

## **Minutes of AGM meeting of HCVCC Tuesday 24 November 2015**

**Bernard McGowans  
Harold's Cross @ 8pm**

**Attendance:** Conor O'Mahony (Chair), Eileen McDermott (Secretary), David Gleeson (Treasurer), Tony McDermott, Anne Corrigan, Kieran Mullarkey, Ben O'Reilly, Paula Russell, Eileen Brosnan, Connie Hickey, Dermot Morahan, Katie McDermott, Tricia Boyle, Bridget Magee, Lucy Johnston, Aileen Cashman, Tony Burgess, Peter Gannon, Annaleise O'Leary, Conor O'Leary, Brian Hutton, James O'Donnell, Eoin MacLochlainn, Sinead O'Kane, Robbie Delaney

**Garda Brendan O'Byrne and Garda Gerry Fogarty also attended**

**Apologies:** Maria McDonald, Oliver Maher, Rob Chester DCC, Tony Shannon, Esther Moline,

**Business Rep:** Bernard McGowan

**Public Rep:** Councillor Patrick Costello

**Minutes of 2014 meeting distributed and approved.**

**Matters arising.** None

### **Chairperson's Report Conor**

Chairperson's Report

The Chairperson gave a brief overview of the activities of the Council over the previous year. This included:

- The inaugural Christmas tree lighting ceremony in 2014 that had attracted very large crowds.
- A much expanded May Festival which had included art and photo exhibitions throughout the week, poetry evening, several history lectures, the event with Siobhan Parkinson, childrens' writer, several tours, theatrical performance by Val O'Donnell in the Hospice, as well as very many activities and exhibitions in the Park on both the Saturday and the Sunday. The events were extremely well supported and the entire festival was an extraordinary achievement for the Community Council.
- The publication of the Harold's Cross Walking Tour map which had been produced by Dublin City Council in conjunction with the Community Council
- The significant progress made on the Harold's Cross Vision 2025 project through open meetings and working groups.
- The Community Council had been involved in talks aimed at securing Rosary Park as a community facility in response to a request from the local Parish.

- The renewal of our role in scrutinising and commenting on planning issues now that development in the area is beginning to pick up. He specifically mentioned the Mount Argus and St Clair's sites where planning issues are currently very active.

The Chairperson also highlighted the significant challenges likely to arise in the year ahead and the considerable body of work that would be involved for all concerned. He noted that this year's Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony was due to take place the following Sunday. He also noted, in particular, the opportunity and challenge of presenting Harold's Cross very strong connections to the events of 1916 next year.

He concluded by thanking all who had supported the work of the Council over the previous year including Dublin City Council, especially Rob Chester, who has been very supportive of the work of the Community Council, the Gardaí, local TDs and Councillors, local businesses, who support us financially and with facilities and, perhaps, most importantly, the very many individuals who volunteer to help run our events and participate in our committees.

### **Treasurers Report Dave**

There was a surplus of 600 Euro from year end 2014. This is great considering the amount of work and the scale of activities for the festival which is funded by the local business community through sponsorship of the programme and events and the support of DCC. Fundraising through the business community raises awareness of the festival and also the need for residents to support local business. The accounts were approved with thanks to Dave for his work on this.

### **Secretary report Eileen**

HCVCC now in its 8<sup>th</sup> year and there have been many improvements to the area in that time. The Business association and the community are working well together and lots of new businesses are opening in Harold's Cross. There is a need for the community to support them and keep business local. The administrative boundaries have resulted in a major part of Harold's Cross now being in the council area of Rathgar Rathmines and the Dail constituency of Dublin Bay South. Rob Chester is our Senior Community Officer and Rob is giving terrific support to the HCVCC.

Christmas tree lighting on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm in Harold's Cross Park – HCVCC in conjunction with DCC are working on this.

2016 will be the 7<sup>th</sup> year of HCVCC Festival

### **Election of Officers**

Conor elected Chair, Secretary Eileen and Treasurer Dave

Most vibrant change we made last year was the development of sub groups which worked extremely well for the festival and other events during the year. It was agreed at this meeting that these sub groups would continue as follows.

Activity Co-ordinators

Festival Co-ordinator Tony McDermott

Website Neil Kenealy does a wonderful job aided and abetted by Fionnuala Rockett

Newsletter Colm Flood and Brian Hutton are the newsletter people

Quiz night Conor, Annalise, Eileen Brosnan and Sinead O’Kane

Festival fundraising Sinead, Elaine, Eileen

Grant Applications David Gleeson

10 year plan, VDP and Tidy Towns – Paula, Maria, Tony Shannon, Dermot, Tony McDermott, Bernard, Sinead, Connie, Conor and flag up in newsletter

DCC Community Forum meetings - Marie

Rosary Centre Conor, Anne, Ben, Tony Rosary centre

Festival Arts and Culture Anne Corrigan, Eoin MacLochlainn

The meeting closed at 10pm with thanks to Bernard McGowan for use of lounge.