



The Forum

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The Community Forum AGM for 2005 will take place in **St. John's GAA Club, Ballinteer** on **Thursday 26th May** from 7pm.

All member groups will be sent a voting registration form and nomination pack. Nominations for election to the Working Group should be returned by the **16th May '05**.

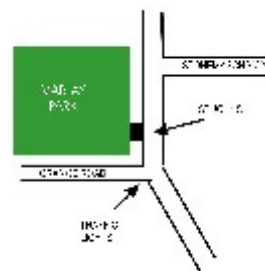
The Working Group of the Community Forum works on behalf of its members to ensure that the views of the community are represented on various bodies within the County.

Your group's participation in the AGM is very important in ensuring that your group's views are fully represented in the coming year.

This year's AGM will ask the membership to vote on an amendment to the Framework document of the Working Group.

You have the power to vote – Use It

For more details contact Willie Morton, 2054700 ext. 4265 or email wmorton@dlrcoco.ie



Remember the date,
Thursday 26th May 2005
St. John's GAA Club,
Ballinteer.
From 7pm.

**The Community Forum works for you
have your say, Vote on the Day**

Dun Laoghaire – Rathdown County Community Forum 2005 Grant Scheme

Promotion of Community & Voluntary Organisations

The Dun Laoghaire – Rathdown Community Forum has set up a limited fund to assist affiliated organisations in promoting their membership and participation in activities.

Promotional projects such as the publication of newsletters, information pamphlets and website development come within the scope of the scheme. Applications must be received by August 31st 2005 and only those projects, which will be completed before the end of the year will be eligible for grant aid and a maximum grant of €1,000 will apply.

Note:

1. Promotional projects should make reference to the aims and activities of the County Community Forum – an insert will be provided
2. Organisations who have already received a grant cannot reapply for a period of 3 years.

Applications briefly outlining the promotional project, specifying overall costs and completion date, should be forwarded to:

The Community Forum
C/O Community & Enterprise Department
County Hall
Marine Road
Dun Laoghaire
Co. Dublin

For further information you can contact Kevin Hannafin at 205-4700 Ext 4093 or email khanafin@dlrcoco.ie
Last Autumn, grants of €800 were awarded to Ballyogan Resource Centre and SWAN (Southside Women's Action Network)

Note for your Diary

The Rural Conference to be run jointly by the Forum and Dublin Leader will take place on Wednesday 12th October 2005. Details in out next edition.

STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEES

The County Community Forum Recently facilitated the nomination of seven community representatives from the Community / Voluntary / Disadvantaged Section to the Strategic Policy Committees (S.P.C's) of Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council.

The Community Forum wish the recently appointed nominee's the very best in their new role as the Community's Representatives on the S.P.C's. The Forum will maintain linkage's with them and keep the Community Forum Membership informed of issues and progress in future Forum newsletters.

The establishment of Strategic Policy Committees was a bold move to put councillors and local sectoral interest's , made up of representatives of Social Partners, Community & Voluntary groups and other relevant interest, at the heart of local authority policy formulation, implementation and review.

Modern organisations need to focus on strategic planning if they are to continue to prosper and local authorities are no different. Proper, well developed policies provide the essential framework for the delivery by local authorities of the best possible service to people at local level. The S.P.C's, with a particular focus on policy rather than operational matters can contribute to this goal.

S.P.C's participate in the policy making process from the preliminary

nary stages, when policy options are being considered. Background work, discussion and recommendations will be completed at S.P.C level before final ratification by the Council which will make the necessary decisions advised and assisted by the SPC.

Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council has 5 S.P.C's which deal with a wide range of services and associated issues as follows:

Culture, Community Development & Amenities Policy Committee

Arts, Libraries, Heritage, Twinning, Parks and Open Spaces, Sport, Community Development, Estate Management, Burial Ground.

Environment Policy Committee

Water Supply Strategy, Waste Water Strategy, Water Quality Management Plan, Waste Management, Litter Management Plan, Environment, Control of Animals, Fire Service.

Economic Development and Planning Policy

Planning and Development, Tourism Strategy, Urban and Village Improvement Schemes, Building Control.

Transportation Policy Committee

Roads, Traffic Management, Public Transport issues, Road Safety issues, Cycleways.

