

# NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2021



Dear Clare PPN member,

Welcome to our November newsletter.

First of all, a big congratulations to Ennis Tidy Towns for winning this year's top award of Ireland's Tidiest Town, a fitting reward for amazing voluntary work. Meanwhile, next week Clare PPN is delighted to support 'Empower', an exciting virtual concert hosted by Clare Leader Forum on 3rd December, marking International Day of Disabled People and featuring some of Clare's finest musicians.

The week after that, we hope you can join us online for our final Plenary meeting of the year on Wednesday, 8th December at 7pm, and have your say on the work plan for the next three months. Read on also for news of funding opportunities, webinars, consultations and more. And please let us know of anything you would like to see included in our newsletter in future.

Kind regards,

Sarah Clancy, Sarah Ferrigan & William Hederman

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## CLARE PPN PLENARY – 8TH DECEMBER

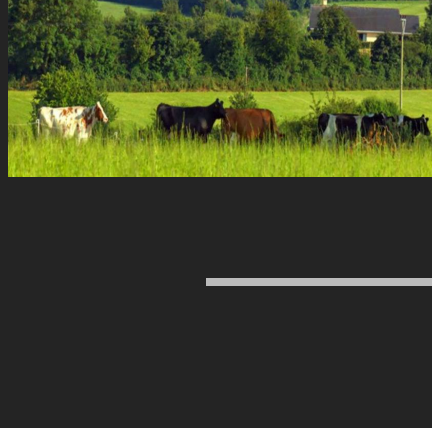
Please join us for our final Plenary Meeting of 2021 on Wednesday, 8th December at 7pm. Please reserve your place by emailing your name and member group to [admin@clareppn.ie](mailto:admin@clareppn.ie) by Tuesday, 7th December. All current member groups can propose agenda items by emailing [admin@clareppn.ie](mailto:admin@clareppn.ie) on or before 29th November 2021 with the subject line 'Agenda Item Plenary Meeting'.

To bring a motion to the Plenary, please email [admin@clareppn.ie](mailto:admin@clareppn.ie) by Monday 29th November, with the wording of the motion and why you would like to see the motion passed. See more about our plenary here: [https://clareppn.ie/plenary\\_8dec2021/](https://clareppn.ie/plenary_8dec2021/)



## WEBINAR: TOWARDS AN ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY FOR CLARE

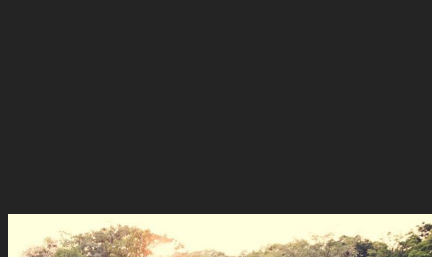
**10th December at 3:30pm:** To mark International Human Rights Day, author, academic and activist Dr Conor McCabe will present a discussion document outlining the initial stages of a research project he has been carrying out for Clare PPN. This project seeks to create a five-year anti-poverty strategy for Clare based on the lived experiences of people experiencing the various interlinked forms of poverty in the county. The project – the first of its kind – will run until May 2022 and is funded by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission under their Human Rights Grant Scheme. An open discussion on whether this framework is suitable to deliver sustainable rural and urban livelihoods in Clare will follow with input invited from those in attendance. We warmly invite our member groups, political representatives and those working in the areas of planning and community development to attend this event, at 3.30pm via Zoom, on Friday 10th December. To register please email [admin@clareppn.ie](mailto:admin@clareppn.ie)



## WEBINAR: FARMING IN CLARE – NOW AND THE FUTURE

**1st December at 7:30pm:** Join us for this webinar as four young farmers talk about the ups and downs of farming, about protecting the environment and what a Just Transition should look like. This will be a talking exercise, as members of the farming organisations, Macra na Feirme and Talamh Bío, describe their experiences and what they see for the future of farming in Ireland, followed by an open discussion. If you would like to take part, please email [newsletter@clareppn.ie](mailto:newsletter@clareppn.ie) with 'Farming Webinar' in the subject line.

# FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



## COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES FUND

**Deadline February 2022:** The Department of Rural and Community Development has announced a €9 million Community Activities Fund to support community groups impacted by COVID-19. Facilities such as community centres, women's and men's sheds, parish halls and youth centres are to be supported. €278,514 will be allocated to Co Clare. The closing date is still to be announced, but will be no later than February 2022. You can read the full statement here: <https://bit.ly/3bZAKp9>



## COMMUNITY CLIMATE ACTION FUNDING

**Deadline 14th January:** The Government has announced €60 million in funding for community climate action projects and capacity building over the next three years. The overall objective is to support and empower communities to shape and build low-carbon, sustainable communities. The strand that is already open for applications is for Education, Capacity Building and Learning by Doing Projects – this strand is worth €5 million and administered by Pobal. The purpose of this funding is to facilitate eligible organisations to collaboratively develop supports, tools, know-how and approaches to assist local communities take climate action. **Deadline 14th January.** <https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/community-climate-action-programme-climate-education-capacity-building-and-learning-by-doing-strand-2/>

