

BLESSINGTON AND DISTRICT FORUM

Signed

Minutes of Meeting held at St. Mary's National School, Blessington on Monday, 7 October 2013 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 9 September 2013, were circulated, read, proposed by Carmel Cashin, seconded by Patsy Phibbs and signed by the Chairman.

The meeting dealt with the following matters:-

1. The Gathering 2013

The Gathering Committee of Deirdre Ward, Nuala Cashin and Nuala Haughian (apologies from Roisin McNabb and Pat Conlon) advised members on the activities scheduled for next weekend 12/13 October. All members present declared their availability to help out and all members will be contacted during the week by Deirdre Ward to get details of what jobs members are expected to do. The initial work of decorating will be at 9am while the official opening will be at the Square at 11am. Principal activity over the afternoon will be a busking competition while on Sunday there will be a farmers market. In relation to Sunday morning the Chairman and Michael Duggan will be on hand early in the morning for the erection of barriers while Gerry O'Neill agreed to draft some signs for putting up on Saturday evening in respect of car parking and keeping the Square clear for Sunday morning.

All members present expressed their thanks to the sub-committee for the work which they have put into the event next weekend.

2. Greenway

The Chairman reported that there is no further update as to the official opening as yet. Work by Wicklow County Council on the path from Nolans Corner to the lane is well advanced. The Chairman confirmed that the final retention payment would be made this week to Gibbons Contracting. Several members were pleased with the coverage on Nationwide while David Eger raised the question of the link from the end of the Greenway at Russellstown to the entrance at Russborough. It was agreed to liaise with John Horan in respect of this link.

3. Glending

Carmel Cashin reported that the Health and Safety report has now been received while the Architect is also ready to hand over his report. It was agreed that this meeting with the Architect would be at 5pm on Thursday this week, 10 October at the Parish Office.

Carmel Cashin also read to the meeting a letter received by all residents from Wicklow County Council dated September 2013 advising that Wicklow County Council has appointed Arkenvale Limited T/A Place Construction to carry out a selection of remedial works to all houses at Glending Estate over the coming weeks with a planned completion date before Christmas 2013.

It was agreed by members that with the Architect and Health and Safety report now to hand efforts would again be made to meet with Housing Minister Jan O'Sullivan.

4. Tidy Towns

Environment sub-committee chairman Jason Mulhall reported on success in the Pure Mile competition and also advised that a lot of the Tidy Towns work has now wound down for the Winter. The sub-committee will be concentrating on planning for next year and in this connection members mentioned that tree pruning should be one of the areas monitored.

Jason Mulhall noted Gerry O'Neill's request that the ESB be asked to clean up the bridge linking the town and Lacken. Jason Mulhall will liaise with John Horan in this regard.

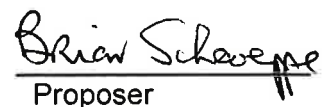
5. A.O.B

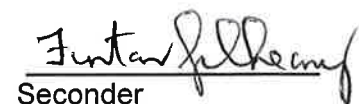
- Patsy Phibbs confirmed that a further letter has now been drafted and signed and forwarded to Wicklow Rural Partnership in regard to possible funding assistance for the Coimin Centre..
- Gerry O'Neill advised of a Special Meeting of Wicklow County Council on Monday 14 October which will discuss an application for wind turbines at Butter Mountain. Gerry O'Neill also advised that Wicklow County Council have now taken in charge Blessington Abbey and Blessington Orchard estates.
- The Chairman confirmed that Avon Ri are happy to proceed with the Awards Night again this year and it was agreed that an invitation to the public could be included in the Parish Newsletter requesting nominations for various categories of award winners.

This completed the business of the meeting


Chairman

11 November 2013
Date


Proposer


Seconder