

Baltinglass & District Forum

Baltinglass and district forum held 1st meeting after the A.G.M. on 6th November 2008 at 8.30. With the following members present :- Noel Lyons (chairperson), Paul McGowan (vice-chairperson), Mary Vernon, Martina Power, John Vernon, Phyllis Flanagan, Ann Patterson, Andrew Pender, Cait Clerkin, Michael Cogan, Pat Byrne, Paul Gorry, Maria McCormack, Anne Leigh, Ken Browne.

Apologies: Monica Brophy, Cathy O'Toole, Liam MacGabhann, Mai Quaid, Fran Quaid, Chris Murray, Lisa Byrne.

Minutes from last meeting read and accepted, proposed by John Vernon, seconded by Michael Cogan.

Chairperson read out the sub-committees for the year, they are:

Road/Transport:

Paul McGowan	Michael Cogan
Simon Murphy	Lena Byrne
Ken Brown	Paul Gorry
Martina Power	Noel Doody
John Vernon	Andrew Pender

Fundraising:

Chris Murray	Ned Kehoe
Liam MacGabhann	Annette Mangan
Pat Byrne	Assumpta O'Neill
Maria McCormack	

Social:

Cathy O'Toole	Cait Clerkin
Mary Vernon	Ann Patterson
Phyllis Flanagan	Anne Leigh
Orla O'Sullivan	

This is to be sent around with the minutes, and sub-committees should meet before the next forum meeting.

Correspondence: The need for insurance was discussed. It was decided to request information from Rev. McCullough as we use the old school buildings for meetings. The office of public works wrote to the Honorary Secretary about the Baltinglass Abbey, it stated that routine work was carried out during the year. There was nothing of an urgent nature required therefore there are no immediate plans for future work.

Community education programme 2008 was circulated, this referred to community groups with seminars on the local and national decision making process facilitated by

Noel Fitzgerald.

Report on the N81 Hollywood Cross to Tallaght road improvement scheme. A constraints study questionnaire was circulated.

Country Markets invited members of the forum to the official opening of Baltinglass and District Country Markets on Saturday 15th November 2008.

Treasurer's Report: The table quiz held on the 31st October was a great success. The quiz raised a total of €480 for the forum, which was good considering the amount of other events on that night. It was suggested that we hold another table quiz in January.

Financial Report: The forum is in need of funds for administration purposes, it was agreed that a donation of €25 would be requested from the forum members. This was proposed, voted on and carried.

A.O.B.

There is a new group in the town, The No Name Club, which hosts activities aged 16+. This is run by a committee of 15 young people with the help from local Garda. The County Development Plan submissions are to reach Wicklow County Council by December 22nd 2008. It was agreed to Submit our previous development plan for Baltinglass.

The Fair Trade group is hosting an event in the library on the 15th November 2008 to showcase ideas for ethical gifts. All are welcome.

It was agreed to send an expression of interest to Wicklow Rural Partnership for development of a river walk in the town.

It was also agreed to correspond by letter with members not in attendance to ascertain their wish to continue on the forum.

Meeting closed at 21:31.

Next Meeting 11th December 2008 at 8pm in Stratford Lodge school.