

Chairman's Report AGM 17.6.24

Good Evening, Folks

Our group was formally constituted in Jan 2015 and so I have been chair of Ballynahinch Community Collective since then.(Except for 2 years) The Collective presently includes local sports clubs, Langley Rd, Hillcrest Drive and Loughside community groups.

We applied for some funding so that we could develop an action plan to plan for the year ahead.

We ran a couple separate events last year Christmas dinner Choice housing funded, Halloween and Christmas event NMADDC funded it which went well, and we have been told that we are getting help with funding for a large Halloween and Christmas event this year. We are aiming to organize a clean-up Ballynahinch day and then follow it up litter picks during the summer months.

The group have a good relationship with the Rowallane DEA Ellen Brennan and in which the group sit on the DEA forum plus we have great repoured with all local councillors who the group turns to

We are in the middle of trying to put an application for funding into the awards for all. (Big Lottery) Still hopefully the new committee will finish it and send off.

We are keen to link with other groups in the Ballynahinch area to look at ways of addressing the concerns and issues that have been identified through the plan. We would like you to help us to continue to do this.

The group has carried out some training thanks to Choice housing for sorting this and also funding the trainers plus light tea supply by Harry's Place. First Aid, Community development Conference, Completing successful funding applications, Strategic planning for groups, marketing and social media, Event training, good relations training.

We also have regular meetings with Downpatrick Community Collective I which we run pass each other what funding they have got and the same as us sometime in the near future run a joint event.

On the 29/9/23 the group received an award from the chairperson of NMADDC for outstanding service to the community thanks to councillor David Lee-Surginor Alliance. Plus, other local Councillors to which the group turns to when we need things sorted out.

As I mentioned early the group has a rep on the Rowallane DEA they have a meeting coming up about the traffic in the town centre and the size of vehicles driving through the town centre is there anything from you tonight that you want them to present to the minster.

List of Funders

Fruit trees £3,500 Choice housing schools

Mini Meile £800 Choice housing

Halloween event £5,000 NMADDC

Christmas event £5,000 NMADDC

Ageism event £600 Choice housing

Christmas Dinners £1,000 Choice housing.

Nahinch Notes £10,000 Arts & Culture NMADDC.

We are hoping to organize music events which will give a platform to local performers and bring people together.

Plus, hopefully attracting new members with fresh ideas and energy to help us to increase and build on our engagement with the local community.

Some of the committee sit on other subgroups which takes up a lot of their time and I never hear them saying anything bad they just get on with things.

I would just like to thank them all for give up their time to volunteer

As a Collective we want to increase local events and activities by pulling together resources plus new members with fresh ideas.

Thank you.
Richard Orme