

## **Council meeting 12/07/12 - Report**

### **Meetings**

Met residents from triq l-Uqija re problems caused by Greens.....

Met Charles Sammut owner of Greens. He is willing to cooperate.

We have to set up a meeting between residents & C Sammut

To propose that the council embellishes the square in triq l-Uqija

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Met residents from triq il-keffa re disturbances caused by students staying at the 3 villas owned by Garden View Complex.

Met Joe Aquilina from Garden View and told him that parties must be abolished

### **Working Group**

We set up a working group composed of people who live l streets that require particular security enforcement – ie triq santu wistin, triq is Swieqi, triq is sidra and triq il keffa. We had our first meeting with these residents and agreed that a meeting be set up between this working group and members of the police force.

We met the Assistant Commissioner Zammit, superintendent Stephen Gatt and another two police officers. We explained the problems that residents face in different parts of the locality and we suggested that a ‘task force’ be set up.

Assistant Commissioner agreed and he will now propose 2 dates when the working group will be able to meet them.

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## **Triq it tiben**

Surfacing of part of Triq it tiben – area where the dividing wall has been demolished.

Met architect Vassallo from TM so as to enquire about the possibility that triq it Tiben being surfaced.

I realized that on account of problems that TM was facing the possibilities were slim.

Wrote to the Hon minister Gatt re subject matter. Hon minister informed me that the govt will be doing its utmost to fit in with this year's work schedule !

I will keep the pressure to make sure that the road be done up sooner than later.

## **Expropriation**

I will also be writing to Hon Gatt about expropriation required in

Triq ir Ratal –we had several meetings and discussions with people living in this road who cannot bear with the situation any longer ( we even met the owner of the land that needs to be expropriated )

Triq it terz

Triq li stasija

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## **Triq josef kalleja**

Works have finally started and should be nearing completion. I met residents on site so as to coordinate works and decrease the residents' inconvenience as much as possible. I have since spoken to several residents and the majority are satisfied with works in progress. Some complained about the width of the road ....

I also spoke to residents who live next to the ramp that joins triq il Gizimin/triq il Giebja to Triq Josef Kalleja since these residents are concerned about the fact that their area is not going to be surfaced and hence they will continue suffering from the dust etc.

We are discussing with the contractor and the architect in charge to have the area in question surfaces as well.

Residents also showed their concern about the safety of the ramp. I have asked the secretary to check on the possibility of installing 'U Bars' and also to clean up the area.

We have installed street lights all along Triq Josef Kalleja and in the stairs in triq l-arti.

## **PETITION**

We have received a petition from residents who are expressing their desire that the road/ramp leading to triq Josef Kalleja will not be removed and replaced by steps.

What worries residents living close to the ramp/hill is security, the water that flows down, the noise of cars driving up, and the noise created by drivers who get stuck and would not want to give way.

The latter problem may be solved with the installation of traffic lights.

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## **Traffic management**

Proposals have been sent to Transport Malta for solutions to be found in various 'problem areas'.

We are now awaiting a meeting with TM officials. Mr Curmi will inform the council in more detail.

## **Road markings**

Introduced road markings in triq is Swieqi, triq il qasam, triq il kekka, triq il mizura, triq tal franciz and triq ibrag.

## **Parking problem – foreign number plates**

It has been noted that several vehicles with foreign number plates are regularly parked in 'no parking zones' such as in corners and bends. Wardes and the police state that they cannot take any action.

This is totally unfair situation. Locals are given parking tickets for 'minor' offences whereas foreigners who willingly flout regulations go scot free.

Spoke to superintendent S Gatt and to the assistant commissioner about this and asked whether these vehicles could be clamped. Apparently in order to be able to clamp vehicles we need to mark the areas as 'tow zone areas'. The council will also have to pass by laws.

Considering the large amount of foreigners who reside in our locality, I am of the opinion that the council seriously considers this option.

## **Repairs to Pavements**

Agreed with mr Noel Deidun to carry out repairs on pavements in :

Triq il qasam ( one stretch has already been completed)

Trqi il gogi – W I P

Trqi is sejjiegh

Triq Lourdes

Triq l-imghazel

Triq it tiben

Triq il kwartin

### **Triq it tiben**

I have asked the executive secretary to check whether we could possibly clean up the plot of land which has been earmarked for traffic management . also, this stretch of the road does not include a pavement and this is in the list of pavement works .

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## **Arriva**

I have been receiving several complaints about the service that is being given in the locality by Arriva.

The main complaint is about the timing of the service. there are times when the bus simply does not turn up leaving people stranded with the obvious consequence that they arrive late to work or for their appointments.

Another frequent complaint is about the fact that Madliena is not being serviced any longer.

A resident suggested that a meeting be held between TM officials and residents. To check with TM if this is possible.

