

Malahide Chamber of Commerce

Annual General Meeting

Held at the Grand Hotel on 29th March 2012

Agenda:

1. Apologies for absence
2. Presentation of the Fingal County Council Malahide Castle Project Team
3. Presentation of the annual Malahide Awards
4. Minutes of previous AGM
5. Treasurer's report
To consider and adopt, if approved, the accounts and balance sheet for the past year.
(available at the meeting)
6. To appoint auditors
7. President's report
8. To Elect Officers and Members of the Committee
9. Any Other Business

Apologies: Clare Daly T.D., Cllr. Anthony Lavin, Maureen Black, John Duffy, Matt Corcoran, Ronan Reynolds.

2011 Minutes: Minutes of the 2011 AGM were circulated, taken as read and approved.
Proposer: Derek Fowler Seconder: Mary Farrell

Treasurer's report

Ernie Brenner presented the 2011 audited accounts. Attached.

Income

- Income declined in most areas although we did well financially for the year. We need to concentrate on recruiting more members to support the Chamber's work

Expenditure

- We reduced expenditure on Lights but increased it on promotion and communications such as a Video for Malahide and a new website..

Proposal to adopt the Accounts: Proposer: Al Ryan Seconder: Brian Murphy. Motion carried.

Re-appointment of Auditors

The Treasure, Ernie Brenner, proposed to the meeting a motion to re-appoint Des Mullock as Auditor to the Chamber for the next year.

Proposer: Ernie Brenner Seconder: Derek Fowler John Byrne Motion was carried.

	<u>2011</u> €	<u>2010</u> €
<u>INCOME</u>		
Subscriptions	6,675	7,775
Golf Classic (Net)	1,026	2,984
Festival (Net)	4,285	6,411
Brochure (Net)	1,797	1,726
Xmas Lunch (Net)	-	44
	<u>13,783</u>	<u>18,940</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Xmas Lights	4,561	8,326
Tidy Towns – Bank Account Transferred	-	2,045
Bank Charges	46	106
Secretarial and Accounting	575	575
Advertising and Video Costs	1,163	-
Insurance	354	354
Website Costs and Newsletter	2,658	527
Networking Events, Awards etc.	312	1,215
Membership Costs	271	260
Repairs and Postage	175	432
Sundry Expenses	40	50
	<u>10,155</u>	<u>13,890</u>
SURPLUS FOR YEAR	<u><u>3,628</u></u>	<u><u>5,050</u></u>

	31.12.2011 €	31.12.2010 €
<u>ASSETS</u>		
Bank Balances	<u>14,598</u>	<u>10,970</u>

REPRESENTED BY:

Reserves

At 31.12.2010	10,970	5,920
Surplus for year	3,628	5,050
<u>At 31.12.2011</u>	<u>14,598</u>	<u>10,970</u>

Malahide Business Awards

The AGM saw the presentation of the annual Business awards. These were presented by Deirdre to the following worthy winners.

Service Excellence Award

This is for a clear demonstration of excellent and consistent customer service.

- Patricia Murtagh, Mischief

Best Developing Business Award

This is for new and expanding businesses that are making a contribution to the town and the general development of a business culture.

- La Sirena Restaurant

Best Shop Front Award

This is generally for retailers who have made an extra effort to present an excellent on street presence for their business which also enhances the special character and atmosphere of the village.

- Robin's Nest, Emma

Best Presented Business Award

This is for the business that through window displays and interior layout shows a commitment to creativity and great presentation of their products

- Greedy Goose, Mary Nagle

'Malahide Has It' Award

This is a general award for a business that has made a special contribution to the quality, diversity, size or innovative nature of business in Malahide.

- Grand Hotel, Mathew Ryan

Organisation of the Year

This is to a person or organisation that has made a significant contribution to the business or community life of the town.

- Malahide Christmas Lights Project, Rodney Moore and Gerry Walsh

Following these presentations a tribute and presentation was made to the out-going President, Al Ryan by the Chamber Committee.

President's Report

The purpose of the Committee over the past three years has been to promote business in Malahide. These are difficult times and never has it been more important that the business community take initiatives to stimulate the local economy. Generally, we are part of a very local based economy so we see anything that's good for Malahide being good for business too.

In 2011 we pursued this agenda. Our main areas of activity were as follows:

