

Clare Public Participation Network Report July to September 2021

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

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

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Image by William Hederman

Introduction

Despite taking a break in August, Clare PPN has been very busy this quarter, securing funds for new projects (more on this below). We have sadly waved goodbye to one of our secretariat members and three representatives with elections already underway. The draft Clare County Development Plan has been delayed by seven months to give the elected members and executive more time to consider this most important document. Clare PPN will be doing our best to engage our members as soon as it is circulated to ensure that every corner of the county has a say on what will undoubtedly touch all our lives so keep an eye on your inbox.

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

PPN NEWS

Sad goodbyes

Clare PPN is sad to say ‘goodbye’ to Kay Murphy, a valued member of the Secretariat. Kay represented Shannon Municipal District (nominated by Shannon Active Retirement Association) and joined us in July 2020. We would like to thank her for her time and input and wish her all the best in her future.

Other representatives who have vacated their representative roles are Neil O’Brien (nominated by O’Callaghan’s Mills GAA) and Helen Liddy (nominated by Clare Leader Forum) who were on the Clare Rural Development Forum and James Giller (nominated by Extinction Rebellion Clare) who was on the Physical Development SPC. Clare PPN would like to thank each and every one for their time and dedication to representing their community in these roles. Elections are ongoing for these positions.

Human Rights & Equality Grants 2021

Clare PPN is one of twenty-eight organisations awarded funding by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission under its Human Rights and Equality Grants Scheme 2021. The Human Rights and Equality Grants Scheme is part of the Commission’s statutory power to provide grants to promote human rights and equality under the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014. Now in its sixth year, the programme awards small grants of up to €6,000 and general grants of up to €20,000 to support civil society organisations, rights-holder and community led groups, and trade unions in Ireland to promote access to justice for people who face the greatest barriers to accessing their rights.

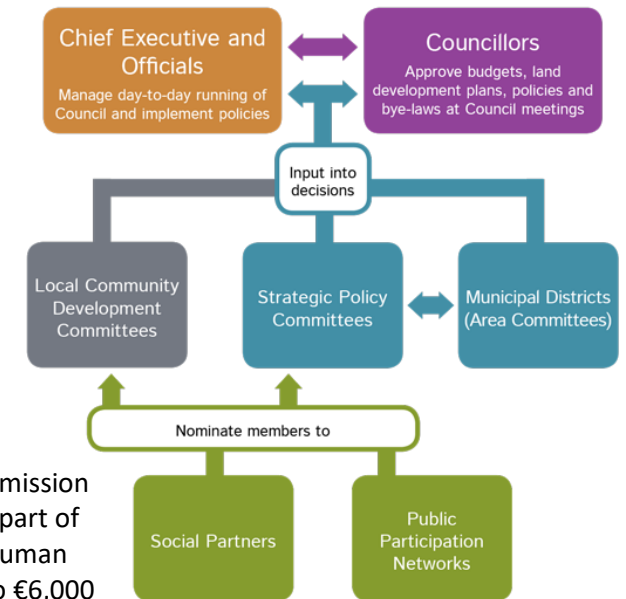
The Commission welcomed 147 applications to the grant scheme from across the country and Clare PPN’s application ‘*Developing a Participative County Level 5 Year Anti-Poverty Strategy for Clare*’ was successful. This aim of this project is for groups representing and comprised of those affected by socio-economic exclusion to collaborate to devise an action based anti-poverty strategy and to advocate effectively for the progressive realisation of social and economic rights in Clare. The strategy would be used as a framework to inform all policy submissions to the Local Authorities in Clare.



**Coimisiún na hÉireann
um Chearta an Duine
agus Comhionannas**
Irish Human Rights and
Equality Commission

This project is supported
under the Irish Human
Rights and Equality
Commission Grant Scheme

How Councils Formally Make Decisions



Funding to establish Traveller Community Development Project secured for Clare

Clare PPN is delighted to announce that a collaborative application to the Department of Rural and Community Development's Pilot Project Community Development Fund has been successful. This application was made on behalf of four organisations in Clare; Clare Local Development Company, Clare Women's Network, Clare Public Participation Network and the HSE's Mid-West Traveller Health Unit and endorsed by many other community and voluntary organisations around the county. Clare PPN's involvement in this project stems from concerns raised by their Social Inclusion Member Groups who have sought ways to lend their collective weight to working effectively to improve the living conditions and wellbeing of the approximately 900 Travellers who are part of the community in Clare. For more information: <https://clareppn.ie/funding-for-new-traveller-community-development-project-secured-for-clare>

**Oct
22**

Most remaining restrictions to be eased including:

