

# BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT FORUM

Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009

**1. Attendance:** Noel Lyons, Mai Quaid, Phyllis Flanagan, Ann Patterson, John Vernon, Andrew Pender, Ken Browne, Orla O'Sullivan, Fran Quaid, Pat Byrne, Mary Vernon, Paul McGowan, Liam MacGabhann, Chris Murray.

**2. Apologies:** Cathy O'Toole, Paul Gorry, Cait Clerkin, Anne Leigh and Marie McCormack.

### **3. Introduction**

The Chairperson welcomed and thanked all the members attending.

The Chairperson introduced Garda Kevin Fahey, the Juvenile Liaison Officer who gave a brief outline of his role in the community dealing with offenders referred to him by the operational district Gardai. In the eyes of the law all offenders over the age of 13 and under the age of 18 are juveniles. In most cases a caution will be issued and unless repeat offences occur the offender will not appear in court. Any such cautions or offences do not constitute a criminal record. Garda Fahey is actively involved with GAPS a programme being run in the old boys school where they provide computers, TV and other facilities for 13-18yr olds with no home access to the internet.

The Chairperson, Noel Lyons thanked Garda Fahey for his presentation and complimented him on his involvement in such worthwhile community projects.

### **4. The Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of 1st October were proposed for acceptance by Ken Browne and seconded by Orla O'Sullivan.

### **5. Matters arising**

John Vernon understood that he was to put together something on the Kilmurray sandpit not draft a letter.

John Hobson when approached by Noel Lyons said that any charitable use of the shop in Belan Street would be looked on favourably. The Secretary was asked to write to Mr David Irwin on the subject.

Mary Vernon agreed that it was suitable for a Forum shop for re-cycled goods. Probably for three days per week.

### **6. Correspondence**

Letter received from Billy Timmins on 30<sup>th</sup> October as a follow-up on the issue of the Bus Stop. He promises to come back to us if there is any development.

The Secretary reported that the letter with cheque sent to Mr. John Barry of Stratford had been returned and undertook to hand-deliver same with an apology when a more exact address can be established.

### **7. Financial Report**

The Treasurer reported a balance of €326.00 in the Credit Union

Phyllis Flanagan reported that the "**Wilde Night Out**" venture has returned a surplus of €718.11 but that the cost of the tickets had yet to be paid. The Chairperson complimented Phyllis on an excellent idea well carried out. The members applauded Phyllis.

The Secretary to write to The Lalor Centre, Pauline Balfe & Lindsey-Anne and to the caretaker, Pat Fleming to thank them for the use of the venue and also to Tom Hanafin for the use of the dais.

Andy Stamps, Ken Browne and John Vernon were also thanked for their help with the set-up.

## **8. Social Group**

The Newsletter has been put back due to delays in receipt of content.

The Forum agreed to send a contribution of €50.00 to the Tidy Towns committee towards the cost of festive lighting.

## **9. Any Other Business**

The subject of the Annual General Meeting was raised and it was decided to hold it on 3<sup>rd</sup> December. No officers will be elected at this meeting as the constitution allows that they continue in office for two years.

Meanwhile, it is imperative that the Forum work at increasing its representative base. To this end we should concentrate on encouraging greater participation by the original members and also encourage new members from any of the newly formed residents associations or other clubs and societies in the community.

The Fair Trade group are holding a reception on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November at Murray's Shop, Main Street while the Country Markets will be celebrating their first anniversary on the same day across the street at the old Badminton Hall.

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November at 8.00p.m., Emma Lyons, daughter of our esteemed Chairperson, will deliver a lecture **“Widows Inheritance in 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> Century Ireland”** in the Parish Centre.

## **10. Planning Regulation Adherence**

The Roads sub-committee (Ken Browne & John Vernon ) reported that the Kilmurray Sandpit were now operating without carrying out the required roadway improvements called for in their planning permission. Whether the other five conditions placed on the application have been adhered to is a matter for conjecture.

The company stated that they would contribute €20,000 towards road development. Has this been paid? No improvements have taken place. It was noted that the vehicle drivers using the site were behaving in a most courteous manner on the road.

It should be ascertained exactly who the relevant authority is, probably Wicklow Co Co, and lobby our local councillors to get any action. Left to the January meeting.

## **11. Address by Local Council Representatives.**

The meeting was addressed by Seamie Hallrahan and by Roger Morrison on the projected location of a pedestrian courtesy crossing on Main Street. The plan currently is to form a build-out near the Bank of Ireland with a crossing towards Slaney Décor. The build-out would be to the depth currently used by parked cars on both sides, so not restricting the width of the street appreciably. There is no plan at present to put traffic lights or beacons on the crossing due to financial restrictions so the pedestrians will be dependant on the goodwill of drivers.

Several other areas of concern and real danger to impaired or disabled pedestrians within the town were pointed out but it appeared unlikely that anything would be done about them in the near future.

## **12. Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of the Forum will be the A.G.M. and will take place on 3rd December 2009 at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre.**