

## Galway County PPN Secretariat Meeting

Wednesday 29 June 2022 @ 7pm

*Online via Microsoft Teams*

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**Attendees:** Charlotte May (RW), Mary Mullen (SW), Dan Dowling, Vincent Lyons, Aodán Mac Donnacha, Martin Ward, Jarlath P. Canney.

**Apologies:** Carmel McGrath, Tom Madden, Patrick McHugh, Martina Finn, Nicola Johnston, Mary McGann (GCC)

### AGENDA

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1. WELCOMES
  2. STAFFING UPDATE
  3. HALF YEAR REVIEW OF WORKPLAN
  4. STRUCTURAL REVIEW OF PPNs-HIGHLIGHTS
  5. PPN BUDGET UPDATE
  6. PLENARY AND OTHER EVENTS
  7. AOB
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#### 1. Welcomes

Vincent welcomed everyone to the meeting and welcomed Charlotte back.

Apologies from Carmel and Patrick noted. Quorum was established. Minutes of previous meeting (18<sup>th</sup> May 2022) proposed by Dan Dowling, seconded by Martin Ward.

Vincent noted the work done on the PPN Intro booklet. These will be sent out to new members over the Summer and we will update new policies.

Mary Mullen said that a booklet will be sent out to all the PPN Secretariat members.

## **2. Staffing Update**

VL acknowledges the great work that Rita Cunnane did for all the PPN and also the support that Carmel Crowe offered.

## **3. Half Year Review of Workplan**

Actions under the Workplan discussed. Mary shared PPN Workplan 2022 in which actions of the PPN were listed.

New LCDC rep for ENV pillar sought. Nominations open for a Rep. A discussion of approaching a possible rep to ask him if he would be interested was had.

Reps Forum to be held in July. Vincent said availability might be an issue. Charlotte to check availability with Caroline Egan and work around this.

Martin Ward said we need to seek contact with minority groups. Traveller Pride coming up! It would be nice if the PPN could produce a leaflet to engage travellers/ Roma groups.

Charlotte will link in with Martin to explore ideas of how to get more info about PPN to Traveller groups.

Dan discussed an issue that came up at a meeting about Ukrainian Refugees, they can't register for a CE scheme.

Mary discussed training held to date.

Community Well-being Statement was discussed- agreement to hold off until Autumn. Vincent stated that the DRCD are re-thinking the whole direction of these Statements so we will wait for further direction. We are willing to do the work we just need direction.

Dan stated that there was an article on the radio (Drive time) about Covid and what happened to Communities we should try and get it through 'Catch-up'.

PPN still trying to get to present to the full Plenary. Charlotte trying to get PPN on the Agenda.

Or we can do it an MD meeting. We can ask the Secretary.

Vincent will follow up with Alan Farrell to help put us on the Agenda.

**Chair of each MD:**

Tuam- CLLR Donagh Mark Killilea

Ballinasloe- CLLR Dr Evelyn Parsons

Oranmore/Athenry- CLLR Liam Carroll

Connemara- CLLR Dáithí Ó Cualáin

Loughrea/Gort- CLLR Michael 'Moegie' Maher

Mary Mullen explained that we are updating the PPN website as per Workplan.

**4. PPN Budget Update**

PPN Budget was discussed. Some issues around organising the Cathaoirleach Awards were discussed. Vincent Lyons to approach Alan Farrell for an informal discussion of how to better collaborate next year. Departmental cap of €4000 discussed, difficult to hold ceremony while remaining in budget.

**5. Structural Review of PPNs- highlights**

Vincent gave an overview of the highlights. Changes around the roles of workers, ie renaming Resource Worker to Coordinator and Support Worker to Administrator.

Mary will share the Summary of the Structural Review prepared by Cavan PPN with the secretariat.

Vincent highlighted that the role of the Secretariat was not apparent in the Review. But the Secretariat are important for the Workers.

3 Options for restructuring the PPNs is now up for discussion in the Dept.

Vincent to look into making a summary of the document which will be shared with secretariat.

## 6. Plenary and Other Events

Plenary to be held in September. In person event, in Claregalway. We invite organisations to have a stand and introduce themselves. Refreshments available.

Dan Dowling suggested to book Claregalway again. Agreement to choose a weekday, either Tuesday or Thursday evening.

Look for a keynote speaker. Irish Rural Link. Topics- Climate Change, Brexit

Discuss ideas for attracting members.

## 7. AOB

In relation to Rita Cunnane's recent retirement, the PPN would like to give Rita something of permanence that she can remember. The PPN said that they want to do this so she has something to acknowledge her great contribution over the years.

Martin said we should do it and deal with consequences later- an auditor wouldn't see any issues with this.

Dan said that he attended a meeting using WEBX and that it worked well. We should explore this if we want to reach larger groups. WebX deemed better than Zoom. Mary to look into this for future large meetings/ webinars with PPN members.

**MEETING ENDED: 8:00pm**

**NEXT MEETING DATE: 10 August 2022 @ 7pm.**