JANUARY 2022

GALWAY COUNTY PPN NEWSLETTER

Galway County Public Participation Network
Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí Chontae na Gaillimhe

Welcome PPN members to our first Newsletter of 2022! We wish you all a very Happy New Year! The PPN has some events coming up in January that you won 't want to miss! !

If you would like to include your info or event in the next Newsletter please contact: mmullen@galwaycoco.ie or ccrowe@galwaycoco.ie

Tel: 091 509130 | Mobile: 087 360 3379 |
Email: mmullen@galwaycoco.ie
| www.galwaycountyppn.ie |

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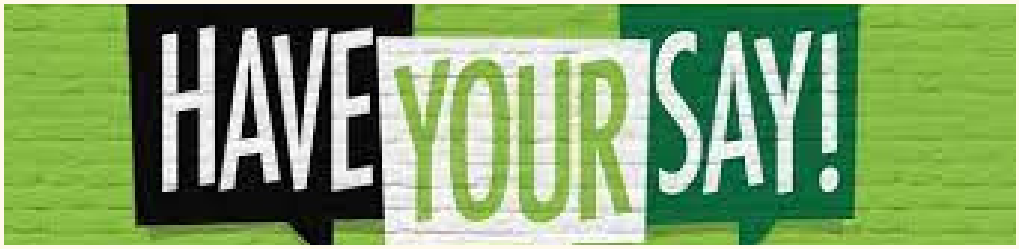
PPN NEWS

Mary, Carmel and Rita would like to wish all our PPN members a very Happy and Healthy New Year!
Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh!!

PPN National Report 2020

The National PPN 2020 Report is now available [See here]
The English/ Irish versions are accessible in the same link. The growing work of PPNs nationally and their integral support to the voice of community at a local and national level is ever growing.



LAWPRO have launched a Virtual Consultation Room to help facilitate public engagement and participation in the public consultation process on the draft River Basin Management Plan (dRBMP), which is open for a six-month public consultation up to 31 March 2022.
The Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) has distilled information in the draft River Basin Management Plan and presented it in this innovative online platform. Because of the Covid-19 pandemic and public health advice, in-person public meetings cannot take place.

[See here]

The LAWPRO draft RBMP Virtual Consultation Room
You can access background information on water quality, both nationally and in your county, and find out what's in the plan. The room includes video, presentations, images, and text.

An Cúinne Gaeilge

Seo mír nua a bheidh againn sa Nuachtlitir PPN uaidh seo amach. Beidh muid ag obair leis na hoifigí pleanála teanga i gConamara chun Bluirín Gaeilge a chur amach go míosúil.
Beidh comórtais agus scéalta ón nGaeltacht againn daoibh gach mí!
Is iad Conamara Láir a chuirfeas tús leis an sraith.
Ná déanaigí dearmad cur isteach ar an chéad comórtais - sonraí thíos!

Bliain nua mhaith daoibh ar fad agus fáilte romhaibh chuig Blúirín Gaeltachta

Tá áthas ar Oifigigh/Oifigigh Cúnta Pleanála Teanga na Gaillimhe tús a chuir leis an gCúinne Gaeilge i nuachtlitir PPN. Tabharfaidh sé seo deis dúinn nasc a chruthú le Pobal Na Gaeilge agus iad siúd ina bhfuil suim acu cuir lena gcúpla focal.Beidh muid ag tuairisciú aon mór scéalta/tograí a bheidh ar bun againn agus na limistéar éagsúla chomh maith le roinnt comórtais a eagrú.

