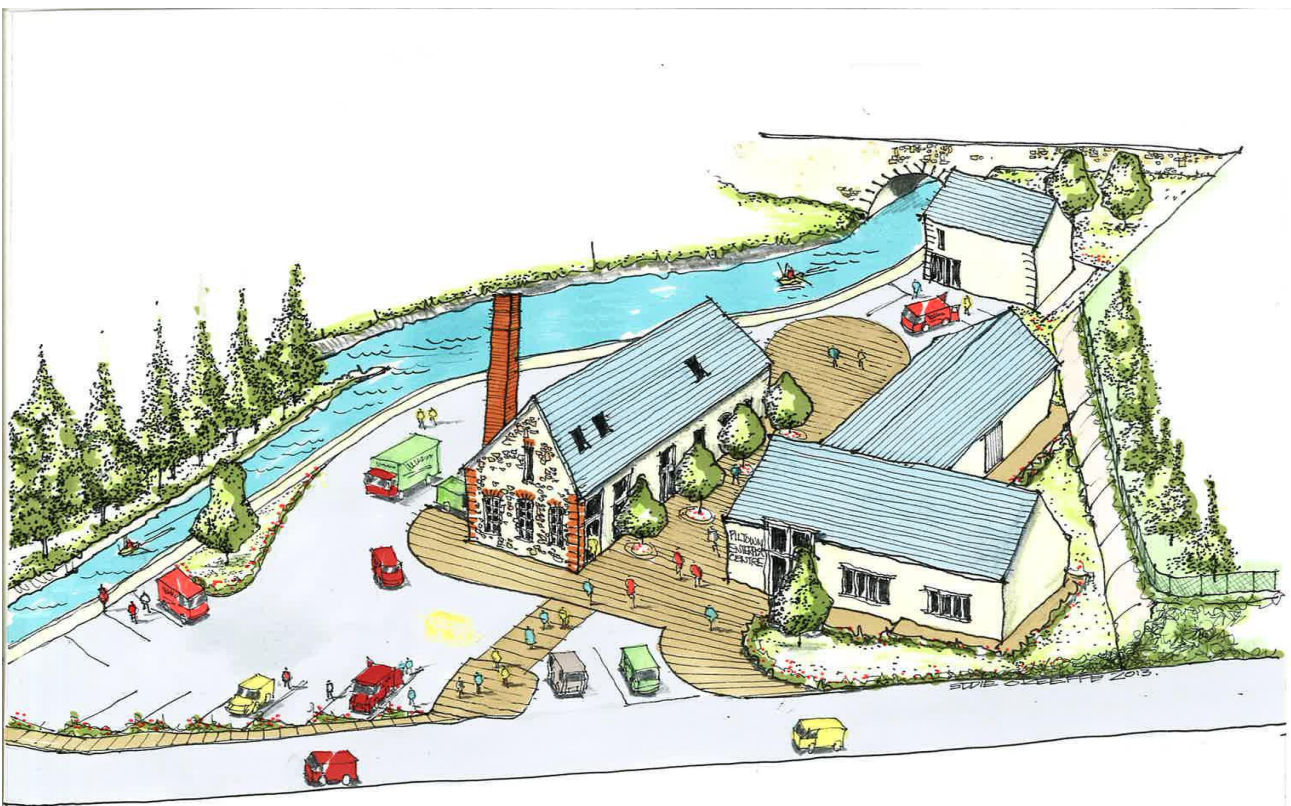


Piltown Community Enterprise Newsletter

Issue 3 : December 2013

PCE are now very happy to announce that planning permission has been obtained for the development of the Old Creamery site and work will commence in early 2014. Due to the fact that the building and chimney are Listed Structures and other features have to be preserved, and because of the proximity of the development to the river and the ecology issues that have to be addressed, the obtaining of planning permission took longer than we hoped. All conditions have now been met and Piltown Community Enterprise is now ready to proceed with Stage 1 of the project.

Old Creamery Enterprise Centre: (see website www.piltown.ie for larger scale map of plan)



Sketch of Plans for Old Creamery Enterprise Centre

Stage 1 will be the renovation of the existing building (on left of drawing), the restoration of the chimney and the development of two units plus offices

Stage 2 – the addition of a building to the front of the site (on right of drawing), consisting of two units

Stage 3 – the further addition of a two storey building to the rear of the site, near the bridge, consisting of two units.

The main aim of developing the Old Creamery is the creation of jobs in Piltown Parish and the surrounding area. Through the construction of suitable incubation units at a reasonable rent together with the advice and support of a qualified team we are confident that new and developing businesses can be encouraged to locate in these premises and be responsible for the creation of jobs.

FUNDING OF PROJECT

The restoration and development work required for Stage 1 of the Old Creamery will cost an estimated €320,000. However, we are delighted to announce that a grant of €200,000 has been sanctioned by Kilkenny LEADER Partnership provided the remaining €120,000 can be sourced elsewhere. It is proposed to raise these funds through a series of events and projects that will take place during 2014 and 2015.

The support of everyone will be needed to ensure the success of this project and we have no doubt that everyone connected with Piltown Parish and the surrounding areas would like to be part of this drive to create employment locally and to contribute to the restoration and development of a derelict site in the centre of the village.

