

Julianstown and District Residents Association meeting
Venue Church Hall
Date 30 Jan 08

In Attendance: Fred Logue, Arthur O'Loan, Mary Pat Molloy, Sirena Campbell, Madeleine Darby, Niamh Bn Ui Loinsigh, Clare McEaney Emer Dolphin

Apologies: Niamh Mitchell, Caroline Vaughan, Mary Logue.

FL opened the meeting; the minutes of the previous meeting were not circulated as they got side tracked on the electronic system. They were taken as read.

Issues to be discussed: Next year's program. The group threw in a range of issues of which the following were examined in greater detail:

1. General immediate issues
2. Progress with Derelict Site
3. Tidy Towns/ Pride of Place
4. Action

1. General issues.

Keeping pressure on Council to, at a minimum, maintain the village e.g. pursue the car valeting service issue, insisting on having the developers of the Old Mill maintain the place and issues relating to the type of renovations intended. Pressuring to have the grass verges cut. The difficulty of the Association doing a DIY on this was one of insurance. The Association doesn't have insurance cover.

2. Derelict Site.

Progress on the development of the Derelict Site continues. A meeting with Mick Killeen is to be set up to advance plans. Issue in relation to counter funding the award of €5K were discussed the outcome of which was that there must be wider community involvement & support for the activities of the Association. Comparisons with activities of other towns e.g. Aughrim, were compare to ours and this issue is central to success

3. Tidy Towns /Pride of Place

There is a necessity to develop a 5 year plan and to get community consensus to have the plan acceptable to both community and Council. Amongst the issues raised within the discussion were flower planting, maintenance of open areas and general 'beautifying' activities. When one paused to trace what is immediately happening to the village it is in a state of rapid decline viz. Old Mill sold, the PO closed, Julianstown Inn for sale; traffic choking it, so the infrastructure is in rapid decline. However this can be taken as a wake up sign and has happened frequently before to villages that now are thriving. Success in this regards can be achieved through more community activity. This discussion lead to the immediate actions needed to get greater community involvement.

4. Actions

A quick Brainstorm yielded the following: 1. A news letter, door to door collection for funds and explanation of the Associations' goals, 2. A pub quiz to be held as Sunday afternoon activity, 3. reissuing and sale of the History of Julianstown to raise funds, 4. more intensive use of the Meath Coaster to bring our message to the public, 5. greater involvement of the community in Mosney. 6. treasure hunt in the grounds of the castle – during the Easter period (9th March suggested).

Ballygarth Residents are to integrate Associations activities with their own. AOL to co-ordinate with CV.

The first idea was selected as the logical first step. So it was agreed that articles relating to the different aspects of the Association would be written up and submitted to FL by next Friday 7th Feb. The leader in each activity agreed to script the text and submit it. The target date for distribution of the News letter is the 15/17th Feb and possibly by the post man.

Feb meeting was assumed.