

BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 5th May 2011

1. Attendance:

Noel, Lyons, Fran Quaid, John Vernon, Phyllis Flanagan, Andrew Pender, Cait Clerkin, Ann Patterson, Mary Vernon, Gerorda Stamps, Chris Murray, Michael Cogan.

2. Apologies:

Paul Gorry, Mai Quaid, Ken Browne, William Paterson.

3. Welcome:

The Chairperson, Noel Lyons welcomed all to the meeting and congratulated Michael Cogan on his election to the National Chair of Active Retirement.

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

John Vernon had made contact with John O'Reilly from First Responders and it was suggested that the meeting to enlist volunteers should be left until Aug/Sept. Cait Clerkin suggested that notices be put in the Library and other suitable locations and Gerorda Stamps suggested also on the web-site. This would allow persons put their names forward with a contact number so they could be advised of the venue and time of the enrolment meeting.

John Vernon asked for the opinion of the medical community on such groups and Cait Clerkin reminded all that the rapidness of the response in cardiac and other emergencies is critical in many cases in determining the gravity of the result.

In reference to the House on Mill Street it was confirmed that the letter to Kevin Wade was despatched. It was suggested that we also write to Eileen Finn of Rathbran as a follow-up to ensure that Mr Wade was aware of the situation and had in fact received our letter.

On the subject of speed cameras it was confirmed that there is not a camera located between the Lord's Piers and the Quinn house. The sign serves only as a warning.

6. Correspondence

A letter in reply from the Tidy Towns committee re Baltinglass Park and the River Walk indicated that they are considering proposals for various developments all of which may be funding reliant. They intend to post developments on the community web-site.

7. Finance

No expenditure having occurred on the Forum account the balance remains at €59.56. The Web-site fund stands at €22.00.

8. Roads Sub-Committee

The proposed route of the River Walk has been mostly strimmed now and Ken sent a message asking that a small sub-committee be set up to keep the pressure on this project. The Chairperson congratulated all members of the Roads sub-committee and especially Ken for their continued efforts.

The sub-committee was informed that they could ask Seamie Halloran or other experts to join them on an ad hoc basis to advise on their respective areas of expertise.

9. Social & Fundraising

Mary Vernon distributed a copy of the newsletter to everyone and asked for final comments or amendments. Some minor re-alignments and errors were pointed out and will be corrected.

10. Any Other Business

Tearmann Garden Spring and Summer Celebration at 11.00 a.m. on 11th May.

A discussion on Women's Health by Marie Keating in the Inis Fail at 3.00p.m. on 11th May 2011.

A reminder to organise the fundraising Golf Classic for the Forum in September.

A project on Michael Dwyer was proposed with a handout available in the library giving a brief history with details of his deeds and places of related interest and explaining the relevance of Sam MacAllister etc. The possibility that it could be a joint venture between the West Wicklow Historical Society and the Forum was suggested. It was said that this was already available in book form but it was felt that this did not meet the requirements of casual tourists.

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Forum will take place on 2nd June 2011 at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre.