
Galway County PPN Secretariat Meeting

Thursday, 2nd February 2023 @ 7pm

Online via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Mary Mullen (Acting RW), Vincent Lyons, Carmel McGrath, Jarlath Canney, Dan Dowling, Patrick McHugh, Martina Finn, Aodán MacDonnacha.

Apologies: Martin Ward, Nicola Johnson, Mary McGann, Tom Madden

AGENDA

1. Welcomes & Proposal of minutes from previous meeting.
2. PPN Updates
3. EOI for new Secretariat member
4. Training
5. Agree dates for 2023 meeting & Rotating Chair.
6. Workplan & Budget 2023
7. Vision for Community Well Being - Secretariat Working Group
8. Presentation to Rita Cunnane
9. AOB

Welcomes

Mary Mullen welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies from Martin Ward, Nicola Johnson, Mary McGann and Tom Madden were noted.

Minutes from previous meeting held on 9th November 2022 were proposed by Vincent Lyons and seconded by Jarlath Canney.

PPN Updates

Mary shared updates with the group:

- PPN Membership now stands at 1,184.
- Mary and Vincent addressed the Athenry MD Council meeting on 10th January. Vincent gave overview of how the MD meetings had gone. PPN was praised by councillors.
- Department are commissioning research into the barriers that may be preventing under-represented groups from joining and/or actively participating in their local PPN.
- PPN's Annual Report 2021 has been published – hard copies available.

- Mary shared the number of new groups registered under each pillar.
- Re-registration training will be held on 15th February, process can begin that week. Important to update contact details of groups to ensure information is being shared with active members.
- PPN's application for an Energy Master Plan for County Galway has been approved by SEAI. Survey Results: 43 Community Centres responded. Centres with energy spend exceeding €10K/year will be supported to apply for the SEAI Support Scheme for Energy Audits. Steering Committee will meet online 13th February.

EOI for new Secretariat member

Secretariat member to replace Nives Stack. Social Inclusion Pillar – 236 groups.

Invitation for nomination to be sent out before 20th February, election held if more than 1 nominee received.

Tom Madden's membership of secretariat to be discussed. Mary and Vincent to hold meeting with Tom.

Housing SPC representative Nora Corcoran has resigned her role – secretariat noted Nora's valuable input and thanked her for her work. Replacement will be sought from SI pillar in the coming weeks.

Training

Mary shared the results of the PPN North-Western Region Training Needs Assessment – 53 responses from County Galway. Preference for a hybrid approach (online & in-person). Mid-week evening or daytime sessions most popular

Top 3 trainings –

- Making Successful Funding Applications
- Writing a strategic plan for your group
- Social Media Training

Reps Forum meet up to be held in March, in person if possible. Mary to organise with Caroline Egan who delivered this last year.

Lift/ Uplift training collab with GRETB to be arranged – Mary meeting with Sheila and Gráinne on 14th Feb.

.IE Town Awards info webinar to be arranged.

Scope for public procurement training shared with secretariat – agreement. Need for 2 sessions, 1 for more basic beginners training and one targeting groups who have been awarded larger funding streams.

Carmel McGrath stated her conflict of interest. Scope to be sent out for quotes. 3 verbal quotes required.

Can link in with GRD to provide some training on Leader funding applications.

Agree dates for 2023 meeting & Rotating Chair.

Dates for 2023 meetings agreed by secretariat – flexibility around these dates/ times if needed. Rotating chair discussed and each member given a date to chair this years meetings.

Workplan & Budget 2023

Mary stated the workplan should be simplified as the document is very long, Mary to do this. Increase in funding for PPN's this year – more expenses as we are now holding more in person meetings.

Vision for Community Well Being - Secretariat Working Group

Working with Social Justice Ireland to deliver the vision. Useful docs online. These will be shared with secretariat.

Municipal District Meetings to be held – will collaborate with GRETB/ GRD/ Volunteer Galway/ Forum Connemara on this to deliver a 'road show' type of meeting.

Online survey to target groups who cannot make public meeting to ensure every group gets the opportunity to have their say.

Secretariat will help to facilitate MD meetings – lots of work involved with the set up etc.

Feed into LECP, collaborate with sections of GCC i.e Environment.

Start the process in March 2023.

Presentation to Rita Cunnane

Secretariat invited to attend on Thursday 16th February at 1pm in the Ard Rí in Tuam.

AOB

Vincent shared with the group his new roles on the National Secretariat Network and the National Advisory Group.

MEETING ENDED: 8:30pm

NEXT MEETING DATE: 14th March 2023 @ 10am

CHAIRPERSON: Aodán MacDonnacha.