

What a fantastic turnout Julianstown had for Public Meeting in the Glenside Hotel!

First of all Clare McEnaney gave us the all the news about what happened at the Living Communities International Awards in China and we also saw a terrific short film on Julianstown which was produced by Tony Breen of Switch Digital Productions which is based in Drogheda.

Emer told us about the projects from our Village Design Statement which are in the process of being completed by the Residents Association.

Mary Logue gave us the low down on what we intend to do with the woods, which is to remove all the bramble and some of ivy and make the woods more accessible to all. Gerard Clake from Coillte will be on hand to advise what trees could be dangerous etc. and how we can improve the biodiversity in the woods. Annette Lynch (Wildlife Ranger) will be helping with the super Rookery in the woods and advise how we can attract more wildlife into the woods. As this wood is right beside the school it will be a wonderful amenity for the children's' science classes.

Margaraet Downey gave a wonderful talk on Dovecotes and I think at one stage we even had a headless horse thrown in for good measure. We hope to restore the Dovecote to its former glory and if you would like to help with this project please contact Margaret.

Liam Burke (principal Whitecross National School) came along and told us what is happening with the new school build. Just in case you didn't know there are 450 pupils attending Whitecross now and there are 10 PREFABS on the school grounds, so the sooner the new building is completed the better. The pupils will remain in the school while the new build is taking place and on completion will move into the new part. It is great news too that a one acre strip of land has been purchased between the school and the church car park for easier and safer access.

John & Tom (new owners of the Julianstown Inn) told us that they are hoping to put in a shop, pub, and restaurant. This has to go through the Planning Department so we wish them the best of luck for the future.

Peter Monahan, Eddie Phelan, Emer Dolphin and Nichola Blendell gave us some information on the proposed greenways from Drogheda to Mornington and then Laytown up to Julianstown. This will be a fantastic boost for tourism in the area and will also give residents a safe haven for cycling and walking. I'm sure you have all heard of the Westport to Achill Greenway well we will have our own super walkway ... we just need money to get it started and hopefully Meath Partnership will get its funding soon!

Many thanks to Garda Matt McKenna who spoke at length on what the Gardaí are doing to stop robberies and burglaries in the locality and we are working on having Text Alerts available to all the community in the near future. Check our Facebook Page - Meath Crime Prevention - its gives an insight of what the Garda are doing to prevent crime and also to warn us about different things. It's a good idea to check it fairly often as it updated on a daily basis.

Jackie O'Shea then gave us a brilliant talk on all the work that the Julianstown tidy Towns is undertaking. We have 4 Tús workers now giving us a hand on a regular basis. However 3 of them are due to leave us this month. If you've been up to the graveyard you will see that Ciaran has done a wonderful job clearing the ivy from the old church there (We do have permission from the Heritage Council to do this) and as the anti litter league has just started they are all busy picking up litter. You can help by making sure that outside your property is kept litter free and verges and kerbside weed free. As they say every little helps.

We would ask that perhaps you could give an hour of your time to helping with the projects in the Community Garden. Perhaps you could adopt one of the many flower beds and keep it weeded for the growing season, or just generally come along and join in. There are gardening classes on every Wednesday and Saturday and you don't have to be an expert as we have plenty of people on hand to show you what to do. Clare McEnaney is giving these classes.

We are going to have a stall at the next Flea Market in Sage and Stone on April 6th in order to raise funds for the bedding plants that will be needed for the village floral displays, so if you have any unwanted gifts, bric a brac, jewellery, kitchen, vases etc we would be delighted if you could let us have them. Contact Niamh or Jackie about this please.

May we also remind you of the “National Spring Clean Day” Saturday the 5th of April, Meet at Whitecross School 10.00. We will have litter pickers bags and gloves, If you are aware of areas that need attention please let us know. The litter will be collected and put in the large skip at the school on the day.

We would welcome any input, ideas, suggestions, We are a happy friendly crowd so do come and join us.

We had a question and answer time and then we had the pleasure in asking all the candidates in the local elections to tell us a bit about themselves and what plans they had to put EAST MEATH back on the Map.

We were delighted to have Nash, and Peter Fitzpatrick meeting in Dublin very Drogheda and we of Julianstown & District Alison Harvey of the Irish Heritage Council at the Irish Planning Awards night in Dublin Castle.



ministers Fergus O'Dowd, Ged present. Fergus who was at a kindly called in on the way back to presented him with a photograph Community Association with

Last year we put on a play about The White Horse of Ballygarth and we hope to do the same for Heritage Day in Sonairte, so if you have any acting skills or would just like help with the staging of it, please contact Emer.

Many thanks to all the Committee Members of Julianstown & District Association for all the work they do in Julianstown and thank you as well to all our neighbours and friends who support our events. Thanks also to Meath County Council ,Meath East Community Association (MECA), An Taisce Green Communities and The Heritage Council of Ireland.

Our Newsletter is doing the rounds at the moment and if you didn't get a copy please contact Niamh on 086 3477283 or get hold of a copy of the Meath Coaster for regular

monthly updates on what is happening in our village. See us on Facebook – Julianstown tidy towns Group or www.julianstowncommunity.com

Don't miss the next meeting!

P.S. How about Turning Julianstown PINK for Sunday 11th May.

Giro d'Italia Big Start 2014 will be coming through Julianstown at approx. 2 p.m. and we are asking you to show your support by wearing Pink T-shirts, Pinks Hats, whatever you can think of!

We hope to have lots of bunting at the school and Community Garden. If you would like to help with this event please contact committee.



Daffodils in bloom in Julianstown