

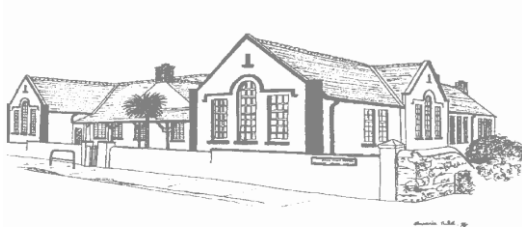
The Skerries Community Association CLG

CRO 100983; Muintir na Tíre registered charity CHY 6865

Established 1934

Making a great town even better!

www.skerriesca.com



Registered Office:
Skerries Community Centre
Dublin Road
Skerries, Co. Dublin

secretary@skerriesca.com

Draft Minutes of SCA AGM, Monday 19 October 2020

(Prepared by J.F.)

Attendance by Videoconference, TBD from Zoom List. Started 8.02 p.m. Finished 9 p.m.

Apologies: Cllr Tom O'Leary, Cllr Grainne Maguire, directors, John Coleman and Niamh Quigley

Agenda

1. To confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting
2. To receive and adopt the Directors' Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31 Dec. 2019
3. To elect Directors to the Board
4. To elect Members to Skerries Community Centre Board of Management
5. To reappoint Dempsey Mullen as Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration
6. To transact any other business proper to an Annual General Meeting of the Company.

Directors: Michael McKenna (Chair); Mary Conway (Treasurer); Niamh Quigley (Company Secretary); John Cole
Shay Fanning; John Fitzgerald, Brendan Friel, Jane Landy (Vice Chair); Dee Langton; Nunce McAuley; Karen McCaff
Mary Marsden; Brendan Sherlock.



Muintir na Tíre



1.	<p>Confirmation of Minutes of the last AGM</p> <p>The Chair welcomed the attendees to the meeting</p> <p>Adoption of minutes. Proposed by: Brendan Friel</p> <p>Seconded by: Shay Fanning</p> <p>Signed by chairperson/Vice- chairperson: Michael McKenna</p> <p>Date: /21</p>	
2.	<p>To receive and adopt the Directors' Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31 Dec. 2019</p> <p>Jane Landy summarised the accounts for year ending 2019, highlighting that the year ended with a healthy surplus and that operations are covering cost and generating a little extra to maintain assets.</p> <p>€ 244,756k of total assets are in cash which put the company in a strong position for current challenges in COVID-19 as well as summarising the nature of liabilities.</p> <p>JL welcomed questions from the floor.</p>	
3.	<p>To elect Directors to the Board</p> <p>The Chair noted the departure of directors Mary Marsden and Karen McCaffrey from the board and thanked them for their contributions to the SCA. Mary was a founder member of Sustainable Skerries and the Skerries Allotments group. Karen was the board's link to Skerries Youth Services, Skerries Community College and the Skerries Sporting Alliance.</p> <p>The chair welcomed new Directors that were co-opted during the year and now sought approval to formally appoint them to the board:</p> <p>Clare Fox as proposed by Sabine McKenna and seconded by Shay Fanning.</p> <p>Michael Fanning was proposed by Brendan Friel and seconded by Mary Conway.</p> <p>As per the procedures of electing board members the following existing members retired by rotation and were re-appointed to the board: John Fitzgerald Niamh Quigley Nunce McAuley Brendan Friel</p>	
4.	<p>To elect Members to Skerries Community Centre Board of Management</p> <p>The Chair summarised the board of management structure and sought the approval to appoint and reappoint members:</p> <p>Michael Mulryan was proposed by Shay Fanning and seconded by Karen Power</p> <p>Gerry McKenna and Susan Ayton, retired by rotation and are willing to continue as members of the board of management.</p>	



