

COMMUNITY MEETING – NEWMARKET ON FERGUS

15TH January 2019

Strengths

- Location (proximity to Dromoland, Bunratty & Shannon Airport)
- Parking facilities
- Lots of organisations (GAA, Tidy Towns, soccer)
- Great people / goodwill
- Amenities (park)
- Parking facilities
- Young people
- Good broadband
- Excellent infrastructure (motorway, airport)
- Heritage sights (Mooghaun)
- Music school. Brass band
- Rahaline co-op (1st in the world)

Weaknesses

- No bus shelter
- Bad footpaths
- Vacant properties
- Poor lighting
- Roads in disrepair
- Poor aesthetics (no floral displays)
- Only one shop
- Litter
- No doctor or medical centre
- O'Regan park neglected
- Anti-social behaviour
- Lack of communication between groups & businesses
- Lack of communication

Opportunities

- Lough Gash (birdwatching, education, unique flora/fauna, turlough amenity)
- Walking/running/cycling facilities
- Committee with reps from every area
- 2020 directory of community groups
- Playground
- Latoon to Bunratty greenway
- Annual festival
- Tourism
- Funding
- Untapped expertise

- HSE dispensary

Threats

- Insurance
- People leaving and going elsewhere
- Continued closures
- Delay in getting committee together
- Lack of ambition
- Lack of funding
- Missing opportunities
- Lack of economic diversity
- Lack of housing diversity
- Closed units multiplying

PRIORITIES

- 1. Set up structure/committee**
- 2. Set up communication strategy**
- 3. Tackle lighting, footpaths, aesthetic appeal**
- 4. Develop vision statement for Newmarket on Fergus**
- 5. An annual festival**

TASKS COMPLETED

- **Committee sub-group formed to investigate options. Meeting Monday 20th January**
- **Communications sub-committee formed to devise communication strategy (press releases, phone tree, What App, parish newsletter, Gmail group, leafleting etc.)**
- **SWOT analysis**

Next meeting Tuesday 28th January 7pm @ OBAIR