

## **MALAHIDE COMMUNITY FORUM MEETING MINUTES 21/07/2021**

### **1. Minutes of Last Meeting**

- 1.1 The Chair acknowledged the disappointment of some Committee members that the July meeting was not in person, as had been agreed at the previous meeting. The Chair outlined that the decision was made with the given the available information at the time, but since then with the rise in case numbers and the emergence of the Delta variant, an in person meeting was not deemed appropriate in line with public health guidance
- 1.2 The minutes of the June meeting were approved.

### **2. Planning Report**

- 2.1 Robswall
  - 2.1.1 The Chair stated that the applicant has sought a 3 month extension, as suggested by the council, to allow council time to review, due to staffing issues
- 2.2 Malahide Tennis Club
  - 2.2.1 The Sonesta Representative brought to the Committee attention that the tennis club is currently preparing an application for development.
  - 2.2.2 The Chair indicated his awareness of the plan and that it was approved by a vote of Tennis Club members but was non the less likely to prove highly controversial. Situation to be monitored.
- 2.3 Auburn House
  - 2.3.1 The Chair reported that there was no update on the application

### **3. Active Travel – Including Deputation Presentation to FCC**

- 3.1 The Chair stated the presentation for the Deputation meeting with FCC was condensed from the presentation previously circulated to MCF, for ease of presentation to FCC. Three councillors in attendance at meeting and some executives from FCC. They were receptive to the proposals for Safe Routes to School made by MCF. Pope John Paul II school has received Active Travel Grant, and working with FCC on this complex issue. FCC's executives agreed that Barrack Bridge was a problem, but finding a solution was difficult.
- 3.1 The Active Travel Sub-Committee Chair informed the Committee that the Active Travel Sub-Committee has completed its work and with the Deputation complete and with FCC for review, the Sub-Committee would be disbanded. The Chair and members thanked TOB and the entire Sub-Committee for their time and effort bringing this project to completion.

### **4. Seapark / Seamount Report**

- 4.1 The Chair provided update that landscaping activity taking place. Plans not yet put up in Library. Works expected to be completed by September when schools reopen.

## **5. Tidy Towns**

- 5.1 The Tidy Towns Representative confirmed application form submitted to Tidy Towns Competition.
- 5.2 The Tidy Towns Representative informed Committee that work has started on next 5 year plan and projects with Biodiversity staff from FCC.
- 5.3 The Tidy Towns Representative informed the Committee that FCC have hazel trees available to be planted for any groups interested.
- 5.4 The Tidy Towns Representative informed the Committee that volunteering had commenced, meeting Saturdays 10.30am at Train Station. There is no need to confirm attendance, OK to just show up.

## **6. Treasurers Report**

- 6.1 The Treasurer confirmed income of €150 from Ard Na Mara subscription, and payments of €18 bank fees in the month of June. Current balance €9,791.
- 6.2 The Treasurer stated that subscription income for the 2020/2021 year is €2,372. A significant improvement on prior years, with 28 active and paid up residential associations.
- 6.3 A member queried alternative methods of depositing membership fees, ideally completing a bank transfer rather than cash / cheques. The Treasurer indicated preference was for transfers, and was to resend SC bank details.

## **7. Neighbourhood Watch Report**

- 7.1 The Chair commented that he, together with feedback received from other parties, had noted a significant improvement in the police presence in Malahide. Ongoing presence to be monitored to the end of the summer.
- 7.2 The Church Road Representative informed the Committee that he was still awaiting a response from the Chair of the Neighbourhood Watch Committee.

## **8. Village Update**

- 8.1 The Chair stated that there had been a noticeable increase in business being conducted by traders, and that the Green space had been kept in good order with no litter evident on a Saturday evening at 17:00. It was also of note that the paving was being power washed. To be monitored.
- 8.2 The Chair indicated that a complaint has been submitted by the Chair of the Village Sub-Committee regarding signage at Tanning Studio.

- 8.2 The Tidy Towns Representative indicated that the new creperie *Gino's Gelato* premises does not have wooden border, as per other premises. The Chair was not aware of any planning sought, and was to review and revert at the next meeting.

## 9. Proposal by the Treasurer

- 9.1 The Treasurer proposed that *"any written communication to third parties that represent a Forum position must be circulated to Forum members in advance of release for members comment"*.

The Chair indicated on the foot of the proposal that a review of third party correspondence, where a position was communicated, from the last year was being reviewed.

The Chair further outlined that due to timing submission deadlines, it was not always possible to circulate finished articles to the Committee for review, but did insist that all communications that are sent would be in line with the sentiment expressed by the Committee.

- 9.2 The Tidy Towns Representative suggested that going forward proposals for discussion by members should be submitted in advance, where possible, to allow members review and reflect on the content in advance of the meeting. The Chair and the Committee supported this suggestion.

## 10. AOB

- 10.1 The Chair raised the desirability of rerouting the recently introduced H2 bus service. The proposal was circulated in advance of the meeting.

This would route the bus, from the Library stop, up Church Road with a turnback at the construction entrance to the Seamount Rise development, rather than down Old St. and around the bottom of the village. The bus would then return down Church Rd, to its terminus outside the Tennis Club (on the Mall).

The suggested re-routing would provide a bus service from housing developments to the east of Malahide to the schools on Church Rd and The Hill. It would also provide a bus service the growing number of residents on Seamount Rd who are remote from existing bus services and avoid the necessity of the bus to navigate the congested roads around the village.

The proposal received resounding support from the Committee.

MCF to write to NTA, FCC and local councillors seeking support for the proposed re-routeing.

- 10.2 The Church Road Representative raised concern with the quality of footpaths on Church Road (particularly the Western side). Much of the previous repair works completed have cracked and broken.

The Treasurer indicated a positive experience with FixMyStreet.ie.

The Vice-Chair informed that Committee that she believes a “sum of money” has been allocated to the repair of footpaths to St Margaret’s Road.

- 10.4 The Seamount Representative indicated that Irish Water will be carrying out works on / near Seamount Road. The Seamount Representative wondered if anyone was aware as to the exact works to be completed. The Chair was aware of a recent survey, but likely for more minor works. Chair referenced that the works are being conducted by reputable company to decent specification. The Seamount Representative will report back with updates.
- 10.5 The Seamount Representative indicated there is due to be a public consultation on aircraft noise coming up and whether it might fall between any meetings. The Chair received notification from the Airport Environmental Advisory Group on test flying of second runway, but no reference to any public consultation. To be monitored.

## **11. Date of Next Meeting**

- 11.1 The Chair informed the Committee that it is a long established pattern to break for August, but due to the planned upcoming AGM, a proposal to pull forward the September meeting earlier was proposed. The Committee supported the proposal, and a date of Monday, September 06<sup>th</sup> was agreed.