

Monthly Notes from Malahide Community Forum October 2010

1. **Planning/Development Issues:**

Somerton, The Mall: Enforcement notice to remove sign was issued on 4 August and owners had one month to comply. The sign is still in place. We have spoken to a local Councillor who is chasing this issue.

Casino: An Endangerment Notice has been served by FCC on Gannon Homes Ltd requiring certain works to be carried out to the Casino. These works should have been completed by 7 October. FCC advises that issue now passed from Enforcement Section back to Conservation Officer. It is felt this is such an important building that we will write to seek support from An Taisce, Dublin Tourism and The Irish Landmark Trust.

Development Plan: Submission by Forum was made to Councillors regarding the Manager's final recommendations on two issues: (1) pedestrian access at Abbott's Hill and (2) location of a new primary school in Western Malahide. Confirmation received that FCC has tabled recommendation to provide pedestrian access/cycle ways from Seapark through Council owned lands in the Old Golf Links. Two Councillors also supporting a motion re school. Points on a recent ESRI report re design of primary schools in Ireland were noted and it was agreed to forward salient items to both Councillors.

2. **Transport Issues:** It was decided that we should support the Bridgefield proposal of just one hour free parking which was obtained by local Councillors despite strong opposition from FCC. We will forward representation to FCC to this effect but that we would have preferred a free 2 hour period.

No substantive progress on shuttle bus since licence appeal refused. The Shuttle Project group has made submissions to the new National Transport Authority, the Minister, the Competition Authority and the Joint Oireachtas Committee on Transport, all of which are bodies that the NTA must consult. A number of other Malahide bodies – the Forum, the Chamber and several Residents' groups have also made submissions along the same lines. The Joint Oireachtas Committee has invited us to address it on Wednesday 20 October. We remain hopeful that we shall get a licence under the new regime and this would enable the service to start early in 2011.

Work has started on the provision of disabled access at Malahide station and upgrading of station itself. It is also hoped to increase the amount of bicycle parking there.

3. **Environment Issues:** We have received requests for more benches in village. It is felt that metal benches like those in most stations would be more vandal proof and we will source name of manufacturers and approach FCC.

It was noted that the trees in New St. will be lopped as they are very overgrown.

4. **Neighbourhood Watch:** A presentation on computer safety with children has taken place. It should be noted that if a password is less than 8 digits a hacker can get through in less than 15 seconds. Also some spyware can turn on a laptop camera without the user realising. There have been a number of break-ins through front doors of houses with no alarm and several cars have been broken into, so ensure no valuables left on view.

5. **Public Relations:** The latest Guardian is ready for distribution and should be out by half-term. It has been put up on the website and can be viewed at www.muintir.ie/malahide

6. **Non-sporting Facilities for Youth:** The youth club is meeting in the Grove Tennis Club and is going well. They will advertise for new members of first to third year students. There will be a training meeting this week of volunteers to run a youth café. Permanent TSB did sponsor Foróige so our sub-committee has put a pitch to them to use the PTSB premises in Malahide as a youth café and is waiting to hear if this is possible. A few more volunteers are needed to help run a café.