1. **Communication:** we maintained a good communication system through our newsletter and regular email updates on current topics such as the VAT change. In particular we grew our Facebook presence to approximately 3,000 followers. This allows us communicate effectively with people interested in our town and for Chamber members, to present offers for their businesses for free.
2. **Publicity:** we have sought the support of the local media in promoting the town and events. The Chamber released a Malahide video at last year's AGM which has been widely viewed on our site and is available to any member who would like to make use of it too. We have promoted the Chamber through attendance at local events such as the opening of the Dublin Fleadh, Cricket Club launch, Malahide Castle opening, school talks etc. Whenever we can, we ensure that the Chamber is part of the life of the local community.
3. **Website:** as part of having good communication with locals and people outside of Malahide, we fully revamped our Chamber website. The main purpose was to create a more effective and easily maintainable Directory of Businesses. To add value to those who has supported the Chamber through a membership subscription, their businesses are now also highlighted to anyone using the site.
4. **Fingal County Council:** we see having a good relationship with our local County Council as an important part of the Chambers activities. We have maintained a liaison with them throughout the year and met with them to discuss issues such as the summer water shortage problems and more recently general matters of concern to us as business people. We find Fingal is generally very responsive to our representations and is keen to involve us in matters affecting the Village such as the concerts in Malahide Castle.
5. **Events:** a key part of our mission was to create events that promoted and brought business to our local economy. This was done through the successful running of the Malahide Festival, the Santa event in December which also formed part of the Christmas Lights project. Each of these events was run with the support of local business and grew from the previous year. As we learn each year we have found the events to improve and possibly the main problem is that the events have been more successful than we had planned for. I hope these events will continue to be part of our local life.
6. **Finances:** at all times this Committee has been very prudent in managing its finances. We have run events like the Golf Classic and the Malahide Directory to generate funds. We also ensure that the Festival is totally self-financing and produces a surplus to fund the Santa event and provide seed money for the following years festival. Our membership subscriptions remain the core of our funding and we are generally happy with the level of support given by local businesses, even though this could be improved.
7. **Future:** having come through the last few years and built on the work of previous Presidents and Committees I hope great things for this Chamber in the future. We need to get more businesses involved and to exploit together the great potential Malahide has as a business location. I would like to see the Restaurants come together to create a food festival, we

need to support a revamp of the malahide.ie website and we need to find more ways to support all our retailers and professional service providers. Perhaps one of the most important issues is how the Village deals with a major new retail and food outlet at Malahide Castle, it should be seen as an opportunity to bring more people to the town and I understand that this will be a priority for the new Committee.

8. Committee: finally, I wish to acknowledge the work of our Committee. We have met every month without fail over the past three years. The committee members give no only their money to subscribe to the Chamber but the more value contribution of their time and experience. Each member has taken on additional responsibilities and without them the Chamber just doesn't exist, thank you Deirdre, Ernie, Cathy, Mary, John, Brian, and Eamon.

Election of Officers and Members of the Committee

Al Ryan explained that there were sufficient nominations to fill the required Committee places but there is a delay in agreeing President. The meeting was asked that we would reconvene in 30 days to formalise the election of the President and the rest of the Committee.

Proposer: Al Ryan

Secunder: John Byrne

The motion was carried.

Any Other Business

Being no further business the meeting was concluded.

EGM Tuesday 8th May 2012

Extraordinary General Meeting

Held at the Grand Hotel on 8th May 2012

Agenda:

1. Apologies for absence
2. To amend the Constitution to accommodate possible future inclusion of malahide.ie
3. To Elect Officers and Members of the Committee
4. Any Other Business

Apologies: Mary Farrell, Matt Corcoran, Brian Murphy, Terry Yorke, David Moran, Andrew Rittweger

Item 1: To amend the Constitution to accommodate possible future inclusion of malahide.ie

Al proposed that we have an addition to the Constitution to create a possible future home for malahide.ie which is owned by the Chamber and Fingal County Council. It was developed and operated by a dedicated group over many years but there is just one of those people now left. The proposal seeks to make the site more representative of the community and sets out its overall ethos and goals. After discussion the following amendment was adopted:

19.7 *The Committee will form a 'Malahide Online' Special Committee each year with the purpose of supporting the community website which operates the domain name www.malahide.ie. This Special Committee's objective is to supervise, organise and fund the on-going development of the www.malahide.ie website and any associated social media or activities related to the normal operation of the website. The Special Committee shall normally appoint each year or change as necessary a person to act as Webmaster for the website and agree an operational plan. The ethos of the website www.malahide.ie is to act as a central information resource for the people, community organisations and businesses of Malahide. The site shall represent all parts of the community in a fair and reasonable manner. The website will not be involved in any campaigns or causes but may promote those of other community organisations. The site is non-commercial but may seek sponsorship from within the community and acknowledge same on the website but not in a form that could be deemed as advertising. Interpretation of these guidelines and dispute resolution will be decided upon by the Special Committee properly convened for the purpose. The Committee membership shall comprise, in addition to the Chamber representation provided under the Special Committee's section, of one representative nominated from each of the following organisations: Malahide Community Forum, Malahide Tidy Towns, Malahide Historical Society and Fingal County Council. This Special Committee shall operate under the rules of Special Committees.*

Item 2: To Elect Officers and Members of the Committee

The following were elected as Officers:

President: Patricia Murtagh (Mischief, New Street Mall)
Vice President: Deirdre Rochford (Irish College of English)
Honorary Secretary: Derek Fowler (Fowler's)
Honorary Treasurer: Ernie Brenner (Grand Hotel)

As there were more nominations to the remaining positions but considering that all were welcome on the Committee, it was agreed that Mary Farrell take on an ex-officio role on the Committee. The members of the committee are therefore:

John Byrne (Saol Partners)
Mary Farrell (Village Books)
Brian Murphy (Bank of Ireland)
Colin Ring (La Sirena)
Andrew Rittweger (Rittweger and Associates)
Ronan Reynolds (ACS)
Al Ryan (Grand Hotel)

Item 3: Any Other Business

There being no other business the EGM was closed.

Al Ryan spoke about the incoming President and presented Patricia Murtagh with the Chain of Office

The new President addressed the meeting and expressed her honour at taking up the position and her determination to continue to develop a strong Chamber for Malahide.