

Clare Public Participation Network Report January to March 2020

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

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

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Introduction | page 1 |
| Overview of work | page 2 |
| Report on events | page 3 - 5 |
| Engagement & Recruitment | page 6 |
| Reps elections | page 7 |
| Appendix One: Mass email | page 8 |
| Appendix Two: Expenditure | page 9 |

Introduction

Welcome to the Clare PPN work report for January to March 2020. As with every other individual and organisation our work for this quarter was disrupted and redirected due to the current worldwide pandemic. Our planned Wellbeing Statement events and reps training have been postponed until later in the year, while our focus has turned to collaborating on the Clare Community Response to COVID-19 (more on that below), supporting groups and volunteers dealing with this crisis and keeping our members up to date with the latest accurate information.

Clare PPN would like to wish you good health and solidarity at this difficult time.



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

Administration:

- Maintained lobbying register
- Monitored attendance and input by representatives.
- Management of finances, banking and invoices
- Processing wages
- Produced end-of-year reports
- Produced quarterly report
- Administered use of meeting rooms for community groups
- Investigated and contacted auditor

Outreach/Policy Work:

- Elected three new representatives
- Attended 2 Clare Community Response Forum meeting in Clare County Council
- Assisted representatives with research and/or policy questions
- Held pre-meetings with reps before SPCs/LCDC
- Finance meeting with Secretariat
- Held Clare Migrant Forum meeting
- Held two Ennis Welcomes Everyone meetings
- Held voter registration event
- Held General Election hustings event
- Attended workshop on Volunteer Strategy Submission
- Held planning meeting on Social Inclusion Conference (now postponed)
- Worked collaboratively on Clare Community Response

Communications:

- Press releases to local media on events and policy issues.
- Circulation of calls for submissions, grant schemes, event notices
- Circulated two newsletters
- Continued communication with linkage groups/colleges/public.
- Updating members through social media channels and website



EVENT REPORTS

Voter Registration

Clare PPN is committed to ensuring that the democratic process is accessible to all and were delighted to partner with Clare County Council and An Garda Síochána to facilitate voter registration for the Supplement to the Register in advance of GE 2020. Over 70 forms were stamped and processed on the day.



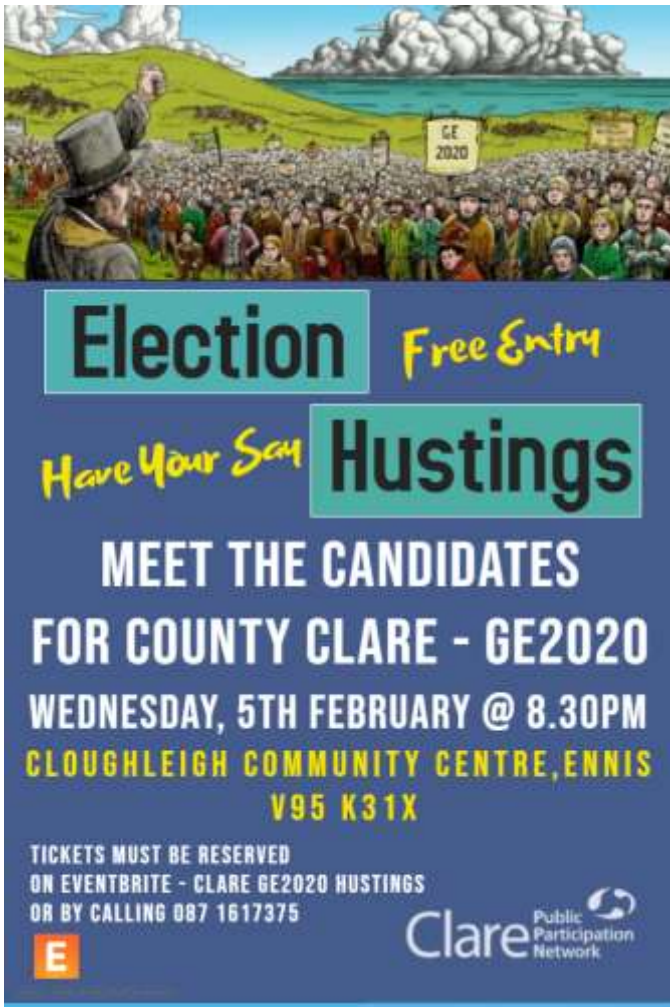
(Sarah Clancy at Voter Registration)

Ennis Welcomes Everyone

Ennis Welcomes Everyone had its first public meeting, inviting the residents of Clare Lodge and longer term residents of the town to get together in friendship and solidarity. Unfortunately the meetings have now had to be curtailed but will be resumed once restrictions are lifted.



(Poster for EWE meeting)



EVENT REPORTS

GE2020 Hustings

Clare PPN held a very successful general election hustings event in a full to capacity Cloughleigh Community Centre with more than 120 people in attendance as well as twelve of the candidates for the General Election. This event was also livestreamed from the Clare PPN Facebook page with over 2000 views and was facilitated by journalists Fiona McGarry and Andy Hamilton. A poll was taken on entry and exit to add interest to proceedings. Events such as this are part of Clare PPN's general work to increase interest in participation in political processes in County Clare. We held similar events for the local elections and these have all been successful in raising the profile of the PPN in Clare.



