SAVE RATHMINES POST OFFICE

Dear friends,

There has been another development in our campaign to save our post office in the iconic building in Rathmines. You will recall that previous pressure mounted by all of you, your residents' association, Cllrs Dermot Lacey and Fiona Connelly, and others helped to secure a meeting between Dublin City Council, An Post and local representatives.

At that meeting, we made clear that it had to mark the start, and not the end, of engagement on how to keep the building in community use. I can now confirm that a follow-up meeting has been scheduled for 8th May between Dublin City Council and public representatives to continue the negotiations.

This is a promising sign. The voices of all those reliant on, and attached to, the Rathmines Post Office are clearly being heard. However, we must be clear on something ourselves: we are not there yet. The relocation and sale are still on the table. Across, the country, we are seeing it happen. I want to use this meeting, with Fiona and Dermot, to advance viable solutions to keep our local postal service accessible, and to keep this publicly-owned building in the hands of our community.

Since our first public meeting, years ago now, so many of you have sent brilliant suggestions on how we can turn the post office into a full community hub, to expand services like passport applications, driving licence renewal, artists' spaces, and Citizens' Information, MABS and community partnership centres. I have filed all those suggestions and we will advance them at the meeting. Please, keep sending them our way. What creative community spaces can we create? What is missing from our area?

I really believe that this campaign can deliver, but it has not won just yet. Let's keep it up. As always, if ever my office can be of assistance to you in relation to any other matter, please do let me know and I will help however I can.

Best wishes,

Ivana