

# Clare Public Participation Network Report October to December 2021

## REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

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## Introduction

2021 proved to be a challenging year in relation to the ongoing pandemic and its effect on every aspect of community and personal life. Clare PPN's new strategic plan and workplan for 2022 were both devised and adopted with this in mind. The draft Clare County Development Plan was also delayed until December and is now open for public consultation. Clare PPN will be engaging extensively with our member groups in 2022 on this important document and also on the review of the Local Economic and Community Plan and various other important policy documents at both a local and national level. Unfortunately, two Quare Clare events had to be postponed/cancelled this quarter. One was a Christmas ramble and the other was the highly anticipated inaugural Pride Festival which will be relaunched in 2022, however an online Christmas Singalong, a trip to Glor theatre to see Iron Annie and a St Stephen's day Zoom Drop in were all held for this group and 2022 looks like being a busy year for this project. Clare PPN's social inclusion college's Anti-Poverty Strategy got under way with a well-attended Webinar for International Human Rights Day on December 10<sup>th</sup> where an introductory analysis to the context of accessing socio economic rights in Clare was presented by Dr Conor Mc Cabe. Clare PPN Community and Voluntary and Environmental Colleges also organised a very positive event with young farmers from Macra Na Feirme presenting to environmental campaigners about their lives and work.

If you have any questions or comments, please contact 087 1617375 or [sarah@clareppn.ie](mailto:sarah@clareppn.ie)

## PPN NEWS

### 2020 PPN Annual Report

The Department of Rural and Community Development, with the assistance of the National PPN Advisory Group, has published the 2020 annual report on the activities of public participation network. This can be viewed at the following link:

<https://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Annual-Report-2020-National.pdf>

### Traveller Community Development Project

Clare PPN is delighted to announce that a pilot Traveller Community Development Project will start in January 2022 after the successful recruitment of a project co-ordinator who will be supported by a steering group consisting of Clare Local Development Company, Clare Women's Network, Clare Public Participation Network and the HSE's Mid-West Traveller Health Unit. The project will be sharing office space with Clare PPN and Clare Women's Network at our premises in Clonroad Business Park once it is safe to do so. Clare PPN's involvement in this project stems from concerns raised by our 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. We are delighted that after a very competitive process that respected Traveller Community Development Worker Bridgie Casey, who among other roles worked helped to establish the Traveller led Approved Housing Body CENA, has now accepted the role of Coordinator of this project and we will work to support her this really important role and to show her a real Banner county welcome.

### Clare PPN premises and ongoing Covid 19 guidelines

The staff of Clare PPN are continuing to work from home at this time but it will be reviewed in light of case numbers and ongoing regulations. 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.



Rialtas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland

## Public Participation Networks Annual Report 2020

## New planning and strategy documents

CLARE PPN STRATEGIC PLAN: <https://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Strategic-plan-2022-2026.pdf>

CLARE PPN WORKPLAN 2022: <https://clareppn.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Clare-PPN-2022-Work-Plan.pdf>

## New representatives on the Clare Rural Development Forum

Clare PPN is delighted to introduce three new representatives who will join Christy Sinclair on the Clare Rural Development Forum which is comprised of more than 40 representatives from organisations throughout County Clare. One of its key achievements so far has been the Clare County Council's Rural Development Strategy 2026 (currently at mid-stage review):

<http://www.clarecoco.ie/services/community/publications/clare-rural-development-strategy-2026-26009.pdf>

Representing the community and voluntary sector are Rose Anne White (nominated by Killaloe/Ballina Historical Society) and Mary Coffey (nominated by Tuamgraney Development Association). Also making a welcome return to the PPN is Ann Marie Flanagan (nominated by SHINE) who is representing on social inclusion.

To view their profiles please go to: <https://clareppn.ie/clare-rural-development-forum/>