Nominee	Strategic Policy Committee	Sub Sector
David O'Neill SandyCove/ Glasthule Resident's Association	Culture, Community Development & Amenities	Residential Reps
Rodney Last Gleneagary Woods Resident's Association	Housing	Residential Reps
Evelyn Smith Firgrove Management Co	Environment	Residential Reps
Donal O'Kane People with Disability Ireland (PWDI)	Transportation	Disabled
Ruairi O'Loghain Lakelands Youth F.C Geraldine Dunne	Culture, Community Development & Amenities	Sport
Geraldine Dunne Southside Travellers Action Network (STAG)	Housing	Travellers
Luke Martin, Dun Laoghaire Town F.C. – Youth Section	Environment	Youth

Rosemount Resource Centre



Gray Cahill

Location, location, location. Rosemount has it. Twenty five minutes from Stephen's Green by the Luas, less than an hour by car or bus to Enniskerry and the foothills of the Wicklow Mountains. Located in the Dublin suburb of Dundrum, Rosemount is a Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council housing estate. Dundrum itself offers shopping and services, schools and churches. A huge new shopping centre has just opened, offering new entertainment and employment opportunities.

In the whole of the estate, there are about 176 houses, some built in the 50's, many built in the last ten years, most showing signs of improvements made by the owners... There are also three blocks of flats, with 84 units. Much of the estate is in a quiet cul de sac.

In all, Rosemount is home to about 1000 people. Generally, older people live in the older houses (most are owner occupied), younger families live in the newer houses and very young families, new to the housing list live in the flats. In the past year, with many tenants being rehoused out of the area there has been an influx of people new to Rosemount. Many have become active in the centre, availing of adult education classes, sending their kids to the youth programme and the homework club and serving on the management

Potential, potential, potential. The flats are in poor condition and we await the outcome of a feasibility study to learn whether they will be demolished and replaced with houses or refurbished. No matter what the outcome of the study, we at Rosemount face into a time, perhaps years of negotiation and change. Negotiation because we will be involved with the council in the planning and rebuilding process and change because that is the nature of rebuilding.

Rosemount Management Committee

The Rosemount Resource Centre is the responsibility of the Rosemount Management Committee. This is made up of eight residents, either elected to the Committee at the AGM or co-opted later, as vacancies occur. The Committee meets once a month and receives reports from the project leader, the chair and the treasurer. Members make decisions as needed. At least twice each year, the



management committee and staff meet for a long session to imagine what our programme will be for the coming period and to plan it. The executive groups meet weekly with the project leader to keep abreast of developments.

Rosemount Resource Centre also has an Advisory Group, which meets with us every six weeks to offer advice and support. It is made up of representatives from the DLRCC, ECAHB, community gardai, school liaison officer, and CYS.

Rosemount Resource Centre Programme

We currently offer a **Youth programme**, under the direction of a youth development officer. She, with her part time assistant, works with young people, ages 10 to 18 or so. They provide a variety of programmes for the different ages and both sexes.

The **Adult Education programme** provides classes in computers (three different classes) herb gardening, flower arranging and mosaics.

Through the **Homework club**, primary school children are helped with their homework four afternoons per week. During a fifth session, they have a computer class. Twice a year, they enjoy an outing to the theatre or other such entertainment. We plan to extend this programme to secondary school students soon.

Other work of the centre includes being the venue for a weekly garda clinic, a weekly health nurse clinic and the drop and liaison point for the 'Meals on Wheels' programme.



Another aspect of community development work is **networking**. Members of management and staff at Rosemount serve on a number of boards, committees and fora: Drugs Task Force, Community Forum, Community Platform, to mention just a few. We maintain cordial relations with management and staff of all the neighbouring resource centres. They have been helpful to us as we have established our centre and we have sometimes been able to help them.

*Gray Cahill
Chairperson, Rosemount Management Committee*



Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Community Awards Exhibition 2004

Dun Laoghaire Playcentre scooped this year's top prize and a cheque for €1,500 at the annual County Council Community Awards Exhibition, which was held in the County Hall February the 7th - 9th. Judges were particularly impressed with the work of the Playcentre and their video showing local children, dressed in the clothes of the 1950s and 1960s, re-enacting the street-games of that era. This year's Community Awards attracted over 60 community groups throughout the county. Activities and projects were displayed across a number of categories including art, sport, youth and environment. The addition of an extra category entitled *Older Person in the Community* is in recognition of the outstanding role played by the many older persons' associations operating in the county. Organised by the Culture, Community Development and Amenities Department, the Community Awards are Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council's way of recognising the variety and the wealth of projects being undertaken by community groups and supporting community involvement in local neighbourhoods. The winners of the 2004 Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Community Awards are shown in the table



An Cathaoirleach, Niamh Bhreathnach with Pauline Corcoran, Ann Murphy and Jillian Crowley of the Dun Laoghaire Play Centre

Two useful booklets are available from the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council relating to Grants available. The Local Community Grants Directory 2005 gives details of 25 different Grant Schemes funded by a variety of Organisations. The Community Grants Scheme booklet gives more details of the scheme funded by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co Council.

