



COUNTY MEATH
ASSOCIATION OF
**Chambers and
Business Councils**

Information Brochure 2016



County Meath Association of Chambers and Business Councils

Association Members:

There are two members from each Chamber.

Ashbourne: Aine Lee & Alan Battersby

Kells: John V Farrelly & Bill Sweeney

Navan: Frank Harrington & Paul McGlynn

Trim: James Murray & Noel French

South East Meath: Joe Giltinane & John Fitzgerald

Officers:

Chairperson: John V Farrelly

Vice Chairperson: Paul McGlynn

Secretary: Joe Giltinane

Joint Treasurer: Alan Battersby and Alan Byrne of Marsh Mackey

PRO: Bill Sweeney

Contact Details:

Phone +353 85 8256955

Email: info@meathchambers.ie

Website: www.meathchambers.ie

Office Address:

Meath Association of Chambers and Business Councils,
Chamber Buildings, Church Hill, Navan, Co. Meath

Mission Statement

By collaborating together we have a stronger voice to promote business, investment and employment in County Meath.

We will endeavour to make Meath a more attractive and friendly place to do business, and we will foster relations with Meath County Council and other relevant public, private and international organisations to give effect to this.

The Association will not in any way interfere with day to day running of the individual Chambers and Business Councils as they will retain their full autonomy in the areas they represent.

The Association will organise Networking Events and will encourage support for the individual Chambers and Business Councils who arrange similar events.

We will promote the many attractions of working and investing in County Meath: the prime location, pro-business attitude, top class infrastructure enabled for business needs, excellent schools and educational opportunities, attractive lifestyle, and the natural and historic surroundings.



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Ashbourne & District Chamber of Commerce

The Chamber in Ashbourne was established by dedicated business and community leaders back in 1981. It has represented business and community in the town and surrounding area since then. The Chamber has presided over a population growth from under 2,000 to over 14,000 presently. Our major selling points as a location to do business are 2nd to none, 10 mins from Dublin International Airport, 15mins from the Dublin Port Tunnel and 8mins from the M50 motorway.



Back Row from left to right:
Ambrose McLoughlin, Tony McEntee, David Rock, Brian Osborne - Chamber Vice President, Fiore Macari, Brian Kelly Chamber Treasurer, Gerry O'Brien, June Byrne, William Brennan, Hugh Maguire.

Front Row from left to right:
Ann Tighe, Sandra Jameson Chamber Administrator, Alan Tobin Chamber President, Aine Lee, Alan Battersby.

We have sports and recreational facilities that are the envy of many towns on the area including Ireland's premier international Baseball grounds.

Ashbourne has it all, great people, great retail, great industry, great infrastructure and most of all a large amount of prime land that is ready for your business to locate here right now. The Chamber of Commerce are involved in many community events including the largest St. Patrick's day festival in County Meath, Trad Ash (traditional Irish music festival), Ashbourne Youth Cafe's 6 and 10km Healthy Town Family Fun Run and the Ashbourne Horse Racing Festival which welcomes young up and coming talent from Ireland and Britain.

In Business we represent all sectors, we host a number of events throughout the year including seminars on digital marketing, retail strategies, marketing strategies, networking events including our twice monthly Ashbourne Business Network. We encourage and support local companies and start ups during Enterprise Week, the Boyne Valley Innovation Conference, various trade shows and craft fairs. We have a Start Up business hub that encourages people with new business ideas to engage with us. We also work with local schools and youth centres allowing students gain valuable experience during work placement at various times during the school year.

Ashbourne & District Chamber of Commerce has developed 7 influential Task Forces. Each works interdependently and with their own budget. The 7 task forces are Environment/Strategic Development, Retail, Industrial, Community, Tourism and Hospitality, Services and Events and Fundraising.

President: Alan Tobin
Year founded: 1981
Number of members: 84
Membership fee starting from: €150

Employers in the area include:
Tayto Park, Pillo Hotel, DBASS, SAICA, Primeline, Caffreys International, Ashbourne House Hotel, Ashbourne Court Hotel

Chamber Projects and Activities:
Networking Events, St. Patrick's Day Parade, Retail Committee, Workshops, Racing Festival, Events Committee, Tourism and Hospitality Committee Services committee, Community Development Group, Industrial Development, Strategic Planning Committee

Phone number: 085 8256955
Email address: ashbournechamber@gmail.com
Website: www.ashbournechamber.ie
Facebook page: ashbourne.chamber
Office Address: Ashbourne Chamber, 2A Ashbourne Court, Ashbourne, County Meath.