Tá próiseas pleanála teanga leagtha amach faoi scáth Acht na Gaeltachta 2012 le tacú le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge mar theanga pobail agus teaghlaigh sa nGaeltacht. Tá 26 Limistéir Pleanála Teanga aitheanta ar fud na Gaeltachta agus anseo i nGaillimh tá 6 LPT, siad sin, Conamara Láir, Gaeilge Mhaigh Cuilinn, Plean Teanga Cheantar na nOileán, Plean Teanga Dhúiche Sheoigeach/Tuar Mhic Éadaigh, Plean Teanga Chois Fharraige, agus Pobal Rua. Is ar an Roinn Cultúir, Oidhreachta agus Gaeltachta i gcomhar le hÚdarás na Gaeltachta atá an fhreagracht an próiseas pleanála teanga a fheidhmiú sa nGaeltacht. Ina theannta sin, tá Gaillimh agus An Clochán aitheanta le bheith mar Bhaile Seirbhís Gaeltachta.

Cludaíonn muidne i gConamara Láir achar bóthair 35Km ó Leitir Mucú, aníos Camus siar trí Ros Muc, Cill Chiaráin, Carna agus ó thuaidh go dtí an Caiseal, Sraith Salach agus siar go hInis Ní agus Iorras Beag Thiar in abhantrach Chloch na Rón.

Cé go bhfuil gach LPT difriúil, is é an sprioc céanna atá againn ar fad agus is é sin riachtanais an phobal a aithint chun inmharthanacht an phobal a chinntiú agus go mbeidh tionchar ar fhíorú na mianaidhme seo sna blianta amach romhainn. Oibríonn muid le chéile ar tograí comónta ag cruthú nasc níos láidre idir Gaeltachtaí agus ag cuir chun cinn ár bhféiniúlacht agus mórtas áite.

Gach mí anseo i gConamara Láir, bíonn muid ag reáchtáil comórtas grianghrafadóireachta, chun deis a thabhairt don phobal pictiúr don tírdhreach an limistéir, atá chomh deas agus chomh héagsúil agus atá in aon áit eile sa tír nó ar domhan, farraigí, sléibhte, locha agus gleannta suite faoi chúlbhrat mhaorga na mBeanna Beola, a chuir ar aghaidh chugainn. Má tá tú ar cuairt, ná déan dearmad do ghrianghraf a thógáil agus a sheoladh ar aghaidh chugainn chun deis a bheith agat ar duais beag a bhuachaint.

... COMÓRTAS ...

Freisin, an mhí seo tá muid ag bronnadh húdaí Chonamara Láir ortsa a chríochnaíonn an seanfhocal seo dhúinn: **“Is glas iad na cnoic ……”**.
Seol bhur bhfreagra chuig ocpt@conamaralair.ie
Coinnígí súil amach, an chéad mhí eile beidh blúirín againn ón bPobal Rua.

Lean muid ar ár gcuntais meáin shóisialta: Conamara Láir | Facebook
@conamaralair / Instagram @ConamaraLair / Twitter

Oifigeach Pleanála Teanga: Anne Uí Dhonnacha (opt@conamaralair.ie)
Oifigeach Cúnta Pleanála Teanga: Úna Bhreathnach (ocpt@conamaralair.ie)
Teach an Údaráis, Carna, Co. na Gaillimhe, H91 X07X.
www.conamaralair.ie

NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENT(S)

An Roinn Forbartha Tuaithe agus Pobail
Department of Rural and Community Development

- Our Rural Future: Minister Humphreys announces €21.5 million for 27 landmark regeneration projects nationwide 06/01/2022. Read Press Release **HERE**
- Minister Humphreys encourages employers to use ConnectedHubs.ie when developing their 'back-to-office' plans. 25/01/2022. Read Press Release **HERE**.

An Roinn Leanaí, Comhionannais, Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óig
Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth

- New National Housing Strategy for Disabled People 2022 – 2027 launched. 14/01/2022 Read Press Release **HERE**
- Minister O'Gorman publishes Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures Annual Report 2020. 20/01/2022. Read Press Release **HERE**.

An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

- Minister Martin launches Online Consultation on pilot Basic Income for the Arts 06/01/2022 . Read Press Release **HERE**
- Minister Martin announces the Music and Entertainment Business Assistance Scheme 2022 (MEBAS 2022). 20/1/2022 Read Press Release **HERE**
- Publication of Online Safety and Media Regulation Bill. 12/01/2022. Read Press Release **HERE**.

