

**Miontuairiscí ó Chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil na Gaillimhe a  
 tionóladh ar Dé Máirt 9 Aibreáin 2019 ag 6.30 p.m.**

**Minutes of Galway County Local Community Development Committee held on Tuesday  
 9<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Tom Turley, IFA (Chairperson)	Community
Dan Dowling, PPN Community (Vice-Chairperson)	Community
Delia Colahan, Galway Rural Development	Community
Enda Conneely, Comhar na nOileán Teo	Community
Seán Ó Coistealbha, PPN Community	Community
Margaret Sheehan, PPN Environment	Community
Cllr. Jimmy McClearn, LA Member	Public
Cllr. Dermot Connolly, LA Member	Public
Cllr. Noel Thomas, LA Member	Public
Kevin Kelly, LA Official	Public
Donal Walsh, GRETB	Public
Mícheál O hÉanaigh, Údarás na Gaeltachta	Public

**Apologies:**

Martin Ward, PPN Social Inclusion	Community
Kathleen Aspel Mortimer, PPN Social Inclusion	Community
Terry Keenan, FORUM Connemara Ltd	Community
Conor O'Dowd, Galway Chamber	Community
Breda Fox, LA Official	Public
Michael Keady, HSE West	Public
Eoin Brown, Department of Social Protection	Public

**Also in Attendance:**

Alan Farrell, Chief Officer LCDC  
 Kieran Coyne, Ann Mallaghan, Mary McGann.

T. Turley, Chairperson, acknowledged the apologies received for the meeting.

**1. Miontuairiscí ó chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil (LCDC) a tionóladh an 13ú Feabhra  
 2019**

Minutes of Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) held on 13<sup>th</sup> February 2019

A Mallaghan referenced the notification to Members at the February Meeting that Round 2 of Healthy Ireland was due to cease at end March, and proposals would be sought for the new Round of funding. She advised the Members that Round 2 had now been extended from end March to end June 2019 and an Addendum to the Grant Agreement had been signed by the Chairperson of the LCDC and Director of Services to accept the extension to the Programme.

On the **PROPOSAL** of D. Colohan, **SECONDED** by K. Kelly, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February, and the extension of the Healthy Ireland Programme, were **APPROVED**.

## 2. An Clár um Fheabhsú an Phobail 2018 – Céadú Community Enhancement Programme 2018 – Final Approvals

M. McGann referred to the list of final approvals under the Community Enhancement Programme 2018 which was circulated prior to the meeting, and outlined the re-allocation of unspent monies to the next project on the assessment list, in consultation with the Sub-Committee. She confirmed that a total of 91 projects were supported with total funding of €397,777.

On the **PROPOSAL** of D. Walsh, **SECONDED** by D. Dowling, the final allocations for the Community Enhancement Programme 2018 were **APPROVED**.

## 3. An Clár um Fheabhsú an Phobail 2019 - Sonraí Community Enhancement Programme – Details

M. McGann outlined that an initial allocation of €143,401 had been received for the 2019 Scheme and:

- It is recommended that 30% of funding be ring-fenced for small-scale grants under €1,000.
- Eligible applicants are non-profit community or voluntary groups only
- LCDC's are specifically asked to consider relative disadvantage through the HP Deprivation Index –
- Unspent funding can be re-allocated by the LCDC on a case-by-case basis

M. McGann stated that due to a lack of applications, only 9% of the 2018 total was actually allocated to small-scale projects, and it may be useful to increase the maximum limit to increase the number and range of small projects which could be supported. She also advised that a weighting based on relative disadvantage had been applied in 2018, therefore, Galway County LCDC was already in compliance with this new requirement.

T. Turley welcomed the confirmation that the LCDC could re-allocate funding without recourse to the Department, and stated that more small grants would be beneficial. Cllr. N. Thomas concurred and stated that small grants make a big difference to Groups and may be their only source of funding for equipment upgrades. M. Sheahan stated that small-scale grants were of most benefit to new Community Groups, until they had built up capacity to apply for and process medium-scale grants.

Cllr J. McClearn enquired if additional funding would be received to enable a large-scale project to go ahead, and stated that the assessment process needed to be rigorous to ensure an equitable spread of funding, rather than the same Groups being successful under various funding schemes due to higher capacity. A. Farrell advised that the PPN would link with SICAP to build capacity in Community Groups across the county, and the 2018 breakdown per Municipal District confirmed that the geographical spread of funding reflected relative disadvantage through the HP Deprivation Index.

The following aspects of the 2019 scheme were agreed following the discussion:

- The maximum limits would be €3,000 for small-scale grants and €15,000 for medium-scale grants. If an exceptional application was received, consideration could be given to a large-scale grant.
- Requirements regarding quotations would be governed by public procurement stipulations, i.e. an informal quote for less than €3,000, and 3 written quotes for all other applications.
- A maximum of 1 grant per applicant would apply.

