

# Clare Public Participation Network Report January to March 2019

## REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

## Clare Public Participation Network's Report to Clare County Council January to December 2018

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### **Introduction**

The first quarter of 2019 saw Clare PPN move from Clare Local Development Company to sharing a premises with the Clare Women's Network in Clonroad Business Park. This has been a large undertaking and coincided with the formation of a CLG and registering with Revenue for tax purposes. Also both staff increased their hours from 21 to 28 with effect from the 1<sup>st</sup> January. The move has hugely increased the visibility and accessibility of Clare PPN. We are now in a position to offer training space to member groups at a nominal rate and it has already become a hub of community-based activity. We are also in the process of applying for charitable status which will help us in accessing future funding for the benefit of our member groups.

During the first quarter of 2019 Clare PPN also continued its routine work of circulating information about events, funding and public consultations to its members through its newsletters and social media channels and maintained its support for its representatives who sit on 11 different committees in the county and region. We have also begun a recruitment process for a support worker.

We held an introductory session on Governance for Community Groups and our first quarterly plenary meeting in March. 2019 will see local authority elections followed by SPC/LCDC etc. elections and Clare PPN has been preparing, to ensure maximum engagement through educational training and awareness raising events and through building our relationship with groups throughout the county.

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### Secretariat Elections

A secretariat election was held in the Killaloe Municipal District with a very positive outcome (see below). We would also like to say a huge thank you to four outgoing Secretariat members who have given so generously of their time and skills from the very beginning; Eugene Crimmins, Damon Matthew Wise, Cillian Murphy & Christy Sinclair. Elections are ongoing for these positions.



#### **Welcome Fionnuala Collins – representing Killaloe Municipal District on the Clare PPN Secretariat**

Fionnuala is a philosophy graduate with more than 25 years of community work and activism behind her, both in a professional and in a voluntary capacity. Holding additional qualifications in Community Development practice, Youth and Community Work and International youth mobility project management, she has worked directly with a range of vulnerable and “at risk” groups over this time. She is currently the South West Regional Co-ordinator of MOVE Ireland (Men Overcoming Violence).

Since moving to Clare in 2006, she has served in many voluntary roles for a diverse range of organisations-including Secretary for East Clare Community Co-op, Treasurer then Chairperson of Whitegate Camogie club, Secretary for Whitegate Community Council, parents representative to the board of Lakyle National School and lately as a committee member on a newly formed community games committee. This depth of experience has helped her to see the needs of the region from a range of viewpoints, from youth/educational to environmental/sustainable development.

Fionnuala has been instrumental in directing financial resources to East Clare, through a wide range of grant applications over the past 12 years, including POBAL employment grants, LEADER/SEAI capital grants, EU ERASMUS educational training grants and Local Authority grants. She has been the Irish co-ordinator for 2 International projects, one on the theme of sustainable local food and the other was a training course on Youth leadership. Fionnuala has a strong interest in Community Leadership and collective agency and this led her to invite the President of Ireland to Scariff in 2012 to celebrate the 25 year anniversary of East Clare Community Co-operative.

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### Overview of Work carried out by Clare PPN in Quarter One 2019

#### Administration:

- Maintained and updated Salesforce database
- Maintained lobbying register.
- Monitored attendance and input by representatives.
- Conducted elections for one Secretariat member
- Applied for charitable status
- Management of finances and invoices

#### Outreach/Policy Work:

- Held one secretariat meeting
- Held one plenary meeting
- Held one new member meeting
- Held staff support and supervision with HR subgroup
- Hosted a public consultation with local artists on the Clare Arts Plan
- Hosted a public consultation on Heritage Ireland 2030
- Attended CPD training in Mullingar
- Attended stakeholders meeting on the Draft Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy
- Held training session on submission to Draft Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy
- Assisted representatives with research and/or policy questions
- Attended volunteer strategy sessions throughout county
- Assisted promotion of GOSHH Hep testing clinics



