

## Trustee Annual Report

### Introduction.

In August 1993 a small group got together to make an attempt to save the Raised Bog in Glenullin as a commercial peat company had started to extract peat from it. After successfully succeeding in defeating the contractor, machinery was removed from the bog in July 1995.

The group then took a strong environmental remit and assisted by two local councils made two way marked trails offering access to open hillside, riverbank and many historical sites.

We operate out of Glenullin Resource Centre opened in 2001 as a focus for economic and social development in the area.

Our group continues to work for the well-being of the **whole** community, building working relationships with local statutory and voluntary providers to bring resource to our community.

More recently the group took part in a project entitled 'Getting to know your home'.

The Glenullin and Agivey Conservation And Development Group are currently working on a few programme of events for the Autumn and Spring of 2018/2019.

The aim of this programme is to involve the local and wider community in a wide range of activities promoting Health and Well Being, Community Safety and Socio-Economic development.

### Organisation's Main Purpose

Decrease isolation within the rural area of Glenullin and the outlying areas which are considered part of the wider community.

### Organisation's Main Objectives

Organising social and recreational activities for the local and wider community.

Contribute to Healthy Living (physical and mental) through workshops and information events.

1. Decrease isolation within the rural area of Glenullin and the outlying areas which are considered part of the wider community. Which will:
  - Improving community capacity in the new council area
  - A Targeted approach to addressing deprivation and evidenced community need

- Increase levels of volunteering throughout the new council area
- Up skill the local farming community

2. Organising social and recreational activities for the local and wider community. Which will-

- Increased use of community owned facilities within the new Causeway Coast and Glens Council area
- Promotion of collaborative working across the new council area
- Increased value for money in relation to public expenditure
- Increased percentage of leveraged programme funding in relation to council financial support
- Act as a base for Shared Education through ongoing work between St Patrick's & St Joseph's and Garvagh PS

3. Contribute to Healthy Living (physical and mental) through workshops and information events. Which will-

- Increased value for money in relation to public expenditure
- A reduction in the instances of duplication/displacement in relation to service provision

#### Needs Outlined

The overall aim our organisation is to maintain the Resource Centre by providing a facility for all members of our local community to support activities and to enhance capacity building within the area.

Promoting rural regeneration for the benefit of all members of the community.

Provide facilities which enable us to promote interests of social welfare as well as a range of recreational activities including Hill Walking and Nature/Historical Trailing.

Providing training to enhance the skills base of our farming community is something which we have focused on over the last 12 months. This in turn should help improve productivity, safety and the skills of our farmers and the wider farming community in the area. Events such as Grassland Management and Soil Fertility information evenings have so far been well received.

Provide educational and recreational activities for the more vulnerable members of our community- elderly/disabled.

The need for this project was clearly identified during extensive research carried out prior to the new build which opened in early 2001.

We are currently in the process of re-evaluating need within the

community to ascertain the direction in which we need to move over the next few years.

Glenullin Resource Centre has been identified by St Patrick's and St Joseph's PS and Garvagh PS as an ideal location to host their Shared Education Projects. It is viewed as a 'neutral' location and whilst perhaps not as big as the local GAA Community Centre, both principals feel that it provides the perfect setting for the peace and reconciliation work going on through their shared projects.

Our Success and achievements are monitored by recording the number of groups who use our facilities and for what purpose.

Evaluation forms are a key auditing tool- they are distributed at the end of events in order to monitor numbers in attendance and the satisfaction of users.

Requests made for any future sessions/services are noted and addressed. Oral feedback is also an important measure of success and achievement. Although difficult to record it does provide encouragement for the committee as well as motivation for the organisation to develop future events and ideas.

### Conclusion

Although a small organisation, it is clear to be seen that the work undertaken by our group is having a positive effect on the whole community from the young people of Glenullin, right through to the elderly.

The Trustees commend the members for their hard work and dedication as volunteers and wish them every success in the year ahead.