

## Update

Feb '08: Organised advance publicity to raise public awareness for a forthcoming public meeting to be held at Grand Hotel.

March '08: held a very successful Public Meeting with around 200 in attendance. We had various presentations with regard to the flora, fauna and history of the region.

This was followed up by a very successful petition campaign regarding the Murrough area extending to Wicklow Head. More than two and a half thousand people responded with signatures.

March '08: Launch of our website [www.saveourshores.eu](http://www.saveourshores.eu) This website has become very popular and people still continue to sign on in support of our campaign.

April '08: Visit from Minister Gormley who was kept up to date with our campaign to secure a Special Amenity Area Order for the Murrough area. We are still pursuing this line of action.

April '08: Met with five of our local County Councillors and proposed amendments to the Wicklow Environs Local Area Plan. These amendments sought a Special Amenity Area Order for the Murrough area extending to Wicklow Head and we also sought the reinstatement of all of the traditional walkways. We were not supported by our local Councillors in this action.

May'08: Launched a drive to enlist the support of members of the Oireachtas, members of the County and Urban councils, various clubs and community organisations. All of those supporters can be seen on our website. Wicklow County Council appointed a director to co-ordinate applications for €115 million Failte Ireland grant which will be available over the next five years.

May '08: Completed a questionnaire and made a submission to the Outdoor Rural Strategy planning committee. Subsequently attended meeting of Wicklow Rural Partnership in Laragh where we presented our case with regard to the Murrough.

Sept '08: submitted a completed questionnaire to the National Sports Council - Waymarked Ways division. This can be viewed on our website

Oct. '08: Inspection of entire area by John Monaghan, Trails Inspector on behalf of the Irish Sports Council.

Nov. '08: Received a complete report from John Monaghan on these trails together with recommendations for signage and interpretive panels. This report is available on our website and has been submitted to the Irish Sports Council. We are now waiting to hear back from them.

Dec. '08: made submissions to the Senior Executive Officer, Planning Section, Wicklow County Council with regard to current County Development Plan.

Feb. '09: met with Deirdre Burns Heritage Officer, and will be submitting an application next week through her dept. for a grant to replace the Monkey Pole.

If you require further information or would like to become more involved with Friends of the Murrough, please leave your contact details on our website, [www.saveourshores.eu](http://www.saveourshores.eu) or contact Pat Kavanagh, Secretary, on 086 277