

Clare Public Participation Network Report October to December 2020

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

CLARE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK | Clonroad Business Park, Ennis, County Clare V95 N62T

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Clare COVID-19 Community Response Helpline



The helpline can put you in touch with local volunteers who can assist with delivering basic needs such as shopping, medicine, fuel, farming support, etc. to those who need it.

Call: Freephone 1800 203 600
Email: covidsupport@clarecoco.ie



COMHAIRLE CONTAE AN CHLAIR
CLARE COUNTY COUNCIL



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Introduction

2020 has been a very busy and challenging year, and we'd like to start by saying a big thank you to our Secretariat members and Representatives, who have been so generous in giving their time as volunteers on behalf of their communities. Their expertise and commitment are crucial in the functioning of Clare PPN. We'd also like to wish all of you, our members, a very Happy Christmas and best wishes for the new year. We hope you all have an opportunity to rest and regenerate before embarking on 2021.

This quarter we held our final Plenary of the year, at which we presented our Work Report for the year and draft Vision for Community Wellbeing Statements - read on below for more information on all these. We also co-hosted a successful TD lobby for climate action, and several online training sessions.

The PPN 2019 Annual report has been launched and can be viewed here: <http://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/PPN-Annual-Report.pdf>
The updated PPN Handbook can be viewed here: <http://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/PPN-Handbook-2020.pdf>

If you have any questions or comments please contact 087 1617375 or sarah@clareppn.ie.

WORK OVERVIEW

Administration:

- Management of finances, banking and invoices
- Processed wages
- Liaised with auditor and CRO
- Maintained lobbying register
- Produced quarterly report
- Held pre-meetings with reps
- Held two secretariat meetings

Communications:

- Circulation of grant schemes & event notices
- Three newsletters circulated by email and on social media
- Maintained website (newsletters, reps reports) and social media

Training:

- Facilitated Get to Grips with Governance Sessions
- Media Training for Community Activists
- Co-Facilitated Clare Leader Forum Governance Training
- Co-facilitated Access to Information in Ireland Training
- Training on the County Development Plan and Local Government with Dr. Matt Cannon

Submissions (all on website):

- Social Inclusion Consultation and Submission to County Development Plan
- Environmental Consultation and Submission to County Development Plan
- Limerick Shannon Metropolitan Area Transport Strategy
- Climate Action Bill
- Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth's Statement of Strategy 2021- 2023
- Department of Rural and Community Development's Statement of Strategy

Outreach/Policy Work:

- Climate Action Lobby with Clare TDs
- Attended Silence + Voice Webinar
- Attended Irish Traveller Movement 30th Anniversary Livestream
- Collaborated with CLDC on tender evaluation for a Youth Participation Project



Limerick | Shannon

METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSPORT STRATEGY
PUBLIC CONSULTATION DOCUMENT



Draft Wellbeing Survey

In September we launched an online survey, asking, “How can we make Co Clare the best it can be for this and future generations?” This was the first step in creating Wellbeing Vision Statements for Clare and for each municipal district, which will guide the work and priorities of Clare PPN. Following the survey, we held two online meetings for each municipal district to discuss and add to the findings. We then drafted Vision Statements and you can read these drafts at the link below.

Thank you to all who participated in this project so far and we encourage you to send any further thoughts or input by email to sarah@clareppn.ie by January 15th, after which these statements will be deemed adopted. These statements will be revisited annually at the end of year plenary meeting to ensure they continue to reflect the priorities and aspirations of Clare PPN members.

<http://clareppn.ie/draft-wellbeing-vision-statements-for-clare-and-municipal-districts/>



County Clare Vision for Community Wellbeing

Clare is a county that values, protects and restores its unique landscape, environment and biodiversity, where sustainable livelihoods are prioritised for this and future generations and where citizens, migrants, ethnic minorities and people of all abilities, age-groups and genders are able to reach their potential in an atmosphere of support, respect and inclusion, and where Local Government is open, transparent, accountable and committed to reducing poverty and marginalisation within the County; our vision is for a County to be part of and a County to be proud of.

EVENT REPORTS

Clare Leader Forum Governance Training

Clare PPN co-facilitated Governance training for Clare Leader Forum with the Carmichael Centre which took place over three weeks in October and was fully subscribed by members of Clare PPN and Clare Leader Forum.

Information access: how to use FOI & AIE

We were delighted to offer this free fully subscribed seminar on when and how community groups can use Freedom of Information or Access to Information on the Environment requests. It was delivered by Ken Fox, a writer, researcher, teacher and a founding director of transparency group Right to Know (www.righttoknow.ie).

Get to Grips with Governance

Clare PPN worked with Caroline Egan from CramdenTech to offer a free, two-part training opportunity for community groups who needed to get to grips with governance. The sessions took place via Zoom. **Session 1: Introduction to Governance** training focused on the key skills all boards and committees need to master the effective running of their voluntary groups. Key topics included annual work planning, roles and responsibilities of committee members, tips for chairing meetings and how to take meeting minutes. **Session 2: Governance Health Check** training focused on the legal responsibilities of boards and charity trustees. Key topics included Companies Registration Office and the Charities Regulation Act. This training was also fully booked by our member groups.

The Clare Leader Forum presents

Principles of Good Governance Training

Starting Thursday October 29th at 11am and running through Zoom every Thursday for 3 weeks. Why not join us and learn more about:

- The principles of Good Governance;
- Roles and responsibilities of the Board of Directors and key roles; and
- Dealing with Practical Issues that can arise within a Board.

Clare Public Participation Network



Climate Action Lobby with Clare TDs

Clare PPN co-hosted online meetings with each of Clare's TDs, as part of a nationwide 'TD Lobby for Faster & Fairer Climate Action', organised by Stop Climate Chaos. Nationally, almost 1,000 people took part. There was also a great turnout in Clare and we had very useful discussions with our four Dáil representatives. The key demand was for TDs to sign a letter, to be sent to Micheál Martin, Leo Varadkar and Eamon Ryan. The letter highlights concrete steps the Government can immediately take to kickstart a decade of faster and fairer climate action, including closing the glaring loopholes in the Climate Bill and acting urgently to cut emissions in all sectors. All four Clare TDs said they would read and consider signing the letter. Follow-up meetings with the TDs are planned. Read more here: <http://clareppn.ie/td-climate-lobby/>

Media Training for Community Activists

Facilitated by journalist Andrew Hamilton over two evenings, community activists learned how to use radio, press releases and social media to promote their community group, cause or activism.

It was hugely oversubscribed and so Clare PPN plans to run similar training in 2021

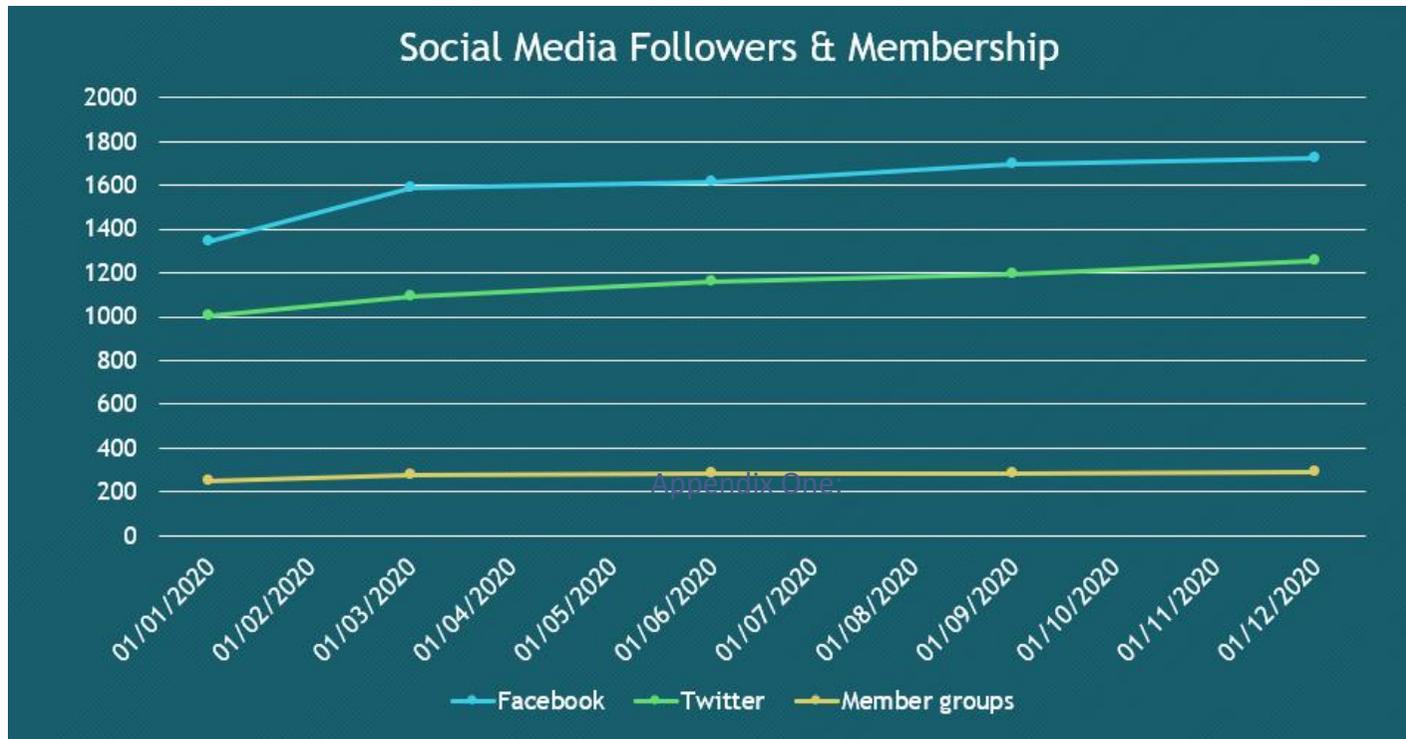


Engagement

Membership by college:

Clare PPN currently has 291 member groups:

Community and Voluntary College	224
Environmental College	19
Social Inclusion College	48



Appendix One:

