

May 2019

Sliabh Bawn Community Benefit Fund



The annual Sliabh Bawn Community Benefit Fund for 2018 was increased to €89,000, up 2.3% on the previous year due to indexation. The newly established Community Benefit Fund Evaluation Panel – comprising representation from 8 local community groups – along with two representatives of Sliabh Bawn Power DAC, evaluated applications against the fund criteria and allocated funding to successful projects. In total 18 new projects will receive funding from the 2018 fund. The successful projects, all beneficial to the Sliabh Bawn area and its environs, will be announced shortly. According to fund administrator Ellenora Lynch of SECAD, “This is the first year which the panel has been formed and its success is credited to those who participated”. The Sliabh Bawn Community Benefit Fund was established in 2015 with the aim to support projects and initiatives from local organisations and groups. The fund themes include recreation, health & wellbeing, culture & heritage, environmental sustainability and tourism. Applications for the 2019 fund will open in December 2019.



In 2018 Roscommon County Council applied for grant funding for the development of Sliabh Bawn Recreation Trails under the Outdoor Recreation Scheme from the Department of Rural and Community Development. Roscommon County Council was successful in its application and was recently awarded €150,000 for this project. The upgrading works will be rolled out this year and Enda Conaty, Asset Manager with SBPD stated “SBPD have committed to support and collaborate with the county council to facilitate the upgrading and enhancement of the existing Sliabh Bawn recreational amenities”.

Over the coming months, four passing bays will be built along the L14253 entrance road to the Sliabh Bawn recreation carpark. This will help improve traffic flow for locals and visitors alike during the busy summer months. Roscommon County Council have indicated that this work will be completed mid Summer. Sliabh Bawn Power DAC (SBPD) has made a significant monetary contribution toward these upgrades.

Changes in Sliabh Bawn Power DAC



In September 2018, Greencoat Renewables PLC acquired a 25% stake in Sliabh Bawn Wind Farm. Following the completion of this acquisition, Greencoat Renewables joined the Board of SBPD in January as a new shareholder. Greencoat Renewables PLC is an investor in renewable energy infrastructure assets, focused on operational wind farms in Ireland.

In recent month's Enda Conaty (Bord na Móna) has joined the SBPD team as Asset Manager. Enda has a wealth of experience managing wind farms and also currently manages Bord na Móna's portfolio of wind generating assets.

Welcoming the next generation of renewable energy advocates

SBPD are delighted to welcome school tours to the wind farm, where Tom Costello – Community Liaison Officer leads groups around the various recreation trails, introduces children to the wind turbines and explains how they produce energy. Tom Costello commented “these tours are proving immensely popular and available school tour dates are booking up quickly”.

If you would like more information or to book a tour, please call **1890 927836** or email sliabh.bawn@coillte.ie



ROS Run Sliabh Bawn 2019

This year's ROS Run Sliabh Bawn will take place on Sliabh Bawn Mountain on Saturday 27th July and Sunday 28th July. The event will include a 10k run, half marathon and marathon. For more details and registration go www.popupraces.ie/race/the-ros-run-sliabh-bawn-2/

All are welcome to participate or cheer the runners on and enjoy the outdoors on Sliabh Bawn.



Native Tree Planting

Throughout April and again later in November this year, more than 1,000 native trees will be planted on Sliabh Bawn. Signage identifying each of the eleven native species being planted will be installed around the 0.5 hectare plot, close to turbine 3, with an information panel displayed at the main entrance for visitors.

Contacting the Wind Farm

Please contact us with any observations or enquiries:-

Lo-call: 1890 92 78 36 (Mon - Fri)

Email: sliabh.bawn@coillte.ie

Web: www.sliabhbawnwindfarm.ie

Write: Sliabh Bawn Power DAC, C/O Coillte, Dublin Road, Newtownmountkennedy, Co. Wicklow, A63 DN25