

Monthly Notes from Malahide Community Forum May 2013

1. **Planning and Development:**

Therapie Clinic, The Mall: An enforcement notice re unauthorised sign was issued by FCC on 24 April.

Unauthorised posters, pavement boards etc: Following complaints from several residents FCC has been contacted re proliferation of unauthorised signage, including advertising boards on pavements. The council is addressing this issue as part of its Malahide Public Realm Strategy. We noted also that on occasions there is an advertising board at Yellow Walls which obscures sight lines.

The Public Realm Strategy involves senior FCC personnel and members of local groups and is examining 3 main areas: Destination - what makes Malahide a good destination e.g. retail, atmosphere, sea, castle etc. Movement – pedestrian priority, car parking, footpaths, cycle access, traffic flow, parking on one side only in a couple of areas, one way entry into the station etc. Streetscape – to provide a design guide for building facades, an audit of street furniture to get uniformity of bins and an audit of café and shop furniture, boards and signs etc. A list of feasible projects will then be drawn up. The main focus is on making Malahide more pedestrian friendly. The walkway/cycleway across the estuary is being actively progressed by FCC.

An invitation was received from Malahide Sea Scouts to view plans for the refurbishment of the Scout Den but this clashed with our committee meeting. It was agreed to examine plans online when they are submitted.

2. **Transport:** It was noted that FCC has done good work renewing some of the white and yellow lines. It was also noted that the coach parking spaces on James Terrace have been relocated now.

A new application for a licence for Malahide Shuttle was submitted early in May and a decision is expected in July. The proposed service is for commuters making connections at the station and will operate only at peak commuter hours. Up to date information will be posted on www.malahideshuttle.ie

It is understood that the Malahide Road Train should begin operating by June on a route between the Castle grounds and Malahide Beach car park.

3. **Environment:** FCC has advised that the concerts in the Bridgefield on 24, 25 and 26 May will finish at 10pm and operations/cleansing crew will be active immediately following each event. Park users will have access as normal to Malahide Demesne with the exception of the Bridgefield car park and both football pitches.

More CCTV is to be provided for the main car parks and entrance areas of the Demesne. The Forum will check whether this includes the Bridgefield car park.

A new mosquito trap claiming to reduce the population by 90% is currently on trial in Malahide Castle grounds. This is a recent trial so results are not yet available.

We have been advised by FCC that four or five Highland Cattle are to be located in fenced-off parkland area on the left hand side of the entrance to Robswall estate. As the cattle graze, the area is being managed for both migratory birds (Brent geese, Oystercatchers etc.) as feeding grounds and ground nesting species (Sky Larks etc.) for breeding purposes. It was agreed that this is a welcome initiative and will add interest to the area.

We have been contacted by Tidy Towns to advise that Malahide has been invited by VOICE to become involved in a food waste reduction challenge whereby 100 households reduce their food waste by 1Kg per week.

Tidy Towns still really needs help so if you have an hour to spare any Saturday please meet in the station car park at 10.30am. This does not have to be a permanent commitment and help for just one week is valued. Help is also needed to work on their allotment. It would be appreciated if RAs could take charge of public areas and keep clean, weeded and tidy.

Some individual residents have “adopted” an area which they keep well maintained and litter

free. Tidy Towns can be contacted at malahidetidytowns@eircom.net.
It was agreed that the proposed wind farm in Dublin Bay will not visually affect Malahide.

4. **Public Relations:** In the absence of sufficient copy the May edition of The Malahide Guardian was not published. Following discussion on its future it was agreed to publish an edition in September and possibly conduct a public survey on whether we should continue to distribute to every household in Malahide. Up to date information can be found on our website, www.malahideforum.ie where we will post any notifications of traffic restrictions, water disruptions etc. It is also possible to sign up on our Home page to follow blogs by email so that people will receive email notification each time a new post is added and will be immediately aware of any possible disruptions.