

## **BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT FORUM**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2011

### **1. Attendance:**

Noel, Lyons, Fran Quaid, John Vernon, Ann Patterson, Paul Gorry, Mary Vernon, Gerorda Stamps, Mai Quaid, Ken Browne, John Dore, Liam MacGabhann, Michael Cogan, Geraldine Cole and Kay Hogan.

### **2. Apologies:**

Phyllis Flanagan, William Paterson, Pat Byrne, Chris Murray.

### **3. Welcome:**

The Chairperson, Noel Lyons welcomed Geraldine Cole and Kay Hogan of Dunlavin Forum to the meeting.

### **4. The Minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting having been distributed were proposed for acceptance by Gerorda Stamps and seconded by John Vernon.

### **5. Matters arising**

Gerorda Stamps had established a contact number (086-1937677) for the Dunlavin First Responders group which was forwarded by the Secretary to John Vernon.

The letter to the Minister of Transport in reference to the Bus Eireann situation was the subject of a response from Declan Geraghty Secretary to the new Minister who said that a reply would be forthcoming as soon as the Minister had his specific areas of responsibility outlined.

### **6. Finance**

The response of the Treasurer to the members request to have a hard copy of the financial situation at each meeting prompted a discussion. Geraldine Cole of Dunlavin Forum volunteered the information that their group has two Treasurers so the matter of attendance is less demanding.

### **7. Correspondence**

No correspondence was received.

### **8. Community Website ([baltinglasstown.com](http://baltinglasstown.com))**

A video of the St Patrick's Day parade is currently on the website. Flyers are still being distributed both door-to-door and through business premises.

The question was asked whether the proposed signs at the entrance to the town should really be in the town? No decision was made.

### **9. Roads Sub-Committee**

The Parks Committee were written to on the subject of the River Walk. The Secretary Mai Quaid reported that the T.T. committee were meeting with Roisin Byrne and it was hoped that FAS would strim out the proposed route but this is not agreed yet. Ken Browne reported that he had apparently missed out on a meeting.

The Chairperson explained for the benefit of our visitors that the river walk being discussed would be about one mile long and that it required to be re-developed.

Ken Browne made the point that there were one or two hazards to be dealt with on the proposed route. He also reported that Pat Mallon has agreed to come to any meeting arranged but Ken felt this should be with a joint Forum/ Parks Committee/Tidy Towns group.  
No notification was received about the Flood meeting held on Monday night.

#### **10. Social & Fundraising**

Mary Vernon speaking for Cait Clerkin stated that we should now organise a fundraising event, however, a Golf Classic with raffle to be held in September seemed to be the popular choice.. When asked how Dunlavin organised their fundraising Geraldine Cole said that each sub-committee seemed to do their own – quite successfully. Recent events funded were a Business Directory and Hanging Baskets.

The Secretary was asked to write to Wicklow Uplands Council and give the letter to Michael Cogan re the Notice boards requested for the town centre. Both Blessington and Dunlavin have boards supplied under a 50% grant scheme by the Wicklow Uplands Council. The signs are mainly provided inside the National Park area but not exclusively.

#### **11. Any Other Business**

In relation to the Hart House on Mill Street it was felt that we should renew our efforts to contact Kevin Wade as the property is an eyesore and indeed likely to be a hazard to pedestrians.

A Bio-diversity Study will be set up in the Community Garden on 15<sup>th</sup> April 11.00 – 1.00 p.m.  
The garden will be open to all.

The subject of the recently introduced speed cameras and their placement in what appear to be revenue generating sites as against locations which might prevent road injuries and deaths.

Our Dunlavin visitors said that they are holding their AGM next month but would welcome some representative at the following meeting. They recommended also attendance at a Blessington Forum meeting with the future objective of establishing a West Wicklow Forum.

The Forum should also write to W.C.C. to protest the proposed closure of the Blessington Motor Taxation Office.

#### **10. Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of the Forum will take place on 5th May 2011 at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre.**

**Please note change of venue.**