

Bray Municipal District Area JPC Meeting

Bray Townhall

1<sup>st</sup> Sept 2020

Apologies were received from Anne Ferris

- As this was the first meeting since the local elections the meeting was addressed by Lorraine Gallagher who explained to attendees the function of Local Municipal District Area Meeting as set out in the JPC Plan.

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed and seconded.

The meeting was addressed by Sgt John Fitzpatrick.

- Local crime levels were down during the Covid crisis which enabled Gardaí to be available to assist communities during lockdown, ie shopping, deliveries, dog walking, prescription pick-ups etc.
- There was a rise in domestic violence during this period. Gardaí ensured call backs and engaged with people who had previously contacted them in this regard.

Numerous people congratulated the Gardaí on their efforts during the Covid lockdown.

Concern was raised at the low number of community Gardaí in the district at present (1 Sgt, 2 Garda) As crime returns to pre-covid levels the community engagement of the force is reduced. It is felt that the community engagement during lockdown was very obvious and that it led to a better respect of Gardaí and that the visible presence on the street needs to continue.

As schools return, so does the issue of parking outside schools. Gardaí will encourage legal parking and notify parents of the dangers but Cllr Erica Doyle asked for issuing of tickets should the issue continue.

The issue of racial graffiti in the town was raised. There is an active investigation ongoing.

Gardaí will relaunch Business Watch. The idea is to bring businesses together, like in Neighbourhood Watch, to share information.

The issue of parking on and maintenance of cycle lanes was raised by Liz Ferris as the government policy at present is to walk or cycle to school or work whenever possible.

Next Meeting

Tues 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2020