Under Strand 1 – 'Action: Building Low Carbon Communities' – €24 million is being provided to local authorities to support the creation of low-carbon communities. Clare County Council will announce details of this strand in due course, but according to the Government announcement, examples of projects to be funded could include: community EV charging points, small renewable energy projects, community EVs, cycle parking, repair hubs, and community biodiversity gardens. You can read more about the overall Programme at this link: <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/6e5d3-climate-action-fund/community-climate-action-programme>



## COMMUNITIES WATER DEVELOPMENT FUND

**Deadline 8th February:** The funding scheme is open to not-for-profit Community and Voluntary Groups, Rural Networks, Urban Networks, Environmental Non-Government Organisations, Clubs, Associations or other appropriate bodies in the Republic of Ireland. Projects should show benefits for water quality, biodiversity and climate action. There is a total fund of €380,000 available for 2022. Grants awarded will range from €500 to €25,000. For support with your application contact your local Community Water Officer. To make an application please visit: <https://consult.waterandcommunities.ie/en/content/community-water-development-fund-grant-application-form-2022>



## COMMUNITY MONUMENTS FUND

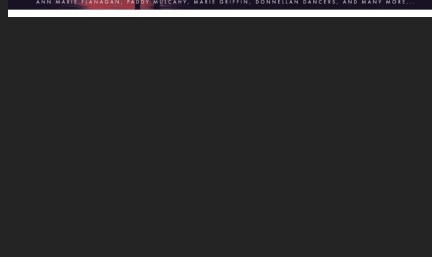
**Deadline 15th February:** The grants available under the Community Monuments Fund help custodians and owners of archaeological monuments to safeguard them into the future for the benefit of local communities and the visiting public. In addition, they provide support for heritage professions and job opportunities in archaeology, building conservation and traditional skills. The core aims of the Community Monuments Fund are the conservation, maintenance, protection and promotion of archaeological monuments. See Clare County Council website: <https://www.clarecoco.ie/services/planning/news/community-monuments-fund-2022.html>



## 'HERITAGE KEEPERS' PROGRAMME

**Deadline 1st December:** 'Heritage Keepers' is a new pilot national Place Based Learning and Stewardship initiative from the Heritage Council and Burrenbeo Trust. It's a free programme for schools or communities that will enable them to work together to explore the built, natural and cultural heritage of their local place and then plan an action or actions to enhance their place. It will initially be offered to a limited number of schools and communities in Spring 2022, through a series of five 2-hour workshops. Burrenbeo Trust is inviting expressions of interest from schools and community groups interested in participating. See also: [www.burrenbeo.com](http://www.burrenbeo.com)

# NEWS



## EMPOWER! VIRTUAL CONCERT

**3rd December at 7pm:** There is a great line-up for this online concert hosted by Clare Leader Forum at 7pm on Friday 3rd December. 'Empower!' is a concert that will mark International Day of Disabled People and raise awareness about younger people who are deprived of their liberty in nursing homes. Performers include Anne Ryne, Shannon Sisters, Fionnathan, Anne Marie Flanagan, Paddy Mulcahy, Marie Griffin, Donnellan Dancers and more. Email [clareleaderforum@gmail.com](mailto:clareleaderforum@gmail.com) to join the event on Zoom. The virtual concert will also be streamed live on the Clare Leader Forum Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/clareleaderforum>



## ENNIS HAVEN HUB SUICIDE CRISIS PREVENTION

The Ennis Haven Hub is a late-night suicide crisis prevention centre at Clare PPN's premises in Clonroad Business Park (behind the LCETB). Open from 8pm to 2am on Friday and Saturday nights for crisis peer support, this is a badly needed support for Clare. If you are worried/stressed/anxious or you know someone who is reach out and speak to a trained volunteer. The Haven Hub in Ennis is managed by the same directors as The Haven Hub that has been operational in Limerick since December 2019. You can email them at: [ennishavenhub@gmail.com](mailto:ennishavenhub@gmail.com) or visit their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ennishavenhub>



## MASI WINS HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD

Congratulations to the Movement of Asylum Seekers in Ireland (MASI) for winning the 2021 Human Rights Award. MASI, a member group of Clare PPN, was conferred with the honour by the Bar Council of Ireland "in recognition of its work with those in Direct Provision, and in the community, advocating for better legal and social protection, as well as access to state services, including education. MASI coordinator Lucky Khambule said: "Inspired by our lived experiences, MASI organised as a collective with a belief that we can shape our future. And this is something Direct Provision robs us of – the ability to shape minor and major aspects of our lives and indeed our future."



