



Dear Neighbour,

This is the first News Letter coming to you since the new Council were elected in the autumn. We would like to take this opportunity of thanking you for the very high percentage return of ballot papers. The calibre of those elected is most encouraging as all new members are so willing to become involved in various committees and offering their expertise for the help of the community. The result of the election for the seven areas are as follows::

Ballintotas/ Ballybutler
Ballyedikin/ Farrantrenchard

Denis Barry, Ger Cott, & Josie Knowles.

Caherulton/ Loughaderra
Curragrine/ Ballyoughtera

Michael Fitzgerald, Frank Hayes & Paul Kelly

Dromada/ Gortstoke/ Glenagare/
Meelshane & Dromserane

Jean O’Gorman, Valerie Motherway & Pdraigh O’Brien

Kilbree/ Kilorga/
Gurteenina/ Attaquin

Martin Hackett, Audrey McCarthy & John McCarthy,

Kilmountain/ Ballinascartha

Norma Ferriter, Liam Ronayne & Liam Ryan,

Roxboro/ Killeagh/
Bilberry / Miltown/ Clashdubh

Tom Dennehy, James Hennessy & Dan Linnane

Whiterock/ Churchtown
Dunsfort/Stumphill
Castleview

Michael Curtin, Gerry Smyth & Tim Troy

The following officers were elected at the inaugural meeting of the new Council:-

Chairperson: Jean O’Gorman, Vice Chairperson: Frank Hayes, Secretary: Michael Curtin, Ass. Secretary: Norma Ferriter, Joint Treasurers: Martin Hackett & Audrey McCarthy, Joint PRO: Denis Barry & Josie Knowles

Subsequently the following sub-committees were formed - **Community Centre** – Frank Hayes, Liam Ronayne, Jean O’Gorman, Martin Hackett, Ger Cott & Josie Knowles. **Community Alert** - Paul Kelly & Liam Ryan. **Tidy Towns** – Paula McAuliffe. **Road Safety Issues** – Ger Cott & Tom Dennehy. **Events & Finance** – Michael Curtin, Tim Troy, Norma Ferriter, Denis Barry & Jean O’Gorman. **Website - PRO** – Denis Barry, Tim Troy & Josie Knowles. As with previous sub-committees it is hoped to interest others from the broader council area to join these committees. The Community Council is for the betterment of the whole area and we would be delighted to hear your ideas and suggestions and if you have any interest in any of the above committees please do not hesitate to contact your local Area Representative.

The monthly meetings of the Council will take place on the third Monday of each month. at 8.30pm. at the Two Mile Inn.

Loughaderra Lake Clean Up – the annual litter cleanup around the Lake area is arranged for Wednesday 18th April at 6.45pm., we are again appealing to local residents if you have an hour to spare please come along and join forces with us that evening to help with the cleanup.

Website – Denis Barry & Tim Troy have set up a new website for the Council. The Council have acquired the copy right of a new web address – www.ballintotis.com with links to the Church Bulletin, School, Ballintotas AFC, & lots more including services provided by Ballintotas people. They will keep it updated each week so all the latest relevant local news can be assessed. It is hoped to have the site up and running in the next few weeks. Anyone who may wish to advertise on the site should contact a member of the PRO committee or any Council Member or email webmaster@ballintotis.com for details.

Fundraising – as fundraising ventures this year the Council are holding a cake sale after Mass in Ballintotas on May 20th and we are going to enter the Evening Echo Cork City "Ladies" mini-marathon in September. We are encouraging all females and males dressed up as "Ladies" to come and join us, more on this during the summer.

St Colman's Church, MASS - TIME – CHANGE – On Sunday 15th April the 9.15am Sunday Mass will be changed to the later time of 10.00am, on a trial basis. Hopefully this later time will give many more people the opportunity of attending Sunday Mass in Ballintotas Church.

Easter Ceremonies – Holy Thursday - Mass of The Lords Supper 7.30pm. Good Friday – Liturgy – 7.30pm. Holy Saturday – Vigil 9.00pm. Easter Sunday Mass 9.15am.

Ballintotas N.S. - Two new prefabs were put in place recently at Ballintotas School, These are much bigger than the previous ones so with increased numbers in the classes they can be accommodated better in these new rooms.

Confirmation – Congratulations to the 10 pupils who received the Sacrament of Confirmation on March the 6th, in Holy Rosary Church.

First Confession - Wednesday March 28 was a very special occasion for the second class pupils of Ballintotas NS as they received the Sacrament of Reconciliation at a special ceremony at 7.30pm in St Colman's Church. Indeed it was a busy week for all in the school with the annual Book Fair also taking place together with a visit from well known author Tony Hickey, Inter-schools Quiz in Lisgoold, hurling games against Little Island N.S. and Soccer against Churchtown South N.S.

First Holy Communion – 16 pupils from second class will receive their First Holy Communion on Sunday May 13th at 12.00 noon Mass in Ballintotas.

Hurling News - Meantime in other news from the school the fixtures details for this year's Sciath na Scol hurling competition have been announced. Ballintotas have been grouped with Ballynoe, Gael Scoil Mainistir na Corann, Ballycotton and Kilmagner. They have a great recent history of success in the competition and with many of last year's winning team again involved, hopes will be high of further good performances.

Parent's Association Heritage Walk - The Parent's Association of Ballintotas NS have also confirmed that they will host a fund raising sponsored walk on Sunday April 29, over the four mile Heritage Walk which was previously used during the school centenary celebrations in 1998. There will be historical link to the route as many of the land marks on the way will be highlighted. Sponsorship cards have been distributed to pupils of the school..

Tuesday Club Day Trip - Members of the Ballintotas Community Alert Tuesday Club will be on their travels on Tuesday April 17, when they will visit Griffins Garden Centre in Dripsey before dining at the Vienna Woods Hotel, Glanmire on the return journey. The cost of the package is 22 euro each. All members intending to travel are asked to attend next Tuesday's meeting (April 3) at the Two Mile Inn. Members are requested to forward payment at this meeting. As numbers are limited due to bus size, booking/payment is essential. Further details available locally from Kay Curtin. The club meet every two weeks – so for the month of meetings will be on May 1st, May 15th & May 29th .. **Summer Tour** - Meantime, thoughts are already turning to this year's summer tour. A meeting will be held later next month to arrange details of an event which usually takes place each year at the end of June.

Community Alert - Members of the Ballintotas Community Alert committee have been busy in recent days as they visited the homes of many local residents. They are presently accessing the possibility of upgrading the social alarm units in the Community Alert district and if sufficient grant aid can be obtained, it is hoped to advance plans in the near future

Ballintotas Soccer Club - continues to enjoy a successful season in AUL division 1 with only two games remaining to be played. The highlight of the season was when club was honoured with the December team of the month accolade for the first time so congratulations to all concerned.

Josie Knowles/Denis Barry Joint P.R.O. – Ballintotis Community Council