



Prospect Manor Residents Association

November 2012 Newsletter



Dear Neighbour,

We hope that this newsletter keeps you updated regarding the latest developments Within our Estate. Should you wish to obtain more information, contribute items for the next newsletter or provide feedback, please contact a Committee Member, email info@prospectmanor.net or visit the website www.prospectmanor.net

AGM 2012

We have confirmed a date for this year's AGM. It will be held in Rathfarnham Golf Club at 8pm – 10pm on Tuesday 27th of November, 2012. We would encourage all residents to attend as it will be your opportunity to put your views across to the committee and your local representatives who will be invited to attend. We will also be looking for volunteers to join the committee or assist. Maybe you have "Green Fingers" and can advise re landscaping or are a Professional working in the Legal Sector who can provide a qualified opinion from time to time or maybe you are at home during the day and can deliver Newsletters.

We strongly urge all residents to attend the AGM as this is **YOUR ESTATE**. By attending, you can voice your views and concerns to your local Councillors. For example you could highlight the ongoing closure of the Prospect Pedestrian Bridge or lack of landscaping maintenance on Stocking Lane. With SDCC like all other council Departments, suffering from lack of funds, it is critical to have a strong Resident Association to maintain our estate.

Agenda:

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| - Introduction by Chairperson | (15 mins) |
| - Financial update from Treasurer | (10 mins) |
| - Annual Activities of Association - Fun Day, Landscaping, Website..etc... | (30mins) |
| - Q & A for Councillors | (20 mins) |
| - Crime Prevention Advice from local Garda | (15mins) |
| - Any Other Business | (30mins) |

Burglaries

The Gardaí have reported an increase in burglaries in Dublin. Unfortunately, Prospect Manor hasn't escaped the trend: two burglaries were reported in the estate in early October. In the most recent case the front door was forced at 7:20 pm, but the alarm went off and an alert neighbour called the Gardaí, who were on the scene within a few minutes. However, the culprits had fled as soon as they were disturbed, so no arrest was made.

At the moment, burglaries during daylight hours seem to be more common than break-ins at night (Sunday afternoons often feature). This might be because people are less cautious during the day than they are at night. The usual advice applies: double-lock your doors and windows and set your alarm every time you leave the house, irrespective of the time of day or how long you expect to be gone.



Bogus Callers and Distraction Thefts

Beware of bogus callers. One scam currently being used is a caller who wants to check the water pressure, leaking taps or something along those lines. The householder lets him in, and is careful to accompany him as he goes to the kitchen or upstairs ..etc., so he gets no opportunity to steal anything. However, the thief has an accomplice. As the first thief enters the house he politely closes the door behind him but unnoticed by the householder, he puts it “on the latch”. Then while he and the householder are busy elsewhere, the second thief enters and steals any small valuable items that he/she can find. The advice is simple: always ask callers for identification (ID), and don’t let anyone into your house if they can’t provide it. If a caller can’t provide ID, close the door and give a ring to the Gardaí in Rathfarnham, on (01) 66 66 500; they’d love an opportunity to interview these individuals.

Drugs Use

Four non-residents decided recently that they’d stop in the estate for a quiet cannabis-smoking session. An alert resident noticed their behaviour and, thinking that they were going “shooting up”, telephoned the Gardaí in Rathfarnham. Gardaí were on the scene in just four minutes, and all four culprits were arrested. The response illustrates a point that we’ve made on many occasions: if you call the Gardaí immediately to report a crime or suspicious activity, they will respond as quickly as they can, and they stand a good chance of apprehending the guilty parties. That has two effects: it gets those particular criminals off our streets and because criminals talk to other criminals, it enhances Prospect Manor’s reputation as a “zero tolerance” estate.

Violent Burglaries

Earlier in the “summer” there were two violent burglaries in the District, one in Tallaght and one in Rathfarnham. The crimes aren’t linked directly, but violent burglaries are so rare in Dublin that the Gardaí asked us to mention them. In both cases a householder heard a noise outside, went to investigate, and was assaulted, following which the house was burgled. One of the victims was an elderly man, whose wife was in the house when the thieves ransacked it. None of the victims was seriously injured, and all recovered well, both physically and psychologically.

The lesson to be learned is that householders shouldn’t venture outdoors to investigate suspicious activity on their premises. If you think that there’s somebody lurking outside, ring the Gardaí on 999 or 112, or call Rathfarnham directly on (01) 66 66 500. A call like that, which the Gardaí describe as “Intruders on...” gets priority listing, which means that it jumps to the top of the action list and Gardaí will be despatched immediately.

Thank you for your support throughout the year
www.prospectmanor.net