units and community police. He agreed to check the CCTV in the Baggot Estate to ensure it is working;
- New laws for cyclists have been issued and will be imposed shortly;
- There is no legislation in relation to the keeping of Lamas so unfortunately this matter cannot be addressed;
- The Gardai are working actively on anti social behaviour by large groups of teenagers congregating in areas and are issuing fines, where necessary. The Juvenile Liaison Officer has also been involved to try and encourage youths to change their behaviour;
- 36 Gardai passed the fitness tests and added that it is hoped to have 36 pedal police in place by the end of the summer period. This increased visibility of Gardai on the streets and housing estates will have a positive impact on addressing anti social behaviour and crime;
- The issue of anti social behaviour in Cornmarket Row and city centre is an ongoing issue and garda presence had been increased there with between nine and eleven Gardai patrolling the city centre daily. Unfortunately there is limited CCTV in the area;

- A number of serious assaults have taken place in Johnsgate Village adding that none of the houses there are owned by Limerick City and County Council. However, the Gardai have been active in addressing these issues;
- Seven new guards had been appointed to Limerick, however, eight guards were lost due to transfers, retirements, etc. The Drugs Staff had been increased and there was now double the number that was there. One Community Policing Guard had been assigned to Nicholas Street;
- There is no legislation around the issue of begging so, therefore, there is very little the Gardai can do about the matter. One Exclusion Order had been issued recently in respect of one individual who was on O'Connell Street. The Homeless Action Group are intervening in cases where there are children involved;
- A number of cases have been taken against individuals for graffiti, however, there is no legislation whereby parents are obliged to pay for any damage done as a result of graffiti. The Gardai are monitoring this matter on an ongoing basis;

The Chairman, Councillor Sean Lynch stated that he will continue to request a Garda Kiosk in the city centre manned by Guards, Civilians or Garda Reserves.

Councillor John Costelloe asked that work would commence as soon as possible on the approved extinguishment of Right of Way in Gloster's Lane.

This concluded the meeting.

COUNCILLOR SEAN LYNCH
JPC CHAIR