

Community Facilities Forum Meeting

Minutes of the Meeting held on –13th March 2008

Present:

Mary Higgins	Chair
Emma Freeman	BCON
Dermot King	BCON
Máirín Ó Cuireáin	Ballymun Partnership
Colma Nic Lughadha	Ballymun Partnership
Elise Finnigan	BNC
Eamon Farrelly	BRL
Róisín Burke	BRL
Mary Taylor	DCC
Bernie Roe	DCC

In attendance: Margaret Doyle - DCC

Mary Higgins, Chair, introduced Elise Finnigan as the new representative of the BNC, replacing Siobhan Guyatt.

Apologies: Christine Carroll, Ballymun Partnership.

1. Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

2. Matters Arising

None

3. Reports of the Working Groups

(a) Communication Working Group

Press Release

The following changes were agreed:

- a) The website addresses should include: Ballymun Partnership, Ballymun Regeneration Ltd, CAP and BNC.
- b) Remove the names of the organisations' representatives on the Forum
- c) Post the minutes on the websites at the same time as sending out the "press release".

It was also agreed that updates on the Forum would be provided at BCON meetings by the representatives on the Forum. It was further agreed that the "press release" should be posted to relevant groups in Ballymun.

(b) Inventory of Facilities Working Group

Bernie Roe, Róisín Burke and Emma Freeman presented feedback. They had produced a map of current and proposed community facilities, including those that are proposed and under construction. A suggestion was made that it would be useful to map the Community Facilities in the flats on to this and this was agreed. There was

some discussion about the possibility of including the names of the groups but it was agreed to defer this for the time being. In addition to the map, the group has been working on a Master Document that lists and describes the current and planned facilities and Bernie undertook to circulate this to the Forum members. The map will also be circulated before the next meeting. .

(c) Relocation Protocols Working Group

Bernie Roe and Róisín Burke distributed a document showing the Relocation Procedures currently being used by DCC and BRL. A Working Group consisting of DCC and BRL staff meets monthly to discuss and review progress. An audit of existing groups in flats has been completed and initial contact made with each of the groups. Groups are prioritised on the basis of the demolition schedule, the condition of the current accommodation and space requirements. Prioritised groups are then allocated a liaison person from DCC or BRL who then carries out a more detailed assessment of accommodation needs and works towards agreeing appropriate alternative accommodation. Moves are facilitated and funded by DCC/BRL and DCC provides formal rental agreements with groups as they move.

There was some discussion about procedures for matching groups to premises, the assessment of group's capacity to manage new premises and other wider issues. BCON has also produced a protocol for the relocation of groups accommodated in flats and this is to be sent to Forum members so that the two can be considered at the next meeting.

In the course of this discussion it emerged that BRL is in the process of preparing a Social Sustainability Strategy and that this will influence decisions on facilities and planned moves. It was agreed that it would be important to have some formal links between the work of this Forum and the strategy and to this end Mary Higgins undertook to contact Patricia Scanlan before the next meeting.

(d) Database Working Group

Máirin Ó Cuireáin distributed a report from the working group. The group has established that there are databases in the area (in the Partnership for instance) but there has never been any systematic updating of them. The group suggested that the data base should include all groups and activities within the BRL area, in order to reflect the extent of activity and that it should be kept simple, at least at the beginning, with the possibility of extending information in the future.

Mary Taylor informed the meeting that the Director of Community and Enterprise in DCC has requested that a central database of all Community Groups in DCC areas be set up by 28th March 2008. It was agreed that the Forum should wait until this is complete and then revisit the issue of the database for Ballymun, learning from the DCC experience and building on it. Elise Finnigan, BNC, volunteered to join this Working Group.

(e) Seminars Working Group

Emma and Bernie had given considerable thought to the content of the proposed seminars. After some discussion it was agreed to hold a seminar on the 'Reflections of People Who Have Moved' as a starting point, between the Forum and selected

individuals. This will be held on Wednesday 14th May 2008 in AXIS from 2.00pm to 4.00pm. The following groups will be requested to attend the seminar:

- Mairead/Hughie – Horizons
- Sr Melan – Aisling Project
- Donnacadh – The Reco
- Siobhan – Lifestart
- Audrey – AXIS

In terms of the wider seminar, it was suggested that the Forum link with Pobal who are looking at holding a seminar on Models of Community Facilities before finalising arrangements. Possible speakers under consideration are:

- Eldonian (Liverpool)
- DCC - Hugh Kilbride and Karl Mitchell
- Aidan Lloyd

5. Formal Commitment

Members are requested to sign the Formal Commitment and give it to the Secretary.

6. A.O.B

It was agreed to allocate 2 hours to the meeting in future.

Presentations were made to Máirín Ó Cuireáin and Róisín Burke on the occasion of their resignations from their perspective jobs. The Chair thanked them both for their valuable work on the Forum and wished them both every success in the future.

7. Next Meeting

The next meeting of the **Community Facilities Forum** is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 24th April 2008 at 10.00am** in the **Architect's Room** on the **3rd Floor** in the **Ballymun Civic Centre**.