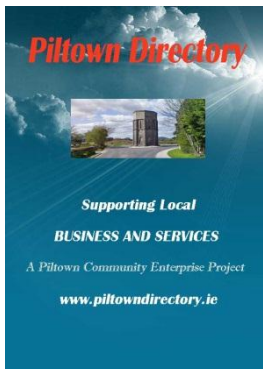




Piltown Community Enterprise

Issue 2: February 2013

Since our last newsletter in November the group has had a very busy period. People, community groups and business are becoming aware of us and our office in Piltown is getting frequent visits and calls relating to various business related activities.



Piltown Business and Services Directory

A directory of the services, businesses, clubs and associations in the Piltown area has been compiled to increase the awareness of the businesses and services available within the community, and highlight local skills and expertise. The aim of this directory is to encourage people to *"First find it Local"* when requiring a service/product. A copy of the directory is enclosed with this newsletter. It is also available online at www.piltowndirectory.ie

Start Your Own Business Competition

This competition was launched on November 2nd 2012 by Minister Phil Hogan T.D. The main aim is to encourage and promote new and innovative commercial enterprises in the parish, which will act as a stimulus to job creation. This, in turn, through the establishment of new manufacturing or service industries, will lead to the creation of much needed employment in our community.



Eddie Blackmore(Board Member), Minister Phil Hogan
and John Maher(Board Member)

Closing date for entry was 31st January 2013. Entries are in and great interest has been shown with in excess of thirty enquiries received. A panel of independent judges will be working behind the scenes from mid-February narrowing down the entries and making their final selection.



The Finalists will be introduced on April 11th at an event in Piltown GAA Complex which will be hosted by Bobby Kerr (Dragons Den). The overall winner will be selected on the night. Further details will be available nearer the event. Information at www.piltown.ie

Judges Roy Power, Barry Hickey, Jimmy Brett
(Missing from photo Maura Joyce and Ellis Gough)

Development of Old Creamery Site

Plans have been submitted to Kilkenny Co Council seeking Planning Permission for the proposed development of this site as incubation units for small businesses. These plans were on display both at the Iverk Show and at the GAA Centre at the launch of the Start Your Own Business competition and were very well received by all who viewed them.



Anne Marie Power-Friend and Alfie Brophy (Board Members)
view the plans for the proposed development of Old Creamery site

The Old Creamery site was once the focus of commercial activity in the parish but with the passage of time has become semi-derelict. It is intended to once again create a hub of activity by building and developing an Enterprise Centre that will provide space and assistance for start-up and small businesses, and provide jobs for the people in the locality.

The Old Creamery has played an important part in the industrial history of Piltown and the chimney presents an elegant landmark punctuating the skyline. Every effort has been made to incorporate these features into the proposed plans.

Information nights/Workshops

The three events organised by PCE were very well attended and a very successful response was received. On 28th November 2012 a **Business Planning Workshop** was delivered by Aidan Shine, South East Business Innovation Centre. Aidan made the boring and daunting subject of a preparing a Business Plan come to life. Those who attended were pleased to be able to discuss topics of concern collectively and privately with a representative of SEBIC, KCEB and PCE.

Thursday 6th December 2012 **Brendan Twohig**, PCE Board Member, delivered a Budget Seminar, outlining in layman's terminology how individuals, families, businesses etc. would be affected. There was plenty of time for questions and answers and those who attended were very impressed with the content and presentation.



January 10th 2013 a workshop on **Start/Grow Your Business** was run by members of the Piltown Community Enterprise (PCE) Board. This was a practical workshop with those attending being actively involved.

Enterprise Office

The Piltown Community Enterprise Office is currently based in Ardclone. Kate Foley and Gerri Hickey are available to handle any queries relating to the activities of Piltown Community Enterprise. They will also give assistance to people wishing to start up a business and point them in the right direction for success. They can be contacted by email at piltown@eircom.net or by phone at 051-643152 ext 248.

We would like to wish you all a Happy and Prosperous 2013.

For information on any of the above projects visit our website at www.piltown.ie

051-643152 or email piltown@eircom.net



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