- Applicants would be requested to join the PPN as part of the application process, to facilitate capacity building training through the PPN going forward.
- The Sub-Committee would be responsible for implementing the agreed criteria and assessing the applications, including providing assistance and feedback to unsuccessful applicants.

On the **PROPOSAL** of S. O’Coistealbha, **SECONDED** by M. Sheahan, the Terms & Conditions for the Community Enhancement Programme 2019 were **APPROVED**.

#### **4. Céadú: Deireadh Seachtaine Náisiúnta an Phobail 2019** Approvals for National Community Weekend 2019

M. McGann referred to the list of applications which were received by the closing date of 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019, and recommended allocation of the €10,000 funding across 24 eligible applications. It was agreed to publicise the events as widely as possible and to promote the LCDC funding of these events.

On the **PROPOSAL** of D. Colohan, **SECONDED** by N. Thomas, the allocations for the National Community Weekend 2019 were **APPROVED**.

#### **5. Plean Ealaíon 2019-2023: Chomhchomhairliúchán Poiblí** Arts Plan 2019-2023: Public Consultation

Sharon O’Grady, Arts Officer, was introduced to the meeting at this point and referred to the circulation of a Submission Form for an Arts Plan covering the period 2019-2023, which would be the first Arts Plan for the county in a decade. In this regard, she outlined the activities of the Arts Office and how the Arts Plan will reflect changes in the artistic landscape of the County, including the potential for legacy from Galway 2020, European Capital of Culture. A. Farrell stated that the Arts Plan will form the basis for our strategic objectives for the delivery for the arts service in the county which would incorporate supports to Groups and provide for infrastructure, investment and support going forward.

T. Turley thanked S. O’Grady for the presentation on behalf of the Committee. There was a general discussion regarding the involvement of youth in the arts and the consultation process, and in response, S. O’Grady confirmed she was co-ordinating this consultation through Youth Work Ireland & Comhairle na nÓg, and in relation to activities, the Arts Office had funded 24 events for Cruinniú na nÓg in 2018 under the Creative Ireland Programme.

N. Thomas welcomed funding under the Community Support Schemes and other arts programmes for plays, musicals, etc., at local level, and stated that the biggest issue was capacity-building for these Community Groups and Festival Organisers. S. O’Grady confirmed that Galway County Council were the lead organisation in a new partnership programme called “Agents of Change” which would provide mentoring & training for artists, producers, and event organisers, and it was intended to roll out this programme in the latter half of 2019. A. Farrell advised that capacity building and tailored supports for community groups and festival organisers, including festivals broader than the arts sector, was a critical

piece of work as they were facing major challenges and that their continued growth was important from an economic and social perspective.

## 6. Leiriú – Safe Home Ireland

### Presentation – Safe Home Ireland

Karen McHugh, Chief Executive Officer of Safe Home Ireland, was introduced by the Chairperson at this point, who outlined that he had invited her to make a presentation to the LCDC. K. McHugh outlined that Safe Home Ireland were a non-profit organisation based in County Mayo, with a global remit to facilitate the return of elderly Irish emigrants to return to live in their native area. Their organisation facilitated this process through information and advice, home visits, and ongoing support and advocacy. The organisation was established since 2000 and had facilitated the return of 2,029 people since its inception, 58 of whom returned to County Galway. K. McHugh stated that a report on addressing challenges faced by returning Irish Emigrants was recently commissioned under the Government's Diaspora Policy, and set out 30 recommendations to ease the barriers and issues faced by returning emigrants in accessing housing and other services.

T. Turley thanked K. McHugh for the presentation on behalf of the Committee, and D. Dowling stated it was a great scheme and facility for emigrants. In response to a query from Cllr. D. Connolly regarding the criteria for housing, K. McHugh clarified that the minimum age of 57 was a national departmental deadline. In relation to a query from M. Sheahan, K. McHugh stated that there was a higher proportion of men than women in the overall statistics, but it was not a significant proportional difference. S. O'Coistealbha stressed the importance of preparatory work before applying for housing, and the need for a clear process for any referrals, in areas such as applying for a PPN. T. Turley stated that early intervention was crucial and the provision of housing was now the biggest issue, with a need for housing options and procedures to be clarified to assist informed decisions on applications.

## 7. Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile

### Date for next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on 12<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30 a.m.

## 8. Aon ghnó eile

### Any other business

M. McGann referenced the details of Clár 2019 which had been circulated to the Members, and outlined the funding available under Measures 1, 2 & 3.



T. Turley, Chairperson

Date: 12-6-19



A. Farrell, Chief Officer

Date: 12-06-2019