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Produced by
Shangan
Neighbourhood
Forum

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Ballymun
Dublin 9

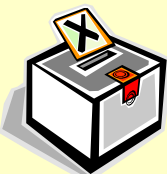
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SHANGAN NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

Shangan Newsflash

Forum Elections To Take Place In May 20-2005

Finally, it has been announced that the elections for the five Neighbourhood Forums - Coultrey, Shangan, Silloge & Sandyhill, Balcurris & Balbutcher Lane and Poppintree, are finally due to take place this year, on May 20. This comes as a great relief to all concerned because of the fact that new blood is badly needed in all the Forums.



Trying to do one's best for all the community invariably means that good things for some people can be clouded by disappointment for others. However what drives volunteers on, is the belief that in the end, most of the community will benefit in different ways. The residents of the flats will have new homes and the residents of the existing houses are already seeing the value of their homes increasing at a faster rate than the average house price rise.

For many residents however, security in their homes and freedom from anti-social behaviour is every bit as important as house values. This is where a strong community/Forum voice is needed in estate management, to keep Dublin City Council, the Gardai and BRL etc on their toes.

These are the basic principles that has driven the work of Shangan Forum and as residents will know from our newsletters, the Forum has constantly raised issues of anti-social behaviour and health and safety with the relevant authorities.

While the Forum welcomes many of the changes that the regeneration programme is bringing, we have also where necessary, expressed deep concerns about the quality of local consultation.

New Asst. Area Manager

Shangan Forum would like to congratulate Mr. Paul Clegg on his appointment as the new DCC Assistant Area Manager for Ballymun.

From the Forum's initial contacts with Mr. Clegg, it is clear that he is continuing the 'hands-on' policy for dealing with issues as developed by his predecessor, Mr. John Timon.

Co-operation To Resolve Issues

When it was proposed to close the right-of-way between Shangan and Oldtown, Shangan Forum in co-operation with Shangan Gardens Residents Association mounted a strong and successful campaign in opposition to the closure. We strongly support co-operation with other organisations on issues that will have a detrimental effect on the majority of our community.

Youth Facilities

Shangan Forum co-operated with Dublin City Council (DCC), Ballymun youth resource group 'BRYR' and the Drugs Task force to develop a youth facility for our area. This facility is now in operation in a basement premises on Shangan Road and we wish the project every success.

Health Centre

The Forum can be proud of the work of our representatives on the Health Centre committee to secure funding for the proposed new Centre in the Ballymun Civic Centre.

Thank You

To Catherine Quinlan (DCC) for her support in resolving many estate management issues.

In particular we want to thank members of our community for supporting us through difficult times.

If you wish to get involved in representing your community, please contact:

Siobhan Guyatt at 8832154 for more information.

Shangan Park

Following on from a meeting on March 16 to discuss instances of anti-social activities which could threaten the long-term viability of the new Shangan Park, a follow-up meeting has been organised to progress the issue.

The follow-up meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 27 at 7pm in the Council Chamber, 1st Floor of the Civic Centre.

Serious Anti-Social Activities At Shangan Hall

Several persons reported that they have been hit by pellets fired from or around the Shangan Hall complex. There have also been reports of stone throwing from the building.

Pellet guns can inflict serious injury from close to medium range and it appears that the shots are fired at random targets.

Shangan Forum has requested that the Gardai take strong action against the person or persons who are engaging in such dangerous anti-social activities

The residents in the apartments there are not DCC tenants so the normal estate management structures do not apply. If the culprits were DCC tenants, eviction would remedy the problem. However in this case, **if** the culprits are residents of Shangan Hall, it is up to the private landlord to take such action. It is the great weakness of the Section 23 developments that the local Dublin City Council community can be terrorised by residents/tenants of such developments with little recourse to justice. If the situation was reversed, with anti-social activity being directed by DCC tenants against residents/tenants of private sector housing, DCC would be obliged to take severe action.



Shangan Candidates for the Forum Elections

The following persons have indicated that they will be candidates in the forthcoming election:

Marie Cooper	Shangan Green
Olive Ryan	Shangan Green
Linda Farrell	Longdale
Linda Murphy	Longdale
Sharon Harvey	Shangan Gardens

A number of other persons have indicated that they are seriously considering running in the election. The full list of candidates will be published prior to the election.

The final date for Candidature applications is:
May 6, 2005

Low Cost Affordable Housing - Habitat Update

After a few initial problems with vandalism on the Habitat for Humanity site between Coultrey and Shangan, work has finally started with earnest. At the moment the site is being cleared and foundations are being dug. It is anticipated that the site will be ready for the families and volunteers to come on site in June.

Rights of Way

The walkway between Shangan Park and Coultrey Avenue will be permanently closed and the right of way between Shangan Green and Coultrey Avenue will be closed temporarily until December '05 when the project should be completed and all the families moved into their new dwellings.

Who are We

Habitat for Humanity is a self-build housing charity that helps families build and buy simple, decent and affordable homes. Most of the people you will see on site are volunteers who are giving up their time to help the families build their homes. It is only through the kindness of volunteers, donors and other builders that we can keep the homes affordable to the families.

Habitat for Humanity will be undertaking an art project with local children in the area to paint boards that will be mounted on the hoarding around the site. Thank you - to Stewart Dowie, Dublin City Council and volunteers from Vodafone and Habitat for Humanity who have helped make this project possible.

Habitat for Humanity would also like to thank all the residents who continue to support this project.

Contacts - Contacts - Contacts

Shangan Forum:	086-3012641 Monday -Friday 9.30 am to 5 pm.
Dublin City Council Officer for Anti-Social Activities:	2225646 Monday -Friday 9.30 am to 4.30 pm.