Kells Chamber of Commerce

Kells and District Chamber was established in 2001 to represent the business community in the Kells and north Meath area. The Chamber has gone from strength to strength in the intervening 15 years. The Chamber currently has more than 70 active members. Kells Chamber is affiliated to Chambers Ireland giving it an input into national policy on all business related matters.



Left to right:
Fintan Hogan, Jess Olohan, Bill Sweeney, Anne Ward, Geraldine Gaughran & John V Farrelly.

Over the years the Chamber has maintained a full time office to provide support to local businesses including export certificates of origin. The Chamber also established a Retail Voucher Scheme which has seen more than €250,000 retained in the local economy.

The Chamber has followed a policy of establishing committees to address issues of benefit to the local economy and community. The groups established to date include Kells Tourism Forum, Local Heroes, Kells Pink Ribbon, Patricks Day Parade, Christmas Lights Walk and Hay Festival Kells. With the support of the Chamber these organisations have become established and make a very positive contribution to our area. In 2015 the Chamber relocated to the Kells Enterprise and Technology Centre to focus on job creation in particular working with Meath County Council and the Enterprise Company to develop a Tech Hub in the area.

Employers in the area include: Arc Royal, Fitzgerald's of Kells, Glanbia, Headfort Arms Hotel, Hogan's Farm, O'Brien's Supervalu, Smurfit Kappa, Wellman International.

President: Bill Sweeney
Year founded: 2004
Number of members: 73
Membership fee starting from: €185

Phone number: 046 9240055
Email address: info@kellschamber.ie
Website: www.kellschamber.ie
Office Address: Kells & District Chamber, Kells Enterprise Centre, Kells Business Park, Kells, County Meath

Navan

Navan benefits from a wide retail offer from small indigenous family businesses to larger multinationals. It has a rich tradition of furniture manufacturing and sales which Navan Chamber of Commerce has been involved in from the formation of the Navan Exhibition Centre (now Navan Enterprise Centre) through to its current heart in Beechmount Home Park.



Left to right:
Paul McGlynn, Edward Byrne, Donna Farrell, Alan Byrne, Frank Harrington

Navan, as the administration capital of Meath, has a range of service providers from accountants to solicitors and many other professionals many of which are members of the Chamber today.

Finally, Navan retains its heritage as a market town and is the centre of the significant agricultural community within its hinterland. Larger employers in the area include Boliden Tara Mines, Cusack Hotel Group, Lir Chocolates, Generali, HSE and Meath County Council.

Recent projects/events:

- Awarded Purple Flag in 2015
- Navan Wi Fi Project
- Navan Enterprise Town
- Submissions to government Departments on various matters

President: Alan Byrne

Year founded: 1949

Number of members: 60

Membership fee starting from: €199

Contact details:

Alan Byrne, Marsh Mackey Accountants, 046-9023835, alan@marshmackey.com

Website: <http://navanchamber.ie/>

Office Address:

Navan Chamber of Commerce, Chamber Buildings, Church Hill, Navan, Co. Meath Eircode: C15 YKR4



South East Meath

In the South East Meath Economic Corridor (SEMEC) we are open for business, and in a time when harnessing efficiencies and innovation in new and existing enterprises is of paramount importance, SEMEC can provide the solution. South East Meath is ideally located to take advantage of excellent transport infrastructure, including: three rail lines which provide rail access not only to Dublin City (and beyond) but direct to Belfast City, four motorways (M1-M4), Dublin Airport (<15 minutes) and the sea ports of Dublin and Drogheda.

In SEMEC we not only have a highly educated indigenous work force, but encouraging key personnel to relocate to the area has not proven difficult for business thanks to the area's scenic and idyllic location (much of it along the coast) as well as the quality and variety of the housing stock at very reasonable prices (in particular by comparison with Dublin city and suburbs).

Access to key enabling infrastructure, such as next generation fibre optic broadband, high voltage electricity networks, gas, water, etc. is all possible within the SEMEC area, and we are ready to work with you to find the specific location to meet your energy and service needs. The area has a strong and well established business community, who work together to develop synergies and to ensure that promotion and development of the area remains a priority not only locally, but at a national level (within the IDA and other relevant state bodies and agencies).

South East Meath has all this...

