



**Green Party
Comhaontas Glas**

Vision for Moore Street

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A Vision for the Moore Street Area

The following document sets out key principles that the Green Party believes should inform the planning, development, and protection of the Moore Street area.

“Moore Street and its immediate surroundings have suffered from decades of neglect. There is now an extraordinary opportunity to commemorate the past and imagine a future that the 1916 leaders could only have dreamt of. Central government, market traders, retailers, landowners and Dublin City Council must work together and build a Dublin for all.”

Donna Cooney

Councillor for Clontarf

Janet Horner

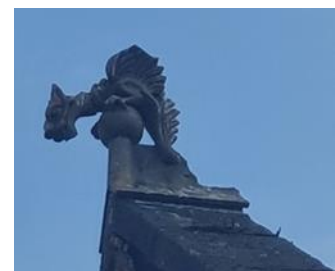
Councillor for North Inner City

Neasa Hourigan

TD for Dublin Central

Ciarán Cuffe

Member of the European Parliament for Dublin



Griffin on gable of 55 Moore Street

1. Commemorate and safeguard the 1916 legacy

This can be achieved by conserving and restoring the built fabric of the area that bore witness to the birth of the nation in Easter Week of 1916. Move quickly to provide a premier historical and cultural attraction in the buildings that include 14-17 Moore Street.

Restore all other buildings of significance within the battlefield site, and along the route from the General Post Office across Henry Street and down Henry Place to Moore Lane, Moore Street to O’Rahilly Parade and up to Parnell Street. Provide sensitive signage and wayfinding to record the historic events of Easter Week.

We wish to see a vibrant historical and cultural area as part of a living city steeped in historical events of 1916. It can be a place for all people of the nation, for the thinking tourist and future generations.

We propose:

1. Zoning as an Architectural Conservation Area with a focus on the internationally recognised urban Battlefield Heritage Site and market area which is one of the oldest surviving markets in Dublin.
2. A body similar to Temple Bar Properties but with a wider conservation and democratic mandate be appointed to prepare and implement a detailed plan to oversee the Moore Street area’s future development.
3. Trails linking the GPO to Moore Street through to O’Connell Street and up to new Parnell Square quarter, and the uncovering and conservation of the cobbles that bore the boots of the retreating 300 volunteers. We wish to see the pedestrianisation of Moore Lane, Henry Place and The O’Rahilly Parade.



Rear of 14-17 Moore Street, 2014

We envision the creation of an urban garden to the rear of 10- 25 Moore Street, bounded to the rear by the buildings fronting onto Moore Lane.

The garden will provide a recreational space, to be enjoyed by those working and living in the area and by the many tourists visiting the historic and cultural quarter. It is envisaged that the garden will be meandering and will be stepped in plan shape to facilitate the existing National Monument.

It will provide a unique idyllic space, with sculpture, a place to reflect and saunter.

“Heritage protection must focus on building and neighbourhood renovations and personal testimonies that bear witness to history on living streets.”

2. Revitalise the Moore Street Market

Work with market traders and all stakeholders to make the Moore Street Market a premier destination with good quality food and other produce that will attract Dubliners and visitors to the area.

The Moore Street Market can be a dynamic, multicultural, cross-generational, ethnically diverse buzzing street market steeped in history and character.

The Council must listen to, and act on the concerns of existing traders and shop-owners on the street who have valuable advice on restoring the vibrancy of the area.

The Council must allocate significant staff and financial resources to revitalise the market in their 2022 estimates.

It must attract new stallholders by promoting the market, by publicly advertising vacancies and encouraging new food offerings on the street, and by opening on Sundays. The Council must promote ethnic diversity and a cross generational mix in traders and put in place mentoring and training schemes in association with the Local Enterprise Office and other agencies. A 'start-up stall' (perhaps a pram) should be part of the offering for budding market traders.

