

Monthly Notes from Malahide Community Forum February 2011

- 1. AGM Arrangements:** The paper for the AGM on 28 February was approved with one small addition.
The poster advertising the AGM has been distributed by email to all committee members for display as appropriate and they were requested to encourage their residents to attend. It was agreed that visuals are desirable for both the Demesne and Cricket Club presentations. We will also request a drawing of the Castle development to be displayed for people to look at on the way out.
- 2. Finance:** The Committee approved the final accounts to 31 December 2010 which will be formally tabled for approval at the AGM.
- 3. Planning and Development:**
Somerton, The Mall: The Court hearing in the case against La Spa Therapie for failing to remove rotating sign by due date has been listed for 13 April. However, on 10 February application for retention of non-rotating sign was lodged (F11A/0041). It was agreed that the Forum will object to this new application.
Casino: The Law Department of Fingal County Council is seeking an early court hearing in its case against Gannon Homes for failure to carry out protective works on Casino.
Gibneys: An application has been lodged for roof garden, terrace and extension (F11A/0040). It was felt that this outdoor area will be very large and thus very noisy and it was agreed that the Forum will make an observation/objection.
Unauthorised Signage: Following a request from Church Rd RA it was agreed that the Forum will support them in the matter of unauthorised banners at The Scotch Bonnet and The Wild Swan. FCC has written warning letters and Enforcement Notices for removal will be issued. Concern was also expressed at excessive noise from The Scotch Bonnet at very late hours.
- 4. Transport:**
A decision on the Shuttle Bus licence application should be received by the end of February. Irish Rail has written in support of our application. It was noted that a shuttle bus service has been started in Portmarnock.
An operator has approached Fingal County Council, Bord Fáilte and others about the possibility of running a road train from the village to the Castle etc.
The Forum has sent in a submission regarding the changes to the 42 and 32b bus services. There is now a plan to run them at 20 minute intervals at peak times and 30 minutes off-peak. The Bridgefield pay & display is now in operation and it was noted that commuter parking has increased in various roads, such as O'Hanlon's Lane. It was agreed to monitor the situation and review after pay & display has been operating for a longer period.
- 5. Environment:**
There is concern regarding the huge increase in graffiti. Tidy Towns has formed a subcommittee to examine this problem and go round to schools to speak to children about the seriousness of this and possible consequences. The Forum will attend these committee meetings.
We advised Fingal County Council that the benches at the bus stop opposite St. Sylvester's Church were damaged and these were repaired immediately.
The Forum has written to Superintendent Curran in Coolock requesting additional Gardaí at Malahide Garda Station in order that they have the manpower to police the area adequately. We have been asked by FCC Communications, Organisational Development Unit if we could be included on an email database of people to be contacted in the event of an emergency situation, such as water cuts. This was agreed and the Hon.Sec will forward any information received to all member RAs.

6. **Neighbourhood Watch:** It was noted that a skimming device was recently discovered in a local bank's outside card machine. There has also been a dramatic increase in break-ins, particularly in the afternoons so extra care should be taken.
7. **Public Relations:** The February Guardian has now been delivered. Deliverers are needed for Inbhir Ide, half of Gainsborough, Kinsealy Lane, Streamstown and Galtrim Grange. Please contact the Hon.Sec if you are able to assist or know of anyone who might help. The Guardian is only distributed 3 or 4 times per year and any volunteers would be greatly appreciated.
8. **Non-sporting Facilities for Youth:** A youth café has been running in the Grove Lawn Tennis Club for the last 2 weeks on Wednesday evenings but the uptake has been very poor. Foróige has spoken to 4th year pupils and will re-advertise this. The Foróige youth club held in the Malahide Lawn Tennis Club is going very well and has secured a VEC grant.
9. **Assisted Living:** A meeting of the working group was held recently. A plan has been made to move forward, they have written to another service provider and are awaiting a reply.
10. **Any Other Business:** The issue of cable ties from election posters being left on poles was raised. It was agreed to ask parties to remove ties from designated areas and to draw up a map and contact all parties.
The Chairman extended thanks to the outgoing Hon. Treasurer for his excellent contribution over a number of years.