An Roinn Tithíochta, Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreachta
Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

- Minister O'Brien launches expanded Local Authority Home Loan scheme. 04/01/2022 Read Press Release **HERE**
- Community Peatlands initiatives to benefit from €500k scheme. 07/01/2022 Read Press Release **HERE**

FUNDING / SCHEMES

Community Monuments Fund 2022

Galway County Council in conjunction with the National Monuments Service, Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage are inviting applications for the Community Monuments Fund 2022. The grant scheme offers funding for the conservation, maintenance, protection and presentation of archaeological monuments. Applications from landowners, custodians and community groups within the County of Galway must be completed and forwarded in Word Format to mmannion@galwaycoco.ie, Subject Line CMF2022 (+Project Name) by 12pm Tuesday 8th February 2022. More info available **HERE**.

Community Water Development Fund 2022

This Fund helps local communities deliver projects and initiatives that enhance the local water environment, delivering multiple benefits for biodiversity and climate action. The Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) administers the Fund on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. It is open to all community and voluntary groups to apply. See **HERE** for more information. Closing date: 8 FEB 2022.

Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2022

The Heritage Council has announced the opening of their Community Grant Scheme 2022 and have allocated in the region of €1.5 million to the scheme. The aim of this scheme is to support capital projects that improve access and inclusion to heritage sites; that apply good heritage practice to the management of places, collections, or objects (including buildings). The scheme also supports the purchase of essential equipment. Closing date for receipt of online applications is 5pm Wednesday 16 Feb 2022. For more information please see **HERE**.

Community Support Schemes 2022

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Applications are invited from Community and Voluntary "not for profit" Groups for funding towards activities and events which benefit local communities throughout the county, and support sustainable economic, community and cultural development. The Application Form for each Support Scheme may be downloaded below:

- **Support Scheme for Economic Development:** to support Community-Based Tourism - Festivals and Participative Events, and Economic Development Initiatives.
- **Support Scheme for Community Development:** to support Community Facilities, Community Tidy Towns Initiatives and Amenity Projects, and Social Inclusion Activities.
- **Support Scheme for Cultural Development:** to support Arts Act Grants, Heritage Grants, and Activities to promote the Irish Language.

Applicants may submit a maximum of 1 application per Support Scheme
Closing date: 4 FEB 2022. More information available **HERE**.

Community Activities Fund 2022

A Fund to provide small grants for community groups impacted by the pandemic.

Galway County Council, through the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC), invites applications for funding from community groups and community facilities within the Galway County administrative area, under the Community Activities Fund.

This funding is about giving a helping hand to these smaller groups and facilities at a grassroots level by supporting them to continue their important work on the ground. The Fund will support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas, with:

- A. Non-Pay Operating/Running Costs such as utility bills, insurance, etc., and/or
- B. Grant towards projects or equipment enhancing facilities

Closing date: 28 JAN 2022. Please see **HERE** for more information and application details.

Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

LCDC
Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil na Gaillimhe
Galway County Local Community Development Committee

2022 Wind Farm Community Funds (excluding Grousemount Wind Farm)

Open for applications **until March 13, 2022.** For a full List of Wind Farm Community Funds included in this call **See Here**

The fund is available to community and voluntary groups, non-profit groups or organisations with a charitable status

Applications may made online See Here

If you have any questions at all, please do not hesitate to contact SECAD, Elaine Barrett ebarrett@secad.ie or Eilish Walsh ewalsh@secad.ie, Tel: 021 – 461 3432 email: info@secad.ie

Windfarm Community Funds

IRISHYOUTH FOUNDATION

Vhi Health & Wellbeing Fund

Vhi HEALTHCARE When you need us, we're there

The Vhi Health & Wellbeing fund is open again this year. It launched yesterday and will focus on supporting projects that seek to strengthen resilience in young people and help them manage anxiety, with the emphasis on early intervention and prevention.

