

**Minutes of the Town Rejuvenation Implementation Committee meeting held in the
Downstairs Boardroom, Bray Town Council, Civic Offices, Main Street, Bray
on Tuesday 4th March 2008 at 5.00 p.m.**

Present: 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
Liam McGarry, Bray Retailers Group
Mary McDermott Roe, Pizarro Developments Ltd

Apologies: Dermod Dwyer
John Mullane, Bray Retailers Group

1. Minutes of the meeting dated 19th February 2008

It was proposed by Brid Collins and seconded by Jason Cooke to adopt the minutes of the meeting dated the 19th February 2008.

2. Update on Shopfront Grant Scheme

Christine Flood confirmed that individual letters have been issued to all applicants giving them a contact name. She also stated that Costello's Opticians have finished their shopfront and have been recommended for grant payment.

3. Corporate Taskforce Update

Jason Cooke informed the members of the following:

- An Post will be carrying out facia and roof work and sandblasting and painting.
- O2 are currently re-branding their retail network. Jason has requested that they remove their shutters from outside the building.
- Enable Ireland have not responded to any communication.

A member stated that McCarthy's shop on Main Street looks like a derelict site. Des O'Brien agreed to ask the Planning Department to investigate.

It was queried if the Council could take any action against the Chinese Herbal Medicine shop.

4. To consider the Budget Report

The current budget report was circulated to each member.

Mary McDermott Roe expressed her shock at the estimated cost of a plumber for the hanging baskets.

The members suggested limiting the amount of connections, planting flowers that do not require daily watering and conserving rainwater.

Mary further confirmed that the water for each unit costs 53 cent per season (11 weeks). Hanging Baskets will maintain the planting. She also stated that she would personally call to each retailer to collect the money for the baskets.

Christine Flood suggested giving the retailers who pay for their baskets a “Town Rejuvenation” sticker to display. This was agreed.

5. Monthly Cleanliness Audit Report

Sean O’Neill confirmed that he is currently working on a report outlining costs and the possibility of using solar lights or ESB for the Dargle Bridge. The cost is estimated at €30,000.

Brid Collins advised the members that the bins have been painted and cleaned. The drains on Main Street are constantly cleaned and Liam Bourke is investigating the possibility of removing the recycling unit outside Holland’s.

Christine Flood confirmed that new signs have been ordered for weekend parking in the Civic Centre.

Pat Vance confirmed that business in the town is poor since the Concerned Traders and Business People of Bray launched their campaign.

Liam McGarry stated that this group are undermining the work of the Rejuvenation committee. Jason Cooke stated that the group should be encouraged to engage through the Chamber.

Brid Collins informed the members that the Council are reactivating the Litter Taskforce with Greenstar and Bray Chamber.

6. Work Programme to April

Christine Flood outlined the actions in the Town Rejuvenation report.

The members raised the following points:

- Draft parking byelaws which include business permits, an increase in parking charges and 8 hour parking spaces are due before the Council in April.
- CIE should be included as a task under the parking.
- Refuse collection trucks should not be permitted to operate in the Town Centre during peak times.
- Could we instruct the refuse collectors to use Loading Bays?
- Bray Chamber should contact the County Enterprise Board for retailers training.
- Can we tackle sandwich boards and large banners outside premises?

It was agreed that the Town Rejuvenation report would be circulated to each member outlining responsibilities and deadlines.

7. Any Other Business

Minutes – Christine Flood informed the members that she had received a request for the minutes of the Rejuvenation meetings from a Councillor who is not a member of the committee.

The members agreed that the minutes should be made public and would be uploaded on the Council’s website.

Farmers Market – Christine Flood stated that she had recently attended a seminar regarding Farmers Markets and the Bray market does not meet the criteria. She confirmed that she is

examining the possibility of relocating the market to the Civic Centre Plaza, where there will be parking and no traffic problems.

Jason Cooke asked would this prevent other events in the Civic Centre on Saturdays. He also suggested the Town Hall area or the Peoples Park.

The members agreed that the Civic Centre was the most suitable site for the Farmers Market. It was noted that there would be plenty of room for other events also.

Signage on the N11 – Christine Flood stated that she has approached the NRA through Wicklow County Council. She also confirmed that the Chairperson of Bray Tourism would be writing to the Chairperson of the NRA regarding the matter.

Public Lighting – the members noted that a number of lights on the Seafront and the Town Hall were not working. Pat Vance stated that we were getting a poor service from the ESB.

This concluded the business of the meeting.