



SHANAGOLDEN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Christmas Newsletter 2020



Once more as we come to the end of yet another year it gives all in our community an opportunity to look back and reflect. There is no question it was a year that was very different especially with the arrival of the Covid19 Pandemic. We were being continuously reminded, wash your hands! keep your distance! wear a mask! Sadly many businesses were forced to close as did schools and churches. Sporting organisations had to cancel and postpone their activities for long periods. There were major concerns about A&E facilities with many ending up in hospital and sadly we also lost loved ones. The Covid19 restrictions challenged us all. These strange historical times were frightening for many but hopefully we can emerge to a brighter future in the coming months, now that a vaccine is on the horizon.

Car Park Refurbishment

Shanagolden Community Council received the green light last March from Limerick County Council to refurbish the existing car park with the guidance of Aidan Walsh and Stephen Keary the design and specifications were formulated. Then following public procurement the contract was awarded to Askeaton Paving Co. Ltd. The total cost of this project was in the region of €162,775 and this was grant aided by the village and town renewal scheme which amounted to €111,500. There was a further grant from Limerick C.C. amounting to €4,500 secured by Bridie Collins C.C. and Stephen Keary C.C. There was therefore a shortfall in the region of €47,275 on fund raising managed to get this project over the line by accessing savings, investments and borrowing. It is wonderful now to see the new refurbished car park and hopefully an end to the dust and run off water. At the entrance there is a modern automatic gate which will bring greater control and safety to those entering and exiting the park. We wish to apologise to all for any inconvenience caused during construction and it is our intention to officially open the car park and playground in 2021 when it is safe to do so.

Community Playground

The new community playground is proving very popular in the Capt. Tim Madigan Park now that our car park has been

refurbished access will be much easier for all who wish to visit. It is wonderful to see families gathering and enjoying the new facilities. We must remind all however that the playground is only for children 12 years or younger and we appeal to parents and guardians to adhere to all guidelines.

Traffic Calming Project

In 2018 Shanagolden C.C. requested Limerick C.C. to carry out a traffic audit in the square region at the village. The purpose of the survey was help to make the lower village a safer place for all users. Once the survey was completed, documented and accessed Limerick C.C. engineers drafted plans to address all issues. As soon as Limerick C.C. secured funding. Work commenced on the project in September 2020. The main aim here is to slow the traffic approaching the village and make it safer for all users especially pedestrians. There have been alterations and changes to the visual landscape of the lower village, with the inclusion of footpaths, pedestrian crossing and a raised speed ramp. When completed its envisaged the square area will be a safer place for all.

Bingo-Lotto-Cards

In mid March 2020 Shanagolden CC had to discontinue promoting Bingo, Lotto and Cards in the parish hall due to the Covid19 restrictions. This was necessary to keep people safe and well during the pandemic. This closure led to a significant loss in revenue and income but nevertheless our organisation was able to function pay bills and complete projects. We wish all those who support our Bingo, Lotto and Cards a Happy and Peaceful Christmas and good health for the coming year. We hope to resume operating in the parish hall in 2021 when it is safe to do so and your support is needed, valued and much appreciated.

St. Senan's & District Community Alert

We must acknowledge the contribution made by this organisation to our community. People feel safer and more secure in their homes when there are individuals liaising with our Gardai in matters of Community Policing. We must also acknowledge the great work done by this organisation when

it linked up with Foynes C.C., Shanagolden C.C. and St. Senan's GAA and brought food and supplies to many during the Covid19 lockdown. Wonderful community spirit.

Shanagolden Walk & Run Club

The walk and run club, continue to be very active and they meet regularly at the walkway in the Capt. Tim Madigan Community Park. We must mention, the 'Smiles4Miles' charity fundraiser staged in Shanagolden in November. 145 people participated which was a great positive weekend and the event raised over €5,400 for the Butterfly Club in Rathkeale. Well done to all, why not make it News Years Resolution and join the club.

Hayes Christmas Lights

Once more high up in Clouties over looking the village of Shanagolden we have a fabulous display of lights at the Hayes family home. All contributions collected here will be divided between Milford Hospice, and the Children's Ark Unit U.H.L. Well done to Cormac and the Hayes family - all support very much appreciated.

New Defibrillators

The community council purchased two new modern outdoor defibrillator units last summer. It is very important that we maintain and keep defibrillators in our village as they can and do help to save lives. We are also fortunate to have volunteers who are specially trained in how to use a defibrillators in an emergency situation.

Burial Grounds

As we stated in the past the graveyards in our community are owned and governed by Limerick County Council. The maintenance of the graveyards in Shanagolden and Kilmoylan are however over seen by workers from the Social Employment Scheme. Shanagolden Community Councils provides all the funding and resources needed for the scheme to function properly. Last March the Community Council requested Limerick C.C. to review the drainage and soakage in the new section of Shanagolden Graveyard. Senior engineers surveyed the area and when funding was available remedial work was carried out in July 2020.

Sympathy

The committee would like to extend sympathy to all families in our community who lost loved ones in 2020. May they rest in peace. Sadly this year we lost one of our own friends, a colleague and a genuine committee member. Willie Keating passed to his eternal reward in C.U.H. on Tuesday 26th May 2020. Willie was a reliable and dedicated member of our organisation. He had a great love for his community and gave of his time generously and was considered a true volunteer. Once more we extend sympathy to his wife Mary and his extended family. May he Rest in Peace.

Community Council Meetings

The committee put a major emphasis on regularly monthly meetings and good governance is the order of the day. All in our community are welcome to attend our meetings and we appeal for more volunteers to come and join.

A.G.M.

The next A.G.M. takes place on Thursday February 2021 @ 8pm in the Parish Hall, Shanagolden. All are welcome.

Support Local

As we struggle on through Covid19 we encourage people to support local businesses.

Shanagolden and District Community Council wish to thank all in the community for the generous support over the last number of years.

May you all enjoy a Happy Christmas and have peace and good health for all 2021.

Keep Safe & Stay Well



Our Motto: Openness: Volunteerism: Accountability: Credibility

Chairperson _____
Ger Lewis

Secretary _____
Joe Ryan

Treasurer _____
Marius Stokes

P.R.O. Noelle Madigan **Asst. P.R.O.** Teresa Mulvihill **Vice Chairperson** John O' Hara **Asst. Secretary:** John Paul Cribbin
Asst Treasurers: Noelle Madigan, Angela Mulcahy **Hall Manager:** Eamon Mullane

Life Hon President: Tom Madigan Hon President: Anthony Fitzsimons

Committee: Noel Moroney, Willie Balfe, Frances Mullane, Derek Kenrick, Caroline Reidy, Nora Fitzgerald, Willie Duggan, Mary Roche, Orla O'Kane, J.J. Behan, Elizabeth Mullane, Paul O'Brien, Liam O'Donnel.