**News from the PCA**

**PCA AGM**

Before the start of our monthly meeting in August a vote of sympathy was extended to the Jolliffe-Byrne family on the death of their son Gavon. The very large attendance at Gavon’s funeral service in Naomh Mearnog GAA club bore testimony to the contribution Gavon had made to our community during his short life and the esteem in which he was held by all who knew him. May he rest in Peace.

Our agm will take place on Monday 30th November at 8.00PM in Portmarnock Hotel and Golf Links. The agm offers an opportunity to residents in our community to come along and air their views on issues that need to be addressed. On- going matters on the PCA agenda are:

* Proposed Lidl development on the old tin church site
* Sewage Treatment Plant at Clonshaugh
* The dredging of Dublin Bay
* Participation in the Tidy Towns Completion
* New PCA Constitution
* Completion of footpath on Blackwood Lane
* Relocation of bus Stop on Lower Wendell Avenue
* Promoting more Text Alert Systems in Portmarnock and extension Neighbourhood Watch
* Participation in Fingal Community Network
* Monitoring FCC planning applications for Portmarnock
* New Parallel Runway
* Parking at Portmarnock train Station
* Anti-Social Behaviour
* PAC hall upgrade in cooperation with PAC Committee

So please come along and make your voice heard. Put it in your diary now!!There will be more information on the agm in the next edition of Progress

**Station Car Park**

You will be aware from a previous edition of Progress that the PCA wrote to Irish Rail on the 19th June 2015 about the closure of the overflow car park at Portmarnock Station and the consequent reduction of spaces for those using the car park daily. Irish Rail replied to our letter and apologised for the inconvenience caused. They pointed out that the land for the overflow was not the property of Iarnod Eireann and that they only had temporary access to it while it was not in use. The land had to be returned to the developer in 2015 as soon as development commenced on the site. Irish Rail stated they have made some adjustments to the main car park bringing the loss of regular spaces down from 27 to 21 and will continue to improve on this. They said the removal of the graffiti around the station would be addresses by the relevant department in Irish Rail.

**Dublin Airport Stakeholders Forum (DASF)**

The DASF was established in 2004 to ensure that all stakeholders for Dublin Airport could meet in a non-adversarial and information exchanging format and seek to have consensus, wherever possible, on the on-going development of Dublin Airport. The PCA have been represented on this forum from the outset. In a recent letter to the PCA from the DAA we were informed that a review of the DASF was being undertaken and meetings were being suspended. After a survey of the stakeholders no consensus was reached for the continuation of the DASF in its present form. However the PCA were asked to nominate a member for the Environmental Working Group which will continue to exist.

On a related matter the construction of the new parallel runway was very much in the news in recent times especially with the increase in passenger numbers. Residents are well aware that there was strong opposition in our community for this runway with its flight path directly over our houses and schools .UPROAR was formed to oppose the runway. We did so successfully at an oral hearing with AN Board Pleanala where the inpsctoror ruled in our favour. However ABP subsequently overruled the inspector and granted permission with over 30 conditions attached to it. We must insist that the DAA abide by these conditions when they decide to commence construction of the runway.

**If you have problems with aircraft noise at the moment or notice aircraft deviating from flight path you should ring the complaint line at 1800200034.**

**PCS students and Beach Committee**

On Friday 4th September, the Beach Committee began repairing the dune system after the wear and tear of summer months with the help of Transition Year students from Portmarnock Community School (See attached photos). They repaired the bare patches with a full days planting of marram grass. The damage was mainly caused by youths during the summer using them as a playground (noted in September Progress). Fingal County Council has expressed concern at teams from around Dublin and beyond still using the dunes for training purposes. This is strictly forbidden and must be discontinued. Our thanks to the students for their excellent work and also to a business group who planted marram grass in other sections of the dunes on that same Friday

The clean-up of dunes and other areas around Portmarnock by our volunteers finished for this year on Saturday 18th September coinciding with An Taisces BIG Beach Clean Day. The PCA and our Beach Committee are very grateful to all who helped in this worthy enterprise throughout the spring and summer.

**Dredging Plan off Bailey**

Readers may not be aware that Dublin Port is seeking a licence to dispose of 10 million tonnes of dredging waste off the Bailey Lighthouse in Howth. The project will increase the ports ability to handle large ships by deepening and lengthening 3KM of the port’s 7km of berths. It will also deepen the port to provide an entrance channel with a depth of at least 10m. Members of the PCA attended a public meeting in Bayside Community School recently about the project. It is ironic that while the dredging will take place mainly in Dublin City Council jurisdictiction all of the dumping is planned for Fingal off the Bailey lighthouse. Residents of Malahide and Portmarnock are concerned about the impact of this dumping that could be potentially disastrous to currents and maritime life.

**Contacting the PCA**

**If you wish to contact the PCA about on issues in our community or volunteer for any of our committees why not call us at 0873858254 or email** [**portmarnock1@gmail.com**](mailto:portmarnock1@gmail.com)**> you can visit our website/Facebook at www.portmarnock.org**