



#### BORD MÓNA Naturally Driven

# Newsletter - Nov. 2018

### Changes to Sliabh Bawn Community Benefit Fund

The Sliabh Bawn Community Benefit Fund of €87,000 (indexed linked) aims to prioritise projects and initiatives that will benefit the area surrounding the wind farm. In 2017, SECAD Partnership CLG conducted a review of the fund to improve impact for the local community. Following on from this review, Sliabh Bawn Power DAC (SBPD) and SECAD have begun the process of expanding the evaluation panel to include representative members of the Community in time for the 2018 awards.

Currently the fund supports projects and initiatives that focus on recreation, health & wellbeing, culture & heritage, environmental sustainability and tourism. The new panel will allow community representatives to decide if that focus should be broadened. SECAD will continue to provide administration and governance as before in addition to requested capacity building programs for those residents interested in volunteering their time.

The total value of the CBF fund over the 25 year life span of the wind farm is more than €2m. Beneficiary names and grant amounts awarded to date can be found on the Sliabh Bawn website under the Community Benefits page. These range from local schools, to sports clubs, community games and tidy towns committees. Details regarding application for the EUR87,000 2018 fund will be announced via the website in due course once the new evaluation panel is in place.



Sliabh Bawn Kids run

### **ROS Run Success**

The Sliabh Bawn summit was a busy place during the Sliabh Bawn Power DAC Ros Run on July 28/29th. More than 450 runners from across the country took on the challenging courses in the 10km, half marathon, full marathon and 50km ultra marathon races over the two days. Supporters lined the 28km trails to cheer friends and family as they stormed past on one of the cooler days of the July heatwave. Plans are under way for the 2019 event which promises to be bigger and better again. For full details on the race results go to

https://www.popupraces.ie/ros-run-sliabh-bawn/

Sliabh Bawn 🇯

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## Noise Compliance Update

Sliabh Bawn Power DAC acknowledges that residents have expressed some concern surrounding noise. Planning for Sliabh Bawn Wind Farm was granted by An Bord Pleanala (PL 20.239743) with a planning condition that once the wind farm was operational, a noise monitoring report should be completed and submitted to Roscommon County Council. This was completed on the 15th January 2018. On foot of this submission, Roscommon Co Co carried out their own independent noise monitoring survey on the site. The planning office confirmed mid August that the development is operating in compliance with the conditions set in the original Grant of Permission. A copy of the official letter can be found on the county council public website.

Sliabh Bawn Power DAC will continue to work with the local community with regard to noise queries and concerns.



#### **Future Plans**

Coillte continue to investigate the potential for a small battery storage facility at Sliabh Bawn wind farm substation. The purpose of the energy storage facility is to facilitate Ireland meeting its EU binding electricity targets and fully utilize the existing infrastructure on the wind farm. In theory, this would take the form of approximately 2-3 40ft shipping container sized units equivalent to approximately 10MWs of power which would have a low visual impact based on a proposed location within the existing compound.

The existing footprint and main infrastructure of the substation would not be altered, instead the empty space inside the compound would be utilized. In the event of a positive conclusion to these investigations, local residents will be consulted prior to a planning application being lodged. We will keep you updated as the investigation evolves.



#### **Contacting the Wind Farm**

Please contact us with any observations or enquiries:-

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