


Clare Public Participation Network Report January to March 2022

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES

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Introduction

Once again the communities of Clare are being called on to respond to a global crisis. Clare PPN is in a unique position to give practical support to these communities in welcoming and meeting the needs of Ukrainian people fleeing war. Unfortunately due to capacity issues we had to postpone our Spring plenary meeting but meanwhile our other work continued as planned, including the recruitment and training of two peer facilitators and the commencement of peer research for the 5 Year Anti-Poverty Strategy. Read on for more information.



**INFORMATION SESSION
FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS
RESPONDING TO PEOPLE
DISPLACED FROM UKRAINE**

For information on:

- insurance
- volunteering
- the Temporary Protection Scheme
- safeguarding for community groups

And a guest session from Joanne Hanrahan of The Wild Atlantic Way Psychotherapy on working sensitively with people who have experienced trauma.

Where:
Kilkee Community Centre

When:
Monday 4th April 7.30pm

For more information call: +353 86 404 3152

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

PPN NEWS

5 Year Anti-Poverty Strategy

Two new peer research facilitators were recruited this quarter. They both attended facilitation training and took part in two research sessions. The first one was with organisations whose remit includes poverty in Clare and the second was a group brought together by Clare Women's Network. Both sessions were preceded with a presentation by Dr. Conor McCabe discussing the difficulties in accessing and assessing statistics around poverty. This can be viewed here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gTvsENoD9GE&t=24s>

We have also developed a survey for organisations to determine where the gaps are in combatting poverty in Clare. This can be accessed here:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FYT6JZ9>

Our lead researcher Dr Conor McCabe drafted an extensive series of Parliamentary Questions (PQs), which were necessary due to a lack of available socio-economic statistics about the county. The responses from government ministers to the first set of these PQs make for a valuable resource, and we have now posted these on our website to make the data available to our member groups and to anyone who might find it useful for making or influencing policy in Clare. We'll be posting further responses as we receive them. Our thanks to our elected TDs for their help in submitting the questions. You can read the information here:

<https://clareppn.ie/clare-anti-poverty-strategy-research-pqspart-1/>

Traveller Community Development Project

Two positions have been advertised for Clare Traveller Community Development project. The two positions are: Project Development Officer (21 hrs per week) and Community Development Outreach Worker (28 hours per week). Clare PPN is part of the steering group for this project and we look forward to welcoming the successful candidates to our shared premises on Clonroad Business Park.



Clare PPN response to Ukraine crisis

Many of our member groups are heavily involved in supporting those arriving in Clare from Ukraine. Like the Covid crisis, communities across Clare have responded without hesitancy and in solidarity to support those fleeing conflict. To date more than 2,000 people, mostly women and children, have arrived in Clare to be accommodated in hotels, halls and other such facilities. Groups are being accommodated in Lisdoonvarna, Ennis, Shannon, Ballyvaughan, Kilkee, Flagmount, Killaloe and Cratloe.

Clare based organisations and community groups including Lisdoonvarna Failte, LINKs, Clare Local Development Company, Ballyvaughan Community Development Association, Clare Immigrant Support Centre, Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board, Love Shannon, Shannon Family Resource Centre, West Clare Family Resource Centre, North-West Clare Family Resource Centre and Mid-West Simon have all been working hard to respond to the immediate needs of those who have come here from Ukraine. Clare PPN is liaising with these organisations and community groups in regular co-ordination meetings to help determine what supports are needed and how they need to be delivered.

Clare PPN with Clare Volunteer Centre have supported volunteers with a streamlined volunteer registration and vetting process, securing insurance to cover volunteer efforts and organising information sessions on trauma, PTSD and self-care for volunteers (with thanks to Joanne Hanrahan). So far, these sessions have taken place in Lisdoonvarna, Kilkee and Ballyvaughan with more to follow. As you can imagine, many groups and organisations have rallied around to this effort however we have joined the calls for proper resources to be put in place so that these efforts can continue and that our organisations and groups can continue to deliver on their own work and objectives too. Clare is a welcoming place and our community groups are going above and beyond to help and welcome those displaced by war. Clare PPN sends you all our thanks and admiration.

