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# You Choose

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*Inside this  
online  
booklet:*



**Details of Cllr  
Fintan  
McCarthy's  
work on the  
Council and in  
Palmerstown/  
Quarryvale to  
help you make  
an informed  
choice as to  
whether he  
deserves your  
No. 1 vote on  
June 11th.**



***Vote Cllr Fintan***

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# ***McCarthy 1***

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All  
About

# Fintan McCarthy

***Cllr Fintan McCarthy was born and bred in Lucan and has lived there all his life. He took over the Council seat from Paul Gogarty, who has lived in Lucan most of his life, but is originally from Palmerstown and has many family members living there. Although the Dail constituency boundaries changed for a few years, neither Fintan or Paul forgot Palmerstown and Quarryvale and continued to work in the area, even though people were being wooed by candidates from north of the Liffey.***

Fintan McCarthy, a 34 year old County Councillor and Primary School Teacher, has lived in Lucan all his life. For over a dozen years Fintan has been actively involved in a number of community development related activities, beginning with the promotion of the Community Games, Tidy Towns and the provision of recreational amenities.

His interest in local government stems from the controversial rezonings of the early 1990's that saw Lucan designated for expansion without any thought to adequate amenities or infrastructure.

Fintan explains: "Overnight, committees that I was involved with, that had previously been working towards the enhancement of Lucan, were faced with a battle against the odds to protect our community from over-zealous rezoning".

In 1991-92 Fintan was actively involved in the campaigns that successfully opposed the rezonings of Airlie Stud (now part of Adamstown), St Edmundsbury and St. Helen's (now the Liffey Valley Regional Park). Unfortunately Laraghcon, overlooking the River Liffey was one of the rezonings that went ahead, despite the efforts of

those with the best interests of Lucan at heart.

In the mid-1990s Fintan was involved with the Green Party and the community groups that opposed further attempts to rezone St Edmundsbury and Fonthill as well as campaigning for a library for Lucan. In the late 1990s Fintan actively opposed the Outer Ring Road and the rezoning of Adamstown through his involvement with the Community Council, LTQL and the Green Party. For over a decade Fintan has worked with Paul Gogarty TD in formulating the Green Party stance in relation to local issues. Although they have much smaller populations than Lucan, both Palmerstown and Quarryvale have always remained central to the Green Party.

Fintan is currently a member of the following bodies as part of his political remit:

*Liffey Valley Management Advisory Committee (SDCC and Fingal)  
- Elected member*

*Lucan / Clondalkin Area Committee (SDCC)  
Dublin Transportation Office Advisory Committee*

*Dublin Authorities Taxi / Hackneys Committee*



***Cllr Fintan McCarthy with Paul Gogarty TD in Brussels to lodge a formal complaint on Adamstown with the European Commission and to monitor their submission to the Petitions Committee of the European Parliament***

*Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee (SDCC)*

*Sport, Recreation, Community Affairs Strategic Policy Committee (SDCC)*

*Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (SDCC)*

*An Taisce*

Since becoming a Councillor in January 2003, Fintan has exhibited a work-rate second to none. Within weeks of taking up the position Fintan took the lead on the Adamstown Planning scheme and County Development Plan Review, tabling and debating over 100 motions between these two issues alone.

He is also firmly committed towards protecting the Liffey Valley and to this end has sought to push the Council to develop Waterstown Park and have it included as part of a regional or national park stretching from Islandbridge to Straffan.

In Palmerstown, Fintan has been working hard on a number of issues, notably the campaign for a Library and an overpass at the Kennelsfort Road/N4 junction.

He is also seeking an effective 3T strategy at Kennelsfort, better traffic management overall in Palmerstown, more amenities and environmental protection, steps to halt anti-social behaviour and an improved bus service.

## Genuine Community Credentials

*Fintan McCarthy has an unrivalled track record of work within the community, having been a member of a number of organisations. Upon becoming a Councillor Fintan immediately stepped down given his belief that elected representatives should support, but not be publicly involved in community groups to protect their independence. "Politicians should not leave themselves open to accusations of using the involvement for political gain," he says.*

### **Lucan Community Council 1990-2003**

Secretary / PRO  
Vice-Chair 2001-2002  
Chairperson 2002-2003

### **Lucan Together for Quality of Life**

Since its foundation

### **Lucan Tidy Towns**

Chairperson 2002-2003

### **Liffey Valley Management Advisory Committee**

Community Representative  
1999- 2003

### **Lucan Library Campaign**

PRO until successful conclusion of campaign

### **Liffey Valley Park Alliance**

Involved since its foundation

# While Others Say This and That...

Continued from previous page...



*The Green Party has been to the forefront in highlighting the need to tackle a range of environmental issues*

[www.fairbincharge.com](http://www.fairbincharge.com)

## Our Environment and Litter

Cllr Fintan McCarthy has been pushing the Council to allocate more resources to tackle litter and illegal dumping. The Green Party supports a pay by volume system, as it encourages recycling, but we want a better service in return, including more frequent collection of Green Bins, the rollout of Brown Bins this year and free tags per child per household. Fintan has been pushing for all this at Council level as well as for more bins throughout estates and better recycling facilities. Bin collections are another issue that has taken up much of Fintan's time and he will continue to keep pressing the Council to deliver a proper service or at least provide a reasonable excuse or explanation when this does not happen.

The Green Party has traditionally been associated with environmental issues. The Environment to us is where you work, live and play. We believe that a healthy and clean environment is crucial for our survival and quality of life and to that end we have proposed a zero waste strategy as an alternative to incineration as well as measures to protect our environment locally.

