



October 2015 Monthly Minutes

Date: 07-Oct-15.
Next Meeting: 04-Nov15 @ 8pm sharp; Ard Ri Hotel, Milltown Rd. Tuam, Galway.
Website: www.palacefields.com
Facebook: Palace Fields c/o Residents Association.
Phone No.: 087 - 3395593 .



**XMACE
MADNESS !!**



In association with Mannions MACE/Top Supermarket, kindly sponsoring €250 worth of prizes

Without the €60 contributions from each of you throughout the year, the estate would not be looking as well as it is to-day, **Thanks To Each of YOU.** To thank each of you for contributing to the upkeep of the estate, a Christmas draw will be held based on House Number, on December 02nd monthly meeting, where the first 3 house numbers randomly pulled from the draw, will be awarded a first, second and third prize. If you haven't paid your €60 in full, it's not too late, just contact your local representative and be in with a chance to win at Christmas time. **Only those who have fully paid their €60 by Nov 30th, will be included in the Xmas Draw, on Dec 02nd.**

1st Prize: €110 Mannions Mace, shopping voucher.

2nd Prize: €80 Mannions Mace, shopping voucher.

3rd Prize: €60 Mannions Mace, shopping voucher.

- Special thanks to Ronan'OCeallaigh & Joe Mannion, of Mannions Mace Supermarket for developing this idea.

Attendance November 2015:

Attendees

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|----------------------|
| 5: Marian Walsh |
| 12: Deirdre McCarthy |
| 40: Bridget Flaherty |
| 48: Michael Goss |
| 77: John Fleming |

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|------------------------|
| 91: William Martin |
| 144: Ronan O'Ceallaigh |
| 194: Gabriel Burke |
| 239: Stephen McDonnell |

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|-------------------|
| 242: Bernie Kelly |
| 275: Mary Fahy |

Apologies:

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|--------------------|
| 3: Kitty O'Connor |
| 150: Karen Kennedy |

Financial Summary November 2015:

Account Balances

| Date | Description | Balance |
|----------|----------------|-------------|
| 4-Nov-15 | Main A/C | € 20,574.39 |
| 4-Nov-15 | Second A/C | € 390.61 |
| 4-Nov-15 | Flexi A/C | € 120.00 |
| 4-Nov-15 | Petty Cash A/C | € 54.30 |

Contributions:

| Date | Description | Amount |
|------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Oct Only | Contributions | € 680.00 |
| Apr'15-Now | Total Collected | € 10,020.00 |

Outgoings: Zero.

- It was agreed after some discussion that the Flexi or Electronic Payment Account be postponed for now. It cannot be used as intended, identifying the payee and the payment. This would lead to confusion over money paid and by whom.
- WM pointed out an error in the Treasurers report. €120.00 was lodged in the Flexi account (account for receiving electronic payments) and not the Petty cash account as printed. MG apologised for this.
- MG told the meeting he had spoken with Paul Fitzmaurice of Arlum Ltd relating to this year's contribution. MG reminded the meeting that €1,750.00 had been received from Arlum in 2014. Based upon the principle of diminishing contributions agreed with Francis Mulry in 2011, it was agreed by the meeting that MG write a letter with invoice requesting the payment of €1,500.00 for this year.
- MG mentioned that P. Burke had contacted him regarding the contribution of €60.00 he had made on the 24th of June last for house number 205. MG apologised for the incorrect reminder letters he had received. A receipt will be sent to him with these minutes. WM mentioned that a receipt is required for M. Concannon for 241.
- WM mentioned that new receipt books were required. MG to order books for collected.
- Awaiting printing costs from JF once they are known.

Special Thanks:

- WM mentioned and all agreed that a special thanks be given to Karen Kennedy for picking up the litter on the main road of the estate, on a regular basis. This was acknowledged by the meeting and agreed that it made a big difference.

Litter Collection:

- It would be appreciated if an hour be set aside on Saturday, 14th of November 2015 for a litter clear up on the estate at 11:30 am.

Tree Inspection:

- A tree inspection was carried out on the 10th October 2015 by JF and MG, as agreed at the October 2015 residents meeting. It was found that a total of 37 trees need to be replaced due to being either dead or in poor condition. These trees are located throughout the estate with a notable concentration in area 5. In addition to the above. The species Sorbus aucuparia (Ash trees with red berries) are in poor condition and are not growing properly. Many of them have splitting bark exposing the wood underneath (known as cankers) and are possibly infected with fungus. Whilst they come into foliage each year, they lack vitality and do nothing to enhance the estate. The natural Ash is doing well though. Unfortunately, there are a significant number of these trees with some being quite mature, they make up approximately 20% of the estates stock, which is about 110 trees. It was recommended to the November 2015 meeting that the 37 trees be replaced as soon as possible. With the remaining Ash trees replaced with a different species, in a phased programme as and when funds allow. In conclusion, if no action is taken, the estate will deteriorate aesthetically at a time it should be improving with maturity. Notwithstanding the above, it may be worth employing an expert to inspect the trees to confirm the above and report back before any action is taken. This report has been loaded up onto the website.

Flower Boxes:

- WM and JF carried out pricing exercise to brighten up areas 3, 6, 7 and 8 with timber flower boxes of various size and height. Photographs were shown to the meeting with costing noted on the back of prints. The work would be carried out on a partially voluntary basis, the cost for the whole work would be approximately €1,200.00. It was suggested that this scheme be thought about and discussed at the next meeting.

"Taking in Charge" of the Estate:

- MG had written to the Galway CoCo, 'Taking In Charge' office (for the attention of Celine Delaney) with an extract of the document relating to the green areas and planting. No acknowledgement or reply had been received. MG to write again and if necessary, write to the Counties Manager. All correspondence has been uploaded onto the Associations website.
- MG mentioned that PFM of Arlum Ltd had mentioned that a line of dialogue was now ongoing with Galway CCs Taking in Charge Office. There is a possibility that the estate may be handed over next year. But nothing has been agreed at this stage. MG mentioned that this was good news, however expressed concern that the Association was playing no part in the negotiations even though we are now paying property tax.

ESB Substation Rubbish Removal, fire hazard: In Area 6, the ESB substation is surrounded by rubbish. WM reported that the ESB has still to carry out the work relating to the electricity substation. He was told that the person dealing with the matter was away.

Neighbourhood Watch & Text Alert Security: ROC mentioned that no news had come through relating to the texting alert system. MG to write to the Gardaí chasing up the matter as it had been very effective in areas where the scheme exists.

Park Access Enhancement: There's no further news relating to the enhancement scheme to the park access. MG pointed out that it was now a year since the meeting with Galway CoCo had taken place with the planners.

Next Month's Christmas Draw: MG confirmed that the advertisement leaflets to be distributed with the minutes are to be for this month with the last being next month. ROC asked that he be emailed with details of all residents/landlords who had paid ready for the draw on the 2nd of December. MG and WM said that they would make sure this is done.

Useful Phone Numbers & Email Addresses:

Electric Skyline for street lighting replacement low call 1890 328587, text 087 1955076, Email: faults@electricskyline.ie;

An Gárdá Sióchana Tuam 093 70841.

Neighbourhood Watch Scheme Liaison Officer – Frank Breslin;

Dog warden name and number Christy Corcoran 087-2224192;

Fascia's and gutters damaged Mid West Gutters contact 093- 45434 or 086-8407831;

Draughty windows or worn seals Walter Cunningham 086-3545819 or Weather glaze: contact Dave 087-6260497.