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## **Complaints**

The main complaints from residents are with regards to dog pooh, protruding shrubs from front gardens and that residents take out their rubbish during week ends and after collection time.

## **Campaign**

Met councilor Alex Chetcuti about the possibility of organizing a campaign about the subject matter.

Agreed to organize a 3 in one campaign called 'neighbourly spirit' during which we will have a section dedicated to dog pooh called 'love your dog, respect your neighbour'.

Another section dedicated to the pruning of shrubs. Ideally members of the council would offer the service to prune identified protruding shrubs after which the residents will be asked to make sure that pavements are not obstructed.

The campaign would also involve informing residents about rubbish collection time. Enforcement is required. Though one must take into consideration the several number of foreigners who reside in the locality, communicating with whom may not be easy.

### **Activity during the campaign**

A dog show will be organized with the participation of the Malta Kennel Club, the dog section of the Malta police force, dogs that lead the blind etc.

A flyer will be prepared which will be distributed to households and from shops etc.

It was also agreed that during the event 'dog bins' would be introduced.

We had targeted 20<sup>th</sup> or 27<sup>th</sup> July. However due to unforeseen circumstances, this event is being postponed to another date.

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## **Art centre**

I had a meeting with Hon D Crsitina and Hon M DeMarco about the possibility of setting up a Regional Art Centre in Swieqi. This would also serve residents from Sliema, St Julians, San Gwann and Pembroke.

Both ministers were in agreement with the idea.

Hon Cristina suggested that we contact Mario Azzopardi of life long learning so that music be taught .

Hon DeMarco offered that a meeting be set up with Davinia Galea, CEO at MCCA.

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## **Hawkers**

On 19/6/12, I spoke to the hawker in triq il kwarta next to the church and informed him that he was breaking 3 rules, entering a one way road, displaying goods on the ground and church fence and not respecting the distance of 50 metres.

He argued that he has been parking there for the last 16 years..... I asked him to move on and find another site

Spoke to the hawker on 4/7/12 and pointed out that he was still breaking all 3 rules and that he had ignored my warnings. I was asked why I was only picking on him and not on the hawker who parks in triq is Swieqi and also on the shops that display their goods on the pavement. I promised that I would be taking action in these instances as well. Next day he was parked in the correct direction and was not displaying any goods. He informed that he was trying to find a shop from where to operate.

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## **Traffic wardens**

I met mr Borg Caruana who is in charge of our area so as to discuss traffic issues in Swieqi and also about the manner in which tickets are given. We also toured the locality and I showed him the areas where traffic congests and double parking takes place.

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## **F X Ebejer garden in Triq is Swieqi**

I asked a resident who is also an interior designer, to design the changes to be made in the garden F X Ebejer, installation of swings, outdoor exercise machines and ideally a fountain.

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## **New Dekasteru**

We are planning to set up a new dekastaru which will concentrate on the locality 'going green', and to try and reduce emissions. Professionals will be employed to offer residents ways and means how they could save on energy usage etc. this dekastaru will also have the task to plan ways and means how to embellish the locality, identify ways how to reduce the traffic congestion in the locality and may be introduce an internal means of transport which would save residents having to make use of their car to go shopping, attend church functions etc.

## **Elderly**

I had a meeting with Dr Xuereb from the ministry of Health and the Elderly, so as to explore ways and means to offer a service to the 'mature' residents.

Agreed that the traditional methods ( day centre ) may not be successful in the locality.

Agreed to contact Caritas/Parish Priest and try to form a triangular effort to form a working group for mature residents. Contacted Mons V Grech who asked me to talk to Fr Adrian from Caritas since they do offer a service for mature people and try to work out something with the local parish. I also contacted Fr Tony who is in agreement with the idea. To set up a working group.

I have also asked the Department for the Elderly whether it was possible that our mature residents receive their immunization injection in the locality and also whether it would be possible that a doctor attends in the locality to offer the service of prescribing medicines. Apparently this service is provided in Penbroke.

## **Skola sajf**

On Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July we held a meeting for the parents of children attending Skola Sajf. 48 children have applied to attend the summer school which opened it's doors on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July.

Special thanks to Rev Fr Tony who very kindly offered the use of both parish halls and three other rooms.

## **Swieqi Day.**

Plans are under way to organize a Swieqi Day that may have activities spanning over 3 days. On Friday 7<sup>TH</sup> September and activity for youths will be organized.

On Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September, sports activities will be organized, ant that includes the Swieqi 5k run, 5k walk and 1.3k fun run, a cycle run, football penalty shoot outs, basketball free throws, a tug of war and other activities. In the evening a BBQ will be held on the church parvis organized by ZAK and the football team.

On Sunday and activity for the family will be organized with emphasis on children

A working group for this activity is being set up.

Noel Muscat – sindku

12th July 2012