5.	<p>To reappoint Dempsey Mullen as Auditors and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration Dempsey Mullen were reappointed as Auditors on a proposal from by Karen Power, seconded by Brendan Friel.</p>	
6.	<p>To transact any other business proper to an Annual General Meeting of the Company.</p> <p>Shay Fanning summarised the very challenging situation of operating the community centre during the COVID-19 restrictions with a severe loss of revenues. However, the management team are keen to maintain a stable environment and with the help of government wage support mechanism. Shay also highlighted that the All-Weather Pitch has reached the end of its useful life and appealed to councillors for support via FCC in executing the planned project for its upgrade that was disrupted over the summer months.</p> <p>Maeve McGann, chair of Tidy Towns thanked Ann Doyle for her service as outgoing chairperson of Tidy Towns. Maeve summarised the activity of the committee in a difficult year. Despite the absence of a formal competition this year they continue their work including a new Heritage Trail and rejuvenation of flower beds.</p> <p>Skerries Town Twinning: Brendan Friel summarised the activities. Plans for gatherings were cancelled owing to COVID. In the meantime the committee are remotely sharing experiences with twinned towns in France and Poland with respect to COVID responses.</p> <p>Ray Ryan of Skerries Cycling Initiative introduced developments in his committee, noting that one rare positive from COVID restrictions was an increase in bicycle use in Skerries. A number of initiatives including maintenance workshops and initiatives to install lights on bikes for local clubs were noted as successes. A lot of good news on infrastructure reported nationally and locally including finances allocated to FCC for the Fingal Coastal Way as well as a plan to implement a 1-way system on the R127 to facilitate cycle and pedestrian traffic.</p> <p>Sabine McKenna summarised the activities of Sustainable Skerries, noting developments in membership and activities. Sabine noted the need for planning and connected thinking and the importance of engagement in County Development Planning.</p> <p>Mary Conway summarised the activities of Skerries Age Friendly which has had a very active year. Michael Fanning briefed the AGM on Autism Friendly Skerries which is a new committee that has been active and received a lot of community buy-in. The committee has been hugely encouraged by the support from the community in making the subtle but important changes to the town to make it an Autism-friendly community.</p>	
7	<p>Presentation of the Jim Quigley Award</p>	
	<p>The Chairperson introduced the award and the legacy of Jim Quigley who played a key role in establishing the Community Centre in Skerries.</p> <p>This year's award goes to Ronan O'Callaghan of the "Self-Isolating Volunteers Group" - Ronan was determined that residents isolated by COVID measures were not left alone and set up a network of volunteers to help respond to the needs of this community (get groceries, prescriptions etc) and to give the reassurance that support was there for those who needed it.</p> <p>Ronan thanked the committee and extended his thanks to those who volunteered their support to the initiative and the broader team effort from the nearly 80 people involved.</p>	



8	Open Floor	
	<p>Joe O'Brien TD thanked the SCA and all its committees, especially those volunteers associated with the community response to Covid-19. As Minister of State for Community Development & Charities, Joe announced that he will be launching the first volunteering national policy this year and a scheme to support boards in their work.</p> <p>Seána Ó Rodaigh, Cllr echoed the sentiments of Minister O'Brien and noted how another silver lining of the pandemic was how the lid was lifted on an extraordinarily strong volunteering capacity in the community.</p> <p>Karen Power, Cllr thanked those present and the volunteers and in particular Sustainable Skerries. She also highlighted the work of Skerries Theatre Group and Barnageeragh Resident's Association and also suggested the setting up of a Resident's Association for Kelly's Bay.</p> <p>Tony Murphy, Cllr outlined his appreciation for the work of the Skerries Community Association and the broader volunteering effort and offered his ongoing support for council-led efforts and in particular noted the appeal for help on the All-Weather pitch.</p> <p>Sabine McKenna highlighted the initiative of "Neighbourhoods Network" where the SCA is seeking local level networks to enhance the outreach of the SCA and appealed for information on other groups that might be included.</p> <p>Bob Laird noted that a small group of people had made huge contributions to the SDCA over a period of 20 years. One of these was Peadar Clerkin who had sadly passed away last May.</p> <p>Owen O'Brien of Skerries Sports Alliance noted the support for his efforts and his written submission on sporting infrastructure in Skerries (appended).</p>	