The Council must listen more closely to the needs of street traders who have worked on the street for generations, as well as to those who have set up businesses in recent years. Council must work with market traders and all stakeholders to make the Moore Street Market a premier destination with good quality food and other produce that will attract Dubliners and visitors to the area. The existing traders and shop-owners on the street have valuable advice on restoring the vibrancy of the area.

The Council should provide well-designed and managed public toilets and handwashing for traders in a location on or adjacent to the street.

It needs to ensure a coordinated approach is put in place to enhance the street policing of the area and work with all stakeholders to better tackle anti-social behaviour.

It should adopt and implement the recommendations of the Expert Group on the Moore Street Market in consultation with the traders.

Improvements should encompass bold design, street art and murals, pavement design, bright signage, and dynamic lighting. We want to see a range of colourful stalls with a diverse tapestry of people buying and selling

“Dublin City Council must see street markets as an opportunity rather than as a threat to the area’s future.”

The focus for this market should be urban dwellers with tourism as an ancillary activity. However, we also urge Tourism Ireland to work with Dublin City Council to develop events and promotions for Moore Street.

Increased footfall is required to make the market sustainable. To enable and enhance footfall certain actions need to be taken.

The Market requires quality market and historical signage, and a design-led approach to improving the facilities and feel of the stalls. This should include some form of shelter for existing traders on the street in inclement weather. A public art scheme is needed for the street.

The Council should introduce a shop frontage grant scheme and promote and provide outdoor seating. Some of this can be associated with surrounding businesses.

The Council should advertise and promote trading opportunities as well as increase the range of trading days with possibility for other days on a speciality basis. It should promote a Thursday evening night-time Market. All city markets should have their details on the City Council’s website and be promoted on their social media.



3. Enhance O’Connell Street

Appoint a street manager to ensure to work with all stakeholders to ensure the public realm is enhanced and professionally managed. Ensure new developments on vacant sites respect the scale and setting of the street

The Architectural Conservation Area status of O’Connell Street requires active management.

“Dublin City Council should appoint a Street Manager whose job is to improve the Nation’s Capital Street and rescue it from neglect and takeaways.”



O’Connell Street. Pride Parade 2018

Existing businesses must be supported throughout any redevelopment construction. It is crucial that they are promoted and supported during any significant building works for the Metro project and other works on the large vacant sites.

Dublin City Council must work closely with developers, DublinTown and all stakeholders to promote and protect existing businesses.

The Council should provide good quality seating along the street that is available to all. In addition An Garda Síochána must ensure a quality police presence at all hours.

4. Enhance O'Connell Street

Ensure the Protected Structures within the area are protected and refurbished by working with their owners and occupiers to ensure they are well-managed, kept in good repair and enhance the area.

All buildings over a century old shall be considered for inclusion on the Record of Protected Structures.

A Plan must be put in place to enhance and protect the Georgian buildings that surround Parnell Square. The provision of housing on the upper floors must be encouraged.

Dublin City Council should be proactive and carry out emergency works on Protected Structures that are in danger.

“Dublin City Council should prepare a plan to restore Parnell Square to its former glory.”

Private landowners must allow the local authority into buildings to allow conservation officers to assess the importance of their interiors.

Dublin City Council must work with the owners of 41 Parnell Square to rebuild the Foresters' Hall that was demolished in recent years. A suitable use must be found for 10-11 Parnell Square and enhance the interior that once housed the old Dublin County Council offices.



Existing View of Parnell Square West

5. Promote mixed-use development

Work with landowners to end dereliction and promote sensitive infill development on empty and derelict sites. Focus on mixed-use development with lively active street frontages and mixed-use development with housing as 'eyes on the street' on upper floors. Ensure new buildings are of high design quality and are a quality addition to the area.

“Planners must recognise that the days of large, enclosed shopping centres are over. Instead, they should focus on place-making and small-scale development that improves the public realm.”