AWARDS	1ST PLACE	2ND PLACE
ARTS & CULTURE	Mountainview Women Together	Rampage (Shankill)
ENVIRONMENTAL	Dalkey Tidy Towns	Ballyogan Area Estate Management Forum
YOUTH	Stepaside Youth Group	Meadowlands/Fitzgerald Park Junior Estate Management Forum
OLDER PERSON IN THE COMMUNITY	Monkstown/Black Day Centre	Kilcross Residents and Development Group, over 55's Club
COMMUNITY SERVICES	Rosemount Community Development Group	Blackrock Playgroup
SPORTS & RECREATIONAL	Dun Laoghaire Town Football Club	Moreen Blackthorn Network Club
SOCIAL INCLUSION AWARD	Dundrum Arch Club	Sallynoggin Community Play-school
OVERALL WINNER	Dun Laoghaire Playcentre	

COMMUNITY FORUM DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

The Forum Working Group is delighted to welcome Willie Morton who has recently taken up the job of Development Officer (as described in our last Forum Newsletter). He is aged 50 and lives in Shankill and is married with seven children. Although born in London, he has lived in Ireland from the age of 2. He has been actively involved in the community for the last 15 years and has a very wide range of experience in a variety of Community organisations. These include

DLRCC Estate Management,
Neighbourhood Watch,
RAPID AIT, (area implementation team)
Shanganagh Park House Management Com-

mittee,
CAT Scanner Fundraising Committee of Loughlinstown Hospital,
Summer Project Committees,
Youth Group Steering Committee,
Dun Laoghaire Area Coordinator for the People- In- Need Trust.
He has been a member of the DOELG Housing Unit Consultative Committee.

He believes strongly in the right of communities to have a say in the development of their area. Among his many activities with the Forum, Willie is currently working on the development of a Forum web site. This will be officially launched at the AGM and



will provide a very useful resource for Forum organisations working in the County. The site is under construction and will be at www.dlrcommunityforum.ie

ACTS Accessible Community Transport Southside Limited

A.C.T.S was set up in January 2002 as a FAS Social Economy Project assisted by Southside Partnership. A.C.T.S operates through having a Travel Club Membership – where people of all ages with varying disabilities and mobility difficulties are invited to join A.C.T.S Travel Club. It came into being because the existing infrastructure was not adequate in serving these special needs.

It is based in Nutgrove Enterprise Park, just beside the Nutgrove Shopping Centre. It amalgamated with the Chariot Mobility service in November 2004, which had been operating in the Ballyfermot, Walkinstown and Tallaght.

Manager Gerry O'Brien talks about the organisation in its Winter 2004 Newsletter:

"Many thanks for your support and booking of ACTS Accessible Transport in 2004. It has been a busy year and I hope that we can show you how we have developed as a service during the year
At the end of 2004..."

We are at the end of almost three years of our contract with the FAS Social Economy Programme.

Our Travel Club has increased to almost 500 members.

Our Vehicle numbers have gone from two to four Eight-seater Accessible Minibuses, all with Ricon lifts at the rear.

"The difference it has made to my life is amazing and has given me the freedom to be active, to be alive again. Having ACT available has greatly improved my life because I can now travel in comfort and ease, secure in the knowledge that I can get to my destination and home again without worry. It has made me feel human again."

Mary Collins

Our area of operation has expanded with the merger with Chariot Mobility on November 1, 2004 to include Ballyfermot, Walkinstown and Tallaght area.

We have made a start getting companies to take advertising on our Minibuses, thanks to Dublin Bus and Sanyo Ireland.

Our aim is to provide Accessible door-to-door transport to people with disabilities and mobility difficulties in the Southside of Dublin, who cannot use public transport.

We are offering a service 7 days a week, from 7am-11pm each day (including, of course, Saturdays and Sundays) These services are here for you, so book them and use them, especially in the evenings and weekends.

We need, through your increasing membership of ACTS, and booking of the service, to show Government Departments that this kind of facility is here to stay and to be recognized as part of Public Transport and of an integrated transport service for all. Please keep spreading the word of our service and help us shape the operation to your transport needs.

