

Notes from Malahide Community Forum – August 2020

Ref.	Description
1. Minutes	The minutes of the meeting of 20th July 2020 were approved.
2. COVID-19	It appears that Covid-19 will be with us for the foreseeable future. It may be necessary for us to re-imagine the village and how we interact with it.
3. New Street pilot pedestrianisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The forum meeting on Monday 17th August was the first full, face to face (socially distanced) meeting of MCF since February due to Covid-19. Meetings since then were via ZOOM and not all members could attend. - The New Street pilot had not previously been fully discussed by the members. - A full discussion ensued with constructive contributions from attendees. - Concern was expressed at the fact that, in the absence of a full discussion, an agreed submission was made to FCC from MCF, Malahide Chamber, Shop Malahide and Malahide Tidy Towns. - Concern was raised that the role of the forum is to reflect the views of residents, not to lead. It was suggested that MCF should go back to observing basic planning procedures. It was also noted that basic planning procedures might not be appropriate to Covid-19. - The following motion was proposed by the Seapark representative and passed (14 of the 24 attendees voted in favour): “New Street should be restored to two-way traffic with parking facilitated on both sides. Any proposed changes should be subject to the normal public consultation process.” - The status of the pilot was set out by FCC in an email to MCF on Aug 14th: “Work is currently ongoing to assess the survey data and provide a summary report of the information that is being compiled. The project team will review all submissions received, in conjunction with this survey data at the end of Week 10 of the trial. This report will be presented to all stakeholders at the Final Review meeting, which is scheduled to take place on Thursday 27th August. The current arrangements will remain in place pending the outcome of this meeting.” <p>Action: MCF chairperson sent submission from MCF to FCC detailing the agreed motion - Aug 19th.</p> <p>An online meeting was convened by FCC on Aug 24th, participated in by FCC's Howth-Malahide Councillors, and invited Malahide stakeholders, FCC presented a report on their analysis of the New St pedestrianisation trial, which will continue to Sept 30th. Their analysis was that the trial had been a technical and social success and their on-line survey indicated that a majority of Malahide residents responding supported pedestrianisation and the business community was evenly divided.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At a meeting the previous day the Howth Malahide Councillors agreed that New St. would revert to one way operation from Nov 1st, for a trial period of a number of months, with traffic flow down New St., a decision substantially influenced by the joint submission to FCC by MCF, MCC, Shop Malahide and Malahide Tidy Towns. - At the end of the trial period FCC would undertake a statutory consultation to determine whether New St. should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Pedestrianised all the time, as per the current trial o Operated with one way traffic flows during winter months, with pedestrianisation in summer months - FCC also advised that a budget allocation of €150,000 in 2020 had been made for improvements to New St. - FCC published the following on Aug 28th regarding the meeting: https://www.fingal.ie/news/council-meets-stakeholders-outline-future-new-street-pedestrianisation-zone-malahide