The fund offers grants up to €10,000. For more information: See Here

Please note that this fund is only open to projects in counties where Vhi operate: Cork,Dublin, Limerick, Galway, Kilkenny & Donegal.

Closing date , Wednesday, 16 February 2022

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the arts council an chomhairle ealaíon

Markievicz Award 2022 applications now open

Minister Martin recently announced the opening of the Decade of Centenaries Markievicz Award Bursary scheme 2022 for artists and will be via the Arts Council's website. 10 bursaries will be awarded to either individual artists or to collaborative artists up to the value of €25,000 each. Closing date for receipt of applications is 5.30pm Thursday 10th February 2022. Further details/bursary criteria available HERE.

TRAINING/ COURSES

ALONE Ireland

Discover all the amazing ways the internet can enhance your life with Hi Digital, a free online course for anyone who wants to learn essential online skills. Get started today at www.hidigital.ie . Workshops will begin in January 2022. There may be some spaces available .Email ALONE at digitalskills@alone.ie . If you are an older person wishing to avail of in-person training in 2022, please contact Active Retirement on 1800 203030 or email hidigital@activeirl.ie #YouAreNotAlone

Carmichael.

Carmichael Centre -How to Write an Effective Annual Report

*The Carmichael Centre is delivering **Free** online workshops for anyone involved in the preparation of annual reports for a non-profit. Woworkshops are aimed at smaller charities (annual income of less than €250,000) and, particularly, at charities with income of less than €50,000. More information and sign up **See Here** 15th February - 17th May:*

(This programme is kindly sponsored by the Community Foundation for Ireland and Pobal).

The Wheel- Scope- SCOPE - Fundraising Basics

*To ensure the sustainability of your nonprofit organisation, you must have a clear and realistic fundraising plan. Many smaller organisations lack an overall fundraising plan,. This short module brought to you by (SCOPE), will take participants through the various sources of funding and how to go about putting together an effective fundraising plan. **Free** online course open to all community and voluntary organisations, charities and social enterprises. Available online now. **See here***

Brought to you by:

SCOPE

Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

EVENTS

Idea Generation

Social Enterprise Regeneration Programme (SERP)

OPEN TO NEW AND EXISTING SOCIAL ENTERPRISES AND SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURS!!

WORKSOP CONTENT INCLUDES: -

- Innovation and creativity
- Identifying viable and sustainable ideas
- The 'Elevator Pitch'
- Evidence of need, including size of target market, trends, changing markets, etc.
- Carrying out a needs assessment
- Prioritising ideas and actions
- Deciding on an appropriate legal structure
- Registering trademarks, designs and copyright
- Notifying relevant agencies and networks on a local and regional basis
- Registering your social enteprise with other Statutory and Regulatory Bodies

With Meehan Tully and Associates Ltd

Workshop Dates
Thursday 3rd Feb 10am to 1pm
Thursday 10th Feb 10am to 1 pm

For more information or to register your interest please contact Damien at dquinn@grd.ie or on 0871129918

This project is funded under the Covid-19 Social Enterprise Regeneration Programme which was approved by the Department of Rural and Community Development through the Dormant Accounts Fund and the programme is managed by the Irish Local Development Network (ILDN)

Farming for Nature Ambassador Awards nominations now open

Do you know of a farmer who is producing great food while maintaining a flourishing farm environment? You can now submit nominations for the 2022 National Farming for Nature Ambassador Awards. Closing date for nominations is 14th February 2022. Further details/nominations **HERE**.

World Wetlands Day 2022

World Wetlands Day is on Wed 2nd Feb 2022. Why not organise an event (subject to COVID) or a project about wetlands in your area? Register your project with the hundreds of others taking place around the world. "A call to take action" is the focus of this years' campaign - an appeal to invest financial, human and political capital to save the world's wetlands from disappearing and to restore those we have damaged. Projects can take place on 2nd Feb, or the weekend before/after. Details HERE.

An Chomhairle Oidhreachta
The Heritage Council

Local Authority
Heritage Officer Programme

Save the Dates!

