



Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Phoiblí Chontae na Gaillimhe
Public Participation Network Galway County

Galway County PPN Secretariat Meeting

29th August 2023, 10am

Online via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Mary Mullen, Duana Tuite, Vincent Lyons, Dan Dowling, George Francis, Aodán Mac Donnacha, Martina Finn, Martin Ward.

Apologies: Patrick Mc Hugh, Carmel Mc Grath, Nicola Johnston, Jarlath Canney.

Chairperson: Martin Ward

AGENDA

Welcomes

Updates

Special Update from the Chairperson

Key points from Summer Plenary

PPN National Conference

AOB

WELCOMES

Mary Mullen welcomed secretariat members to the meeting. The group briefly discussed the PPN Insurance webinar which was held on the 23rd August. The group commended speaker Nick Ryan from BHP Insurance on his informative presentation to the PPN. Vincent Lyons suggested the PPN includes a piece on this in the upcoming newsletter.

Mary reminded the secretariat of The Wheel PPN Supports, upcoming workshops:

On **Wednesday 6th of September 10am-12pm** Andrea Shupinski will deliver a session on **Managing Finances**. [Register here](#) - This workshop will **not** be recorded.

On **Wednesday 27th of September from 2:30-4:30pm** Gerry Egan will deliver a workshop on **Understanding the Charities Governance Code**. [Register here](#)

Previous workshops now available to view [HERE](#).

ACTION – Mary Mullen to add Insurance webinar slides to website. Duana Tuite will include link to website in September Newsletter.

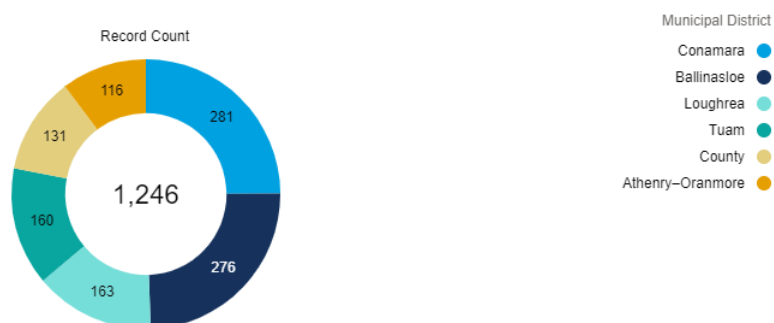
UPDATES

Mary shared updates with the group on the Green Recovery Working Groups activities. Mary has contacted the Environmental Justice Network Ireland who will assist in setting out a roadmap to drafting the Motion on Rights of Nature.

The Energy Master Plan Steering Committee will meet on 05.09.2023 to get a progress update from XD Consulting.

Current membership is as per diagram below;

Groups by Municipal District



Upcoming Events:

- PPN National Workers Meeting Thursday 31st August 10am [Online]
- **Who's Who in the Corrib *Working together for Better Water Quality Information Day*** (Rivers Trust)(PPN supporting LAWPRO in running/ organising) 2nd September [REGISTER HERE](#)
- **Enhancing Social Inclusion in Galway** – conference. Pobal30 Event. 6th September [Register HERE](#)
- **Biodiversity in Action Conference**, Athlone, 16th Sept [Register HERE](#)
- SDG Training for Tidy Towns Groups TBC

SPECIAL UPDATE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Martin Ward gave the group an update on his activities. Martin gave apologies for joining late.

Updates: Martin to send on some updates from his local area/groups.

Over 100 young people at summer camps. Tuam Arts Academy is trying to get funding.

Youth people working on a theatre production.

Setting up new men's group in Tuam, second one in the area.

Christmas Fare hoping to set up aimed at young people. To run over a few weeks, various times over the weeks.

Music Generation is happening.

ACTION: Martin to send on some updates from his local area/groups.

KEY POINTS FROM SUMMER PLENARY

Vincent Lyons told the group how Galway County PPN has the highest number of Social Inclusion groups registered in the Country. We are the 2nd largest PPN by number of member groups.

Vincent Lyons spoke on the low attendance from the secretariat at the Summer Plenary. We need the full Secretariat membership to attend Secretariat meetings and especially the Plenary events twice yearly. The poor turn out isn't good enough and is unfair on those who are putting in the time. If unavailable then apologies must be sent in advance of meeting.

Training Needs analysis was done and will be used to guide training for the end of 2023 and start of 2024.

Mary Mullen suggested an in-person planning session ahead of winter plenary to get Secretariat members more involved & to give them roles at the plenary.

Winter Plenary November date **TBC**.

ACTION: PPN workers to arrange in person planning session late Sept/ early October. Contact hotels for quote. Connemara Coast Hotel.

PPN NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Mary shared details of the National Conference.

Delegates attending from Galway County PPN as follows:

1. Duana Tuite
2. Vincent Lyons
3. Dan Dowling
4. George Francis
5. Martina Finn
6. Aodán Mac Donnacha (tbc)

AGENDA

BROCHURE

2-night stay at [Amber Springs Hotel & Spa](#)

AOB

- **George proposal: Ballinasloe National Cultural Day 2023.**
Requests PPN support in panning and running event end of October/start of November.
Planning Meeting in-person Tue 12th September 11am-1pm in Centrepoint offices. To invite council staff involved in social inclusion, community members, Secretariat, PPN Reps, PPN Workers.
One day event from 11am-7pm. Showcase, entertainment, activities, conference.
Location: Ballinasloe town hall theatre.
Insurance for one day event will be organized.
Input required: 5 volunteers from each cultural community. PPN Secretariat & Workers support.
Dan suggested to contact Ann Mallaghan for advice/support as she has worked with different communities. Dan knows some of the Syrian community. Discussed local school had an open day with lots of cultures represented, perhaps those groups would get

involved. Dan and George to meet and discuss plans.

Mary suggested PPN might be able to fund a part of the event, to check budget and financial controls.

- **Martina: Mobilization of Climate Action in PPN's.** Martina read executive summary of report from recent meeting - *PPN Report to Joint Oireachtas Committee on Environment and Climate Action*. [\[INSERT LINK\]](#).
 - Vincent going to NAG meeting 6th September. He can bring up PPN staff resource increase recommendation from PPN Report above.
 - Martina: Query biodiversity event – is it full because link to register brought us to a ‘register for wait list’ page. Mary is hopeful that they are just taking wait list now and will register people soon.
 - Martina: Slieve Aughty area is hoping to have a meeting bringing together groups/locals interested in setting up a ‘local landscape partnership’. Would PPN be able to help later down the line when things progress.
 - Mary suggested Martina and people attend the ‘*Who’s Who in the Corrib*’ event, to get ideas for setting up a network/partnership.
 - Martina: Public meetin on EMP's (energy master plans), 5th September.
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- September Newsletter is going out Thursday 31st, any last-minute submissions please send to Duana Tuite at dtuite@galwaycoco.ie

MEETING ENDED: 11:00am

NEXT MEETING DATE: **October 10th 2023, 7pm [online] Chairperson: Martina Finn**