<p>4. Priorities for 2019/20</p>	<p>1. Pathway/cycleway development MCF continue to ask FCC to provide safer walking/cycling routes to school, with a primary focus on Seapark Hill to Seamount Road and Seabury to St. John Pauls primary school and St. Sylvester’s Infant School via Caves Marsh (bypassing Barrack Bridge). The Seapark representative cited ongoing safety issues with the existing right of way between Seapark Hill and Seamount Road. A survey has been prepared by parents of children living in Seabury who attend St. John Pauls and residents interested in promoting safe active travel routes (walking / cycling) in Malahide. A new MCF member from Seabury outlined the issues faced by his own school going children, as a member from Inbhir Ide. The member from Inbhir Ide proposed establishing a sub-committee to progress improved walking and cycling infrastructure, which the meeting agreed to.</p> <p>Improved cycling connection from Swords to Malahide (Seatown Road to Estuary Road): - On Friday 22nd August, the NTA announced the allocation of €55m to Councils for Cycling and Walking Projects Under the July Jobs Stimulus Plan. (See: https://www.nationaltransport.ie/news/nta-allocates-e55m-to-councils-for-cycling-and-walking-projects-under-july-jobs-stimulus-plan/). FCC has obtained EUR3.9million for COVID mobility projects (to improve walking and cycling infrastructure). €1M of this has allocated to “Improved cycling connection from Swords to Malahide. This 2.5km project will run from Estuary Road to Seatown Road.” This new route along the inner Broadmeadow estuary will put a spotlight on Barrack Bridge / Caves Marsh and it’s critical that the most impacted residents (Seabury, Milford, Old Yellow Walls road etc.) are at the heart of any decision making. This presents an opportunity to get safe(r) walking and cycling route(s) to/from: Seabury/Estuary park & playground; local schools (St. John Pauls; St. Sylvester’s and on to Malahide Community school through the park); Malahide Demesne; The approved Broadmeadow Way and of course, Malahide train station and Malahide village itself</p> <p>Action: 1. Forum members are asked to complete this Barrack Bridge / Caves Marsh survey at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WXGKMG8 2. Establish active travel (walking and cycling infrastructure) sub-committee</p> <p>2. Step down accommodation. The Casino apartments will now all be sold individually.</p>
<p>5. Finance</p>	<p>Cash balance remains stable.</p>
<p>6. Planning</p>	<p>1. Oscar Taylors Recent application was rejected. New application for a larger addition has been submitted. The developer has appealed the decision to An Bord Pleanala. MCF will object to the appeal.</p> <p>2. Eircom phone boxes Eircom has lodged planning applications to upgrade two of the phone kiosk on the public footpath. The development will consist of the replacement of a previous telephone kiosk with a new telephone kiosk with integral Communication Unit and a 1.53 sq. metre digital advertising display. The proposed structure has an overall height 2.43m, a depth of 0.762m and a width 1.096m</p> <p>Action: Ask FCC to remove all phone boxes to provide additional footpath space.</p>
<p>7. Environment</p>	<p>1. Broadmeadow Way No update from Hanlon’s Lane residents. While MCF welcome the Broadmeadow Way, we note there are no connections to local schools, clubs, the train station, local shops etc. Action: New sub-committee to identify potential safe routes to connect areas to the Greenway, while incorporating safer routes to schools, clubs etc..</p> <p>2. Redevelopment of The Green No update. Action: Ask FCC for an update on expected completion date.</p> <p>3. Planned new pathway in Malahide Demesne from Bridgefield carpark to depot No update.</p> <p>4. Works at the dogs off lead area in Malahide Demesne New path completed.</p> <p>5. Bike Parking facilities in the Malahide area</p>

	<p>No update.</p> <p>6. Phone boxes on Dublin Road The phone box on The Dublin Road scheduled for removal on 10th July has not yet been removed. FCC has confirmed that the planning application lodged for the 4 boxes in the village does not apply to the phone box on the Dublin Road, which will be removed.</p> <p>7. Pedestrian lights – Ashwood Hall on Back Road – still not activated.</p> <p>8. Dublin Road – installation of street furniture to control parking The installation of bollards and planters to address safety issues has completed. Malahide Tidy Towns co-ordinated planting with Dublin Road residents and the Malahide Lions Club, which took place on Sat. 22nd August. FCC are asking parents / guardians who must drive their children to school to plan their journey and avoid attempting to park on the Dublin Road. They may avail of the free car parking in The Bridgefield car park, located approximately 350 metres from the school. There’s a “scoot route” through the park from Bridgefield Car park to the Yellow Walls Road exit and pedestrian lights at the school. Concern was raised by the St. Margaret’s Road representative regarding the impact of the changes to the Dublin Road on traffic and parking on St. Margaret’s Road.</p> <p>9. Proposed wood on Sonesta Green – draft plan The meeting was briefed on a proposal from Malahide Tidy Towns to plant a wood on Sonesta Green, (See: Sonesta Wood Draft plan August 2020 - Malahide Tidy Towns). Residents’ existing views of the estuary will be retained and mown grass paths provided. Saplings will have an initial height of approx. one metre and will take approx. 50 years to reach maturity. The intent is to act now for the future. A Sonesta representative said he had no personal objection and committed to seeking the feedback of residents in the area.</p>
8. Transport	1. No update.
9. Neighbourhood Watch	No formal update as meetings have not yet resumed.
10. AOB	<p>1. Castle Terrace flooding. MCF wrote to FCC – FCC replied “The Area Engineer has advised the following. The ponding of water at the Rear of Castle Terrace is due to the drains/gully overflowing. These are monitored and inspected regularly, with the drains being cleaned and jetted continually so they are kept clear. The Operations Department will continue to monitor the area.”</p> <p>2. Footpath from junction of Texas Lane and Yellow Walls road to St.Sylvester’s school Resident has contacted FCC repeatedly to point out the appalling condition of this footpath on which a number of pedestrian accidents has occurred. Action: Active Travel sub-committee to contact FCC to resolve this issue.</p>
11. Next Meeting	<p>Next meeting Monday 21st September 2020.</p> <p>Covid-19 restrictions permitting, future meetings will be held in large rooms capable of enabling social distancing. The meeting expressed thanks Marna Law (Marina RA) for arranging the use of the St. Francis room in St. Sylvester’s new parish centre.</p>