Submissions this quarter:

- CLARE PPN Social Inclusion Submission to the Draft County Development Plan
- CLARE PPN Environmental Submission to the Draft County Development Plan

<https://clareppn.ie/submissions-county-dev-plan-2023-2029/>

- CLARE PPN Submission to the River Basin Management Plan

https://clareppn.ie/draft-river-basin-management-plan-for-ireland-2022-2027-submission/clare-ppn_cen-submission-river-basin-management-plan-2022/

- CLARE PPN Environmental Submission to the public consultation on carbon budgets

<https://clareppn.ie/submission-to-the-department-of-climate-environment-and-communications-on-carbon-budgets/>

- CLARE PPN submission to the review of the Equality Acts

<https://clareppn.ie/clare-ppn-submission-on-the-review-of-the-equality-acts/>

WORK OVERVIEW

Administration:

- Management of finances, banking and invoices
- Added two iBB administrators
- Processed wages
- Attended two annual report subgroup meetings
- Produced quarterly report
- Maintained member group contact list
- Maintained lobbying register
- Maintained and published Secretariat minutes
- Held 5 pre-meetings with reps
- Held 3 secretariat meetings
- Devised workplan, budget and SLA for 2022
- Met with Bernadette Haugh to agree workplan, budget and SLA
- Completed financial return for Department
- Completer IHREC report

Communications:

- 3 newsletters circulated by email and on social media
- Circulation of grants schemes and event notices
- Maintained website (newsletters, reps reports) and social media
- RCB podcast on Clare PPN
- Circulated anti-poverty survey to relevant organisations
- Requested and received answers to PQs from sitting Clare TD



Outreach/Policy Work

- Liaised with HSE, CLDC & WC FRC on Traveller CDP steering group
- Devised SLA for Traveller Steering group
- Advertised and recruited two peer researchers
- Held Anti-Poverty Strategy facilitation training
- Held two Anti-Poverty Strategy peer research sessions
- Had two meetings with Clare Leader Forum re Brussels trip
- Attended Ukrainian Response meetings with Clare Co. Co.
- Facilitated volunteer vetting in Ballyvaughan
- Assisted in devising ToR for Ukrainian fundraising efforts



Training/Events:

- Held Social Inclusion membership meeting
- Facilitated community support event in Kilkee (see poster above)
- Hosted Quare Clare dog walk
- Completed Creating Capable Communities training
- Hosted Community Action Tenants Union meeting online
- Hosted 'Protecting Clare's Environment' meeting
- Attended Government Supports workshop
- Held 'Rights of Nature' meeting

EVENT REPORTS

Introductory CATU meeting

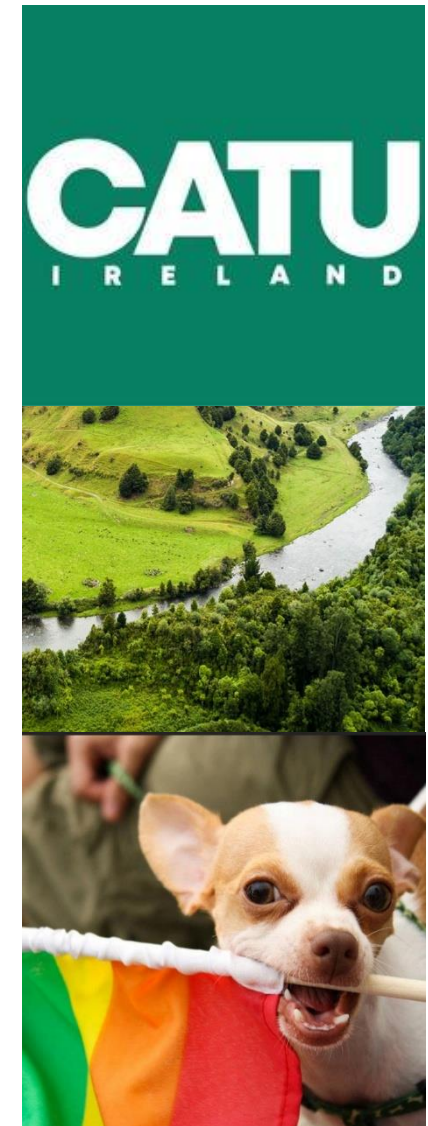
The new Community Action Tenants Union (www.catuireland.org) held an online introductory meeting for anyone interested in housing issues. This was a chance to learn more about CATU, a new independent, member-led organisation growing across Ireland. Nora Labo, CATU regional organiser for Munster, gave a short presentation on CATU followed by a discussion with participants about the housing issues people face in Clare and what can be done about them through collective action.

'Protecting Clare's Environment in 2022' event

With lots of environmental issues coming up this year for Co Clare, including data centres, mining licences, a new Draft County Development Plan and a suggested Council motion on the 'rights of nature', as well as various funding opportunities, Clare Environmental Network and Clare PPN's Environmental College member groups got together to chat about priorities and ideas for 2022. The event was very well attended and was the main consultation with the Clare PPN environmental pillar for our submissions into the Clare County Development Plan and the Draft River Basin Management Strategy (links above)

Quare Clare Dog Walk

Quare Clare held a seaside walk at Lahinch. Afterward we had a chat and get together for a coffee and ice cream afterwards. Make sure you have a lead if you bring a dog! Quare Clare is a social group for LGBTQ+ people in Clare.