Mary Coffey



Rose Anne White



Ann Marie Flanagan



Christy Sinclair

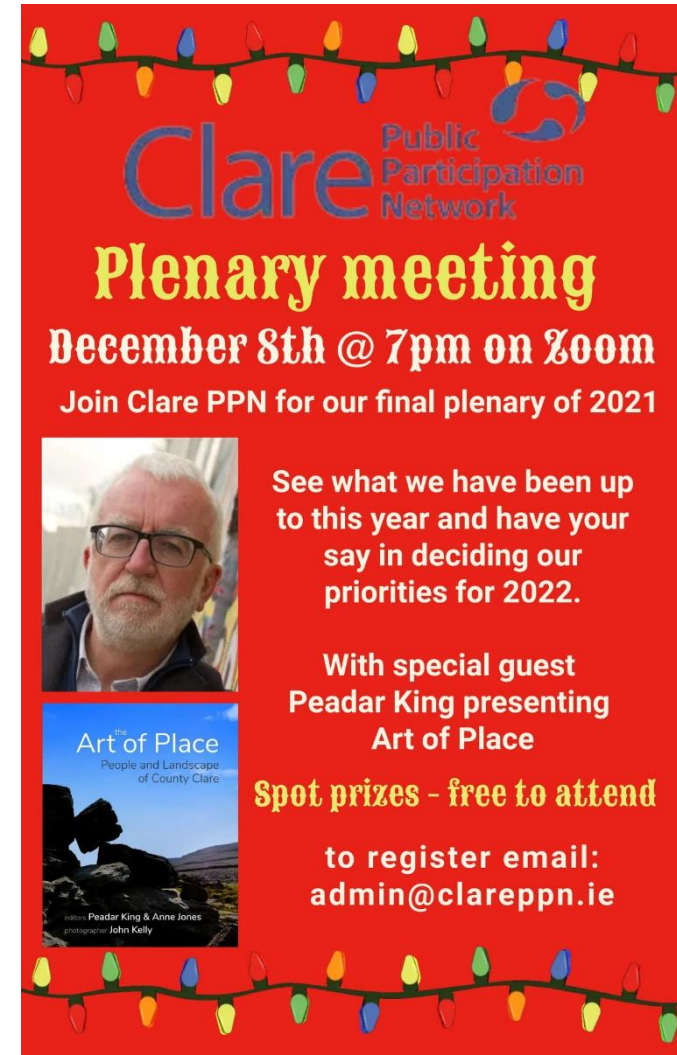
## WORK OVERVIEW

### Administration:

- Management of finances, banking and invoices
- Updated signatories on bank account
- Applied for iBB signatories
- Processed wages
- Sent grant update to IHREC
- Produced quarterly report
- Maintained member group contact list
- Maintained lobbying register
- Maintained and published Secretariat minutes
- Held 7 pre-meetings with reps
- Held 3 secretariat meetings
- Held 1 plenary meeting
- Held strategic planning day
- Devised, presented and ratified 5-year strategic plan
- Devised, presented and ratified 2022 work plan

### 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
- Article in the Clare Champion re: Pride Festival



The poster is red with a string of colorful Christmas lights at the top and bottom. It features the Clare Public Participation Network logo at the top right. The main text is in yellow and white, announcing a plenary meeting on December 8th at 7pm on Zoom. It includes a photo of Peadar King, a book cover for 'The Art of Place', and contact information for registration.

**Clare** Public Participation Network

**Plenary meeting**

**December 8th @ 7pm on Zoom**

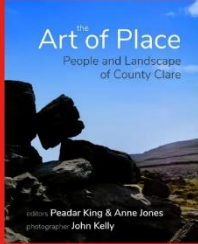

Join Clare PPN for our final plenary of 2021

See what we have been up to this year and have your say in deciding our priorities for 2022.

With special guest  
**Peadar King** presenting  
**Art of Place**

**Spot prizes - free to attend**

to register email:  
**admin@clareppn.ie**



### Submissions and consultations

- Clare PPN's environmental college submission in relation to the Environmental Assessment of the Common Agricultural Policy
- Clare PPN submission to the review of the Equality Acts
- Clare PPN submission to the draft Shannon Town Plan  
*View submissions here: <https://clareppn.ie/?s=submission>*

### Outreach/Policy Work

- Liaised with HSE, CLDC & WC FRC on Traveller CDP steering group re: recruitment
- Liaised with Haven Hub on using premises as suicide peer support out of hours
- Met with Novas group re: Anti Poverty Strategy
- Attended Clare Leader Forum Empower event

### Training/events:

- Launched Anti-Poverty Strategy discussion document
- Held webinar 'What's it like to be a young farmer in Clare'
- Webinar on the River Basins Management Plan
- Quare Clare – hosted a Christmas Quire and Boxing Day event for LGBTQ people in Clare





## EVENT REPORTS

### Webinar: Help Protect Clare's Rivers and Lakes

Good water quality in our rivers, lakes, estuaries and wetlands is a precious resource but one that is under threat. In November, Clare PPN hosted a webinar on how to make a submission on the Draft River Basin Management Plan. This webinar was an open Zoom discussion with a 20-minute presentation on the Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland (2022 to 2027), an overview on how people in Clare could get involved in protecting and restoring their local water bodies and finally how to make a submission on the draft plan. The presentation was given by Ruairí Ó Conchúir, of the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO), which works to promote a healthy water environment by identifying water quality issues and finding ways to improve them.

### Farming webinar 'What it is like being a young farmer in Clare'

On 1<sup>st</sup> December, Clare PPN held a highly attended webinar with farmers representing Macra na Feirme, Talamh Beo and Moyhill Farm describing their experiences and what they see for the future of farming in Ireland, followed by an open discussion. This was a listening exercise with members of Clare PPN's environmental pillar in attendance and an opportunity to find common ground.

### Launch of discussion document

At this event on 10<sup>th</sup> December, held to mark International Human Rights Day, author, academic and activist Dr Conor McCabe presented a discussion document outlining the initial stages of a research project he has been carrying out for Clare PPN.

In this event Dr. McCabe presented his initial analysis of the policies at a national and local level which provide the framework under which the economic development of Clare is being conducted. An open discussion on whether this framework is suitable to deliver sustainable rural and urban livelihoods in Clare followed with lively input from those in attendance.

