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Grangegorman Newsletter No. 25, Summer 2015

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Ministers visit Grangegorman Primary Care Centre site

The Minister for Health, Leo Varadkar TD, accompanied by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Paschal Donohoe TD, recently visited the HSE Primary Care Centre site at Grangegorman to review progress on the new development there. L & M Keating Ltd, the contractor for the build, is making steady progress on the facility which includes the redesign and reuse of one of the protected structures – the former Laundry – into the second new HSE development on site.

Speaking on site, Minister Varadkar commented that “Primary Care Centre developments, such as this new facility at Grangegorman, will allow patients to have treatment close to home and will also help to reduce unnecessary acute hospital admissions. It will be of great benefit to both the younger and older members of our community and will result in better health outcomes for all.”

The second Primary Care Centre to be developed within the Dublin 7 area (after the recently opened Navan Road Centre), the Grangegorman Centre will accommodate the Grangegorman and Cabra East teams along with a range of other health and social care network services that will serve the population living in a wide area of the North West Inner City.

Referring to the overall Grangegorman Project, GDA Chief Executive Michael Hand said “Following on from the completion of the Phoenix Care Centre in 2013, the Primary Care Centre is the second major healthcare contract to be delivered under the Grangegorman Masterplan. The re-use of the old Laundry as part of the new centre will ensure that the local community can regularly visit and appreciate this magnificent building. In particular it will add character while becoming a useful reference point for the public at large.”

It is anticipated that all works will be completed, and HSE fit-out finished in time for the new Primary Care Centre to open to the public by the end of 2016. Further health related developments on site as part of the Grangegorman Masterplan are currently at feasibility stages.
Conservation at Grangegorman

With 11 protected structures on the Grangegorman site including the boundary wall, conservation is a significant aspect of the overall development. To date, 6 of these buildings have been adapted for re-use and were occupied by DIT in September 2014. A partial refurbishment of the iconic Clock Tower building has taken place and the former Laundry building is being transformed into part of the HSE Primary Care Centre for the area.

The GDA is coming near the end of a stabilisation contract which has been crucial to stem the degradation and deterioration of 2 key protected structures on site, the Church of Ireland Church and, the oldest building on site, the Lower House. Bourke Builders Ltd are carrying out the necessary stabilisation works to these important buildings. During the contract a number of interesting conservation techniques have been used to retain the historic features of the buildings, including stone grafting, truss timber repairs and stone re-pointing. Further information on these techniques can be found on our website www.ggda.ie.

Evidence of past builders’ work has also been discovered in old carpenter’s assembly marks and in the signature of the stone carver Richard Stewart on the Richmond Coat of Arms at the Lower House. Both of these protected structures will require further works at a later stage before they can be brought into use in accordance with the Grangegorman Masterplan.

New Public Art Coordinator and the Public Art Programme

The GDA recently appointed Jenny Haughton as Public Art Coordinator to oversee the implementation of the Grangegorman Arts Strategy. Jenny was Public Art Adviser to the Arts Council and has been involved in public art commissioning throughout Ireland. She was a Founder Director of Temple Bar Gallery & Studios and has been National Coordinator of Ireland’s participation at the Art Biennales on a number of occasions. She has also worked as an Independent Assessor with Creative Europe.

Jenny will be working closely with the Public Art Working Group on a variety of pathways to develop Public Art at Grangegorman. This will involve working with all core stakeholders to create a meaningful legacy of art for the new urban quarter.

On Friday 7th August, Grafton Architects officially signed the contract for the design of the new Dublin 7 Educate Together Primary School on the Grangegorman site. Currently in a temporary space on the east side of the site off Fitzwilliam Place, the new school will be designed to occupy a prominent location beside the HSE Primary Care Centre off Grangegorman Upper. It is anticipated that the new school will be ready for occupation in September 2017.

Design Team selected for New Dublin 7 Educate Together School

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Since coming on board, Jenny has been working on developing an art programme and the GDA is delighted to announce that this programme ‘the lives we live’ will be officially launched by Ciaran Benson, the Chair of the Public Art Working Group on Friday 18th September to coincide with Culture Night. A range of talks, exhibitions and performances will take place over the course of the evening. Further details are available on our website www.ggda.ie but do follow us on facebook and twitter or sign up to our mailing list for all the latest news.

Any arts groups, community groups or other interested parties that wish to be involved should email public.art@ggda.ie or leave your details with GDA Reception on 01 4024140.
In Other News

The GDA was delighted with the recent announcement that funding is to be made available for DublinBikes in and around Grangegorman in the not too distant future. It is expected that 10 new stations will be placed in the area but specific details on the exact numbers and locations are yet to be announced. Watch this space.

Grangegorman is to again feature as part of this year’s Open House event, presented by the Irish Architecture Foundation. Having last featured in 2010, it is great to again be a part of it and to show everyone the progress that has taken place in the last 5 years. The event takes place from 16th to 18th October and full details will be available shortly.

The SIPR Project won the award for ‘Excellence in Construction Project Management’ at the 2015 International Construction Project Management Association awards in Madrid in June.

The site development Continues

Aerial of the site taken summer of 2014

DIT had their first graduate arts exhibition aptly titled ‘LIFT OFF’ at Grangegorman

The latest aerial of the Grangegorman site taken at the end of July

Check out the Website

Further information available on the website www.ggda.ie
You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook.