

LOUTH COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of the Community, Quality of Life & Creativity Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on Wednesday 9th June, 2021 via the Zoom Platform.

Present: Cllr. Michelle Hall - Chair
Cllr. Maeve Yore
Cllr. Pearse McGeough
Cllr. John Sheridan
Ms. Susan Farrelly, PPN Arts Rep
Ms. Gráinne Berrill, PPN Sport Rep.
Ms. Stacey McVeigh, PPN Youth Rep.

Officials: Mr. Paddy Donnelly, Director of Services
Ms. Yvonne O'Brien, County Librarian
Ms. Linda Larrigan, Senior Executive Librarian
Ms. Paula Gribben, Administrative Officer

Apologies: Cllr. Emma Coffey,
Cllr. Paddy McQuillan
Mr. Colin Roche, PPN Social Inclusion Rep.
Ms. Fiona Crawley, PPN Environmental Rep
Mr. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer

Introduction

Mr. Paddy Donnelly welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for taking the time to attend the meeting. In the absence of the Chair, Cllr John Sheridan proposed Cllr Michelle Hall, to take up the role of chair for the meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting- 9th December 2020

Cllr. John Sheridan proposed the minutes of the previous meeting which was held on Thursday 10th March 2021 and Ms. Gráinne Berrill seconded.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Presentation on All Ireland Pollinator Plan

A presentation was delivered to members by Brendan Mc Sherry, Heritage Officer. Members thanked Brendan for his presentation and discussed the actions that would be required, in order to sign up as a Local Authority to the "All Ireland Pollinator Plan".

Members noted the many actions that were already taking place around the county by the Local Authority and Tidy towns and other interested groups.

It was agreed that this be a recurring action on the SPC work programme so progress on biodiversity/pollinator friendly approaches could be measured.

Libraries update

A presentation was delivered to members by Ms. Yvonne O'Brien and Ms. Linda Larrigan.

Initiatives undertaken by the quality of life services in response to pandemic were discussed in detail by the members.

Members recorded their recognition of the achievement and delivery of services across the sections involved during the Pandemic. The enhanced access, extended, opening hours and outreach to schools by the library services was noted. Cllr John Sheridan was acknowledged for the support he had given to the success of the recent "Living with Pride" event.

Draft Policy on Works by Community Groups

A revised draft of the policy on a guide to community groups undertaking works in the public realm was discussed.

Members welcomed the amendments and the addition of the application form.

Members proposed the following suggestions:

- That the draft policy be shared among PPN members/reference group for their feedback, on the understanding that this was only a draft document and should not be taken as the final policy.
- When feedback from PPN was received, to bring back to members for further discussion.
- Feasibility funding for community groups who undertake projects within the public realm - Voluntary effort "In kind contributions" could be match funding element.
- Insurance and public liability indemnity for community groups to be clarified.

SPC Work programme 2021, 2022 & 2023

Members were asked to consider a full work programme for a period of three years and to share their suggestions at the next meeting in September.

Examples of agenda items that will recur over that period were mentioned, progress on the National Pollinator Plan, feedback on Policy- a guide to community groups undertaking works in the public realm, will form part of the work programme.

A.O.B.

Cllr Hall advised of the "Innovation in Politics European Awards 2021". For further details <https://louthppn.ie/innovation-in-politics-european-awards-2021/>

A number of suggestions were discussed and members were encouraged to contact Joan O' Flynn, whom is the Irish representative jf@innovationinpolitics.eu

Next Meeting

Mr. Paddy Donnelly advised that the next meeting of the SPC will take place on 15th September 2021. He expressed the hope that members could meet in person in Drogheda but that was to be decided at the next Corporate Policy group meeting. Members would be notified in advance of the September Meeting.

That concluded the business of the meeting.

Minutes confirmed at SPC Meeting held on: 9/6/21

Signed by Chairperson:  _____