Footpaths and trees in Central Dublin

Any proposal for development on Moore Street or in the surrounding area should respect the existing building heights and context. It is important that outdoor spaces receive adequate sunlight and are not overshadowed by insensitive and over-scaled new developments.

The existing Architectural Conservation Area of O'Connell Street must be respected, and new buildings should not dominate the carefully composed streetscape of O'Connell Street.

The Council as part-owner of the ILC Centre should redevelop the western side of Moore Street for housing units over ground-floor retail units as a prototype for further 'Living Over the Shop' development in the city centre similar to Wolfe Tone Close.

6. Rethink travel and mobility

Walking, cycling and public transport must be the dominant means of getting around this area. Footpaths must be widened, and proper segregated cycle lanes and parking provided. It is time to limit car travel in the city centre. The amount of car parking in the area must be reduced and Planning Permission shall not be granted for any additional car parking.

The Council shall look positively towards the conversion of existing car parking areas to retail, office, or residential use where appropriate. The Council (as part-owner of the ILAC Centre) should provide electric charging facilities for all the existing car parking spaces and put in place a goods vehicle charging facility on the loading levels of the centre.

“No new car-parks are needed in the city centre. Walking, cycling and public transport are the travel modes of the future.”

The proposed Metro stop between O’Connell Street and Moore Street is welcomed, but it must be sensitively incorporated into the proposed development of the area.

Temporary footpath widening works on the west side of Parnell Square are welcome, but now is the time to implement the long-mooted plans for traffic calming on all sides of Parnell Square to deter speeding and encourage an increase in footfall. Such proposals must be in sympathy with the historic buildings on the Square. It is time for the ‘Mondello Park’ layout which encourages speeding to be removed.



Lower Liffey Street, Temporary pedestrianisation, 2019

7. Provide homes as well as shopping

In 1916 Moore Street was a mixed-use area with people living over the shop. It makes sense to provide more public and private housing in the area.



Residential courtyard on upper level of Wolfe Tone Close off Jervis Street

Wolfe Tone Close is an excellent example of retail use on the ground floor with family homes accessed off a sunny courtyard on the floor above. This should be a model for the development of mixed-use development along Moore Street and on the adjoining streets.

“We are in a housing crisis. Any large development site must contain a significant share of public housing.”

There is potential to redevelop the west side of Moore Street with quality apartments over shops at ground floor level and bring greater vibrancy to the street once again.

Similarly, on the east side of Moore Street the Council must work proactively with owners to refurbish the upper floor for residential use and encourage active street-fronts with retail use on the ground floors.

8. Make Parnell Square a public park

Over the years the green space of Parnell Square has been reduced and replaced with car parking. There is an opportunity in the short-term to eliminate the eyesore of inappropriate car parking in front of the Rotunda Hospital designed by Richard Cassels 260 years ago.

The interior of Parnell Square is now inaccessible apart from the Garden of Remembrance, but over the years surface car parking has taken over what was formerly lawns. If the Rotunda Hospital moves out of the city centre the State should acquire the building and grounds and open them up again to the public.

“Now is the time to reclaim Parnell Square as a green lung for the city, rather than use it for car parking.”



Rotunda Hospital and Parnell Street, 2020

If the Rotunda Hospital is relocated there is then an opportunity to expand the green

space within Parnell Square and provide public access as an amenity in the area.

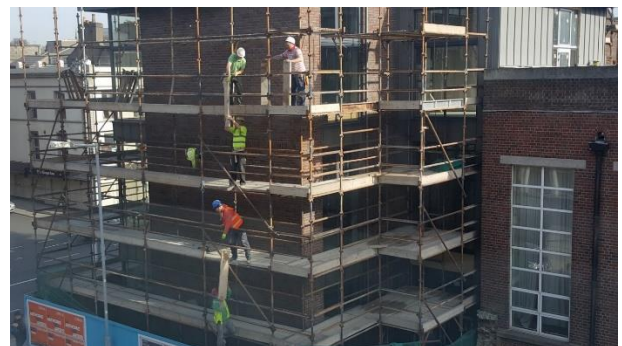
9. Build near-Zero Energy Buildings

Building Standards have improved in recent years. There is now an opportunity to ensure a net-Zero Building standard is the norm within the area.

