

Draft Minutes of SCA Annual General Meeting, 23rd June 2022

Attendance by Zoom Videoconference.

Attendees: SCA Board: Jane Landy (Chair), Michael McKenna (Company Secretary) Mary Conway (Treasurer), Brendan Sherlock, John Coleman, John Fitzgerald, Brendan Friel, Shay Fanning, Helen Scullion, Brid Grimes, Aoife Malone, Breda Shankey; Michael Mullen-Jensen (S-SECI); Anne Laird, Bob Laird, Niamh Quigley, Karen McCaffrey, Ernestine Woelger, Eithne O'Connell, Dara Mac Donnell, Colm Clancy, Máire Jones, Victoria Kavanagh;
Elected reps Joe O'Brien TD, Councillor Seána Ó Rodaigh, Councillor Karen Power, Councillor Grainne Maguire.

Apologies from Councillors Tom O'Leary and Tony Murphy, Skerries Autism Friendly Town group

Started 8pm. Finished 9.15pm.

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 2021.
3. To elect Directors to the Board of Skerries Community Association CLG
4. To elect Members to Skerries Community Centre Board of Management
5. To reappoint Dempsey Mullen as Auditors and to authorize the Directors to fix their remuneration
6. To transact any other business proper to an Annual General Meeting of the Company
7. Update from Committees
8. Open Forum for discussions

1. To confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting

The Chair welcomed the attendees to the meeting and introduced the Minutes of the last AGM. She also paid tribute to Anne Doyle, former chair of Skerries Tidy Towns, who recently passed away.

Adoption of minutes

Proposed by: Shay Fanning

Seconded by: Helen Scullion

Signed by Chairperson: Jane Landy
Date: 23rd June 2022

2. To receive and adopt the Directors' Report and Financial Statements for year ended 31 Dec 2021.

The Chair summarised the accounts for year ending 2021, highlighting that the year ended with a healthy surplus, despite the disruption of Covid, and thanks to State subvention of salaries during that period.

Proposed: Michael McKenna
Seconded: Breda Shankey

3. To elect Directors to the Board of Skerries Community Association CLG

The Chair noted the resignation from the Board of John Fitzgerald, SECI, and thanked him for all his help to the Board. He will continue with SECI.

The Chair welcomed new Directors, Brid Grimes, Aoife Malone and Breda Shankey who were co-opted to the Board during the year.

As per the procedures of electing board members, existing members Michael McKenna and Brendan Sherlock retired by rotation and put themselves forward for re-appointment.

The new appointees and rotation retirees were all duly re-elected. An invitation was put to all present to join the Board but no other nominees were presented.

Proposed: Brendan Friel
Seconded: Sabine McKenna

4. To elect Members to Skerries Community Centre Board of Management

The Chair advised that two new nominees, Claire Fox and Tony Murray, were

willing to join the above BoM. Elected members, Shay Fanning and Saidhbh Dillon, whose term was complete, were willing to go forward again. SCA nominees, Gerry McKenna and Susan Ayton, had also completed their term and were willing to go forward again. All were duly elected to the Community Centre Board of Management.

Proposed: Bob Laird
Seconded: Karen Power

5. To re-appoint Demsey Mullen as Auditors, and to authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

Dempsey Mullen were re-appointed as Auditors and Directors duly authorised.

Proposed: Shay Fanning
Seconded: Mary Conway

7. Reports from SCA Committees:

Tidy Towns: Maeve McGann began by paying tribute to the late Anne Doyle and the huge impact she had on Skerries through the Tidy Towns group. She summarised their work to date. Their application to the annual competition has been submitted, in addition to the five award categories Climate Action, Pollinators, Trees, Heritage and Litter Awareness. They ran a Conscious Cup campaign, in conjunction with Fingal Co. Council to encourage use of reusable coffee cups and, with the help of local businesses, had a video promotion.

Their campaign against dog dirt continues and included painting of stencils on pavements. With the help of Skerries Chamber of Commerce they installed new signage informing visitors of Skerries history and present attractions. A new audio guide has been launched through Abarta Heritage.

She praised the beautiful mosaics on the side of the new Prosper Fingal building which highlight the flora, fauna and history of the area. These were made by a local artist and some of the Prosper Fingal service users.

A new initiative, SEAL, Skerries Everyone Against Litter, was launched. It was started with 3rd class in St Patrick's national school and the children have been allocated safe

areas to keep free of litter. This will be expanded to future groups of 3rd class students and schools.

Maeve concluded by reminding people that a work party meets every Monday at 2pm at the old fire station in Quay street and all are welcome, as they are to their Facebook and SCA websites.

