

BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT FORUM

Meeting Minutes
Thursday 11th September 2008

1. **Apologies:** Paul Gorry Michael Cogan Ken Browne Monica Brophy
Assumpta O'Neill Lena Byrne Ray O'Toole Con Murphy
Pauline Lawrence has stated that she is resigning from the Forum for family reasons and hopes to be back at a later date

2. **Introduction**
The Chairperson welcomed the members.

3. **The Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting of June 5th having been distributed were proposed for acceptance by Paul McGowan and seconded by Cathy O'Toole.

4. **Matters arising**
There were no matters arising

5. **Correspondence**
A letter from Peter Morrin who will appear at the October Meeting in regard to the planning issue at Mill Street. More later under A.G.M.
A letter received from W.C.C. re Bryko saying that permission has been granted.
The Credit Union Car Draw: The meeting agreed that we should enter the draw, there were no objections.
Letter from Pat O'Neill of O'Neill & Flanagan re the development at "The Dutchman's". He has returned a copy of our observations with the relevant sections highlighted. He feels that a letter of endorsement would help greatly to influence W.C.C.'s consideration of his application.
John Vernon to organise a copy of the revisions required to meet the Co. Council's requirement at which time we should review and decide if we can endorse the application
Garda Commissioner wrote outlining the increase in Garda presence which has taken place in the Wicklow area.

6. **Financial Report**
The Treasurer reported a balance of funds at €1,005.00. It was agreed to pay €690.00 towards outstanding printing costs.
Fund raising has become a priority and several suggestions were raised such as a meeting contribution from all attending as we should really make a contribution towards the cost of lighting and heating for our meetings.
A golf classic to raise funds was also suggested. Properly run it could contribute a considerable sum towards our annual costs.

7. **Annual General Meeting**
As nothing had been fixed by the constitution with regard to a date for an Annual General Meeting or indeed regarding the term of a "Forum Year" the meeting felt that it would be appropriate to hold the A.G.M. in October on the normal meeting date. Notices to be sent out to this effect and sub-committees reminded that any reports to be delivered at the A.G.M. should be prepared in time.

It was decided that as the AGM is a public meeting also it would be appropriate for Peter Morrin to attend and address the meeting on the subject of his planning application at Mill Street under any other business. He should be so advised and reminded of the time restriction imposed on all such presentations.

8. Any Other Business

Bus Stop: The Secretary was asked to write to Paul Gorry and congratulate him on the success of his efforts to get the Bus Stop re-located to the centre of the town and it was hoped that some form of shelter would be provided.

River Walk: Billy Timmins said that the walk was in use by some local residents but could not be extended presently to the bridge as it would then cross private property. Also the final part of it, to the Sewage Treatment Plant, is not formally marked but some people do walk it.

Town Roads and Pavements: Billy Timmins undertook to investigate progress on any repair works coming our way. There are funds available under the Town and Village renewal scheme but whether these are accessible in the current economic climate is questionable.

The outlying roads have mostly been repaired but those within the town are being ignored.

E.S.B. Cables: It was suggested that we should communicate directly with the ESB (Mr McEvoy, Abbelex Road, Portlaoise) to establish the situation in regard to re-routing of cables. It is understood that conduits have been provided to re-route the cables in Mill Street.

11. Next Meeting

The Forum adjourned until the Annual General Meeting on October 2nd at 8.00 p.m. in Stratford Lodge