**News from the PCA**

**PCA EGM**

An Extraordinary General meeting of the PCA will take place on Monday the 3rd November in Portmarnock Hotel and Golf Links. The main purpose of this meeting will be to review the PCA Constitution with the intention of replacing the Articles of Association drawn up by our founders in 1976. As outlined in previous additions of Progress our constitution is outdated and is no longer suited to the needs of the Association. It doesn’t reflect the reality that exists on the ground as all former residents groups bar one have ceased to exist. The question of remaining a limited company will be addressed at our EGM. Only paid up members of the PCA will be allowed to vote at the EGM. There will be more information on the outcome of the EGM in the next edition of Progress and at our AGM in early December

**PCA AGM**

The PCA AGM has been arranged for Monday 1st December in the Portmarnock Hotel and Golf links at 8.00PM. We would appeal to residents to come along and have their views aired. The PCA continues to be the main representative body for the people of Portmarnock. Gone are the days when up to 300 people would attend the agm. It is vital that we have an active and vibrant residents association. While some people may no longer see the necessity for the association as we are fortunate to live in a community with excellent facilities catering for all age groups. Thanks no doubt to the outstanding effort made by so many volunteers over several years.

 The PCA was instrumental in setting up the PSLC, a facility second to none. The efforts made by the PCA in opposing the new parallel runway with its flight path over our houses and schools must not be forgotten. UPROAR was testimony to a real community effort. We were to the forefront in preventing ALDI from locating a store in the grounds of White Sands Hotel with Fingal’s permission.

 The PCA are deeply concerned about the preservation of our dunes and Velvet Strand. Our efforts were rewarded with a Green Coast flag this year. We also were successful in getting two workers from the Community Employment scheme. Their work in tackling the litter problem in all public areas is much appreciated.

 We continue to work closely with the gardai in combating anti-social behaviour and other problems in our community. A representative from the PCA attends the monthly Neighbourhood Watch meeting in Malahide Garda Station.

 We continue to monitor Planning Applications in FCC excluding domestic ones. The PCA is a member of Fingal Community Network whose work was outlined in the last edition of Progress. The PCA have a representative on the Dublin Airport Stakeholders Forum (DASF) along with 29 other bodies. There are no immediate plans to build a new runway as the upgrading of Terminal 1 is seen as a priority by the DAA.

The completion of the footpath on Blackwood Lane hopefully will proceed in the not too distant future

The development of the monster Sewage Plant at Clonshaugh with its outflow under the Baldoyle Estuary continues to be high on our agenda. So there are challenges ahead and it is vital for the association to remain active and a voice for our community. The annual subscription of €20 will be collected at the agm. Remember the Latin proverbs **facta non verba or gestis censere**. So come along and give us your support.

**Final Beach Clean of 2014**

Our fortnightly Saturday morning clean-up beach/dunes and other public areas finished on Saturday 20th September. We were part of a countrywide Clean Coast Big Beach Clean weekend sponsored by An Taisce. We carried out a survey of all the items collected on the beach as part of Big Beach Clean and for Coast Watch Ireland as part of the European Coast Watch Survey. Most of the items collected were washed in by the sea and not deposited by beach goers. Most of the beach goers are well gone by late September! We are very grateful to all who helped in the clean-ups which began back in April with Spring Clean Day and continued throughout the summer. Each clean-up ended with refreshments in Portmarnock Hotel and Golf links courtesy of the management for which we are very grateful. Our thanks to the gardai for having a trouble free Summer on the Velvet Strand and to the Fingal Workers led by Derek who kept the litter under control on big beach days. Why not join us next year in this very worthwhile community effort?

**Neighbourhood Watch update**

Our representative reported back on the meeting in Malahide Garda Station which took on Monday 6th October. There was a presentation by a garda crime prevention officer on cyber bullying and internet security.

The text Alert is working reasonably well but only two estates in Portmarnock, Woodlands and Ardilaun, are operating the scheme.

Burglaries continue to be a problem in Portmarnock with 8 reported in the month September. In addition there were 3 cases of car keys being fished from homes through letter boxes in Torcaill and valuable cars taken.

**Parking on Grass Margins**

We would appeal to all motorists to refrain from parking on grass margins outside people’s houses. These grass margins must be maintained by the residents

**Students Attending DCU**

Many students in Portmarnock are attending DCU for various courses. Getting there by public transport is not easy. The Shuttle busses operating last year have ceased. Any suggestions for alternative methods of transport would be much appreciated. It only takes about twenty minutes to get there by car whereas it can take up to ninety minutes by public transport.

**Contacting the PCA**

**If you would like to join the PCA or have issues you want addressed why not contact us by calling 087 3858254 (leave a message) or email portmarnock1@gmail.com**