Appendix

Written submission from Owen O'Brien, Skerries Town FC

From: Owen O'Brien <owen.obrien1@gmail.com>

Sent: 19 October 2020 19:27

To: 'info@skerriessca.com' <info@skerriessca.com>

Cc: 'Karen Mc Caffrey' <kmccaffrey05@gmail.com>

Subject: Skerries Community Association / AGM - Monday October 19th on Zoom / 8pm

For the Attention of : Michael Mc Kenna, Chairman

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Dear Michael,

Thank you for affording me the opportunity to join your AGM on Zoom this evening and likewise thank you to Shay Fanning for orchestrating the invitation.

On behalf of Skerries Sports Alliance I wish to outline our views as follows :

Skerries Sports Alliance is an Ad Hoc voluntary committee established in spring 2019 to focus on improving sporting facilities here in Skerries.

Our Membership consists of : Skerries Harps, Skerries Hockey Club, Skerries Tennis Club, Skerries Town Football Club, Skerries Athletics Club and Skerries Karate Club. We have also reached out to Skerries Rugby Club and several other Sports Clubs in the community to invite them to join us at some date in the future. So in fact our Sports Alliance is a cross community – Multi Sports platform with a focus on improving sporting facilities and sports activity in general.

We've had great support and participation from our local Councillors, namely : Tom O'Leary, Shona O'Rodaigh and Karen Power and we believe this support is on going and will continue into the future as we progress.

The key areas we wish to highlight this evening are as follows:

1. As no doubt we are all aware, active sports and recreation are essential to our community from school children to adulthood.
2. Our growing population here in Skerries is a clear indication on the demographic scale and this amplifies the need to expand and develop our sporting facilities for the community.
3. Aside from the demographics we wish to take this opportunity to highlight a number of major and immediate concerns on our sports arena :
 - a. The All Weather Hockey pitch is in a very poor state of repair and is currently awaiting re-surfacing and drainage remedial works, it's unplayable for Hockey and in fact the Hockey Club are having to play all of their matches away from home. The same pitch cannot be used by Soccer or GAA senior players as its in a dangerous condition and prone to serious injuries to senior players.
 - b. There are no facilities for the Athletics Club – such as a running track, long jump or High Jump.
 - c. There are major drainage problems in the Town Park which are ongoing and awaiting major remedial works by FCC for the past 5-6 years.
 - d. Town Park area cannot be expanded or remodelled / redeveloped to maximise benefit until the drainage works are completed by FCC
 - e. Town Park also needs a second All Weather facility and Flood Lighting to meet current and future demand.

We had a very constructive meeting with FCC Parks Department (Mr Kevin Halpenny) back in December 2019. However, unfortunately nothing has transpired since then and were currently in Limbo, obviously Covid 19 has impacted and we really don't know what's happening as communications have hit a stone wall since March.

Skerries Sports Alliance has an aspiration to have the Town Park upgraded by FCC with a Master Plan to expand and improve our sporting facilities, so obviously FCC are central to this development. We are aware recent



enhanced sporting facilities at Donabate, Balbriggan and Swords which leaves Skerries in deficit and playing catch up from way down the field.

We believe there are opportunities to apply for Capital Sports Grants and perhaps we can collaborate to make formal application for such a grant.

So in conclusion Mr Chairman on behalf of Skerries Sports Alliance I'm asking the SCA and our local Councillors (in copy) to support our aims and objectives and bring your influence to bare on FCC to help us move forward for the benefit of Skerries and our Community.

Thanking you and your committee for your consideration and support in this regard.

Kindest regards,
Owen O'Brien
Chairman – Skerries Sports Alliance
Tel: 0872584398