

Signed

## BLESSINGTON AND DISTRICT FORUM

### Minutes of Meeting held at St. Mary's National School, Blessington on Monday, 10 December 2012 at 8.00 p.m.

**Present:** List of members as per attached

**Apologies:** List of apologies as per attached

#### Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8 October 2012 were reviewed. There was no meeting on Monday 12 November 2012 due to the funeral of Mr. Christy Sargent, father of the Chairman. The Chairman thanked all members for their kind expressions of sympathy and support at that time.

The meeting dealt with the following:-

#### 1. Tractor Run

The members present contributed €5 each to the Tractor Run charity and it is expected that the balance of members will contribute at the January meeting, following which the funds will be passed over to the Tractor Run organisers.

#### 2. Services Sub-committee

Lorcan MacMahon reported having replied to Wicklow County Council in regard to the old Library building. A quotation for repair work has been forwarded to the Council and it is hoped that in discussions with the Council, any rent to be charged will be abated by the amount of the repair work to be carried out by the Forum. It was agreed that the Trustees, for the purposes of taking a lease from Wicklow County Council, would be the Chairman, Michael Sargent, Vice Chairman Pat Pidgeon, Treasurer Liam Fay, Secretary Sally Ann Ryall and PRO Killian McGreal. Lorcan MacMahon advised that discussions are continuing with the Council and that, with the present condition of the building, it is hoped that this can be concluded sooner rather than later.

#### 3. Culture and Heritage Sub-group

Members welcomed Hugo Magee back following his being out of action and this group will report to the January meeting.

#### 4. Theatre

Pat Winters advised of upcoming events:

- This coming weekend: bands plus Sinead O'Brien
- 23-26 January: BMDS Panto

- 2 March De Dannan (possibly)
- 22-24 March BYMDS concert
- 6 April Tommy Fleming

Pat Winters advised that he has been disappointed that no persons came forward in response to his advice that an educational opportunity to build skills towards getting a job, particularly in sound and lighting areas, existing at the Theatre and that the informal course on sound only attracted four people. Pat Winters stated that perhaps BMDS and BYMDS could follow up on sourcing volunteers as they are at the face of the Theatre. Pat Winters stated that the present situation is that a committee needs to be put in place to run the Theatre, where there is potential to pick up skills and there is a need particularly for someone to look after a calendar of events. It was noted that an open meeting to the public will be held in January and perhaps this will source some new people.

#### 5. Local Area Plan

Gerry O'Neill advised members that there is now the manager's response to the Local Area Plan submissions. It was agreed that members should review the manager's responses and debate the points at the next Forum meeting in January.

#### 6. Lake Walk

The Chairman reported that the Lake Walk Blessington to Russborough is under way and that the first payment of €47,000 will be paid by the Forum this week. The work is being completed in four 2-weekly tranches and the present work is from the Vallemount Road back to the lake at the N81. Members were reminded that, come February, there is an anticipated cash shortfall of approximately €8,000, which will need to be dealt with locally at that time.

#### 7. Environmental Sub-committee

Jason Mulhall, Chairman of the Environmental Sub-committee, reported the good news that:

- A grant of €1,000 has been granted in respect of a biodiversity study.
- Two of the CE workers have been renewed for a further 12 months and there is hope that the third will likewise be extended.
- CWP have approved a development plan application in regard to Tidy Towns for €4,500, of which 90% will be received.
- Jason Mulhall also advised that the "pure mile" is on the agenda and members will hope to liaise with the Community College to have the Green Schools Project re-introduced there.

#### 8. Awards Night

Ariadne Laurenns-Conlon, Frank Hanlon, Nuala Cashin, Nuala Haughian and Jason Mulhall were thanked for the wonderful evening at Avon Rí for the first inaugural Forum Awards Night.


