

Palace Fields Residents Association Monthly Minutes: www.palacefields.com

Date: 05-Mar-14: 8pm; **Next Meeting:** 02-Apr-14: 8pm; Árd Rí House Hotel.



1. Scan the code: www.palacefields.com
2. We are now on Facebook: "Palace Fields c/o the Residents Association"

Attendees

48: Michael Goss
77: John Fleming
91: William Martin
150: Karen Kennedy
179: Marian Costello
190: M.Keaney

194: Breda Nicholson
238: Geraldine Rigney
239: Stephen McDonnell
242: Bernie Kelly
245: JJ Burke
275: Mary Fahy

Apologies

2: Marion Treacy
5: Marian Walsh
12: Deirdre McCarthy
40: Bridget Flaherty
144: Ronan O'Ceallaigh
238: Paul Bennison

Treasurers Report & General Financial Details:

- Balance in main account as of 05-Mar-14 is €10,367.69, includes all expenditure to date. The balance of the social account is €389.46.
- €240 had been collected in February 2014.
- The outgoings for February last month was €154 to Tuam Office Supplies (Jimmy Coen), this was two payments one of €67 and one of €87 for January and February this year. €86 for the hire of the room and tea and coffee to the Árd Rí House Hotel for the AGM meeting. €200 for petty cash as agreed at the AGM. WM said that he would list out all items spent out on petty cash when the €200 is spent. This motion was put to the meeting and it was carried.
- MG listed out the queries relating to treasury items raised by RO'C in an email dated the 11th of February as follows:
 1. The printing costs came to €843.30 last year. We use Tuam Office Supplies for this service. MG suggested that we seek competitive tenders for printing. However, a number of individuals said that we should look into purchasing a laser printer/ photo copier together with the paper and carry out our own printing. WM mentioned that this would mean keeping the equipment and supplies in a location somewhere, as the Association has no premises of its own. It was resolved that the costs for this project would be looked into by MG and WM and report back to the next meeting for a decision to be made.
 2. Administration costs amounting to €549.69. The breakdown is as follows:- M. Goss (€132.50 A1 size printing), (€71.50 Stamps), (€27.50 Stationary), (Planning objection €20.00.), (Telephone calls €97.50), (R. O' Ceallaigh €59.99 chairpersons phone), M.Goss. (A1 Printing €22.50), (Stamps €55.80), (stationary €17.20) and (Telephone calls €25.50) Note: Error in accounts of €20.00. M. Goss invoice of 10.12.13. was €121 not €141 as shown in accounts. So total for this section should be €529.69.
 3. Miscellaneous costs amounting to €393.80. (Stephen McDonnell €73.80 Hi-vis jackets), (An Bord Pleanála €50 Note: €25 was received from Lissadyra Residents Association towards this.), (An Bord Pleanála €220) and (€50 for gift to Leo Hynes).

A.G.M. Learning Points:

- MG listed out the queries relating to improving the AGM presentation. These items raised by RO'C in an email dated the 11th of February as follows:
 1. An overhead projector with screen should have been used as a visual aid for the audience. This was thought to be a good idea. But subject to the equipment being set up before hand and someone on hand to work or operate the computer whilst the meeting is in progress.
 2. A Powerpoint presentation should have been shown for the entire AGM on this screen. This was agreed.
 3. The meeting should be driven and governed by the agenda strictly. Yes this was agreed.
 4. A hard copy of the agenda should be handed out at the start, to each resident attending the meeting. This was agreed.
 5. The expenses for the year should be shown on the projector and each item gone through for agreement. This was agreed.
 6. The 2014 constitution document should have been signed in front of the AGM meeting. This was agreed. Note: this was proposed at the meeting and it was agreed that that it should be signed at the end. However, the meeting went on unexpectedly and was over looked at the end. The document was then duly signed at this meeting.
 7. MG proposed that all outgoing correspondence should be placed on the website in a box headed accordingly. This was agreed.
- MG has written to the Local Engineer at Galway Co.Co. relating to the traffic calming measures on the Tullinadaly Road at the main entrance of the estate. We are awaiting a reply. Letter has been uploaded on the website.

