

# LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community, Quality of Life & Creativity Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 via Zoom.

**Present:** Cllr. Emma Coffey, Chair  
Cllr. Michelle Hall  
Cllr. Pearse McGeough  
Cllr. John Sheridan  
Ms. Fiona Crawley, PPN Environmental Rep.  
Ms. Susan Farrelly, PPN Arts Rep.

**Officials:** Mr. Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services  
Mr. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. Yvonne O'Brien, County Librarian  
Ms. Amanda Branigan, Senior Executive Librarian  
Ms. Linda Larrigan, Senior Executive Librarian  
Mr. Barry Eaton, Senior Staff Officer

**Apologies:** Cllr. Paddy McQuillan  
Mr. Colin Roche, PPN Social Inclusion Rep.  
Ms. Paula Gribben, Administrative Officer  
Ms. Gráinne Berrill, PPN Sport Rep.  
Ms. Stacey McVeigh, PPN Youth Rep.

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## **Introduction**

The Chair, Cllr. Emma Coffey, welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for taking the time to attend.

## **Minutes of the previous meeting- 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020**

Cllr. Michelle Hall proposed the minutes of the previous meeting which were held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020 and Cllr. Emma Coffey seconded. An amendment was agreed to the previous minutes which relates to The Library Development Plan which should read that the "Library Development Plan process includes active consultation with community groups".

## **Matters Arising**

No matters were raised.

## **Draft Policy on Works by Community Groups**

Mr. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer, gave an update on the Draft Policy on Works by Community Groups. He informed that an amendment is to be made to the policy and that it will be brought back to the next SPC meeting.

Members discussed the Draft Policy and a number of comments and suggestions were made:

- A request was made that the amended policy would be circulated to the members in advance of the next meeting.
- It was confirmed that fees for Road Opening Licences would be waived by the Council for community groups undertaking works on the public realm.
- The inclusion of fees for consultants as part of funding applications was explained and discussed.

**Community Call Forum- Update of work to date and proposals for Community Resilience Work Plan**

A comprehensive presentation was given to members on the Community Call Forum. The presentation was made by Mr. Paddy Donnelly.

Following the presentation a number of comments and suggestions were made:

- Many of the committee members praised the Community Call initiative.
- It was confirmed that library staff had made phone calls to a number of library members during the pandemic to ensure that they were still receiving the service.
- A number of library initiatives were praised including the "Our Louth Diary" project.
- It was confirmed that the swimming pools were currently open.
- A request was made to get the message out that community groups should be part of the PPN. More funding under the Covid 19 fund would be shortly made available to groups in Louth.

**A.O.B.**

It was confirmed that the four meetings which are due to take place in 2021 will take place during the months of March, June, September and November.

The Chair, Cllr. Emma Coffey, acknowledged the work undertaken by the committee in 2020. She also wished everyone a Happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

**Next Meeting**

Cllr. Emma Coffey advised that the next meeting of the SPC will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021. She expressed the hope that they could meet in person but that this will be decided closer to the time when the regulations are communicated.

**That concluded the business of the meeting.**

Minutes confirmed at SPC Meeting held on: 9/12/20

Signed by Chairperson: 