

BALTINGLASS & DISTRICT FORUM

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 8th October 2012

1. Attendance:

Noel Lyons, Fran Quaid, John Vernon, Mai Quaid, Ken Browne, Phyllis Flanagan, Ann Patterson, Theresa Doyle, Julia Glass, Paul Gorry and Bernard Cloney.

2. Apologies: Cait Clerkin, Mary Vernon, Orla O'Sullivan, Chris Murray.

3. Welcome:

The Chairperson, Noel Lyons, welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for attending.

4. The Minutes:

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

5. Matters arising:

There were no matters arising.

6. Correspondence:

Reply from AIB explaining at length the reasons for closing the Baltinglass branch.

7. Guest Speaker:

Grainne McLoughlin of the Wicklow Partnership for Older People gave a very informative talk on the subject of funding for local projects.

7. Finance:

The Treasurer, Chris Murray reported a balance by text of €845.01 and a website account balance of €138.62.

8. Sub-committee reports:

Roads: On the River Trail it was reported that the current situation is that a Section 50 exemption from planning application is being applied for.

Social: A meeting was organised 2-3 weeks ago to inform as many local groups as possible about "The Gathering 2013" and elicit support for the various events that are proposed locally.

Various activities were proposed for the celebration including

1. Patricks Day Festival
2. V.E.C. Re-union
3. Hot Air Balloon Convention
4. Abbey Tours (would require the weir and surrounds be cleaned up)
5. Ring Fort tours

It was decided to go ahead with the first three.

It was questioned why the town was not entered in the Tidy Towns this year

9. Community Website

Although information on the up-dating of the Community Website was obtained from John Dore it still required action and it was again suggested that the transition year students might get involved in maintaining it, Chris Murray to be asked to supervise.

10. Constitution Review

The finished article should be available for adoption at the AGM and this will now take place in December.

11. Annual General Meeting

The AGM is deferred until 10th December and it is envisaged that the revised constitution will then be fully prepared for adoption. The question of candidates for the various officeholders was raised and some members were proposed. Mary Vernon was proposed for Chairperson but declined due to other commitments. Other members volunteered to let their names go forward. Chair – Mai Quaid, proposed by Noel Lyons who was proposed for the post of Minutes Secretary, John Vernon for the post of Hon. Secretary and for Hon. Treasurer- Fran Quaid. All other positions may be filled from the newly elected Committee.

12. Any Other Business

A hope was expressed that the money granted for the traffic survey would not be wasted but might be used to solve some of the more pressing problems on the bridge and elsewhere.

The Chairperson Noel Lyons requested that some members of the committee should attend a meeting in the Community Hall in Roundwood at 8.00p.m. on 16th October organised by Wicklow Uplands in relation to the Information Board for the town and its installation.

13. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be on Monday 5th November at 8.00p.m. in the Parish Centre.