Clare PPN mass communications with members – October to December 2020

Date	Subject line	To	Details
05/10/2020	Invitation All Members Clare PPN Plenary Meeting October 12th 7pm Online	all contacts	plenary notice
05/10/2020	Consultation on Clare County Development Plan 2022-2028 & Local Government Training with Dr Matt Cannon	all contacts	consultation notice
05/10/2020	Short Notice Community Heritage Grant Scheme is open - Deadline September 15th	all contacts	grant notice
05/10/2020	Clare PPN Representatives Training Schedule September 2020	reps	training notice
05/10/2020	Four Funding Streams for Community Groups - don't miss out	all contacts	funding notice
05/10/2020	2 Reminders from Clare PPN: Plenary Meeting and Wellbeing Vision Survey	all contacts	plenary notice
07/10/2020	Next Monday's Plenary Meeting Reminder and Work Repot Clare PPN	Secretariat	plenary notice
07/10/2020	Environmental submission on Clare County Development Plan	Env college	submission notice
07/10/2020	Clare PPN Plenary Meeting October 12th 7PM	reps	plenary notice
09/10/2020	Doodle poll re Environmental submission on Clare County Development Plan	Env college	submission notice
12/10/2020	Last reminder- Clare PPN Plenary Meeting 7 pm tonight Monday October 12th. Online	all contacts	plenary notice
13/10/2020	Wanted: Two Great Environmental Secretariat Members	Env college	election notice
13/10/2020	Help us imagine a better Ennis Municipal District for future generations	Ennis MD	Wellbeing survey invite
13/10/2020	Help us imagine a better SHannon Municipal District for future generations	Shannon MD	Wellbeing survey invite
13/10/2020	Help us imagine a better Killaloe Municipal District for future generations	Killaloe MD	Wellbeing survey invite
13/10/2020	Help us imagine a better Kilrush Municipal District for future generations	West Clare MD	Wellbeing survey invite
19/10/2020	Reminder: Ennis MD meetings today	Ennis MD	Wellbeing survey invite
19/10/2020	Reminder: Shannon Municipal District Wellbeing Statement meeting, Tuesday 20th October	Shannon MD	Wellbeing survey invite
20/10/2020	West Clare MD Wellbeing Statement Workshops reminder	West Clare MD	Wellbeing survey invite
22/10/2020	Killaloe Municipal District Wellbeing Statement meetings	Killaloe MD	Wellbeing survey invite
27/10/2020	Short Notice: Places Available 'Good Governance for Community Groups' training Delivered by the Carmichael Centre	all contacts	training notice
28/10/2020	Zoom next Mon 2 Nov re Environmental submission on Clare County Development Plan	Env college	submission notice
29/10/2020	Reps reports and updates	reps	Info for reps
29/10/2020	Social Inclusion consultation on the County Development Plan	SI college	consultation notice
29/10/2020	October 2020 Newsletter	all contacts	Newsletter
02/11/2020	Secretariat meeting and invite to PPN Handbook Launch	Secretariat	meeting notice
02/11/2020	Reminder: Zoom at 7pm this evening re Environmental submission to Clare County Development Plan	Env college	submission notice
03/11/2020	Social Inclusion consultation on the County Development Plan	SI college	consultation reminder
03/11/2020	Clare Migrant Forum is reconvening this November - PLEASE SHARE	all contacts	forum notice
05/11/2020	Secretariat meeting 7pm	Secretariat	meeting notice
09/11/2020	Environmental submission on Clare County Development Plan	Env college	submission notice
10/11/2020	Social Inclusion input into the Clare County Development Plan - this evening 7pm	SI college	consultation reminder
13/11/2020	Draft Environmental CDP 2022-2028 Submission - Comments or changes by 14th Nov 2pm	Env college	circulation of draft
18/11/2020	Can you take part in a mass climate lobby of Clare TDs on 7th December?	Env college	event notice
19/11/2020	Nov 2020 Newsletter	all contacts	Newsletter
23/11/2020	PPN Annual Report 2019 & Revised Handbook	Reps	circulating departemenr publications
23/11/2020	PPN Annual Report 2019 & Revised Handbook	Secretariat	circulating departemenr publications
26/11/2020	Governance for Community Groups and Freedom of Information Training - reminders"	all contacts	training notice
03/12/2020	Clare PPN Plenary Meeting and Christmas Prize Draw Reminder Tuesday 8th December 7pm	all contacts	plenary notice
07/12/2020	Reminder and agenda for Clare PPN's Online Christmas Plenary Meeting - Tuesday 8th December 7pm	all contacts	plenary notice
18/12/2020	Dec 2020 Newsletter	all contacts	Newsletter

Appendix Two:

Clare PPN income & expenditure – October to December 2020

Expenditure for Q4

Wages	23,826.20
Travel and expenses	1,265.27
Rent and Rates	3,500.00
Telephone and postage	90.29
Heat & Light	84.49
Insurance	788.35
Bank charges	80.50
Auditing	2,117.50
Training & development	1,351.19
IT	839.00
Marketing, promo, advertising	63.39
Projects & events	3,900.00
Meeting costs	209.14
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