

# Ballymun Community Facilities Forum Meeting

## Minutes of the Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> July 2008

### Present:

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Mary Higgins       | Chair                |
| Emma Freeman       | BCON                 |
| Dermot King        | BCON                 |
| Manus Bree         | Ballymun Partnership |
| Colma Nic Lughadha | Ballymun Partnership |
| Elise Finnigan     | BNC                  |
| Paul Billings      | BNC                  |
| Fiona Scully       | BRL                  |
| Mary Taylor        | DCC                  |
| Bernie Roe         | DCC                  |

**In attendance:** Margaret Doyle - DCC

### Apologies:

Eamon Farrelly                      BRL

Mary Higgins, Chair, welcomed Paul Billings, the new Manager of BNC to the meeting as the replacement for Siobhan Guyatt.

### 1. Minutes

The following amendments were made to the minutes of the last meeting:

*'the process will include state holder consultation'*, should read *'stake holder'*  
and *'Participatory Budgetary in Brazil'* should read *'Participatory Budget in Brazil'*

### 3. Matters Arising

Dermot King informed the meeting that the Final Draft of the Protocols distributed to the members prior to the meeting contained all the revisions requested by the members. Only 'Final Draft' needs to be removed and then the document can be circulated. Mary Taylor agreed that DCC will distribute the Protocols to the Community Groups and Emma Freeman agreed to send it to the BCON members.

### 3. Update on Database

Manus Bree had a Final Draft of the Database on disc. His only concern is that some organisations may not be included. The members agreed to check for any errors. The Working Group will meet before the September meeting of the Forum.

The following issues were raised:

- Where are we going with this Database?
- The Database should be completed first before the decision is made about its distribution.
- Who will access this Database?
- Why are we doing this Database?

- What's on the Database?
- Should other organisations for example sports organisations, schools, libraries etc be included?
- The Database could be useful for new people coming into the area.
- The data on the Database will be subject to the Data Protection Act.
- Who will update the Database?

Manus Bree, Ballymun Partnership agreed to update the Database.

Bernie Roe agreed to add 2 columns showing the groups who have moved and those who are about to move from the flats.

#### **4. Review of the 'Reflections of People Who Have Moved' Seminar**

A lengthy discussion took place on the outcome of the 'Reflections of People Who Have Moved' Seminar.

The following comments were made:

- Community Groups sharing accommodation has major design implications.
- Community Groups sharing accommodation has major management and access issues.
- There are high costs regarding the management of shared buildings.
- Planners, architects, agencies and Community Groups need to have facilitated discussions before buildings are built.
- Planners need to listen to the needs of Community Groups.
- Planners need to make clear to Community Groups how to make the best use of space.
- It is important to design buildings that can be run efficiently.
- Community Groups need to be flexible.
- Relationships between the Community Groups sharing a building can be problematic.
- Work needs to be done at a pre-planning stage of development.
- Who will lead this process?
- Nothing would get done if all these processes were put in place, there would need to be a timescale for groups to come to an agreement.
- Some Community Groups are used to doing things their own way and are not open to change.
- Some groups will not continue when the time comes for them to move.
- Not all groups need support.
- Groups moving to new buildings may have money problems and so will need to look for more funding as they had no rent or bills to pay in the flats.
- There is an opportunity now to put a good process in place with the Temporary Ballymun East Facility and then this should provide a basis for the move into the permanent building in Ballymun East.

#### **Suggestion**

A suggestion was made that a 'Groups Transition Programme' similar to the 'Housing Transition Programme' run by CAFTA might be organised. BCON will discuss this at their next meeting. This could link in with the BRL Social Sustainability Team's work. A needs analysis of Community Groups would be beneficial. The Forum should look at models of other community engagement projects including the Clondalkin Community Property Company.

### **Decision**

A Working Group was formed to look at a 'Groups Transition Programme', the following members agreed to be on the Working Group:

- Mary Higgins
- Bernie Roe
- Emma Freeman
- Colma Nic Lughadha
- Manus Bree
- Paul Billings

### **5. A.O.B.**

Mary Higgins informed the meeting that she would not be available to Chair the October meeting of the Forum. Bernie Roe volunteered to Chair that meeting, the members agreed to this.

The next meeting of the **Community Facilities Forum** is scheduled to take place on **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2008** at **10.00am** in the **Architect's Room** on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Floor** in the **Ballymun Civic Centre**.