- requirements for physical distancing
- requirements for mask wearing outdoors and in indoor private settings
- limits on numbers at indoor and outdoor events and activities
- restrictions on religious or civil ceremonies
- limits on numbers that can meet in private homes/gardens
- certification of vaccination, immunity or testing as a prerequisite for access to, or engagement in, any activities or events (with exception of international travel)
- restrictions on high-risk activities (nightclubs for example)

Measures that will remain in place include:

- self-isolation when we have symptoms
- mask wearing in healthcare settings, indoor retail and on public transport

Clare PPN premises and ongoing Covid 19 guidelines

The staff of Clare PPN took annual leave for most of August to recover from some a very busy year so far and to get ready for what are going to be the hectic final months of 2021. They have been working mostly from home since Covid restriction were brought in but there will be a gradual return to the office over the next few weeks,

The larger meeting room is open to community groups again, under strict Covid regulation. Any groups who are interested in using the premises can view the booking policy and sign the declaration that they will adhere to the safety measures described.

Clare PPN and NCCWN Clare take our responsibility to staff, volunteers and visitors very seriously and wish to reassure you that we are doing our utmost to protect your health at this time.


WORK OVERVIEW

Administration:

- Management of finances, banking and invoices
- Updated signatories on bank account
- Applied for iBB signatories
- Processed wages
- Added trustee to Clare PPN CLG
- Applied for tax clearance cert
- Liaised with IHREC on grant application
- Produced quarterly report
- Finalised audit
- Updated room rental guidelines
- Maintained member group contact list
- Maintained lobbying register
- Maintained and published Secretariat minutes
- Held 12 pre-meetings with reps
- Held 3 secretariat meetings
- Held 2 plenary meetings (main + supplementary)
- Ran elections for three representative positions

Communications:

- Circulation of grants schemes and event notices
- 3 newsletters circulated by email and on social media
- Maintained website (newsletters, reps reports) and social media
- RCB interview about Clare PPN
- Responses from Minister Simon Coveney and Eamon Ryan to Clare PPN's request that Ireland propose a global ban on fracking at the UN
- Press release on last minute amendments to Climate Bill



PLENARY MEETING

Have a chance to decide Clare PPN's priorities and network with other member groups.

Online

**15th September, 2021
@7PM-9PM**

**For more information and to register please contact:
admin@clareppn.ie or call 087 1617375**

Clare Public Participation Network

Submissions and consultations

- Clare PPN and Clare Environmental Network made a joint submission as part of the public consultation on 'Expanding Ireland's Marine Protected Area Network'
- Clare PPN submission to the Policing Authority on Policing Priorities
- Clare PPN made a Submission to the consultation on the National Action Plan Against Racism

View submissions here: <https://clareppn.ie/?s=submission>

Outreach/Policy Work

- Organised coffee morning for Syrian programme refugees with Respond
- Facilitated and collated two surveys for Clare Leader Forum

- Clare's Coming Out – a webinar for LGBTQ people in Clare and their families with NCCWN Clare
- Co-ordinated Quare Clare social event with NCCWN Clare
- Worked on organising the first Clare Pride (coming in October)
- Liaised with HSE, CLDC & WC FRC on Traveller CDP funding application
- Liaised with Haven Hub on using premises as suicide peer support out of hours
- Attended launch of Traveller Pride Week

Training/events:

- Completed DRCD blended learning training sessions
- Attended IHREC orientation session



1Image by Ken O'Sullivan, an award-winning ocean wildlife film-maker based in Lahinch, Co Clare and a long-time advocate for marine protection

EVENT REPORTS

CLARE COMING OUT
Information event for LGBTQ+
people, their families
& friends in Clare

Wednesday 7th July @ 7.30pm

Quare Clare & Clare Sports Partnership

Welcome

WE ARE GLAD YOU ARE HERE

10am - 12pm on 22nd September 2021
at Clare Public Participation Network
Clonroad Business Park
Ennis, Co. Clare

Contact: admin@clareppn.ie

Clare Public Participation Network

A coffee morning to welcome Syrian families to Clare

Clare Coming Out

Clare Coming Out was an online webinar run in conjunction with Quare Clare & Clare Sports Partnership. Representatives from GOSHH, LINC and BelongTo gave presentations on their services. It was a great opportunity for the LGBTQ community and their families in Clare to meet supportive organisations and to get to know each other. Mayo GAA star Fiona McHale told her own story of growing up in rural Ireland as a gay woman and whether the sporting community is doing enough to be inclusive.

Coffee morning for Syrian families

Clare PPN organised a coffee morning with Respond Housing to welcome new Syrian families that have settled in Clare. We were very lucky with the weather even though CISC provided a mini marquee and had a lovely morning (which included eating baklava and dancing). Clare PPN would like to extend our deepest welcome to County Clare's latest residents. We will be working to ensure that their views are represented through our structures.

