



Maeve O'Rourke

## DCC Meeting

Katherine O'Donnell

22 March 2017 at 20:20

To: Claire McGettrick

Cc: James Smith

Maeve O'Rourke

Mari

<maristeed@...>

Perfect Claire  
I've added some bits below

On 22 Mar 2017, at 20:10, Claire McGettrick wrote:

As promised...the general gist of the DCC meeting:

In attendance:

Gary Gannon (Soc Dems/Councillor)  
Declan Dunne (CEO of Respond)  
Rose Kenny (DCC Deputy Area Manager)

[Redacted]

[A person with no connection to the campaign or DCC was inadvertently present for the early stages of the meeting and was asked to leave once this was established.]

KOD/MOR/CMcG

- We kicked off with introductions.. [Redacted]
- [Redacted]
- [Redacted] Declan Dunne asked if there was a conflict of interest with him being in the room - as they already own HP (or part thereof?) it was established it was okay for him to stay.
- Declan Dunne said that Respond are keen to support the idea of a memorial at High Park, and they want to bring in sonar equipment in advance of planned building works there to ensure that there are no further human remains at the site. (Have I got that right guys?) YES
- Katherine made the point that social housing could be a memorial and that anecdotally we know many of the women would be on board with this idea.
- DD said that the Family Hub (high quality emergency accommodation) is only one element of

their work, that they're predominantly involved in permanent housing solutions.

- I don't think Jim and Mari are aware of this - Respond were launching a 'Family Hub' at HP last week, and they worked with Katherine around commemorating the Magdalenes as part of the event. [REDACTED] came over for the launch and was a big hit. (I'll let Katherine fill in the gaps on what happened on the Respond side)<http://www.thejournal.ie/magdalene-laundry-3295714-Mar2017/>
- DD has offered use of the conference centre at HP, is also happy for the women to visit the site, and is happy for us to go along too (I asked in the context of the Names Project)
- We spoke about the difficulties we're having with the DOJ and the scheme.. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] We asked if DCC could make representations to the DOJ...Rose Kenny said that if we're having no luck with PQs that a 'lowly local authority' won't have much impact. We pointed out that local authority motions on a Magdalene apology (coordinated by NWC) were extremely effective.
- Gary Gannon said we should just have the consultation and send the DOJ the bill. He also suggested the Mansion House as the venue - the Lord Mayor would have to agree, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- Maeve asked to what extent the consultation could influence DCC's decision on how to deal with the SMcD site - GG and RK confirmed that the ultimate decision rests with the councillors. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] (Thinking further... Tom Kitt might be of help in getting the FF councillors on board)
- In relation to social housing at SMcD St...Rose Kenny said there is 'a lot of social housing in the area'...there's 'a view that the area hasn't been brought up enough'. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]
- In relation to the question of whether we can bring the women around the SMcD St site - Rose said that the structural engineer said absolutely no access is to be given on health and safety grounds. We queried this and said surely it hadn't deteriorated that much in recent years (ANU was 2011, TrueTube was 2013) - but she said the answer was no.
- In terms of establishing whether there are human remains at SMcD, they're looking at bringing in sonar equipment.
- Rose will talk to the conservation officer in terms of ensuring SMcD is properly mapped out. She was keen to distance DCC from any negotiations around Donnybrook.
- [REDACTED]
- Rose is conscious that companies have put in tenders, and wants the consultation to happen asap. Gary isn't in too much of a rush (at least not for that reason), but the consensus is to have it as soon as we can.

[Quoted text hidden]