PiltownConnect

PiltownConnect is the working title of an ambitious new project which aims to seek the co-operation of all members of the parish.

This project will establish Piltown Parish and surrounding areas as a wider community in the global sense through making contact with current residents and people who once resided in the locality but, for various reasons, have moved to other parts of Ireland and all over the world.

PiltownConnect intends to celebrate the Parish of Piltown and the surrounding area's community spirit and to interact with all residents, both past and present. This will be done by contacting people and allowing them to contribute historic and current items of interest and, hopefully, to assist in worthwhile projects like the Old Creamery development as outlined above.

This will, in the long term, be an on-line project and will incorporate a blend of remembering the past, celebrating the present and welcoming the future. *PiltownConnect* will be multi-faceted and will hopefully be of benefit to everyone:

- Posting the up to date news and developments of Local groups
- People new to the area will be able to learn the history of the parish and get a sense of belonging.
- The Piltown diaspora will be able to keep up with 'news from home' from anywhere in the world.
- Descendants of former residents will be able to research their family's background.

The first stage of the project is to gather as much historical documentation as possible and therefore we will be hoping to contact as many existing and former residents of Piltown Parish and surrounding area. A new committee is being formed to manage the project. Anyone interested in getting involved in this committee should contact us (at number below).

Of course we appreciate that not everyone has the time to commit to such a project, but you can help in any number of ways. Perhaps you have old photos or newspaper clippings, memorabilia or anything of interest? Maybe you know someone who does? Perhaps you have contact details of former residents? Maybe you know of someone whose descendants are from Piltown or the surrounding area?

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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The intention is to launch the *PiltownConnect* web-page early 2014. A member of the *PiltownConnect* Committee will call to you early in the New Year. In the meantime, perhaps you might root out anything of interest and gather any contact details you have including phone numbers, postal and/or email addresses – of former residents. These photos and articles etc (with your permission) will form part of the website which will create a visual image of Piltown, its surrounds, its people and its history. All photos and articles will be copied and returned to you, the owner.

It is an ambitious project but, with your assistance, *PiltownConnect* can become 'home' to the global Parish of Piltown and surrounding community and inspire people to invest their resources thus helping to further develop the area and create much needed employment.

A Generous Donation



Mr James Coleman of Suirway Farm Machinery kindly stepped forward with a very generous contribution of €10,000 which will provide a welcome start to our fundraising activities. Over the coming months we will be inviting all the parishioners to become involved in this project by partaking in various fundraising events, information and details of which will be contained in the next newsletter. We need everyone in the Parish to get behind this project and to support it in every way that they can.

L-R Robert Dowley (PCE), Sean Grace (PCE), Eamon Meade (PCE),

Alfie Brophy (PCE), James Coleman (Sponsor – Suirway Farm Machinery)

*John O Shea (PCE), Billy Norris (PCE), Anne-Marie Power – Friend (PCE),
Eddie Blackmore (PCE).*

Business Directory

The Piltown Directory was launched in 2012 with the first print version issued in early 2013. This has been well received thus far – the on-line directory is consistently receiving over 6,000 visits each month - and there are plans to improve the directory in 2014, including a new print version and making the directory 'smart-phone-friendly'.

The deadline for joining/renewing membership for 2014 is fast approaching so please see www.piltowndirectory.ie for details.

Business Training and Courses

In 2014 it is planned to run courses in conjunction with Kilkenny County Enterprise Board. If you are interested in any of the following please contact Gerri at 087-2191808:

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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Facebook for Beginners, Social Networking Using Twitter, Business Blogging, Search Engine Optimization (SEO) – Increasing Traffic to Your Website.

Details of further courses will appear on our website in January 2014.

Piltown Harvest Gathering 2013

Since our involvement with the Town of Food project earlier this year we have been working closely with Kilkenny LEADER Partnership (KCLP) on a number of projects. SAVOUR Kilkenny, a food festival which is held in Kilkenny City annually, is in its 7th year. We were invited to be a part of this event with a view to expanding it out of the city to promote various towns and villages throughout the county

Due to the fact that this 'invitation' was received only five weeks prior to SAVOUR it was decided by the Food Network Group, comprising Local Food Producers and members of PCE, to host the event in Kilkieran Cottage Restaurant. On Sat Oct 26th a 7 course meal was organized in Kilkieran Cottage Restaurant and was completely booked out. The purpose of this meal was to celebrate Local Producers and the seven courses were prepared from all local produce. Our thanks to all the local producers who contributed. This was followed on Sun Oct 27th by a market displaying local food and crafts accompanied by various events such as a 'pig on the spit', pumpkin competition, cider making demonstration, how to use a weaving loom, and local musicians. It is hoping to expand on this event in 2014 and involve further areas of the community.



Marty Gannon
cooking Pig on Spit



ICA displaying various craftwork



Tom Larkin – woodcraft



James O Donoghue – Cider Making

Note

The following phone numbers were incorrect in our 2013 Business Directory.

**RICHIE WALSH
MINIMIX**

High Road, Piltown
087-6844692

richiewalsh59@gmail.com

DICK WALSH TRAVEL

Owning, Piltown
087-2641738 / 051-643394

RESTORE UR FLOOR
Jason Stewart, 25 The Meadows, Piltown

087-1248793
Jason@restore-ur-floor.com
www.restore-ur-floor.com

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

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