



Galway County
Public
Participation
Network

Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí
Chontae na Gaillimhe

Galway County PPN Secretariat Meeting

21st September 2022 @ 2pm

Online via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Charlotte May, Mary Mullen, Vincent Lyons, Jarlath Canney, Carmel McGrath, Patrick McHugh, Aodán MacDonnacha.

Apologies: Nicola Johnston.

AGENDA

Welcome

Updates on PPN Work and Events

PPN Plenary (jobs, running order, speakers)

PPN Trainings

Update on budget

PPN National Conference

Membership of Secretariat

AOB

- **Welcome**

Quorum present. Vincent welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from Nicola Johnston noted. Minutes from previous meeting (10th August 2022) approved. Proposed by Jarlath and seconded by Aodán.

- **Updates on PPN Work and Events**

Charlotte gave updates on recent activities of the PPN:

- Meeting with minister Joe O'Brien, during which Vincent gave the Minister an overview of the SPC's which was sent on to the minister via email.
- Charlotte attended the Ploughing Championships representing the PPN at DRCD's tent.
- Plenary prep underway for 27th
- Galway Disability Forum have created a Radio Ad with Galway Bay FM to highlight the importance of accessibility of disabled parking spaces. This will be recorded on Friday 23rd.
- See Her Elected webinar planned for the 4th October. This webinar will focus Local Women in Politics informing women interested in Local Politics.
- Who's She? Migrant event in Clarinbridge on 8th October (co-funded by PPN)
- LGBTQI+ Resource Pack training planned for Monday, 24th October 19:00 - 20:30 (community groups) Wednesday, 26th October 10:30 - 12:00 (service providers)
- Charlotte has offered her assistance to Waterford PPN
- Friday 30th September is Make Way Day. The PPN has planned a meeting of the Galway Disability Forum doing a walk-around Loughrea.
- Volunteer Management training with Volunteer Galway
- PPN Presentation to MD meetings. Connemara complete.
- GDF to run school competition to highlight misuse of disabled car spaces.
- PPN working on Energy Master Plan.

Charlotte opened up the floor for any secretariat feedback – Carmel McGrath would like to assist at the Tuam MD meeting.

Councillors receive PPN newsletters every month and are encouraged to submit news if they wish.

Aodán gave his apologies for missing Connemara MD Meeting.

- **PPN Plenary (jobs, running order, speakers)**

Charlotte allocated the jobs for plenary. Mary and Patrick will handle registrations on the night. Vincent agreed to be the MC.

Aodán will give update on JPC.

All agreed that Quorum will be taken as those present on the night. Constitution to be amended accordingly.

Sign up has been slow – more social media posts/ emails to go out to PPN beforehand.

10 organisations will have info stands at the hotel.

- **PPN Trainings**

Charlotte has combined both training options discussed at previous meeting to hold a 4 week training session for the PPN. This will include two sessions from the Carmichael Centre and two sessions from Ailish Irvine to take place late October/ early November. Secretariat approve.

- **Update on budget**

Mary shared the budget with secretariat. Showing the total spend to date & monies allocated for the next quarter.

- **PPN National Conference**

6 spaces for the national conference:

1. Charlotte May
2. Mary Mullen
3. Mary McGann GCC
4. Vincent Lyons
5. Patrick McHugh

6.

Charlotte will extend invite to PPN reps who engage regularly with PPN.

- **Membership of Secretariat**

Attendance is a long-standing issue with Secretariat. Mary noted members who have breached guidelines set out in the PPN handbook (2020) which states '*Attendance at Secretariat meetings is essential. If a Secretariat member fails to attend three consecutive meetings and, in the opinion of the PPN Secretariat, without good reason, they will be deemed removed from the role.*'

Patrick noted the analysis from last year which puts Galway County PPN among the worst in Country for attendance.

Mary and Charlotte discussed the results of the recent poll which shows a preference for morning meetings.

Jarlath suggested we hold a command meeting at next meeting, making attendance absolutely mandatory.

This action was agreed upon & next meeting set for 9th November at 7pm.

- **AOB**

Energy Efficiency Training

Patrick spoke about his energy efficiency training funded in part through Galway County Council. Concept is as follows;

(1) Energy awareness in the home , 2.5 hrs over mid term

- Promote the training through the PPN network
- Develop a poster for the event
- Then run a separate event on the various grant schemes in November. No cost associated with this.

(2) Community Centre/ Sport hall/ Not for profit venues Energy Training. 3 days at 2.5 hrs per day + walk through video and photos of each venue.

- Through the PPN, seek a call from venues across the county. a min of 1 venue per municipal district. Max 10 venues.
- Promote the training through the PPN network
- Develop a poster for the event and a pre questionnaire (Max 5 questions) . This is to see who needs it most and who will put in an action plan after the training.

PPN to fund the difference. Secretariat approved. Patrick agreed to present this at the Plenary.

SPC Review Stakeholder Working Group from DRCD. The SPC Review is seeking expressions of interest from volunteers involved in the Public Participation Networks, i.e. from the secretariat and representatives, so that the Working Group can benefit from their perspectives and experiences as PPN members.

Each PPN is being asked to provide expressions of interest from up to three persons, one from each of the three pillars (environmental, community & voluntary, and social inclusion). Ideally, one person should be from the secretariat; one person should be a representative; and the third may be either.

Rep from each Pillar proposed by secretariat as follows;

- C&V: Vincent Lyons
- Social Inclusion: Renjith Joseph
- Environment: Patrick McHugh

Proposed by Jarlath, seconded by Carmel.

Retirement Gift for Rita

In relation to this, it was decided that Mary Mullen will check in with Group 8 (artists who made this years Cathaoirleach's Awards) to see what type of award they could make!

MEETING ENDED: 3:30pm

NEXT MEETING DATE: 9th November 2022 @ 7pm *MANDATORY ATTENDANCE*****