## Crime & Anti-Social Behaviour

Levels of crime and anti-social behaviour in our area are similar to any other rapidly growing suburban area. However there are steps that could be taken to minimise such incidences, ranging from personal attacks to graffiti. Much of the low level anti-social behaviour that takes place can be attributed directly to the huge lack of facilities for young people. This is part of the solution and is something that Cllr Fintan McCarthy is gravely concerned about and which he has raised on countless occasions.

He is also equally concerned about providing a deterrent for such anti-social activities and more serious criminal offences. Acknowledging that the Government is not facing up to its responsibilities, the Green Party has demanded that additional Garda resources to be put into Lucan and Ronanstown stations as these have suffered due to a lack of sufficient investment in equipment and staffing as well as a reduction in overtime. The Party has also called for additional patrols in estates and measures to prevent public parks from becoming 'no-go' areas. We also need to protect our most vulnerable, including our senior citizens. Cllr McCarthy has pushed for CCTV at Council level and welcomes and encourages the establishment of Neighbourhood Watch schemes.



*More Gardai on the beat is everyone's dream. But this is unlikely to be achieved due to a minimalist approach to training new Gardai and an overall lack of resources*



*A skateboard park and a swimming pool are just two priorities that the Green Party have been working on. Others include a youth centre, more playing pitches, the Liffey Valley Park (see next page) and community buildings*

## Sports and Recreational facilities



Facilities should have been provided alongside new housing, but thanks to bad planning decisions made by the larger parties, they weren't. Lucan in particular is now playing catch up and it is a very difficult job to get any facility. Palmerstown has been waiting years for a library and sports facilities have only recently been provided in Glenauline. Quarryvale has also suffered from years of neglect and while the recent redevelopment at the shopping centre is welcome, more needs to be done. The Liffey Valley Centre has the potential to be a community facility. The Green Party opposed this zoning believing that a proper centre would need to be between Lucan and Clondalkin rather than at a motorway intersection. Now the battle is to ensure that the area provides community facilities rather than non-stop retail.

# Fintan Goes Out and Does It!

*More issues on next page...*

## The Liffey Valley

Fintan has seen numerous attempts to destroy the Liffey Valley. A vote by FF, FG and the PDs on the old Dublin County Council rezoned Laraghcon in 1993. Despite numerous appeals to An Bord Pleanála this development finally got permission a few years back. However the battle is still on to save St Edmundsbury and Fonthill from development and to ensure that existing areas such as Waterstown Park reach their full potential. The Green Party has been fighting to protect the Liffey Valley for years. It was the Green Party that suggested the Laraghcon and St Edmundsbury referenda. Fintan was also a member of a number of local organisations such as the Liffey Valley Park Alliance which pushed for the extension of the Special Amenity Area Order. Most recently he tabled a motion to have the protected lands extended as part of the Draft Development Plan. Other parties have begun to pay lip service to a Liffey Valley Park. But in the past they tried to rezone these lands for housing.



*The Green Party supports moves by the Liffey Valley Park Alliance for a national/regional park stretching from Islandbridge to Straffan.*

[www.KeepOurValleyGreen.com](http://www.KeepOurValleyGreen.com)

**KEEP LUCAN  
TIDY**



**NO BROWN  
ENVELOPES**

## Clean Politics - Trust Fintan

The ongoing revelations at the Flood/Mahon Tribunal have shed a lot of light on rezoning decisions that have taken place in our area. The Green Party believes that the system of donations that exists even today is damaging to politics. "Sure aren't they all the same" is a cry you often hear from people who feel alienated from the system because politicians - be they Independent or party political - have too often ignored the wishes and needs of residents. Some politicians have been proven to be absolutely corrupt. We still maintain that most elected representatives are honest people. However, taking donations from developers, no matter how small, compromises a politician's ability to make wise decisions on planning and development and leaves them open to accusations of being available to the highest bidder. This is why the Green Party has consistently called for a ban on all corporate donations. Understandably many politicians do not want to change the system, and have gone to extraordinary lengths to allow themselves unlimited election expenditure. Fintan refuses to accept donations from developers or any vested interests.

## Housing & Estate Maintenance

### Estate Maintenance

Those fortunate enough to buy a home in recent years have had to wait a long time for their estate to be taken in charge and maintained properly. The current fines and levies on developers are inadequate. They need an incentive to finish off estates properly. Too much of residents' time is spent chasing up these developers and Council officials whose hands are generally tied. A simple change in legislation would go a long way to ensure estates are finished or maintained properly. Fintan has pushed for this locally.

### Affordable Housing

The Green Party has called for measures to make housing affordable at local and national level. Most recently at our Ard Fheis we suggested a tax on land that remained idle for more than a year to discourage land speculation and stop the hoarding of housing land which is contributing to the high prices. There is already adequate land rezoned in Lucan to provide for local and outside needs for many years, but facilities and adequate infrastructure must be provided alongside any new private or social housing.



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# Fintan - putting our community first:

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## *A message from Paul Gogarty TD*

Dear voter,

Cllr Fintan McCarthy has worked hard for our community since becoming a councillor just 18 months ago.



Fintan needs your **No. 1** vote in order to continue his good work for Palmerstown and Quarryvale. If elected he will continue to be an honest and independent voice, backed up by a party with a track record at local, national and European level.

Fintan and his Green Party colleagues in South Dublin County Council will not be influenced by any vested interests, only in what is best for the area.

Please give Fintan your **No. 1** vote on polling day and keep a strong voice for Palmerstown and Quarryvale.



To help in Fintan's campaign please contact Paul Gogarty on 087-2752489.

E-mail@ [paultd@iol.ie](mailto:paultd@iol.ie).

Website: [www.fintanmccarthy.com](http://www.fintanmccarthy.com)

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## *Green Politics - Clean Politics*

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# *McCarthy 1*

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