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- A date for the works and inspection in connection with the tree survey needs to be set. Can all those who would like to be involved, please text on the Associations phone number 087-3395593 or email me with dates and time etc. Although its suspected it will have to take place on a Saturday. Look forward to hearing from you.

Maintenance of Communal Areas:

Green Areas & Trees:

- A meeting was held on Monday last week with Garrett Fox when all the complaints from last year were discussed. Letter sent to GF confirming all these points and is uploaded on the website.
- MG has written to Arlum Ltd regarding the new trees to verges that are required, the white lining to certain junctions within the estate and the cleaning of the gullies and gutters to all the roads. This letter is on the website.
- WM suggested that the new shubberies should be inspected for plants that have not taken or have died in order to make sure they look their best for the spring and summer. This was agreed, MG to contact Emmet Murphy.
- MG mentioned that he had spoken to Councillor Cunniffe regarding the pedestrian access to the park. The Council have not managed to procure the grant relating to the ecological report. They have been turned down. WM mentioned that other grants had been made available to projects within Tuam as reported in the local paper. It was concluded that MG write to the council and speak to the parks department to explore what can be done.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme:

- MG mentioned that the Text Alert form had still to be filled in and sent off. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next meeting.
- MG confirmed that he again had written to Barna Waste relating to the damage to the green in area 6 and the lorry driver incident. He was awaiting a reply. MG to chase again. It was noted that actual proof that they had caused the damage had been implied by Barna Waste.
- MF mentioned that she had experienced intruders in her property by the side gate. She thought they were from a nearby dwelling. She is to let MG know which house was involved and make a visit.

Appeal Against Joe & Helen O'Toole Retention of Car Park Area and Right of Way:

- GR and other residents mentioned that they were not satisfied with the letter that was sent to the Tuam Herald for publication in the 13.02.2014 edition. This notice was read in full by JJB. It was thought that there should be a direct reference to the closure of the car parks and that the residents had no part in it. After some discussion, it was agreed that a further letter be sent to the paper putting the error right relating to the date and mention the car parks.

City Bin Company & Bin Lid Suggestions:

- JF mentioned that the City Bin Company may be interested in serving the estate in the future with the collection of rubbish. It is thought that their costs would be around €12.50 per month or €150 per year. Its noted that this company pride themselves in a high level of customer satisfaction.
- JF and JJB mentioned the holding down of wheely bin lids to prevent waste being blown all over the estate during windy weather. JF mentioned that the elastic straps with hooks to the ends are potentially dangerous for children and should not be promoted by the Association. JJB mentioned that there is a device designed for the purpose which involves screwing a plate on the lid of the bin and a strap clips onto the plate. It was agreed that details of this would be made available at the next meeting. Also, MG to right to WERs waste to see if they recommend anything.

Dwelling Issues:

- A number of residents raised the matter of draughty windows. MG said that he had received many contacts regarding this matter. In order to help residents, he mentioned two companies that could be approached regarding repairs. There are numbers are at the foot of these minutes. Lastly, it should be made clear that residents will have to pay for any repair work.
- MG reported that some PVC barge and fascia boards had been blown off during the recent stormy weather. Leaving the softwood sub fascias and barge boards exposed. Some of these have rotted. It should be noted that a number has been added to the foot of these minutes if anyone requires a contact for repairs in this regard.
 1. Fascias and gutters damaged Mid West Gutters contact 093- 45434 or 086-8407831.
 2. Draughty windows or worn seals E. O'Donnell contact 087- 250739 or Weatherglaze: contact Dave 087-6260497.

Useful Phone Numbers & Email Addresses:

- Palace Fields Residents Association: 087 3395593.
- Electric Skyline for street lighting replacement low call 1890 328587 or text 087 1955076 or Email: faulds@electricsskyline.ie
- An Gárda Síochana Tuam 093 70841. Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Liaison Officer – Frank Breslin.
- Dog warden name and number Christy Corcoran 087-2224192