ENGAGEMENT

Membership by college:

Clare PPN currently has 332 member groups:

Community and Voluntary College 261

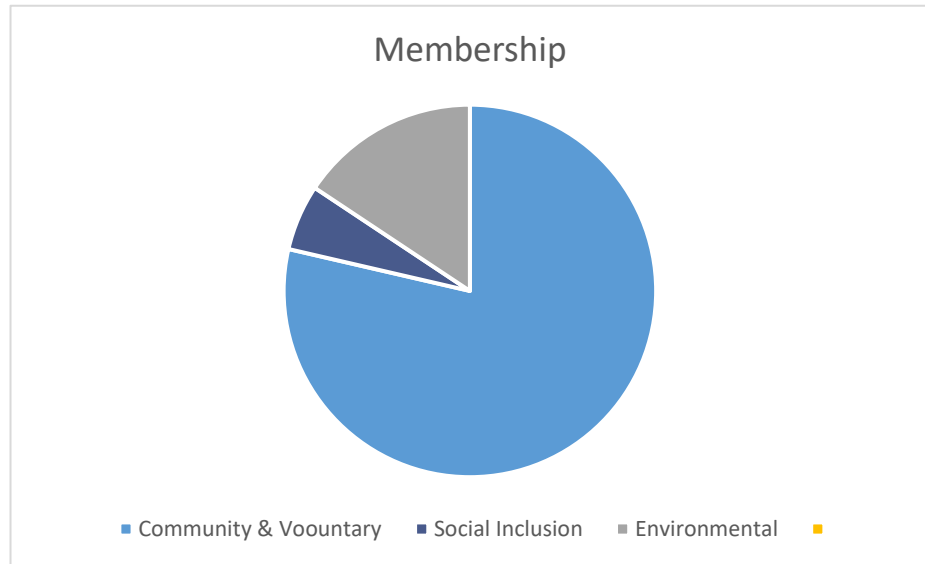
Environmental College 19

Social Inclusion College 52

Social Media:

Twitter followers 1,512

Facebook followers 2,186



Quare Clare at Jilly & Joe's



Appendix One:

Clare PPN mass communications with members – January to March 2022

05/01/2022	Mining prospecting licence for Tulla area due to be granted	Env College	Alert
13/01/2022	Clare PPN Environmental College meeting, 7:30pm, Wed 26 Jan	Env College	Meeting
21/01/2022	January 2022 Newsletter	All members	Newsletter
25/01/2022	Zoom link - Environmental Strategy Meeting, Wed 26 Jan @ 7:30pm	Env College	Meeting
02/02/2022	Notes from CEN / Clare PPN Environmental Strategy Meeting 26 Jan	Env College	Meeting
07/02/2022	Draft Submission on Carbon Budgets	Env College	Submission
09/02/2022	Meeting of Clare PPN Social Inclusion College - Doodle Poll	Soc Inclusion College	Meeting
11/02/2022	Re: Meeting of Clare PPN Social Inclusion College - Doodle Poll	Soc Inclusion College	Meeting
17/02/2022	February 2022 Newsletter	All members	Newsletter
17/02/2022	Social Inclusion College meeting, Thur 24 Feb at 7:30pm	Soc Inclusion College	Meeting
22/02/2022	Soc Inclusion meeting this Thurs 24 Feb – Useful links	Soc Inclusion College	Meeting
24/02/2022	Zoom link for this evening's Soc Inclusion College meeting	Soc Inclusion College	Meeting
07/03/2022	Rights of Nature Meeting / Biodiversity Citizen's Assembly	Env College	Meeting
08/03/2022	Clare PPN Environmental groups invite you to a meeting on 'The Rights of Nature'	Env College	Meeting
10/03/2022	Notice of Plenary Meeting 31st March 2022	All members	Meeting
18/03/2022	Clare PPN Environmental County Development Plan Submission - comments invited	Env College	Submission
18/03/2022	Clare PPN Social Inclusion County Development Plan Submission - comments invited	Soc Inclusion College	Submission
24/03/2022	Anti-Poverty Strategy Meeting	Soc Inclusion College	Meeting
28/03/2022	Clare PPN Plenary meeting postponed	All members	Plenary
28/03/2022	March 2022 Newsletter	All members	Newsletter

Appendix Two:
Clare PPN income & expenditure – January to March 2022

Financial report

Wages	23,564.60
Travel and expenses	-
Rent and Rates	-
Telephone and postage	91.66
Printing & Office	294.57
Heat & Light	-
Insurance	-
Bank charges	80.76
Website	-
Equipment	-
Marketing, promo, advertising	-
Projects & events	-
Meeting expenses	60.13
Maintenance	-
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Contact us

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