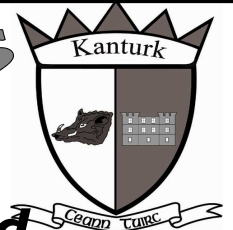


Kanturk & District Community Council Ltd.



This edition of the **Kanturk and District Community Council News** gives a brief report of the main activities carried out by the Council during 2008-09. It also provides details of a Public Information Meeting where future plans will be outlined, along with proposal for strengthening public representation on the Community Council.

The work of the Kanturk Community Council is mainly undertaken by a range of sub-committees and the work of these is outlined in this newsletter. See details of our upcoming public meeting below if you would like to become involved in the work of the Council.

PUBLIC INFORMATION MEETING — EVERYBODY WELCOME

The Community Council is holding a public information meeting in January 26th, Trades Union Hall, 8 PM

AGENDA

1. Launch of Kanturk Website and Heritage Guide to Kanturk

The website www.kanturk.ie was developed as a community website for Kanturk and district. A guide to historic and heritage sites in Kanturk will also be unveiled at the event.

2. Presentation of the Community Council Development Plan 2009-13

A Development Plan outlining the Community Council's agenda for 2009-13 will be presented.

3. Launch of Kanturk Arts Festival 2010 Programme of Events

Kanturk will have another Arts Festival in 2010 and the Programme will be announced

4. Developing a 'Brand Image' for Kanturk and Marketing the Town

Proposals for helping brand and market Kanturk with the help of a summer festival and arts and cultural projects will be outlined.

5. Increasing Representation on the Community Council

The Community Council will invite people to become involved in its activities and plans to increase representation on the Council will be discussed.

**NEW TO TOWN?
WANT TO GET
INVOLVED?**

TIDY TOWNS: KANTURK FIRST IN ANTI LITTER COMPETITION

A very active Tidy Towns Committee has been operating in conjunction with Kanturk Chamber of Commerce. Proof of their hard work came in September when Kanturk achieved first place in its category in the Cork County Council anti-litter competition.

Much of the credit must go to an enthusiastic band of 'pickers' who hit the streets every Tuesday evening.

Marks in the national Tidy Towns competition continue to improve but the committee hopes that further progress can be made. The Tidy Towns report indicates that many of the remaining problems are with privately-owned properties.

GREENANE PARK DEVELOPMENT

A lot of progress was made in the development of Greenane Park during 2008-09, in conjunction with Fás and the County Council.

Trees were thinned back to allow specimen trees to flourish and re-seeding was carried out. A circular path for walkers and runners was also developed. A very successful 'fun day' was held in August.

Usage of the park has increased greatly but loose dogs continue to be a problem—walkers are asked to keep their dogs on a lead in accordance with the Control of Dogs Act, 1986.

EDEL QUINN COMMUNITY HALL — NEW BAR OPENED IN 2008

The Edel Quinn Community Hall continues to be a popular venue for a very large range of community activities. The bar area was further developed during 2008.

The Edel Quinn Hall subcommittee is a very busy group and invites more volunteers.

DEATH OF FORMER PRESIDENT

Former Community Council President, Donie O'Sullivan, unfortunately died suddenly in June 2008.

Donie was very involved in community affairs, especially in Greenane. The Community Council has therefore erected a seat in Greenane Park to commemorate Donie's contribution to the park and to the wider Kanturk community.

PUBLIC SYMPOSIUM HELD IN MARCH 2009

A Public Symposium on the theme of 'Planning for Development in Kanturk' was held in March 2008. The speakers were:

- Marie Keane: Fáilte Ireland Regional Tourism Development Officer, Cork County
- Frank Donaldson: Donaldson Tourism and Heritage Consultancy
- Maura Walsh: Manager, IRD Duhallow
- Tricia Treacy: Senior County Council Planner with responsibility for Development Management in North Cork

The event was very informative and successful, even though the attendance from the public was small.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

One of the most successful St. Patrick's Day Parades in recent years took place in 2009 — thanks to the involvement of a huge range of community groups.



A highlight of the parade was a street theatre performance by the Foroige group called 'Éag an Tuirc'. This was based on the theme of the slaying in Kanturk of the last wild boar in Ireland.

TWINNING WITH ROSTRENON

Another successful twinning took place with Rostrenon in France. A plaque was erected in O'Brien St. Park to mark the 20th anniversary of the signing of the original twinning charter and as a sign of the bonds that have developed between both towns.

TRADES UNION HALL

The Trades Union Hall continued to be an important venue for a large range of activities. The hall committee has plans for developing the facilities in the popular Strand St. Venue.

KANTURK ARTS FESTIVAL LAUNCHED

A very successful Kanturk Arts Festival was launched in March 2009. This new initiative aimed to celebrate and promote the arts in the region and provide a platform and focal point for the arts locally.

The festival was opened by Peadar O'Riada in O'Callaghan's Toyota Garage where an exhibition by invited artist was held. The Minister for Education and Science, Batt O'Keeffe TD, also presented prizes.

Thirteen events in all were held as part of the festival and the schools played a central role. An archive of the festival is available at www.kanturkartarts.ie.

The Arts Committee is currently planning a follow-up festival for 2010.

LIAISON WITH COUNTY COUNCIL

The Community Council continues to liaise with Cork County Council on a range of issues. These include

- Developing a roundabout at Ballymaquirke Junction and identifying Kanturk more clearly on the N72 - the main route from Rosslare to Killarney.
- Development of Greenane Lane
- Erecting name signs for Kanturk on the approach roads to the town
- Development of Greenane Park
- Litter management and related matters, in conjunction with the Tidy Towns Committee.

WWW.KANTURK.IE

This community website is being developed by the Community Council. It will have sections on:

- About Kanturk
- Historic Kanturk
- Accommodation
- Images of Kanturk
- Edel Quinn Hall
- Kanturk Links



A group of Tuesday night 'pickers' who helped gain first place in the Co. Council anti-litter competition

Acknowledgements

The Community Council wishes to acknowledge that all of the work outlined in this newsletter has been carried out in partnership with a wide variety of organisations and individuals.

While not possible to list all of these, the Community Council wishes to thank Cork County Council and its local personnel. IRD Duhallow has also been very supportive to the work of the Community Council and the role of Fás is equally acknowledged.

Numerous local voluntary bodies and businesses have also helped and been involved in projects. A wider variety of individuals — too numerous to mention — have also generously contributed their time, expertise and resources.

The contribution of all to the community is gratefully acknowledged.