

COULTRY NEWSFLASH

Produced by Coultury Neighbourhood Forum
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August Edition
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Dublin Bus Threatens Withdrawal of Service Because of Anti-social activities.

Over the years there has been an uneasy relationship between CIE/Dublin Bus and working-class estates like Ballymun. Some years ago the main problem was about attacks on bus drivers and threats with syringes. When Dublin Bus introduced protection measures for their drivers, those attacks diminished. However, with the introduction of the Ballymun regeneration programme a new threat to bus drivers and passengers emerged in our area.

There is now an almost unprecedented scale of building construction work being carried out across the Ballymun estate. This work has created a huge amount of rubble (rocks, stones and earth) and while most of the rubble is taken away from the area or reused for landscaping, there are still lots of stones lying about. Many young children and some teenagers use this left-over rubble as ammunition to attack buses and damage both new and existing houses.

Dublin Bus now say that the attacks on their buses with stones has reached an unacceptable level and are threatening to withdraw the service from Ballymun. They say

that the health and safety of both the bus drivers and their passengers is being put in jeopardy.

Community Response

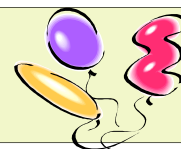
The local Neighbourhood Forums including Coultury Forum were informed of the issue by Ballymun Neighbourhood Council staff and a series of meetings ensued in which Dublin Bus, Forums, the Gardaí, Dublin City Council and Ballymun Regeneration Ltd participated.

Coultury Forum says; Under no circumstances does Coultury Forum excuse activities that put people's health and safety at risk. Nevertheless, it is our hope that good sense will prevail on this issue and that a strategy can be worked which can ease the situation.

In the meantime we implore parents to advise their children against stone throwing and 'chicken running' in front of traffic. We recognise that most of the kids are not a great problem, but they can be influenced by others who are undisciplined.



Welcome To Your New Home ! From Coultury Neighbourhood Forum



On a lovely hot Sunday in June, 2004, celebrations were held in Ballymun Civic Offices to mark the completion of more than 500 phase 1 homes and in Forest wood to welcome the residents there, to their new homes.

Minister of State Noel Ahern TD and BRL Managing Director Ciaran Murray spoke at the Forest wood ceremony. Mr. Murray outlined the success of the housing programme so far and on the quality of the new homes.



Ciaran Murray at the celebration to mark the completion of Phase 1 homes.

Noel Ahern TD in his address, announced that the long awaited flats demolition programme was about to begin. As we now know, the demolition programme started on July 10 with Pearse Tower the first to go.

Coultury Neighbourhood Forum has been a supporter of the Ballymun regeneration programme as

an opportunity to undo the poor housing and management mistakes of the past. That however, does not mean that we are totally happy with the community consultation process. So, the role of the Forum is to try to get accurate information to the residents and give them a voice to express their con-

We're On Our Break

The month of August is the traditional time when the Neighbourhood Forums take their Summer break.

Constitution Issues

Because the Neighbourhood Forums are affiliates of Ballymun Neighbourhood Council, it has become necessary to regularise their Constitutions. A serious weakness has been identified relating to the process for co-options on to Forums.

When we return in September, the Forum hopes to have this issue resolved. Then we will be in a position to bring on board two applicants for membership whom we expect will give sterling service to the Coultury Avenue area where they both reside.

Pierce Contracting Seek To Amend Plot 2 Planning Permission

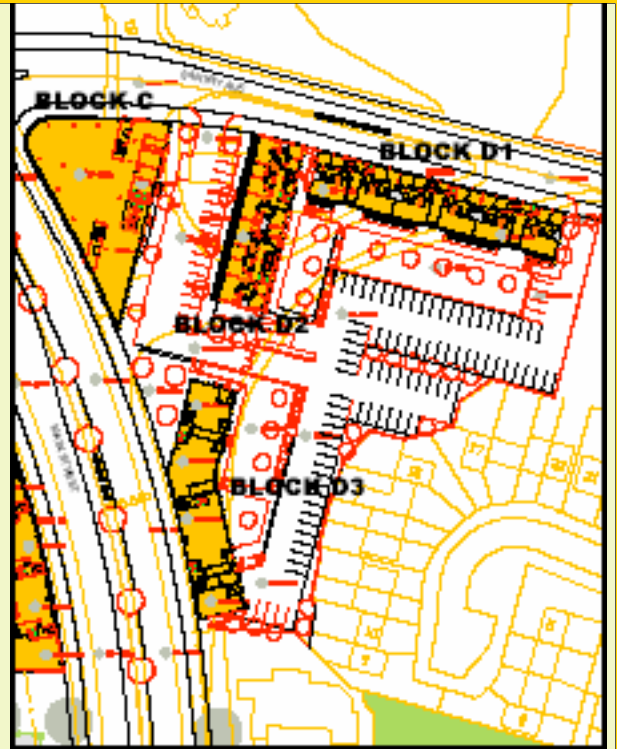
On June 24, 2004 Pierce Contracting lodged an application with the planning authority for revisions to Block C of their scheme on Santry Avenue (see map and artists impression)

The revision will consist of an addition of 2 extra floors to the podium which will grow from three storey to be five storeys overall. It will also entail the relocation of the permitted plant room, storage room and roof garden from third storey level to fifth storey level.

Pierce now seek to revise the use of the podium element from permitted retail/office use now to hotel use (Total Gross Floor Area c. 4,773 sq.m.) which will comprise hotel reception with associated offices, bar/restaurant, hotel breakfast area, 2 kitchens, plant area and toilets at ground floor level;

Under the revised proposal, there would be 16 Hotel apartment rooms and 72 hotel bedrooms at 1st to 4th floor level. There would be associated internal reconfiguration of the podium element arising from the proposed alteration of permitted ESB sub-station at Ground Floor Level.

There would be the provision of a new light well between 1st and 5th storey levels and a provision of new roof light at first storey level. The relocation of the permitted stairwells to the north and



Site Layout

east of the podium with associated elevation changes would provide lighting to the relocated stair blocks.

Alteration of the permitted Bin Store, Switch Room and Plant Room uses at Basement Level to now provide ancillary nightclub facilities incorporating Staff Areas, Kitchen Store, and ESB Switch room; associated reconfiguration of these services areas and the adjoining permitted stairwells and circulation space.

An extension of the basement floor plate to the west would now provide nightclub/ bar/ function room with ancillary facilities, water storage and plant room. Total Gross Floor Area of the proposed nightclub and ancillary facilities (which will be accommodated within the proposed basement extension and part of the permitted basement level) will be 930 sq.metres.



Welcome Back Maria

Coultry Forum stalwart, Maria Thompson has suffered a bout of ill health in recent months which left her incapacitated for a period of time.

Maria is not a person who throws in the towel too easily and although she has not fully recovered from her illness, she is determined to get back into action.

Coultry Forum are delighted to welcome her back and wish Maria a swift and total recovery. Slainte!

You Might Just Be Our Cup Of Tea!

Coultry Forum needs people like Maria Thompson. People who are concerned about the future of Ballymun and particularly both the young and older folk.

We need people who are prepared to work with people for the general good of the community.

If you think you fit the bill, then please call in or drop a note to 7 Coultry Road or phone: 01- 8620685

