

## **MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE AVIVA STADIUM PROJECT MONITORING COMMITTEE (PMC), HELD ON TUESDAY, 7 JUNE, 2011**

### **ATTENDANCE**

<b>DUBLIN CITY COUNCIL:</b>	Mr Michael O'Neill (MON)
<b>LOCAL COMMUNITY:</b>	Mr Greg Pepper (GP)
<b>ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES:</b>	Councillor Dermot Lacey (DL) Councillor Maria Parodi (MP)
<b>LRSDC:</b>	Mr Martin Murphy (MM) Mr Les McLindon (LMcL) Mr Mick Davern (MD) Mr Roddy Guiney (RG)
<b>VENUE:</b>	Aviva Stadium Management Building

#### **1. APOLOGIES:**

Apologies were received from Mr Gerry Folan (GF) and Mr John Dodd (JD).

#### **2. MINUTES:**

The minutes of the previous meeting of Wednesday, 11 May were agreed. Same to be changed from draft minutes to agreed minutes and put up on the Aviva Stadium website.

#### **3. MATTERS ARISING:**

GP noted that at the previous meeting he had asked for additional bins to be provided on match days. He said that this has not happened. MD agreed to look into same. He said he believed that bins had been provided at the entrances to O'Connell Gardens, Havelock Square and Malone Gardens. GP said that there needed to be bins on Bath Avenue outside of the cordon area.

GP also referred the PMC back to the previous meeting and particularly to the presentation by the FAI at that meeting.

He said he wished to put on record that the local community were still most unhappy about what had happened. He said that they had made their concerns very clear in the course of three meetings and that they felt these had not been taken on board. . He said that at the last PMC meeting there had been an undertaking by the FAI to come back with additional information and that this had not happened.

DL reiterated the unhappiness of the Councillors in relation to what had happened. GP said that the stadium was part of the process as it was working with the Gardai and the FAI. He said that all the local community were asking

was that they would be listened to and that compromises would be reached.

He said that the size of the crowd was irrelevant. He reiterated that his main point was that there had been no further communication and that as far as the local community was concerned they believed that their concerns had not been treated seriously.

MM said that that he did not have further information to convey. He said that he had made enquiries but that no additional information was forthcoming and he had not gone back to the PMC. GP/DL/MP requested that the PMC write to the FAI conveying the local community's feelings in relation to the matter of the Northern Ireland matches. They also said that feelings on the way they had been treated should be recorded in the minutes. It was agreed this would happen.

DL queried the situation in relation to closure of Dodder View Cottages Road on the occasion of the UEFA Final. MD noted that it had not been done specifically for the UEFA Final but was now the procedure for quite a number of matches.

#### 4. **OPERATIONS UPDATE:**

MM reported that there had been no major issues in any of the events during the period under consideration. He said that between 50 and 60 Northern Ireland supporters had travelled to the game against the Republic of Ireland with less than that for the second match against Wales.

MM noted that he had met with a deputation of residents on the night of the Europa League Final. He said that he had, on behalf of both the stadium and the FAI, had accepted a letter from BADRA and LADRA. Copy of same has been sent on to the FAI.

MM went on to outline the programme of games coming up over the Summer months. He noted these included concerts by Neil Diamond and the Script, the Dublin Super Cup, an international soccer friendly against Croatia, Ireland playing France and England in rugby friendlies and a European qualifier soccer game against Slovakia.

In relation to a query concerning the Dublin Super Cup MM said that this was a competition at the end of July (30/31 07 2011) which would bring together Manchester City, Celtic, Inter Milan and an Airtricity League XI.

MP queried the future of the Carling Cup. MM explained that the Carling Cup would be played in Wales next season. The intention was to rotate the event to the different countries concerned.

DL queried the closure of the DART station for the UEFA Europa League Final. MD said this was a segregation issue in relation to the fans.

#### 5. **COMMUNITY FUND:**

RG updated the meeting in relation to the community fund. He said that all applicants – both successful and unsuccessful – had been written to. He said that he was already in receipt of applications for the second tranche of funding.

In response to a query he noted that this was the fifth year of the fund and that by the end of 2011 over €500,000 would have been invested in projects in the local area. He said that by the end of the year it was likely that almost 140 projects would have been supported over a five year period.

GP noted the way in which the funds were allocated. He said that given the proximity of the stadium of both BADRA and LADRA he felt that more funding should be allocated into this area. It was generally agreed that the point had validity and should be explored further. RG suggested that Mr Philip Land might attend a meeting with BADRA and LADRA to discuss same. GP to come back in relation to same.

RG confirmed that that intention was to have a night in the stadium in the Autumn to which all those who had received funding would be invited. He noted that Councillors, TDs and other members of the community would also be invited to the evening in question. The intention was to invite a number of the projects to present what they had done.

RG also noted that currently the stadium was looking to produce a number of plaques with a view to presenting each project with a plaque to be put up in a relevant position. He went on to say that when the plaque was presented photography would be undertaken with a view to creating a photographic record of the community fund on the stadium website.

#### **6. COMMUNICATIONS:**

RG noted that a newsletter reflecting on the first year of operation of the stadium was currently in production. Same will be distributed to householders in the immediate area of the stadium and will also be circulated by the FAI and the IRFU.

MP suggested that the newsletter might also be put on the website. RG to organise same.

#### **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:**

GP queried the situation in relation to Slattery's Pub. He said it had improved but it could still be better. He said that the road was still half closed outside of the pub.

MD said that he had reviewed the CCTV on the last match and that people had not been on the road but had rather been on the footpath.

GP said that it was definitely causing problems for residents.

MON said he would put the issue on the next agenda for the South East Area Policing Forum meeting.

MON said he was also happy to set up a meeting between the Gardai, Stadium, local residents and Dublin City Council with a view to looking at the overall situation in the area.

GP mentioned a situation in relation to trying to access Londonbridge Road to park during one of the Carling Cup games. While he eventually did get parking

he felt that the Gardai could have been more understanding and could have taken a more realistic view of allowing residents in there to park.

GP also queried the numbers accessing the stadium via Bath Avenue. He said that this seemed to be far more than was allowed for in the planning permission.

MM noted that the capacity of the roads was not the same as the numbers designated to enter through particular entrances around the ground.

GP queried the situation in relation to emergency services getting in. MM noted that there was an overall emergency plan and that this took account of the numbers on the roads and a route for the emergency services to get into the area at any time. MON undertook to look into the matter with the planning department. MON to come back to next meeting with details of same.

MP queried the Gardai giving out directions to people coming to the stadium. She felt that more stewards could be deployed to give out such information. MM noted that there are stewards with the Gardai. He also noted that people were now more familiar with accessing the stadium so that the overall situation should be a great deal better.

## 8. **NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on Tuesday, 30 August, at 6:30pm, in the stadium management building. It was also agreed that if any member of the PMC felt that there was a need for a meeting in the interim that RG would convene same.

RODDY GUINEY  
9 June 2011

### **Circulation:**

Mr Michael O'Neill (chairperson)  
Mr Gerry Folan  
Councillor Dermot Lacey  
Councillor Maria Parodi  
Mr John Dodd  
Mr Greg Pepper  
Mr Bill Enright  
Mr Mick Davern  
Mr Martin Murphy  
Mr Les McLindon  
Mr Roddy Guiney