“All new construction must be built to an nZEB (Near-Zero Energy Building) standard.”

The use of rooftop photovoltaics and waste-heat from existing buildings can help achieve this and will require cooperation between different landowners.

The Moore Street area may be an appropriate testbed for a district heating scheme that could provide low-carbon heat and water to existing and new developments in the neighbourhood.



Construction on Kings Inn Street in Central Dublin

10. Recognise and Support New Communities

Moore Street has experienced a difficult few years- one of the bright spots in that new history has been the presence of diverse users of the street and new communities who have made it their own. Moore Street, O’Connell Street and the Parnell area are some of the most multicultural parts of Dublin.

When walking in this part of the city you can call into Brazilian, south Asian, African, Indian, Vietnamese, Korean and Chinese businesses. It is also home to many communities and businesses drawn from the wider European community.

“The vibrancy of experience and diversity that these Dubliners bring to the Moore Street area is something to be supported and celebrated. The future of the street and the larger area must be developed with new Irish communities in mind.”

Recognising and including diverse identities among the users of Moore Street is a positive dimension of social and economic progress.



Children on St. Patrick's Day in Dublin

11. Reclaim the Street and Green the City



Temporary Mural, Liffey Street Upper, 2018

It is time to widen footpaths and improve footpaths and the public realm for all. Over the years the quality of public space in the area has suffered significantly from insensitive development.

“Access for all demands a ‘Universal Design’ to movement on foot within the area to facilitate people who are young, old, and those with disabilities.”

This requires an approach that puts the needs of those with disabilities and pedestrians first, and that carefully considers the design and placement of street furniture such as lighting, seating, signage and bust stops in a well-crafted manner. All footpaths

should have dished kerbs at crossing points, narrow curve radii and allow pedestrians to follow the ‘desire line’.

Well-designed public seating, litter bins and street signs are required, as well as the removal of excess poles and signs.

The improvement of the public realm around Parnell Square has been recommended in plans for the area since the 1990s. Now is the time to narrow roads that encourage speeding and make the areas safer for pedestrians of all ages.

Moore Street and environs suffer from a deficit of green infrastructure. There is an opportunity to provide a showpiece of urban greening by planting large street trees and by using the principles of sustainable urban drainage systems (SUDS) to improve biodiversity with deep green roofs, as well as grassed strips and soakaways.

Wider footpaths, more greenery and street trees with less parking spaces can foster social contact.

All streets in the area deserve wide footpaths and quality street trees that cleanse the area and provide interest to passers-by. Trees with roots in the ground are preferable to the use of planters which do not allow trees to reach their full poten

The urban space around the Church of St. George and St. Thomas can be enhanced by widening footpaths and improving tree planting. It is also appropriate to improve the commemoration of those who lost their lives in the Dublin and Monaghan bombings of 1974.

12. Use Culture to fuel creativity

There is an opportunity to use culture to boost the area through working with arts and education providers.

The Gate Theatre and the Pillar Room can provide a renewed focus for theatre and the arts and compliment the offerings of the improvements in the Municipal Art Gallery.

“Culture is key to the regeneration of the Moore Street area. Respect for the past and a fostering of market trading and caring for our heritage can ensure a bright future for the area.”

The Dublin City Library plans for the old Coláiste Mhuire building on the north side of Parnell Square can and should proceed as a significant cultural attraction within the area and complement the nearby Dublin Writers’ Museum.

The Gaelscoil Coláiste Mhuire primary school building plans for Dominick Street must be fast-tracked to provide a permanent home for a vibrant school that has been housed in an unsuitable temporary building on the East side of Parnell Square for over two decades