*Promoting free rapid Hep c & HIV testing*

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### Communications:

- Circulation of calls for submissions, grant schemes, event notices to members (see appendix One for details)
- Press releases to local media on events and policy issues.
- Continued communication with linkage groups/colleges/public.
- 3 newsletters to all members – see appendix for details
- Updating members through social media channels and website

### Training:

- Hosted Governance Bootcamps for Community Groups

*The new premises in transition*



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### EVENT REPORTS

#### Clare Arts Plan Consultation

In January, Clare PPN hosted a public consultation with local artists on the Clare Arts Plan. Feedback was collated and became part of the Clare PPN submission.



#### Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy consultation

In February, Clare PPN attended a stakeholders meeting on the Draft Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy. In response we held a meeting, publicised and created an online survey. The replies became part of the Clare PPN submission.



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### **Heritage 2030 consultation**

In February, Clare PPN hosted a public consultation with Congella Maguire, Clare County Council Heritage officer on Heritage 2030, a national framework to identify and protect our heritage. Feedback was collated and became part of the Clare PPN submission.



### **Volunteer Strategy**

Clare PPN collaborated with Clare Volunteer Centre to facilitate a consultation on the National Volunteer Strategy. This took place in 6 venues throughout the county and Clare PPN made a submission based on the consultations.

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### Governance Bootcamps for Community Group

In March, Clare PPN hosted Governance Bootcamps for Community Groups in Clare. It was fully booked for both sessions with 50 attendees representing groups from around the county. This will be followed up with further governance training in April.

Feedback:

*'It was very detailed and sector relevant'*

*'It was easy to understand and the facilitator encouraged us'*



Join Clare Public Participation Network, Clare Volunteer Centre and Clare Local Development Company for an introductory workshop

## GOVERNANCE BOOTCAMPS FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS IN CLARE

Location:  
**Clare Public Participation Network  
Clonroad Business Park  
Ennis, Co. Clare V95 N62T**

Time&Date:  
21st MARCH 2019  
day session 2pm-5pm  
evening session 6.30pm to 9.30pm

Places are limited so reserve yours on Eventbrite  
<https://governance-bootcamp.eventbrite.ie>

Or contact:  
087 1617375  
admin@clareppn.ie

volunteer centre Clare Local Development Company  
Cuidteachta Forbartha Airdís an Chláir Clare Public Participation Network



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Engagement

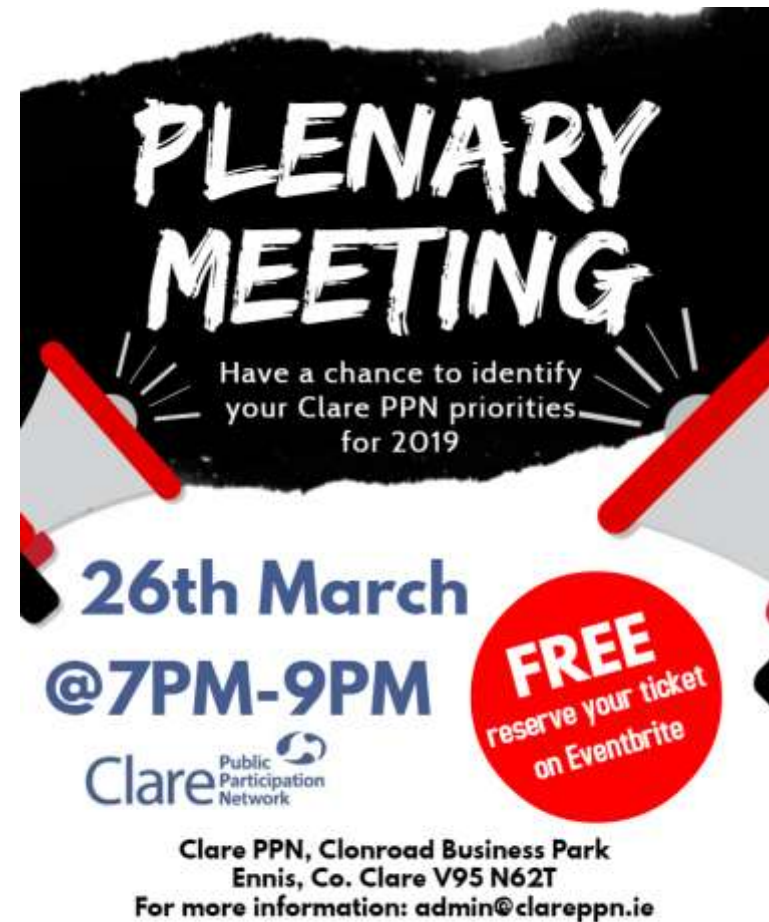
Membership:

