

### **Chairpersons Report 2023/24**

I would like to begin by welcoming everyone to our A.G.M. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for the time, effort, and outstanding work you have engaged in over the past year. Although the pandemic outbreak is behind us the aftermath is very much present. Especially for those we deem the most vulnerable and neediest within our community. professionalism you have shown was and is truly outstanding and I concur with previous chairpersons in their glowing tributes to the actions taken by each and every one of you. It would be impossible for me to quantify the number of tasks, programmes, service deliveries, and other services carried out by you all. The list just keeps growing and that is a testament to the outstanding characters that each and every one of you bring to the Forum. Another year fraught with so many varied challenges.

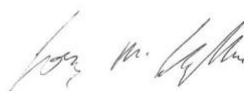
I as previous Chairs endeavour to view all challenges, obstacles and negativity as opportunities to turn them into positive outcomes. These positive outcomes are only achievable by the determination of each and every member of the forum and the tremendous commitment they deliver.

The availability of the Greater Ballycolman Community Centre has greatly enhanced our community engagement and ability to go that extra mile for those within our community who feel desolate. The number of people engaged now that were living in isolation is outstanding however there is much more work to be done. We can achieve a lot more and I know it is with our ability to do so. We have seen many upgrades over the last few years, and this is great to see and encouraging for those who avail of not only our services but the building itself. The overall activities being run have increased and we have definitely seen an increase in new people attending such which is a very welcome sight to see. The community spirit that each and every one of you bring to this community is truly outstanding and the hours you give are truly invaluable, you go that extra mile to ensure those in most need are cared for whether this be through checking in with them or meal deliveries on Christmas, Easter etc you never fail to amaze me with you selfless acts of kindness.

I would like to thank my committee for the help and support they have given me throughout my past year as Chair. To Ivan & Brenda who have and continue to work tirelessly on behalf of the Forum 'your work has been outstanding, exemplary and above reproach'. I would like to give thanks to all in attendance and to those who are not. To our local community and Statutory agencies who have and continue to assist us in the delivery of projects for the betterment of the community.

In appreciation

Tony McLaughlin



Chair M.C.F