9. Glending

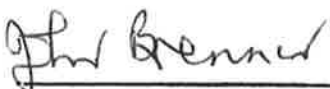
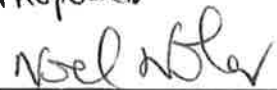
There was a long discussion on the continuing problems at Glending estate. Problems with flooding were raised again a couple of weeks back, when there was heavy rain one weekend. Aisling Dermody advised having taken pictures of the flooding and having forwarded them to Wicklow County Council, following which the Council travelled over that day and saw the problem for themselves. Aisling advised that the Council are now responding and should have construction people on the estate in respect of sorting the water problem this week. In regard to the housing difficulties, it was agreed that the Chairman would arrange a meeting with the Minister for the Environment, at which Forum members David Egar, Gerry O'Neill, Aisling Dermody, Carmel Cashin and the Chairman would attend in regard to the housing problems at Glending.

10. A.O.B.

- Nuala Cashin advised of the sustainable awards which had been achieved by Wicklow at the recent awards ceremony in Europe.
- Gerry O'Neill advised that Wicklow County Council have requested further information on the Dublin Bus shelter planned for Main Street.
- Pat Winters asked about visitors to Wicklow recently and if Wicklow Tourism had been aware of this.
- Good wishes were extended to Men's Sheds, which continues to go from strength to strength.
- Thanks were expressed to Seamus Balfé for his great efforts in having the Christmas lights erected and the Christmas tree due to be erected on 11 December. The Chairman outlined details of the contributions received to date from local businesses.

This completed the business of the meeting.

  
14/June 2013

  
Proposed  
  
Secunder

# Blessington & District Forum

Attendance List 10 Dec 2012

	Name	Phone	Email	Signature
1	Balfe Seamus	08		APOLOGIES
2	Brady Tommy	08		APOLOGIES
3	Brennan John	08		et * Carmel O'Connell
4	Cashin Carmel	08		Cashin
5	Cashin Nuala	08		Pat Conlon
6	Conlon Pat	08		Bob
7	Coogan John	08		Mr. Denny
8	Curran Michael	08		Brian
9	Daly Brian	08		APOLOGIES (SIGNED)
10	Dermody Aisling	08		*
11	Doyle Michael	08		Michael Doyle
12	Duggan Michael	08		David Duggan
13	Egar David	08		in 70
14	Fay Liam	08		*
15	Fitzsimons Ruth	08		Fintan Eilheary
16	Gilheany Fintan	08		APOLOGIES
17	Hamilton Gilmer	08		*
18	Hanlon Frank	08		Joe Hanlon
19	Hanly Joe	08		Joe Hanlon
20	Haughian Nuala	08		APOLOGIES
21	Kane Brian	08		
22	Kavanagh Bernie			
23	Keegan Kavanagh Noreen	08		Noreen Keegan Kavanagh *
24	Laurenns Conlon Ariadne	08		APOLOGIES
25	Magee Hugo	08		Hugo Magee
26	McGillycuddy Tom	08		APOLOGIES
27	McGrath Patricia	08		Pat McGrath
28	McGreal Killian	08		*
29	McMahon Lorcan	08		m Lorcan McMahon
30	McNabb Roisin	08		APOLOGIES
31	Moroney Anita	08		A Moroney
32	Mulhall Jason	08		J. Mulhall
33	Murphy Fr. Tim	08		APOLOGIES
34	Murphy Mary Lorna	08		APOLOGIES
35	Nolan Noel	08		Noel Nolan
36	O hAilín Ruaidhri	08		APOLOGIES
37	O'Neill Gerry	08		Gerry O'Neill
38	Phibbs Patsy	08		Pat Phibbs *
39	Pidgeon Pat	08		
40	Ryall Sally Ann	08		APOLOGIES
41	Sargent Michael	08		Mr Sargent
42	Schwepe Brian	08		Brian
43	Ward Deirdre	08		il Deirdre Ward
44	Winters Pat	08		m Pat Winters