EVENT REPORTS

Clare Community Response

Clare PPN has partnered with Clare Volunteer Centre, Clare Local Development Company, the Family Resource Centres, An Garda Síochána, Clare County Council and other agencies to co-ordinate the Clare Community Response to COVID-19. Clare PPN conducted a needs assessment and volunteer survey, collating contacts from the entire county. We also secured insurance for the entire voluntary response with an online opt-in registration form. Insurance cover was monitored and compared to the online map on the LA website. We attended two Forum meetings and are currently attending daily Zoom meetings to monitor and address issues as they arise and to assist in the collective effort.

A dedicated community support helpline **(1800 203600)** has been established in Clare County Council to assist at-risk members of the public in accessing non-emergency and non-medical supports and advice during the current public health emergency. The helpline and support email (covidsupport@clarecoco.ie) are operational seven-days-a-week from 8:00am to 8:00pm.



HSE HELPLINE: 1850 24 1850
ALONE: 0818 222 024

Engagement

Membership:

Clare PPN currently has 279 member groups

Community and Voluntary College 214

Environmental College 19

Social Inclusion College 46

Social Media

Facebook followers: 1586

Twitter followers: 1095

Recruitment

Clare PPN is delighted to welcome William Hederman onto the team as Support Worker. He brings great experience and vitality to the role.

William's background is in journalism and photography. In recent years he has worked freelance in the NGO sector, doing investigative research, graphic design and media skills training. He has been active for many years as a passionate environment and social justice campaigner. His hobbies include hiking, surfing and carpentry.

He will be taking over the newsletter so get your articles and notices in to: newsletter@clareppn.ie



REPRESENTATIVE ELECTIONS

Clare PPN is delighted to welcome the following three representatives, elected in February this year. Unfortunately, the committees they are sitting on are suspended at the moment but we look forward to working with them in the very near future.



Mary Leahy
Social Development Committee



Hilary Tonge
Local Community Development Committee



Helen Liddy
Rural Development Committee

All our reps biographies are available at: <http://clareppn.ie/your-ppn-reps/>

Appendix One:

Clare PPN mass communications with members

| Date | Subject line | To | Details |
|----------|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 14/01/20 | 2019 accounts | Secretariat | 2019 accounts |
| 27/01/20 | Shannon Municipal District Community Grant Scheme | Shannon MD | Grant notice |
| 13/02/20 | C&V elections Feb 2020 | Community & Voluntary pillar | Notice of elections |
| 13/02/20 | Clare PPN Environment elections | Environmental pillar | Notice of elections |
| 13/02/20 | Clare PPN Social Inclusion election. Call for nominations!" | Social Inclusion pillar | Notice of elections |
| 13/02/20 | Clare PPN Shannon election. Call for candidates! | Shannon MD | Notice of elections |
| 13/02/20 | Ennis MD election. Call for candidates | Ennis MD | Notice of elections |
| 19/02/20 | Clare PPN REMINDER of Elections February 2020 - Ennis Municipal District | Ennis MD | Reminder of elections |
| 19/02/20 | Clare PPN REMINDER of Elections February 2020 - Shannon Municipal District | Shannon MD | Reminder of elections |
| 19/02/20 | Clare PPN REMINDER of Elections February 2020 - Community & Voluntary" | Community & Voluntary pillar | Reminder of elections |
| 19/02/20 | Clare PPN REMINDER of Elections February 2020 - Environment | Environmental pillar | Reminder of elections |
| 19/02/20 | Clare PPN REMINDER of Elections February 2020 - Social Inclusion | Social Inclusion pillar | Reminder of elections |
| 27/02/20 | Hurry, hurry.....tomorrow is the last day for nominations - PPN reps | all contacts | reminder of nominations |
| 12/03/20 | Message from Covid 19 Health Communications Stakeholder Support" | all contacts | Direct from DCRD |
| 20/03/20 | Covid-19 Clare Community Response Survey - (5 minutes) | all contacts | Survey - needs analysis |
| 21/03/20 | 21st March - Message from Covid-19 Health Communications Stakeholder Support | all contacts | Direct from DCRD |
| 24/03/20 | March 24th Message from Department of Rural and Community Development | all contacts | Direct from DCRD |
| 26/03/20 | March 27th Message from Covid-19 Health Communications Stakeholder Support | all contacts | Direct from DCRD |
| 31/03/20 | March 31st - Message from Covid-19 Health Communications Stakeholder Support | all contacts | Direct from DCRD |
| 31/03/20 | Clare Community Response helpline launched | all contacts | Notice to alert of new Helpline |

Appendix Two:

Clare PPN income & expenditure – January to March 2020

Expenses January to March 2020

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Wages | 19,227.47 |
| Heat & light | 206.90 |
| Travel - staff | 144.26 |
| Travel - reps | 110.00 |
| Rent | - |
| Training & events | 860.00 |
| Printing & Office Supplies | 31.54 |
| Telephone & WiFi | 94.84 |
| Meeting exp | 33.45 |
| Advertising | - |
| Insurance | - |
| Equipment | - |
| Bank charges | - |
| Sundry | 200.00 |
| | <u>20,908.46</u> |