Sustainable Skerries: Sabine McKenna, Chair of Sustainable Skerries, gave an outline of their work. They held a very successful first Friday for Future, and the second one will take place on Friday 1st July. There is no need to book, just bring a picnic and come along. Meeting at Skerries Mills at 7pm.

The Ballast Pit pollinator walk, with Charlie and Marion, will take place on Sunday 3rd July, at 3pm, at Barnageeragh Road. This has limited numbers and must be booked through Eventbrite.

They are planning a 6 week training course, open to all, on how Skerries could become more of an Eco-town. This will include a 2-day visit to eco village Cloughjordan, Co. Tipperary.

Sabine ended by reminding all there is a very useful Bee Map in the latest edition of Skerries News.

Skerries Age Friendly Town group: Mary Conway advised that, with the help of Fingal Co. Council the Community GoCar service has been reintroduced. They are encouraging eligible people to register with them for this service.

Last year they received funding for 27 Tablets which have been very useful in keeping communication open between older people in Nursing Homes and their families during Lockdowns. They now wish to get volunteers involved in one to one training of older people in the use of Table and Mobile phone technology.

Town Twinning: Brendan Friel spoke about their history and the motivation of Town Twinning which is to promote friendship between different areas. He spoke of the Canton of Guichen, Brittany, to which Skerries has been twinned since 1994, and Srem, in Poland, which is linked to Guichen. Initiatives since Covid include Language buddies, to promote conversation in French and English between people of the twinned towns. Exchange visits are resuming and 20 people from Brittany will visit Skerries from 21st - 25th July. Various activities are planned for the visit, including meeting the Sustainable Skerries and Skerries response to Ukraine groups, the Mens Shed, a fun night in the Harps with music and dance, boules and a trip to Dublin.

He also mentioned the Candle of Friendship initiative, promoting peace and friendship throughout Europe.

Skerries Community Centre: Shay Fanning stated that the allweather pitch will be refurbished shortly, in conjunction with Fingal Co. Council, and works will take approx 12 weeks.

The Community Centre is 40 years in existence this year. There will be a Family Fun day on Sunday 7th August, open to all the community of Skerries. An invitation only supper for supporters of the Community Centre will take place that evening.

Shay expressed his thanks to the Board of the SCA, the staff in the Community Centre, and its Board of Management for all their continued support.

Skerries Sustainable Energy Community Initiative (SSECI): Michael Mullan-Jensen advised that, with SEAI support, they have commissioned an Energy Master Plan for Skerries. A building efficiency rating survey is underway of different community and business buildings in Skerries. This will help to highlight innovative ways to reduce energy usage and to increase sustainable energy activities.

Skerries Cycling Initiative: Michael McKenna said that the aim of SCI is to promote more exercise in a safe manner, to have safer routes to schools, shops, sports, the train station and around the town. They have made a submission on the draft Fingal Active Travel strategy. A Consultant is to be appointed to conduct a Skerries Active Travel feasibility study. They are also awaiting news of the preferred route for the long awaited Fingal Coastal Greenway,

SCI have started a community bike workshop to teach people how to repair and maintain their bikes. They are also happy to take donations of bikes that can be serviced and passed onto those who need them.

They began a series of monthly 'Critical Mass' cycles around the town in May. The next one is on 30th June.

Skerries Autism Friendly Town: Unfortunately, Ger O'Mahony was unable to join the meeting. Karen Power advised that SAFT has applied for LEADER funding for a sensory garden area in Floraville beside the new library. There was also a very successful initiative recently in the Sailing club to allow people with special needs to experience sailing in the open sea.

Skerries Neighbourhoods Network: Sabine McKenna encouraged all present to set up a group or to join an existing group to the network. Link on SCA website.

Skerries Coder Dojo: Sabine advised that the Coder Dojo group has been 'dormant' for the past few years. It needs new people to set it up and run it. Information on SCA website.

8. **Open Forum:**

Brendan Sherlock thanked the elected officials from the area and Fingal council staff for all their efforts for the Skerries area. Joe O'Brien thanked all the members of the various local committees for all their hard work and commitment to Skerries.

Karen Power advised that Skerries Educate Together school need volunteer adults to run their school clubs. Further information on the school website.

Seana O Rodaigh offered condolences to the family of Eoghan Byrne who died tragically in Canada. She mentioned the Active Travel plan and the increased budget which has been allocated to Skerries for improvement works to paths etc. She also expressed her congrats and thanks to all the committees.

The Chair concluded by thanking all present, particularly those who organized the AGM, the final accounts and the production of the Flyer. Bob Laird offered his congratulations to Jane for sustaining her interest and enthusiasm for SCA over the past 20 years.