Monthly Notes from Malahide Community Forum
February 2010

1. **AGM Arrangements:** The paper for the AGM on Monday 1 March was approved with one small amendment. There are 2 volunteers to sign people in and collect subscriptions. We will also have a roving microphone as this will be an opportunity for residents to address any concerns to local councillors, politicians and Gardaí who will be attending.

2. **Finance:** The Committee approved the final accounts to 31 December 2009 which will be formally tabled for approval at the AGM.

3. **Planning and Development:** The Chair of the subcommittee reported:
   - **Seamount House:** Permission was granted on 7 October. We have replied to a request from ABP to comment on a further submission made by consultants representing developer.
   - **Fort Granite, Coast Rd:** We have objected. Additional information requested in August 2009 has still not been provided.
   - **Maurice Mahon House, The Diamond:** Observation submitted re change of use to restaurant. Additional information received 5 February.
   - **Local Area Plan, Broomfield:** This was passed by a majority of Councillors, 16 votes to 6.
   - **Casino:** It appears that some of the promised protective work has commenced as the ivy has been stripped back and some of the hoarding removed.
   - It was reported that a phone mast is to be attached to a floodlight fixture at Malahide United. We are advised that the aim is to encourage multiple use of masts and no planning permission is needed.

4. **Transport:** The Chair of the subcommittee reported that the shuttle bus group is still waiting to hear whether a licence has been granted and if it is, a website, advertising etc are ready. There will also be a special edition of the Guardian.
   - The deterioration of the new train timetable was discussed. There are large gaps at critical times and residents should email Iarnród Éireann to complain about this.
   - The low sign by the tennis club has been removed.
   - There is a potential development re the walkway between Donabate and Malahide as a design has been approved by Iarnród Éireann subject to approval by FCC. We should continue to push strongly for the construction of this walkway/cycleway.

5. **Environment:** The Chair of the subcommittee reported that he has received some complaints about litter. There are also problems with some lights around The Green which will be reported to FCC.
   - There was a Tidy Towns meeting at the end of January and it was decided to remove the TT from the umbrella of the Chamber of Commerce. An interim committee has been set up and a draft constitution circulated. FCC has indicated that it will help with funding.
   - Some litter bins are being removed by FCC and Forum to contact them re the bin that was at the bus stop near Londis.
   - It was agreed that the graffiti on the sports containers near the Bridgefield car park must be addressed and we will contact FCC again in this regard.

6. **Neighbourhood Watch:** There was a report on the meeting held on 10 February. Burglaries are up by 26% although none were reported in Malahide during the period in question. 37 arrests were made including 4 non-nationals living in Portmarnock who were operating skimming devices and cameras at cash machines over a wide area but despite Garda protests, they were released on bail. Thieves have been targeting satellite navigation systems. Some installers put a sticker on the car window which alerts thieves to its presence. Grants to the elderly for security installations have been reintroduced.
7. **PR Issues:** The new issue of The Guardian is being distributed. Volunteers are still needed to deliver in Kinsealey Lane and Galtrim Grange so please contact Hon. Sec. if you can help. Access for delivery to apartment blocks is proving difficult at times. If residents do not receive their copy it can be viewed on [www.muintir.ie/malahide](http://www.muintir.ie/malahide) and is also available in the library and various shops around Malahide.

8. **Survey**  
   Assisted Living – The group visited a centre in the North and have invited them down to give a presentation. The summary to be given at the AGM was agreed.  
   Non-sporting Facilities for Youth – There was a good response at the public meeting with An Foróige and a number of volunteers came forward. The aim is initially to run a youth club for about 1.5 hours per week for approx. 30 youths and they are trying to find premises to make this possible. Please advise Hon. Sec. if you are aware of any possible places.

9. **Any other Business:** The Head shop in Malahide was again discussed and the consensus was still that this is a legal operation and we can take no action.