As we look forward to 2005...

I am happy to report that we are receiving a fourth year of funding through the FAS Social Economy Programme. We are determined to develop the range of services available with the four Accessible minibuses at our disposal.

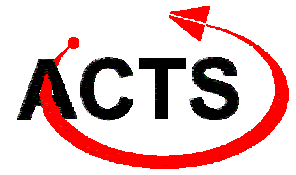
We want to develop evening booking and find ways of getting groups discounts for the Pavilion Theatre or other theatres and Cinemas. It is important that we move forward with the growth of the service knowing what can be achieved with our crew of drivers."

A.C.T.S is contactable at

1800 211 311 or 01 494 8332 or 01 494 8333. and is anxious to expand the numbers of people it serves. Membership of the Travel Club is available for a nominal fee and fares paid thereafter are at a competitive rate.



Special Vehicle Access



Pictured at the merger of ACTS and Chariot Mobility
Front L to R Mary Collins, Sandra Mooney, Arthur O'Daly
Back L to R Gerry O'Brien, Mayor Robert Dowds Michael



Nutgrove Enterprise Park



Gerry O'Brien

COUNTY DEVELOPMENT BOARD & COMMUNITY FORUM

The Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County Development Board was formed in conjunction with thirty-three other county and city development boards throughout Ireland in April 2000. The Board has prepared a 'shared vision' in the form of a 10 year strategy (check www.dlrcoco.ie/cdb/index.html) relating to the economic, social, and cultural development of the County. The purpose of the strategy is co-ordinating services at point of delivery to citizens and to addressing the challenge of local service integration at county level. The Strategy is broadly based to cover all major services, and was the result of an intensive research and consultation process with Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown County.

The principal responsibilities of these Boards are to:

- (i) Derive a shared vision for the long-term social, economic and cultural development of their County or City;
- (ii) To prepare a supporting strategy from which to deliver on that shared vision; and
- (ii) To ensure an effective framework for the monitoring, review and adjustment of the strategy.

The Board identified at an early stage over one hundred and twenty areas or issues that are important in the managed development of the social, economic and cultural dynamics of the County. This number was distilled into twenty areas for strategic focus.

The three core strands of the strategy are **social, economic and cultural**

There are over 75 objectives and 335 actions feeding into the objectives. It is now time to review the strategy and the review is to focus on gaps and the process of engagement, output and delivery. The major issues concerned in the review are



Marian White, Forum representative on CDB

1. Current economic trends
2. Monitoring and evaluation
3. Setting of objectives
4. Focus on integration/cohesion
5. Bending spend/value added
6. Sustainability
7. Taking stock of progress to date.

Issues for review:

1. Setting priorities and jettisoning actions
 2. What has worked, what didn't and why?
 3. What was avoided and why?
- A template and a time frame for this review was presented at the Last Board meeting and it will start in April and it is hoped to have the 2006-2008 strategy adopted in December 2005
- There is concern that the Strategic Policy Committees are not included and that this vital link needs to be established. The policy should be linked to the strategy. The Forum also requested the issue of Youth

Work and the VEC boundaries to be brought to the attention of the Board. The Forum believed that the action was contrary to Strategic Objective 6.3.1 Youth Development Strategy. This shows how issues that directly affect communities on the ground can be brought to the attention of those working at County Development Board level. There is a recognition that tensions can arise between the National level and Local level and that an integration of community concerns is important. It is apparent that the Forum has a vital role to play in the review process and that we are now in a much better place and have a greater level of understanding regarding the process. We need to articulate and prioritise community concerns and make sure that they are represented in the process.

Social Strategic focus area	Economic Focus area	Cultural Focus Area
COMMUNITY & LOCAL DEVELOPMENT	SUBSTANCE ABUSE:	AMENITY
EDUCATION	ENTERPRISE	ARTS
FAMILY SUPPORT	LIVING SPACE	CONSERVATION AND CULTURE:
HEALTH	PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE:	MARINE AND COAST
RURAL COMMUNITIES	TOURISM	SPORTS, RECREATION & LEISURE:
SAFETY, SECURITY	TRAINING	
SOCIAL INCLUSION:	TRANSPORTATION	

We would like to hear from your organisation with a view to carrying details in forthcoming editions.



The Forum can be contacted at

DUN LAOGHAIRE -RATHDOWN COMMUNITY FORUM

C/o Community and Enterprise Department, County Hall, Marine Road Dun Laoghaire

Email: ccf@dlrcoco.ie