



Report: 12th June 2023 – Blessington Forum – GP Room

The meeting was opened and chaired by Carmel Cashin at 7:30pm.

Apologies: Madge Tyrrell and Donal McCormack

Correspondence

Community Awards

Subgroup Updates:

Protocol

An update on the status of the protocol review took place, with input from members of the Protocol Review group who were in attendance. It was agreed to include ability for borrowing to allow for a Credit Card to be obtained for bill payment. The Executive to further review and members reminded to forward any feedback they have.

Fundraising Group

The sub group proposed the idea of a restructuring workshop for forum members to be looked at engaging in, they had obtained a company who could do this for us. The cost of this would be approx 1750 euro's. It was agreed to look for a brief from the company and the Forum would review and get back to them by the end of June. Looking for Leader funding was mentioned in relation to the Christmas Lights.

Social Inclusion

A communication board for the playground expected to be erected in the next few weeks. Group working on funding for new playground equipment from WCC. Update on proposed Community centre, this is progressing with the contracts now with Solicitors. WCC looking at funding streams for the centre, in addition to monies received under T&VR.

Planning

Cairn Homes are proceeding with phase one of the town park, Liam had mentioned about a sensory garden for the park and has sent a list of proposed planting. First phase of park should be open by September/October. Paul mentioned it might be a good idea to ask Cairn homes for a story board to be completed on any artefacts that may be found during the building

Tidy Towns

Judging has now commenced for the Tidy Towns competition, the group have seen an increase in volunteers, particularly from Ukranian people and other nationalities which is very positive. English classes are happening with Ukranian people in the locality, this started a few weeks ago. All information in relation to the Blessington Tidy Towns is on the website, facebook and instgram.

Culture and Heritage

Ninette De Valois fundraiser event held on the 20th of May. There was a update on the Twinning between Blessington and Castel Maggiore, a delegation of people including their Mayor Belinda Gottardi will be arriving on the 22nd of July. Members will be informed of events prior to this time. It was noted that the Twinning group have funded their visits to Castel Maggiore personally themselves.

Under AOB the following matters were discussed:

John Horan provided an update via email on the Greenway. Meetings ongoing btw the WCC, the IFA, and farmers in relation to some issues.

There is still no power for the square, BDF will continue chasing Pat Byrne in relation to this.

Parking issues at Burgage Cemetery and Lane due to people using the Avon. Some Burgage residents have formed a group to campaign for no parking along Burgage due to health and safety concerns.

The meeting closed at 9.15