HERITAGE & BIODIVERSITY ACTIONS FOR CLIMATE

WEBINAR SERIES FROM THE LOCAL AUTHORITY HERITAGE OFFICER NETWORK

Welcome to the Heritage Officer webinar series 2022, where you will hear about positive actions for climate from the heritage sector. Join us for four one-hour webinars every Thursday, starting on 27th January at 9.30am. Topics will include nature-based solutions, adaptation of heritage structures, risk assessment and will focus on methods that we hope will ignite action for climate right across the country.

WEBINAR 1
Thursday 27th January
9.30am – 10.30am
EMBEDDING CLIMATE IN HERITAGE

WEBINAR 2
Thursday 3rd February
9.30am – 10.30am
WETLANDS, COMMUNITY AND CLIMATE

WEBINAR 3
Thursday 10th February
9.30am – 10.30am
NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR CLIMATE

WEBINAR 4
Thursday 17th February
9.30am – 10.30am
PEOPLE, HERITAGE AND CLIMATE

Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Páirceanna Náisiúnta
National Parks

Green Flag Award
Community

An Taisce
The National Trust for Ireland

Green Heritage Site

Green Flag Award

Congratulations to :

The 2021 Green Flag Award Winners

Galway County Council - The Palace Grounds

&

The 2021 Green Flag Community Award Winners:

Ballyglunin Railway Restoration Project

Headford Community Garden

Find the world's most loved parks and green spaces by voting for yours in the Green Flag Award International People's Choice Awards.

Voting closes Midnight Monday 31 Janaury See here

To Vote for The Palace Grounds Tuam See here

Gaillimh Abú

Launch of the 2022 Green Flag Award Season

New applicants, and those Green Flag Award Sites renewing their Green Flags in 2022 should complete the Green Flag Award PO Application Form.

For more information - See here

To download application forms- See Here

Those sites wishing to apply for Green Flag Award status for the first time should contact me by email to arrange the opening of an account for their park or garden application:

rmoss@eeu.antaisce.org

Closing Date End of March 2022.

THE NATIONAL BROADBAND PLAN

Photo taken in the newly developed co working space in Glenamaddy Enterprise and Training Hub BCP. Left to right in photo back row: Noel Madden, Broadband Officer Galway County Council, Marty Ward, Glenamaddy Enterprise and Training Hub, Derek Pender, Acting Director of Services, Galway County Council, Martina Swift Glenamaddy Enterprise and Training Hub, Jim Cullen, Interim Chief Executive Galway County Council, front: Peter Keaveney, Cathaoirleach Galway County Council.

Launch of Galway County's Broadband Connection Point network

Galway County Council and the Government of Ireland are pleased to announce the launch of Galway County's Broadband Connection Point network. At present 12 BCPs under the Connected Communities Initiative are live in the county with a further 10 to follow. Connected Communities is an initiative of the Government of Ireland, in partnership with Vodafone and NBI to provide high-speed internet access at publicly accessible sites for remote work, study, community/digital skills training, filling of forms and applications and a host of other digitally enabled services and amenities. The initiative will unlock the potential of communities across the country through best-in-class WiFi connectivity, transforming how people all over Ireland live, work, learn and play. Connected Communities will be the vanguard of the rural digital revolution, showcasing rural communities as centres of creativity and innovation.

T**he National Broadband Plan is the largest infrastructural project in rural Ireland since rural electrification, spanning 96% of Ireland's land mass**. National Broadband Ireland (NBI) is the company awarded with the contract to build, maintain and operate the state intervention network for the next 25 years. The Broadband Connection Point initiative is a key part of the NBP and provides communities in the designated intervention area with connectivity, in advance of homes and businesses receiving future-proofed fibre broadband directly to their door.

Each Connected Community will receive Vodafone WiFi access. This will enable people living in the area to go to the selected location and access WiFi for daily use including remote working, e-learning and general access. Funding to equip a number of sites was secured from the Department of Rural and Community Development. Five BCPs received accelerated Town and Village funding in 2020 and eight BCPs received funding under the Connected Hubs Fund in 2021.

