

## Monthly Notes from Malahide Community Forum March 2010

### 1. **Appointment of Officers for the year 2010:**

The following were elected:

Hazel Bolton (Chairman), Michael Gill (Vice Chairman), Harry O'Neill, Hon Treasurer), Margaret Cure (Hon Secretary)

2. **Finance:** The Hon Treasurer thanked all the committee for its work during the previous year and particularly the Chairs of the various subcommittees and the members of the working groups. As National Irish Bank no longer deals with cash it was agreed that the Hon. Treasurer will move our account to another bank which offers the most favourable terms. All RAs will be requested to pay their subs in the early part of this year as we may incur large expenses with the start-up of the shuttle bus. It was agreed that the subs will be on the same scale as last year.
3. **Planning/Development:** The Chair of the Subcommittee sent a report advising:  
Seamount House: ABP decision originally due by 18 March has been postponed to 22 April at latest, due to backlog.  
Fort Granite, Coast Road: We have objected. Additional information was provided on 25 February, 3 days before deadline expired.  
Maurice Mahon House, The Diamond: Permission has been granted with 12 conditions that would appear to address our concerns about design and presentation of exterior, given its key position in the village and within the ACA. The Forum sent in the only observation to FCC. These conditions can be viewed under planning ref F09A/0606 at <http://planning.fingalcoco.ie/swiftlg/apas/run/wphappcriteria.display>
4. **Transport:** The Chair of the Subcommittee reported that there is still no news on whether a licence will be granted for the shuttle bus operation. A new shuttle bus website has been set up at [www.malahideshuttle.ie](http://www.malahideshuttle.ie)  
FCC has met with the GAA regarding the Bridgefield car park and now proposes a reduced size of 256 spaces. Some Forum members still feel that pay & display should be implemented first to see whether an increased car park will be necessary when charges are in place. It was suggested that long-term free parking could be used in either the Beach car park on the Coast Road or in the new Malahide Demesne car park on Back Road but that would need lighting to be installed.
5. **Environment:** The Chair of the Environment Subcommittee advised that he has emailed all the local Councillors, with a copy to Senan Turnbull of FCC, regarding the sports containers in the Demesne, which are covered in graffiti and/or burnt out, to stress that these must be addressed. Also the information signs are in bad repair and covered in graffiti. The Forum receives continual complaints re litter and is in contact with FCC in this regard. The Tidy Towns has asked a consultant to walk Malahide to identify potential problems. He pointed out litter problems and felt that wildlife signage is needed along the Broadmeadow. Houses in the vicinity of the Community School have received a flyer acknowledging that the pupils do sometimes generate litter and advising that the litter will be collected on request.
6. **Public Relations:** The PRO reported that delays in local distribution of The Malahide Guardian are a concern.
7. **Survey**  
Assisted Living: The group has completed wide ranging investigations and also surveyed local GPs and health visitors to determine what would be appropriate in Malahide. It is felt that a day-care facility is needed and independent living with assistance. FOLD Ireland has been invited to give a presentation on such facilities and it was agreed that the Forum will hire a meeting room in the Grand Hotel to accommodate this presentation.

Non-Sporting Facilities for Youth: Training of volunteers for an An Foróige youth group has commenced and 2 sessions have already taken place with 10-12 volunteers. Suitable premises are still needed for a meeting of 30 young people for 1½ hours per week from 8-9.30pm. We have also approached a café to see if it would stay open later one night per week to cater for the 15-18 year age group.

- 8. Any Other Business:** We have been advised that in pre-1976 houses the ESB main fuse is inadequate so it is replacing with a different sort of cut-off free of charge. In Chalfont some Smart Meters are being installed f.o.c. as a pilot scheme. However, if some houses have been modified over the years they may not meet wiring standards so if the ESB needs to do post-rewiring checks, a charge will be applicable.
- It was felt that we need to look closely at the progress of the draft County Development Plan. FCC Development Plan meetings can be viewed at <http://www.fingalcoco.public-i.tv/site/> The Malahide area was discussed in the meeting of Friday 12 March and the Plan will be on public display from 2 April to 11 June.