

## **BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT FORUM**

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2011

### **1. Attendance:**

Noel, Lyons, Fran Quaid, John Vernon, Phyllis Flanagan, Andrew Pender, Ann Patterson, Mary Vernon, Gerorda Stamps, Chris Murray, Mai Quaid, Pat Byrne, Ken Browne,.

### **2. Apologies:**

William Paterson, Cait Clerkin,.

### **3. Welcome:**

The Chairperson, Noel Lyons welcomed all to the last meeting before the summer recess.

### **4. The Minutes**

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

### **5. Matters arising**

The minutes Secretary apologised for granting Michael Cogan an incorrect office in the minutes as it should have read his appointment as National Vice-President of the Active Retirement Association. No contact had been established re the property on Mill Street and it was proposed that we contact Clive Jones of Newtownsaunders re the deteriorating state of same.

### **6. Correspondence**

A reply from WCC about the prospective closure of the civic offices in Blessington stating that they are suffering unprecedented reductions in funding and recommending on-line taxing of vehicles. Communication from Blessington Forum advising that a report on the Community Survey will be presented on Tuesday 14th June in the Tramway Theatre at 8.00p.m.

### **7. Finance**

The Forum Account balance remains at €59.56. The Web-site fund stands at €29.00.

### **8. Roads Sub-Committee**

The Baltinglass Trail Development Working Group which is an amalgam of Tidy Towns and the Baltinglass & District Forum (Roads sub-committee) and Roisin Byrne have set out a proposal for the River Walk which is in line with the town plan of 2007. It takes cognisance of the Special Area of Conservation paralleling the river and the group would cooperate fully with the NPWS (National Park and Wildlife Service). Agreement to be sought with Tidy Towns for an on-going maintenance program and a working partnership with WCC for the route.

It was suggested that the following personnel should be asked to form a River Walk sub-committee, Paul McGowan, Liam MacGabhann, Michael Cogan, Ken Browne and Noel Doody. The Committee agreed that Phillip and Mary Reilly should be asked to join the Forum and take part in the project committee.

.It was further requested that Roisin Byrne be put on the Forum e-mail circulation list.

### **9. Social & Fundraising**

Five hundred copies of the newsletter have already been distributed and a further five hundred may be produced. It was queried whether an op-date should be effected before the re-print but it was

decided to leave it as is. In relation to the street festival mentioned on the Newsletter this had been reported in both the Wicklow People and The Nationalist.

The Forum golf classic fund-raising date has yet to be confirmed but will most likely be in late September.

#### **10. Any Other Business**

E-mails are being distributed to local residents to get them to coerce their Wicklow representatives to release publicly the results of the Flood Survey.

The Secretary, Mai, attended a meeting of the Wicklow Network for Older People and was elected to that committee.

The Public meeting for the First Responders to be arranged for the last Thursday in September (29<sup>th</sup>) and the venue (Kare) and advertising and also any required literature to be organised. Fran Quaid undertook to canvas suitable volunteers in the Golf Club and suggested that other clubs should also be canvassed.

Ann Patterson raised the question of the building on Edward Street which is now in a process of dilapidation and likely to become a haunt for undesirable activities if something is not done about it. Contact with the local Gardai and the community Garda was recommended.

#### **11. Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Forum will take place on 1st September 2011 at 8.00 p.m. in the Parish Centre