

Minutes of AGM meeting of HCVCC Monday 21 November 2016
Holy Rosary Pastoral Centre
Harold's Cross @ 8pm

Attendance: Conor O'Mahony (Chair), Eileen McDermott (Secretary), David Gleeson (Treasurer), Tony McDermott, Brian Hutton, Sinead O'Kane, Neil Kenealy, Fionnuala Rockett, Anne Corrigan, Kieran Mullarkey, Ben O'Reilly, Paula Russell, Alan Massey, Beverley Sperry, Elaine McCabe, Pamela Murray, Tony Shannon, Pauline Shannon, Maria McDonald, Ivor Faulkner, Eoin Bairead, Tony Burgess, Tom Byrne, Conor O'Leary, Larry Fitzpatrick, Jack Murray, Mary Kett, Nicole Tyrell, Sheila Handelman, Peter Ward, Colman O'Connor, Brendan Collins, Sean O'Donnell, Claire Percy, Pat Duggan, Joseph Byrne, Bridget Magee, Peadar Lynch, Dermot Morahan, Eileen Brosnan, Connie Hickey,

Business Assoc Rep: Ed Donnelly - Home Street Home

Public Rep: Cllr Mary Freehill, Cllr Ruairi McGinley Cllr Patrick Costello Cllr Claire O'Connor, Cllr Anne Feeney,

Apologies: Rob Chester DCC, Esther Moline, Annalise O'Leary, Bernard McGowan

The Minutes of 2015 AGM were proposed by Ben O'Reilly, seconded by Dermot Morahan and accordingly approved.

Chairperson's Report Conor

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

- The tree lighting ceremony in 2015 had attracted very large crowds.
- A week long May Festival (7th Year) which included art and photo exhibitions, poetry readings, history lectures in commemoration of 1916, and a concert in the Hospice Education Centre with special guest Eddie Reader whose family were involved in the events of 1916.
- The two day festival in the park was a major success with lots of activities for children on Saturday and Sunday. Attendance on Sunday was great which was helped by the lovely weather on the day.
- All events were extremely well supported and the entire festival was a great achievement for the Community Council.
- The Garda provided excellent support in making the festival a success.
- The publication of the Harold's Xpress (4 publications in 2016) has been a terrific success with huge feedback from the community indicating this is a valuable resource for all residents and helping them to be informed about their community and the people and events happening here. Again well done to all the volunteers involved in this.
- Significant progress has been made by the Harold's Cross Vision 2025 project through open meetings and working groups, one of which was held immediately prior to the AGM
- The Community Council in association with HCYC is in talks aimed at securing the Rosary Park Centre as a community facility in response to a request from the local Parish and DCC.
- HCVCC continues to monitor developments in the area and to make submissions as required to ensure the best possible outcome for the community arising from future developments in the area. One of the most recent outcomes was agreement to produce a Local Area Plan for Harold's Cross as part of the 2016-2022 City Development Plan.

The Chairperson also highlighted the considerable body of work in which the group is involved including the upcoming Christmas Tree Lighting event which requires a huge voluntary effort and encouraged members of the community to volunteer their services to ensure this and other events run smoothly for the benefit of all.

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.

Secretary report Eileen

The HCVCC is now in its 9th year and there have been many improvements to the area in that time. The business community have been very supportive in their financial support of the festival and it is important that in turn the community support our local business in these challenging times. Rob Chester is our Senior Community Officer and Rob is giving terrific support to the HCVCC.

The dog show at the festival was a great success thanks to Rob.

Yoga in the park during the Summer was a great success thanks to Maria McDonald for organising this.

A bloomsday event was held on 16th June in partnership with DCC and it is planned to continue this in 2017. The fundraising team did great work resulting in increased funding for the festival and ancillary events including funding the publication of the Harold's Xpress. A very successful table quiz was held in McGarrys in addition to contributions from festival attenders towards the cost of the event.

A Facebook page and the HXVCC website are a great addition to the festival and special thanks to Neil and Fionnuala who do amazing work on this. A festival office was kindly donated to the HCVCC by Brendan Garry owner of Rosie O'Gradys which was very much appreciated. This office was also home to two art exhibitions during the festival. Regarding the Christmas tree lighting on Sunday 29th November at 5pm in Harold's Cross Park – HCVCC in conjunction with DCC are working on this. Beverley Sperry is organising a fundraiser in Peggy Kelly's for the HX Hospice which is family friendly and starts at 4pm and is sponsored by Rathfarnham Credit Union.

2017 will be the 8th year of HCVCC Festival and the first meeting will be early in January 2017.

Volunteers are needed to enable the continued success of the HCVCC and the festival.

Treasurer's Report Dave

Dave referred to the previously distributed 2015 financial statement. There was a surplus of €2,588 for the year ended 2015 compared to a small deficit in 2014 of (€243). As DCC offered additional funding support during the year, this helped to decrease the overall costs for the HCVCC and assisted with improved finances. Paula Russell proposed approval of the accounts, seconded by Fionnuala Rockett. The accounts were approved with thanks to Dave for his work on this.

General issues raised at the meeting

Paula reported to the meeting that the 'Vision 2025' are dealing with 3 big planning applications including Greenmount who are seeking the development of 7 blocks to include 121 apartments and a crèche. Also 69-73 Harold's Cross Road two blocks of apartments including a public house (Sean McD's). Rosie O'Grady's planning application was initially refused, but a 2nd application lodged for 46 short stay units was granted permission. 'Vision 2025' will be making a submission based on the visual impact of this development including streetscape height, the back of building is quite bulky and general concerns with the design of the development. It was noted that the issue of potential flooding must be properly addressed by DCC. The addition of bicycle parking racks is welcomed by the HCVCC and the possibility of including the bike rental scheme to HX was raised. Dog fouling and the need for owners to be responsible for their pets were also raised.

Election of Officers

Conor elected Chair, Secretary Eileen and Beverley and Treasurer Dave.

Tidy Towns Co-ordinator Ben O'Reilly

As there was no further business the meeting concluded with special thanks to Fr Gerry Keane for use of the Pastoral Centre.