

Ballymun Community Facilities Forum Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held on 20th November 2008.

Present:

Mary Higgins	Chair
Dermot King	BCON
Emma Freeman	BCON
Paul Billings	BNC
Elise Finnigan	BNC
Manus Bree	Ballymun Partnership
Fiona Cooper	BRL
Bernie Roe	DCC

In attendance: Orla Brennan - DCC

Apologies:

Colma Nic Lughadha	Ballymun Partnership
Mary Taylor	DCC
Eamon Farrelly	BRL

1. Minutes

Agreed

2. Matters arising

None

3) Community Data Base:

The meeting was given an update on the community database, which is now complete.

Bernie Roe is involved with updating the community database, and queried the next possible step, re data protection, confidentiality etc.

Elise Finnegan is looking at a web/internet based facility, which all groups could possibly share, with a company called Sales Force. They are giving a presentation of this package on 9-12-08.

An invitation was extended to all interested parties to attend the presentation.

The chair felt that one database for all groups was more expedient than each group having access to only its own.

4) Transition Programme for Community Groups.

Emma Freeman presented the group with a newly drawn up questionnaire, which when completed by the community groups would be able to identify their present and future needs.

A general discussion took place, as to the information requested on the questionnaire, re funding and management structures. Questions based on the criteria of the funding for rent, whether rent is looked for, or paid by community groups was explored.

The working group had identified 15 groups, from a total of 50, who would have significant issues re funding, premises, and long-term sustainability, and maybe vulnerable for these reasons.

It is agreed that the questionnaire would be completed with each group, The working group (made up of BNC, the Ballymun Partnership, BCON) hope to have all questionnaires completed before the end of February 2009.

It was pointed out that the questionnaire may produce a wish list for the groups, however what is needed is clarification of the needs of each group, to allow growth and long-term sustainability.

Emma Freeman will e-mail a list of suggested changes on the questionnaire to all members of the group.

5) Update on the most effective Models of Community Facilities

After a general discussion, it was decided:

- a) to request certain groups / individuals to present their insights on effective management structures to this forum
 - Bernie Roe will invite Resource Centre Santry, and Hugh Kilbride, of DCC,
 - Manus Bree will invite Macro,
 - Mary Higgins will invite Senan Turnbull,
 - Emma Freeman will invite Clan Credo, Clondalkin
- b) A brainstorming session would be held on the morning of **22-1-09**.

This session would help clarify the needs of all groups, and the vision of where the forum should be now, and its ongoing role in the future.

A discussion is needed, so that there is consensus around the purpose of the Community Facilities Forum. The group agreed this that there is an urgency to clarify the issues surrounding the long-term success of the community groups, what makes one group successful, what are the patterns, connections etc.

Fiona Cooper of BRL volunteered to bring along a copy of the local neighborhood plans, with all the relevant placings / allotments for the various groups in the area marked out

6) Visits to community Facilities.

Bernie Roe has postponed the site visits to the Poppintree Community Centre until after 11-1-09, when this site is formally handed over to DCC. It is proposed to make the community centre visits to Coultrey, Shangan, and Sillogue at the same time. Date to be advised at a later stage.

A.O.B.

The matter of community groups competing for the premises with several different providers was brought to the attention of the meeting. The solution of some groups sharing premises was explored. The need for open communication between the groups was underlined.

On a positive note Bernie Roe reported to the group that 22 Social Care Students from Athlone had requested a tour of the community facilities of Ballymun. They thought the facilities provided for the wider community of Ballymun were excellent.

The next meeting of the **Community Facilities Forum** is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 22nd January 2009 at 10.00am** in the **Members Room** on the **1st Floor** in the **Ballymun Civic Centre**. The morning session will consist of a brain storming session, followed by a light lunch, with the presentation of the invited guests taking place in the afternoon.