

## Monthly Notes from Malahide Community Forum April 2012

At the start of the meeting the Chairman made a presentation on behalf of the Committee to Hazel Bolton, who had served as Chair for the past 14 years.

**Planning / Development:** There had been no applications or decisions of relevance since the last meeting.

It is understood that negotiations to re-locate the Fry Model Railway at Casino are progressing satisfactorily, though time is limited.

**Transport Issues:** There was some discussion about the rail service. There are more trains this year than before, but there are still some gaps and some trains seem not to have their full complement of carriages.

The on-line Travel survey carried out by the Shuttle Project Group received 550 responses. A report will be available shortly.

**Environment Issues:** We have been advised by FCC that no concerts have so far been planned for Malahide Castle this year.

The Castle project is running behind schedule so the Castle and gardens will now open on a phased basis. The opening of the redeveloped Castle, museum, lift and west lawn will be at the beginning of July, but the visitors' centre, restaurant, shop and walled garden will not open until early September.

Comments were made about the current lack of rubbish bins in the Castle grounds and about the untidy area around the Bridge Field Car Park. The subcommittee will look into these points.

There has been no response from FCC to queries about the timetable for the new reservoir.

There seems to be very aggressive pruning of trees and hedges in various parts of Malahide but FCC does not seem to have a clear strategy about this. The Subcommittee will follow up.

The Tidy Towns AGM was held recently. Weekly clean-up sessions will start on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April at 10.30am, meeting in the Station car park and all volunteers will be most welcome. Please take any gardening/painting equipment you can, including gloves. For more information contact Heidi on 087 2301894.

**Neighbourhood Watch:** The new Superintendent (Ronan Guilligan) has introduced changes to rostering of officers allowing for the overlapping of shifts, thus doubling the number of officers on duty at key times.

A new Street Crime Unit has been created which will focus on areas where crime is happening.

A specific plan has been introduced for Sunday afternoons in Malahide which will include more visible policing and traffic management.

Recent statistics show that crime in Malahide has increased marginally.

All doors should be fitted with snap resistant or break secure locks.

**Public Relations:** The copy deadline for the *May Malahide Guardian* will be Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April. All subcommittees and project groups are asked to send in copy by then. There is no sponsor so far for this edition of the *Guardian*, but one would be welcome.