The Broadband Connection Points currently live in County Galway are Comhar Chuigéal Teoranta Leitir Mealláin, Comhar Caomhán Teo, Leabharlann Inis Mór, Muintearas Teo, Inisbofin Community Centre, Glenamaddy Enterprise and Training Hub, Cortoon Community and Childcare Centre, Tuam Golf Club, Sylane Community Facility, Irish Workhouse Centre Portumna, Leitrim Ballydugan Community Centre, and Clonberne Community Enterprise Centre. Further broadband connection points will be launched in Halla Pobail Thír an Fhia, Comharchumann Mhic Dara, Ionad Pobail Inis Meáin, Clonfert WiFi Hub, Blue I Hub Milltown, Raheen Community Centre, Lackagh Museum and Heritage Centre, Ballinakill Community Hall, Clarinbridge Care Centre and Ballyglunin Station over the coming months.

Galway County Council's Broadband Office wishes to thank all the local community groups taking part in the Broadband Connection Point scheme and hopes to see the BCPs go from strength to strength in the future with the new services they will be able to offer to their communities in the areas of remote working, digital skills, e-health and arts and culture.

For further information on this initiative please go to myconnectedcommunity.ie or contact broadbandofficer@galwaycoco.ie .

VENTURE OUT

This experiential Outdoor Based personal development programme is for young adults 18yrs + and has been funded through the Western Region Drug and Alcohol Task Force

Venture Out are a not for profit social enterprise prescribing and delivering a broad range of nature based outdoor developmental programmes

1800 111 888

yourmentalhealth.ie
Information Line
1800 111 888

NATURE FOR HEALTH

hi Healthy people / Healthy Galway

A FREE 10 Week Walking Programme focusing on mindfulness, art and nature

Supported by

Location: Portumna Forest Park
When: Every Friday 11/02/22 - 15/04/22
Time: 10am-12pm
Duration: 10 Weeks

Participants must be 18 years of age and places are limited to 20 people

These walks are more focused on mindfulness than physical exercise and are used to help people to learn how to switch off and to be mindful of what is surrounding them in nature

To register or for more information contact:
Andrew McBride 087 77 77 790 / amcbride@galwaycoco.ie

Subject to Covid 19 Guidelines

The Community Mental Health Fund, supported by the Department of Health

COILLTE · Rialtas na hÉireann Government of Ireland · LCDC · pobal government supporting communities · SPÓRT ÉIREANN SPORT IRELAND

Your classroom awaits you!

Applications currently open for the Organic Centre's level 5 Full Time, fully funded course in Organic Horticulture.

An incredible opportunity to study at the Organic Centre in Leitrim!

Course in partnership with Mayo Sligo, Leitrim Education and Training Board
Apply through the MSLETB website.

For further information contact lti@theorganiccentre.ie or ring 071 9854338.

Applications close: End Of January 2022.

www.theorganiccentre.ie

CENTRE FOR THE STUDY OF HISTORIC IRISH HOUSES AND ESTATES,
HISTORY DEPARTMENT, MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY

BURNING THE BIG HOUSE

Free online lecture series
24 March – 19 May 2022

HISTORIC IRISH HOUSES & ESTATES · Maynooth University National University of Ireland Maynooth · An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir, Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

SUPPORTS

An Roinn Sláinte
Department of Health

Covid-19 Information

COVID-19 Vaccine Centres

Videos with information about how the vaccination centres will operate are available here.

Weekly Vaccine Information

The vaccine rollout is underway and daily vaccination data is now available to all on the COVID-19 Data Hub and on the COVID-19 Tracker App. The data is from 48 hours previously to allow for validation.

COVID-19 Pharmacy Vaccination for 18-34 year olds

This guidance is available here.

For all the latest updates see:

Public health measures in place right now

Keep Well Campaign