The document can be accessed here: <https://clareppn.ie/towards-an-anti-poverty-strategy-for-clare-discussion-document-december-2021/>



**SINS OF THE FATHER**  
CONOR MCCABE  
TRACING THE DECISIONS THAT SHAPED THE IRISH ECONOMY

**Money**  
CONOR MCCABE

**Towards an Anti-Poverty Strategy for Clare**

Webinar: Dr Conor McCabe - Fri 10 Dec  
3:30pm - Register: [admin@clareppn.ie](mailto:admin@clareppn.ie)

Comisión na hÉireann  
um Chearta an Duine  
Irish Commission  
Irish Human Rights and  
Equality Commission

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

## Two Quare Clare events



Clare PPN hosted two online events with Quare Clare in December. One was a Christmas sing along before Christmas and the second one was a check-in on St. Stephen's Day. As stated on the intro, two events had to be cancelled unfortunately. A hike around the 12 O'Clock Hills was one and the second was the highly anticipated inaugural Clare Pride event. The Pride event will go ahead in 2022 so keep an eye out for that.

## ENGAGEMENT

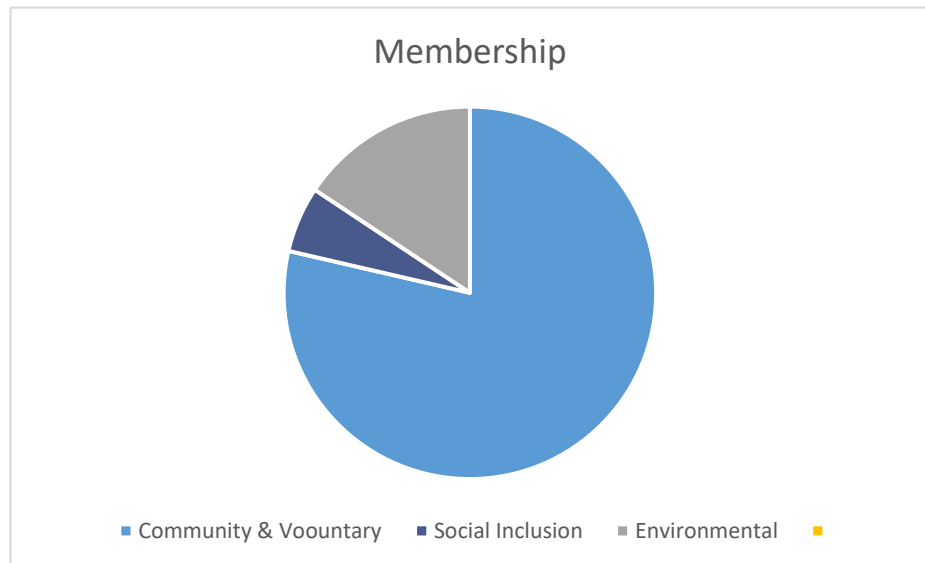
### Membership by college:

Clare PPN currently has 332 member groups:

Community and Voluntary College	261
Environmental College	19
Social Inclusion College	52

### Social Media:

Twitter followers	1,467
Facebook followers	2,068





## Appendix One:

### Clare PPN mass communications with members – October to December 2021

08/10/2021	Our Rural Future' Ideas Fora	All contacts	Event notice
08/10/2021	Clare PPN work report - July to September 2021	All contacts	Work report
04/11/2021	A few updates from Clare PPN	All contacts	Misc
09/11/2021	Webinar with Macra na Feirme on environment & farming: pick a date	Enviro College	Organising webinar
11/11/2021	Webinars: Protecting Our Rivers & Lakes; Future of Farming in Clare	All contacts	Publicising webinars
19/11/2021	Community Climate Action Programme	Enviro College	Funding opportunity
26/11/2021	November 2021 newsletter	All contacts	Newsletter
30/11/2021	Workplan and lunch	Secretariat0	Meeting notice
8/12/2021	Reminder and link for Clare PPN Plenary meeting tonight	All contacts	Meeting notice
14/12/2021	Shannon Town Plan consultation	Shannon MD	Consultation notice
14/12/2021	Minutes of Clare PPN Plenary, 8th December 2021	All contacts	Minutes
15/12/2021	Shannon Town Centre Consutlation Zoom Thursday 2pm	Shannon MD	Consultation notice
16/12/2021	December 2021 newsletter	All contacts	Newsletter
22/12/2021	Happy Christmas and thank you from Clare PPN	All contacts	Christmas wishes

Appendix Two:

Clare PPN income & expenditure – October to December 2021

**Financial report**

Wages	26,702.02
Travel and expenses	197.27
Rent and Rates	3,500.00
Printing & Office	145.19
Telephone and postage	242.64
Heat & Light	301.18
Insurance	747.81
Bank charges	81.04
Website	1,000.00
Equipment	839.00
Marketing, promo, advertising	102.30
Projects & events	651.67
Meeting expenses	531.89
Maintenance	49.95
	<hr/>
	<b>35,091.96</b>

**Contact us**

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Website: [www.clareppn.ie](http://www.clareppn.ie)



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