

Website: www.ionaanddistrictresidentsassociation.com Email: idra.email@gmail.com
Facebook: [@ionadistrictresidents](https://www.facebook.com/ionadistrictresidents) X: [@iona_residents](https://twitter.com/iona_residents) Instagram: [@iona_residents](https://www.instagram.com/iona_residents)

CHAIRPERSON'S UPDATE

This year's IDRA AGM will take place on Thursday May 15 in the Maples House Hotel. The meeting will start at 7.30pm sharp. Committee members will be on site from 7pm to welcome attendees and take membership subscriptions and tea and coffee will be available.

Note: The option to pay your IDRA subscription is available on the IDRA website, simply click on the link below:

<https://platform.payzone.ie/customer/11285/product-list/details/9930>



Or you can scan the QR code and go to the membership option on the home page.

The night will be an opportunity to reflect on the previous year's work, ongoing challenges and discussing some residents' concerns. The agenda will cover Finances, Neighbourhood Watch, Planning and other matters and there will be time for Q&A on any of the headline items.

Our main focus for the coming year will be a drive to recruit volunteers to assist in running the Association, which will allow us to launch various initiatives around environment, sustainability and community events. We all know that there is so much more that could be done to improve our community; this can only be achieved by having a strong volunteer base and vibrant community association.

If you're interested in lending a hand, sharing your expertise, or simply learning more about what is happening in your neighbourhood, we encourage you to come along. No experience is required as there is plenty of support within the different sub-committees, such as Environment, Heritage, Events, Planning, Advocacy. We meet once a month and generally the time commitment is a couple of hours per month.

Kind regards

Noel Rigney
Chairperson

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

THE ANNUAL FAMILY FUN DAY returns on **Sunday September 14 2025** in the grounds of **St. Columba's Church, Iona Road**. It is always a very enjoyable day with lots of activities for the young and not so young. The starting time is **1pm**.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH UPDATE

The Neighbourhood Watch scheme continues to promote the security and safety of the residents of the IDRA area.

Since the inception of the scheme in late 2022, we have had regular monthly meetings with the Community Gardaí on the first Thursday of every month at Fitzgibbon Street Garda Station at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend, not just street coordinators. At the meeting we review and discuss the crime statistics for the previous month and can raise any issues or concerns we have.

The area coordinator, Andrew Quinn provides a copy of the crime stats and notes from the meeting to the various WhatsApp groups that have been set up for the streets currently in the scheme.

We recently had a meeting in the Maples House Hotel where we have another four streets about to join the scheme.

Thanks to residents reporting suspicious incidents and increased Garda patrols in the IDRA area, reported crimes have continued to fall.

Finally, since the last AGM we have had a change of Community Gardaí; Sarah Heaney and Damien Curley have moved onto another type of responsive policing and we must thank them both for all their help and assistance during their time as Garda contacts. Their replacements Joe Redmond and Sean Sammon have stepped up to the plate and have been very helpful during their short time in place. They will be in attendance on the night of the AGM to give a Neighbourhood Watch presentation.

IDRA OFFICERS:

CHAIR:

Noel Rigney

SECRETARY/ CROKE PARK REP:

Carol Lynch

TREASURER/ ENVIRONMENT REP:

Bronagh McCrystal
(stepping down)

PLANNING REPS:

Carmel Sherry
Ciaran Mullarkey

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH:

Andrew Quinn

TRAFFIC REP:

Zach Kelly

OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Declan O'Sullivan

IDRA PLANNING UPDATE

PLANNING ISSUES ARISING IN 2024

Over 2024, domestic planning applications comprised mostly rear extension, attic conversions and a few mews type houses in the rear gardens. All but one were granted permission.

Commercial planning applications included

1-2 St. Joseph's Avenue, 1 Whitworth Road - both refused and 1A Carlingford Road - awaiting decision on an appeal to An Bord Pleanála.

ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

Quinn's Pub Drumcondra Road Lower and adjoining premises up to St. Alphonsus Lane. There is no record of any current planning application on this site. IDRA has been engaging with Dublin City Council's Enforcement Section (Ref No. E0717/24).

OTHER ISSUES

Daneswell Place (Former Smurfit site)

IDRA is aware of a Dublin City Council Housing Delivery Report for October 2024 which shows all of the 160 apartment as permitted (a duplex housing block with eight units to be sold separately) will be allocated for Social Housing - all to be provided and rented out by Co-Operative Housing Ireland (CHI).

TRAFFIC UPDATE

Levels of through (rat run) traffic continue to rise. Ireland's vibrant economy means that the city continues to grow; infill developments are leading to higher densities of vehicle use and return to office means there is more traffic. All these factors combined mean more vehicles on the road, and more passing through Iona District.

The various BusConnects projects have received approval, and construction is due to start on these in coming months, if not weeks. Increased availability of buses will be a positive for public transport users. Based on past experience, construction will prompt more drivers to seek short cuts. Higher densities of buses may crowd out cars, again prompting vehicle drivers to seek shortcuts. Drivers who discovered these streets as shortcuts during the working week use them during the evening and weekends.

We can see the rising volumes and speeds in the data, and we experience these trends in tailbacks on Iona Road, St Patrick's Rd, Lindsay Road and Hollybank Road. We see them in cars passing through in the late evening and early morning and hear them during weekends.

Over the past year we put resources into two initiatives. The first we hoped would lead to engagement with DCC, the second was hoped to demonstrate some of the amenity benefits of traffic management. Unfortunately, these did not come to fruition. Our next step will be to engage with elected representatives with the aim of leveraging their knowledge of the workings of DCC to meet the aims of the community to deliver the sorts of solutions that can tackle rising vehicle impacts.

CURRENT LIST OF DCC COUNCILLORS:

Dublin City Councillors Cabra-Glasnevin: Central Area Committee

Feljin Jose	Green Party	feljin.jose@dublincity.ie
Séamas McGrattan	Sinn Féin	seamas.mcgrattan@dublincity.ie
Cat O'Driscoll	Social Democrats	cat.odriscoll@socialdemocrats.ie
Gayle Ralph	Fine Gael	gayle.ralph@dublincity.ie
Colm O'Rourke	Fine Gael	colm.orourke@dublincity.ie
Cieran Perry	Independent	cieran.perry@gmail.com
John Stephens	Fianna Fáil	john.stephens@dublincity.ie

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN GETTING INVOLVED IN THE IDRA COMMITTEE, NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH OR ONE OF THE SUB-GROUPS THEN SEND AN EMAIL TO IDRA.EMAIL@GMAIL.COM

MONTHLY CLEAN UP

The Iona Clean Up group began on January 27 2024, with the aim of making our area an even more pleasant environment to live in. This volunteer group meets on the last Saturday of every month outside Iona Church at 9.30am and cleaning equipment is provided.

We look forward to seeing as many residents as possible join us. For further details please contact Paul Collins on 087 2591508.



COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR

A community defibrillator has been installed in the porch of the Maples House Hotel, Iona Road. Funding was received from the Croke Park Community Fund, with the balance coming from IDRA funds.

Training has been ongoing, with 12 people trained to date including a number of hotel staff and local residents. We hope to place more defibrillators in secure locations around the community.



SEE YOU AT THE AGM – THURSDAY MAY 15 AT 7.30PM