

Report: 17th April 2023 – Blessington Forum – GP Room

As the Chairperson Carmel Cashin could not attend, the meeting was opened and chaired by Michael Doyle at 7:30pm.

Apologies: Carmel Cashin, Kilian McGreal, Kilian McGreal.

Correspondence

Community Enhancement Program 2022 Application
Kilbride GAA
Ballymore Liffey Group

Francis Crampton

Francis is lead on the Blessington St.Patricks Day Parade. The group run discos for 4th 5th and 6th classes during the school term in St.Josephs Hall on the last Friday of most months from September to May btw 7pm and 930pm. Francis presented this as a fundraising opportunity for the BDF if the body were interested and could fulfil the requirements. Events are put in place for fundraising targets in mind, so the DF would need to advise the specific fundraising target and what the monies would be used for.

The 1st disco would be in September 2023. 6 stewards are required per night for the event. These names need to be provided in advance, as Garda vetting is required. This is €65 per person. The BDF would need to provide 6-8 names. Sue advised she would be helping out in 2023/24 as she had been involved in recent times with the Campaign for Pool for West Wicklow.

Members were asked to provide feedback to the secretary before the following Friday 21st April as Francis required to know, to allow the group make a decision and/or consider an alternate project. The onus was on the members to respond on availability. The secretary or Chair would then let Francis know the decision, based solely on the willingness of members to step forward and provide the stewards.

Subgroup Updates:

Burgage Castle

No further progress but ESB are following up with MT.

Fundraising Group

Group are working with Colin in Fantasy Lights on plans for an upgrade of the town's lights for 2024. Funding via the Leader program to be considered.

Planning and Environment

LF provided an update on the Cairn Phase1 development. Onsite visit to be scheduled in the following weeks. LF to raise the walls in the site, and the other historically significant points of interest.

Under AOB the following matters were discussed:

MS queried if funding opportunities might exist for the purchase of flags via WCC, or Leader.

Liffey Group discussion took place. A number of things were raised: Current water quality, what are the alternate options, what are the EPAs questions to IW, consider to ask WCC to articulate a position at the next Town Team meeting, are WCC satisfied that the plant is not breaching capacity and planning conditions as granted prior to the upgrade, consider a face to face with the BLG. All agreed it would be difficult for the BDF to articulate a position as not all information was clear.

Blessington History Talk in the Coimin Centre with Chris Corlett on Thursday 20th April. Members to contact PT for more information.

New membership drive for September. Executive to look at options on how to do this. CK also following up and to explore some options and report to the Executive.

Greenway CE Scheme requires a Forum member to consider filing the gap, when JM takes a step back from it. Membership asked to contact the secretary directly if interested.

A brief discussion took place on anti social behaviour and members were advised that only factual and accurate information could be discussed in a public meeting. Members were reminded of what was considered appropriate.

The meeting closed at 9.15