## AGE ACTION'S CARE & REPAIR

Age Action's Care and Repair carries out jobs in the homes of older people who are being discharged from hospital, to make sure their house is safe. Care and Repair can remove trip hazards, install handrails, replace toilet seats or move a bed downstairs. For any job that is too big or specialised for our team we can provide details of local tradespeople. Age Action national line: 0818 911 109. Email: [careandrepair@ageaction.ie](mailto:careandrepair@ageaction.ie). For more info, see: <https://www.ageaction.ie/how-we-can-help/care-and-repair>



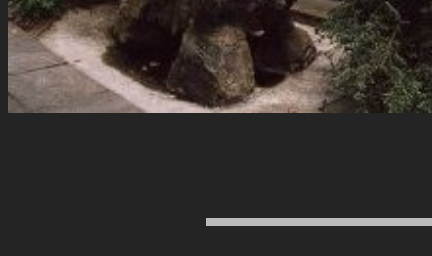
## CLARE OLDER PEOPLE'S COUNCIL AGM

**14th December:** Clare Older People's Council cordially invites you to their Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, 14th December, 11am-12pm, via Zoom. See link below. The following libraries are available to assist anyone wishing to join the AGM online. (Please bring your own headphones if using your own device): De Valera Library, Ennis; Scariff Library; Ennistymon Library; Kilrush Library; Shannon Library. For more information please call 087 918 9351 or email: [dmcgrath@clarecoco.ie](mailto:dmcgrath@clarecoco.ie). Here is the Zoom link for the AGM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81737155702?pwd=YUxkGK2lCMXhYjZRTUUS6R0Nydng3QT09>



## PROMOTE YOUR EVENTS ON COMMUNITY RADIO

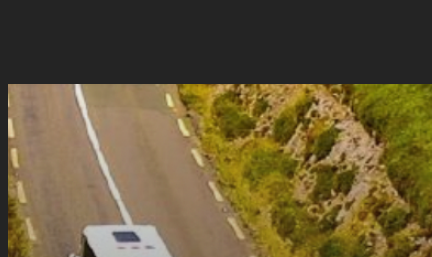
Raidió Corca Baiscinn, community radio in Killee, have a regular Community Unity broadcast from 1pm to 3pm every Tuesday. They are eager to hear from community groups throughout Clare who have something they want to get the word out about. If you are not keen on being recorded live they can pre-record an interview, either by phone or at the station in Killee. Contact [margaret@rcb.ie](mailto:margaret@rcb.ie) or by phone on 083-0232022.



## CLARE LIBRARIES ACCESSIBLE HOUR

Beginning on 1st December, each full-time branch of Clare Libraries will have an accessible hour in 1 hour slots on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11.30am to 12.30pm. At this time children and adults with additional needs are encouraged to visit to avail of library services. Parents with children on the autism spectrum and those children who require introductory information on what a visit to the library consists of should view the social stories at this link: [https://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolals/library/services/accessible\\_hour.htm](https://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolals/library/services/accessible_hour.htm)

# CONSULTATIONS



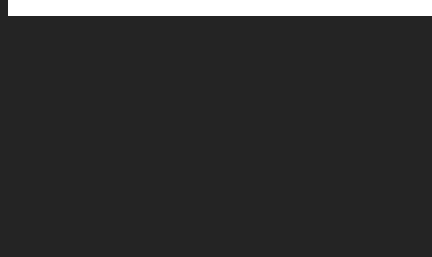
## REVIEW OF EQUALITY ACTS

**Deadline 29 November:** Your views are being sought on a review of the Equality Acts (Equal Status Acts 2000-2018 and the Employment Equality Acts 1998-2015). The Programme for Government commitments on a socio-economic ground for discrimination and the amendment of the gender ground will be considered as part of the review. Their effectiveness will examine the functioning of the Acts and their effectiveness in combatting discrimination and promoting equality. It will also include a review of current definitions, including in relation to disability. <https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/066b6-review-of-the-equality-acts/>



## CONNECTING IRELAND RURAL MOBILITY PLAN

**Deadline 10th December:** Some good transport news. The National Transport Authority is proposing an increase of approximately 25% in rural bus services as part of the five-year Connecting Ireland plan that has just opened for public consultation. Under the plan, 70% of people in rural Ireland will have access to public transport service that provides at least three return trips daily to the nearby town (compared to the current 53%). You can have your say here: <https://www.nationaltransport.ie/consultations/connecting-ireland-consultation/>



## DECISION SUPPORT SERVICE CODES OF PRACTICE

**Deadline 7th January:** Some 200,000 adults in Ireland may require support exercising their right to make decisions about their personal welfare, property and affairs. For example, they may have an intellectual disability, a mental illness, an acquired brain injury or dementia. Next year, the State will launch an essential public service, the Decision Support Service, and is now reviewing draft codes of practice and would like to hear from you. They especially want to hear from people with disabilities and their families and carers; people working in health and social care, law and financial services; and from the public. See more: <https://decisionsupportservice.ie/public-consultation/public-consultation-phase-1/consultation-code-practice-supporting-decision-making-and-assessing-capacity>