Clare PPN currently has 282 member groups (+23 from December 2018)

Community and Voluntary College	213
Environmental College	18
Social Inclusion College	51

Social Media

Facebook followers:	1057 (+118 from December 2018)
Twitter followers:	827 (+84 from December 2018)



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### Appendix One:

#### Clare PPN mass communications with members – January to March 2019

04/01/2019	Any thoughts on Policing in County Clare?
07/01/2019	January 2019 Newsletter
21/01/2019	Meeting of the Rural Development SPC on Tuesday 22nd January
23/01/2019	Shannon MD Community Grants Scheme announced
23/01/2019	Joint Policing Committee meeting Monday, 11th February 2019
24/01/2019	Call for Project Applications - Fisheries Local Action Group
29/01/2019	Clare PPN representative meeting
04/02/2019	Reps meeting Doodlepoll results
04/02/2019	Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region
04/02/2019	NOTICE OF ELECTION - Killaloe Municipal District Secretariat Member
07/02/2019	Welcome to the Clare PPN Newsletter for February 2019
07/02/2019	Clare County Council Community Awards
07/02/2019	Economic Development SPC
09/02/2019	Economic Policy SPC agenda attachment
12/02/2019	Joint Policing Committee presentation by An Garda Síochána
14/02/2019	Reps meeting reminder. Monday 18th February 2.00pm
14/02/2019	National Tree Week 2019
19/02/2019	Draft Regional & Economic Spatial Strategy pdf and slides
19/02/2019	Clare PPN Newsletter February #2
21/02/2019	Physical Development SPC agenda and supporting documents
25/02/2019	Funding opportunities & consultations
25/02/2019	RSES online survey
28/02/2019	Tree protection raised at SPC for Physical Development
28/02/2019	Economic Development SPC notice, agenda and supporting documents
08/03/2019	Clare PPN Newsletter March 2019
25/03/2019	Clare PPN plenary meeting reminder

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Appendix Two:

**Clare PPN income & expenditure – January to March 2019**

<b>Income</b>	<b>Main a/c</b>	<b>Petty cash</b>	<b>Total</b>
Grant	20,000.00		20,000.00
Other	100.00	177.00	277.00
	20,100.00	177.00	20,277.00
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>Main a/c</b>	<b>Petty cash</b>	<b>Total</b>
Wages	17,056.16	-	17,056.16
Heat & Light	44.29	-	44.29
Travel staff	308.60	-	308.60
Travel reps	99.42	50.00	149.42
Rent	-	-	-
Traning	-	8.45	8.45
Office Epenses	81.98	61.90	143.88
Telephone	-	66.35	66.35
Meeting & events	52.50	79.73	132.23
Advertising	-	-	-
Insurance	-	16.00	16.00
Equipment	49.99	131.00	180.99
Bank charges	12.95	0.60	13.55
IT	183.27		183.27
Sundry	-	300.00	300.00
	17,889.16	714.03	18,603.19

\*€600 in total transferred from main account to petty cash during quarter