ENGAGEMENT

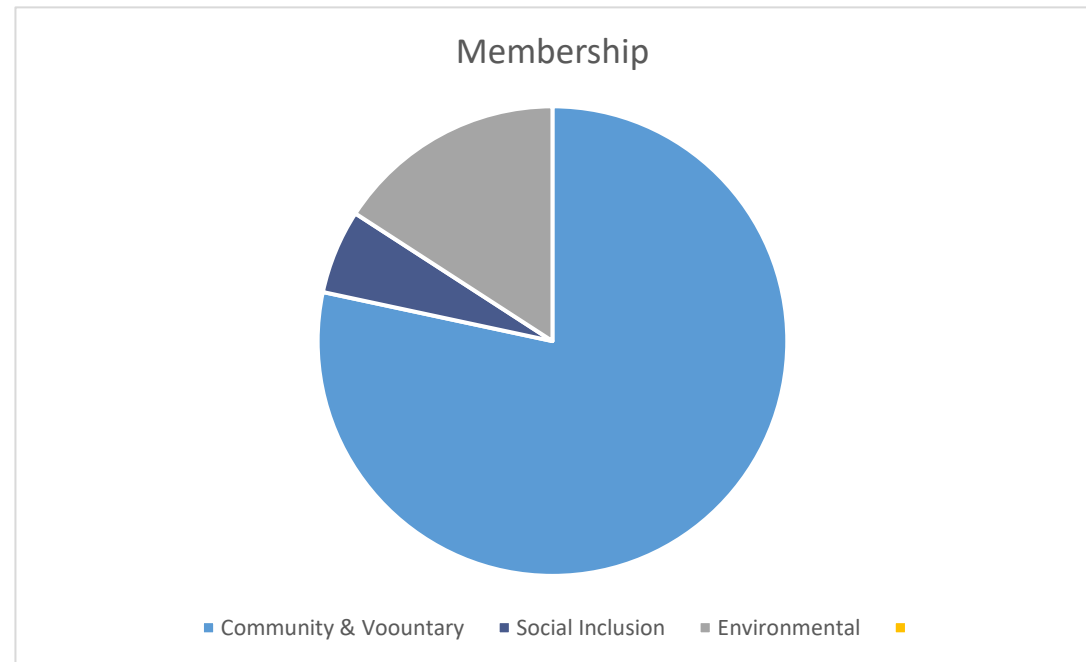
Membership by college:

Clare PPN currently has 328 member groups:

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----|
| Community and Voluntary College | 257 |
| Environmental College | 19 |
| Social Inclusion College | 52 |

Social Media:

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Twitter followers | 1,433 |
| Facebook followers | 2,027 |



<https://www.facebook.com/clareppn/>



<https://twitter.com/home>

Appendix One:

Clare PPN mass communications with members – July to September 2021

| Date | Subject line | To | Details |
|-------------|---|--------------|---------------------|
| 20/07/2021 | Consultation on the use of Council owned lands at Ballaghfadda Closing date July 22nd | Shannon MD | Consultation |
| 22/07/2021 | Can you take action to protect Clare's coastline and our ocean? | All contacts | Public consultation |
| 26/07/2021 | Questionnaire on Mid Term Review of the Clare Rural Development Strategy | All contacts | Consultation |
| 27/07/2021 | Some important Clare PPN notices | All contacts | Newsletter update |
| 28/07/2021 | Clare Annual Report | Reps | Annual report |
| 28/07/2021 | Clare Annual Report | Secretariat | Annual report |
| 31/08/2021 | CAP Consultation & Clare Rural Development Strategy survey | All contacts | Public consultation |
| 09/09/2021 | September 2021 newsletter | All contacts | Newsletter |
| 14/09/2021 | Agenda and Zoom Link for Clare PPN Plenary Meeting Wednesday 15th September at 7pm | All contacts | Meeting notice |
| 17/09/2021 | Notice of Elections - Call for Nominations | All contacts | Election notice |

Appendix Two:

Clare PPN income & expenditure – July to September 2021

Financial report

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Wages | 23,198.18 |
| Travel and expenses | 80.00 |
| Rent and Rates | - |
| Printing & Office | 95.89 |
| Telephone and postage | 72.48 |
| Heat & Light | 78.00 |
| Insurance | - |
| Bank charges | 79.55 |
| Auditing | 2,152.50 |
| Training & development | - |
| IT | - |
| Marketing, promo, advertising | 54.25 |
| Projects & events | 68.15 |
| Meeting expenses | 34.42 |
| Maintenance | 38.14 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 25,951.56 |
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Contact us

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