- World class technology competence
- Many international companies are currently located within and adjacent to South East Meath
- An excellent location in the growing market area of Ireland
- Educated, committed labour force
- An open, creative and dynamic operating culture
- A safe and pleasant living environment

Commercial Real Estate available in South East Meath

- Office/commercial buildings c. 16,250 sq.m
- Warehousing/Industrial Buildings c. 63,000 sq.m
- Zoned Industrial/Research/Business Park Lands c. 485 ha.
- Retail Space c.12,000 sq.m

The Chamber was set up in 2011, at a time of deep recession and hardship in the area, with the aim of promoting the South East Meath area to encourage additional economic activity and inward investment in the region, which will have a consequential benefit to the whole community. We work to market the area to the national and international business community and promote its prime business location, beautiful environment, many amenities and close proximity to Dublin City Centre and Dublin Airport. We have developed links with education providers, embassies, state agencies, property agencies, professional organisations, local government, etc. all with the aim of attracting inward investment and jobs to the area.

The current and founding Board and Committee members of the South East Meath Chamber of Commerce are: Aine Lee, Brian Fitzgerald, Deirdre Reilly, Denis Coakley, Joe Giltinane, Joe McPeake, John Fitzgerald, Kathleen Williams, Matthew Mohan, Padraic Rowley, Padraig Sherry, Paul Doran, Shay Scanlon, Sheila Cooney, Stephen Larrissy, Thomas Freeman, Damien O'Reilly and Val Ledwith.

Employers in the area include: Facebook, Bracetown Office Park, Dunboyne Business Park, Carton House, Kepak, Dunboyne Castle Hotel, CityNorth Hotel and Business Park, Tayto Park.

Chamber Projects and Activities: Networking Events, Annual International Golf Classic and Barbeque at Killeen Castle, Business Breakfasts

President: Brian Fitzgerald

Year founded: 2011

Number of members: 70

Membership fee starting from: €50

Contact details:

Office phone number + 353 1 8255855

Email: info@southeastmeath.ie

Website: www.southeastmeath.ie

Office Address: 52 Dunboyne Business Park, Dunboyne, Co. Meath.

Trim has an excellent infrastructure and transport links with easy access to Dublin and Belfast. Trim offers an excellent opportunity to establish a business adjacent to Ireland's capital conurbation. Trim is very well positioned geographically to attract investment from many sources including tourism, education, technology and industry. Trim is a main service centre, providing for the town's population and a large hinterland.

Agriculture is important and also food production including artisan foods, albeit at a small level, is increasing. The EU Veterinary Centre is located at nearby Grange. The accommodation, catering and hotel sectors continue to be significant employers and are well placed to support growth in tourism or other sectors. A modern industrial zone near the town offers adequate provision for the location of new factories.

Trim and its surrounding area has an increasing population with a wide range of skills and experience. We have a flexible educated and skilled workforce. Trim has a young, well educated and highly motivated workforce. The expanding population of Trim ensures the availability of a wide range of qualifications, skills and experience. The close proximity of Meath to Dublin, also allows a business locating in Meath to access the city's labour pool.

Trim is close to eight of Ireland's leading third level universities and technical institutes. The National University of Ireland, Maynooth, is less than 30 minutes away and Blanchardstown Institute of Technology less than 40 minutes. Excellent language skills are available locally. English is the native language but within an hour's journey it is possible to find speakers of more than 35 different languages from Danish to Ukrainian.

Trim boasts an excellent lifestyle option. Trim has a range of excellent services including schools, health and community organisations, library, local authority services and competitively priced housing. Enjoy a better lifestyle with lower housing and living costs than in a city. Trim has a great community spirit, winning the award of Tidiest Town in Ireland three times, the Entente Florale in 2015. In 2012 Trim was recognised as the top litter free town in the county by the Irish Business against Litter organisation. There are plenty of opportunities for leisure with all age groups catered for – from the very young to the very old. Trim boasts four golf clubs, swimming pool, an air field as well as many other sports.

Trim is a wonderful place to live and provides a great lifestyle option for families and businesses wishing to re-locate.

Trim has an unrivalled tourism product. Bringing a business event to Trim has never been easier. With three superb hotels and more than 200 bedrooms Trim provides an ideal venue for your conference. Trim castle, the largest Anglo-Norman Castle in Ireland, is the centre piece of the tourism offering.

Trim was recognised by Fáilte Éireann as one of the top ten tourism towns in Ireland. Trim and the Boyne valley were listed in the top ten places to visit in the world in the BBC History magazine. Trim was the only place in Ireland listed in the top ten places in the world that will change your child's life by CNN and National Geographic.

President: Patrick Curran
Year founded: 1960
Number of members: 30
Membership fee starting from: €50

Employers in the area include:
Barchester Healthcare, Knightsbridge Village, Knightsbrook Hotel,
Trim Castle Hotel, Trimfold, Bru Brewery

Contact details: Noel French 086 8053293
Office Address: c/o Noel French, 10 Kells Road, Trim, County Meath



Noel French with Enterprise Minister Richard Bruton

Companies already located in County Meath include:







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