

**Minutes of the Town Rejuvenation Implementation Committee meeting held in the
Downstairs Boardroom, Bray Town Council, Civic Offices, Main Street, Bray
on Tuesday 1st April 2008 at 5.00 p.m.**

Present: Dermod Dwyer, Chairperson
Councillor Bríd Collins
Councillor Anne Egan
Councillor Ciaran O'Brien
Councillor Pat Vance
Des O'Brien, Bray Town Council
Christine Flood, Bray Town Council
Sean O'Neill, Bray Town Council
Jason Cooke, Bray & District Chamber of Commerce
John Mullane, Bray Retailers Group
Mary McDermott Roe, Pizarro Developments Ltd

Apologies: Liam McGarry, Bray Retailers Group

1. Minutes of the meeting dated 18th March 2008

After making some small amendments, it was proposed by Brid Collins and seconded by Pat Vance to adopt the minutes of the meeting dated the 18th March 2008.

The members agreed to defer items 2 and 3 until the end.

4. Update on the Shopfront Grant Scheme

The members rejected the application from Bookstation as planning permission for a new shopfront was received before this scheme commenced.

It was noted that Michael Doherty's had not removed the shutters however work has not yet been fully completed.

5. Update on Painting Scheme

Mary McDermott Roe informed the members that a cherry picker was hired to complete high buildings. Painting should be completed by the end of April.

Hanging Baskets – the irrigation system has been installed and there is good overall support for this initiative. One suggestion for future consideration is that the cost be added to the commercial rates with the possibility of extending into other areas including Castle Street and the Vevay.

7. To consider the Budget Report

The budget report for March was noted.

8. Monthly Cleanliness Audit Report

Sean O'Neill informed the members that the tree bases should be completed this week and hedge growth at the bridge has been removed.

Dermod Dwyer requested that the report on the bridge lighting be available for the next meeting.

Brid Collins stated that a gumbusting will be taking place.

2. To discuss traffic and parking

Dermod Dwyer stated that Parking, Traffic Management, Maintenance & Cleanliness, Crime Prevention, Retail Offering, Shop Front Policy, Integrated Management and Retail Charter are the key recommendations for the committee. While there has been some great achievements unfortunately there has been limited achievement in the area of traffic and parking.

The members held a lengthy discussions and raised the following points:

- The review of the parking byelaws is on the agenda for tonight's Council meeting.
- Access into the town is a major problem.
- Signage leading people to the N11 is needed.
- The traffic lights at Old Connaught causes huge delays.
- Bray will have the best means of public transport with LUAS, Dart and bus.
- People going shopping prefer to use their own transport.
- Parking is available at the Herbert Road carpark but it needs better signage.
- Junctions get submerged but there is no engineering solution to this.
- The Environmental Impact Statement for the Dublin Road Widening Scheme is underway.
- We need to discourage all day parking by people feeding the parking meters.
- Could we try experimental measures for six months?

3. Review role/purpose/future of committee

The members raised the following points:

- We should continue the work through the BID's process.
- It was suggested that a consultant be considered to give retailers advise and direction.
- A long term, five year plan is needed.
- We need to implement a transition from phase one.
- Need to review tasks and decide if they can be implemented.
- Leadership is critical.
- We should take stock of what we have already achieved.
- The Florentine Centre is a key element.
- Disturbed by traders lack of interest in the town.
- Public representatives will change next year.
- Having meetings every fortnight means that a lot of issues are repeating themselves.
- We need to set deadlines and timescales.
- Retailers could consider Sunday opening, refund of parking costs when you purchase goods etc.
- Could we try pedestrianising Bray on Sunday's?
- An independent chairperson is very important.

It was agreed that a sub-committee of Jason Cooke, John Mullane, Pat Vance, Christine Flood and Mary McDermott Roe would meet before the next meeting. The sub-committee will be responsible for compiling the first years report and suggesting a way forward.

9. Any Other Business

Jason Cooke suggested that the lights on the Town Hall be switched on for receptions and possibly Council Meetings.

Jason also suggested erecting banners with regard to the hanging baskets.

This concluded the business of the meeting.