

Secretariat of Wexford Public Participation Network (PPN)

Minutes of Secretariat Meeting for the Wexford Public Participation Network (PPN)

Held on Monday 5th October 2020 at 10.00am using Microsoft Teams

Attendance:

PPN Secretariat Members:

Mr. Pat Rath	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr. John Carr	Wexford Municipal District
Mr. Kevin Molloy	Gorey Municipal District
Mr. Jonathan King	Community & Voluntary Sector (Facilitator)
Ms. Ann Lacey	New Ross Municipal District
Mr. David Doyle	Community & Voluntary Sector
Mr. Thomas Cullen	

Apologies:

Mr. Noel Stacey	Social Inclusion Sector
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Other Attendees:

Clodagh Connolly	PPN Support Officer
Edel Reck	PPN Support Worker

1. Minutes of previous PPN Secretariat meetings

The minutes of the PPN Secretariat meeting of 7th September 2020 were agreed. Proposed by John Carr and seconded by Pat Rath.

2. Correspondence:

- Email from DRCD dated 29/09/20 re. Expression of Interest – Online training for stakeholders of the PPN's
- Email from Elaine Jennings, DRCD dated 10/09/20 - Ideas and potential solutions for carrying out PPN activities
- Email from Sarah Martin, National Broadband Ireland – dated 23/09/20 Rollout of National Broadband Plan to commence Wexford 5th Oct
- Email from Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner, Wexford County Council re. making of Draft Wexford County Development Plan

3. PPN Report:

The PPN SO informed the Secretariat that she hoped to have draft ready by mid-November

Action: PPN SO

4. Representation and Secretariat:

Importance of continuing with elections was discussed. PPN SO said that she had discussed with IT Department, Wexford Co. Co what options might be available for this purpose. IT had advised of a Zoom plug-in that could be

used for this purpose. Ann Leacey told of her recent experience in attending meetings through Zoom. She felt that features such as meeting rooms were very effective and that she did not experience connectivity issues often experienced using Teams. Kevin Molloy shared his experience of using Zoom to attend a number of events for Positive Aging week likewise stressing the positive. Thomas Cullen urged caution in changing the system as he believed that a skills deficit exists and if members are asked to use an online system rather than a postal vote this could result in very poor response and participation overall. PPN SO informed Secretariat that an election was required to fill the vacant Community and Voluntary seat on the LCDC but that given current workload (re-registrations, annual report etc) that this process could not start until November at the earliest. It was agreed to keep postal system: **Proposed:** Jonathan King. **Seconded:** Pat Rath

5. Covid-19 & Supports for members

Informed Secretariat that quotes had been organised.

Action: PPN SO to organise second round of distribution

6. Plenary Meeting & Other meetings:

John Carr shared research with Secretariat re. use of Zoom to conduct plenary. For 19 euro Zoom could be used by up to 700 people. The software allows for back and forth communication. If we use a third party vendor to host the meeting for us cost implications are significant. Both John Carr and Kevin Molloy spoke of their positive experiences using this technology to attend meetings. Ann Leacey suggested that Plenary plans be reviewed given the times that we find ourselves in. Pat Rath suggested that a format for the plenary needed to be established given that the level of interaction will not be same as a public meeting.

Meeting to discuss plenary to be held next Monday, 12th October at 10am

Action: PPN SO to organise meeting using Teams with Zoom plugin provided by IT Dept.

7. Community Wellbeing

Jonathan King has taken on the role as PPN representative whilst acting as facilitator. Pat Rath said that whilst he had initially supported the idea of the PPN SO being the representative staff changes and a lack of overall support from the local authority did not allow for the continuity required. Ann Leacey proposed that this representative position should stay within the Secretariat and this should be put to the Plenary for discussion and decision..

Proposed: Ann Leacey, **Seconded:** Pat Rath.

8. Disability Sub-Committee

John Carr stated that he was appalled that there is no mention of disability in the Community Development Plan. Pat Rath asked that it be noted that he, as a Secretariat member had received no correspondence in relation to this matter. Jonathan King suggested that a response should be formulated.

9. SERDAFT Report

Ann Leacey explained that because of a technical issue on the day of meeting that the only discussion that took place concerned the selection of a

chairperson. She said that 3 candidates were interested with one candidate associated with the HSE. She felt that this might be a negative thing as it might be felt that the task force was weighted in favour of the HSE.

10. AOB

PPN SO presented a membership application from NCBI to the Secretariat for clarification as to whether a National body could become a member of Wexford PPN. John Carr clarified that technically speaking a national body could not become a member of the PPN. He advised that contact be made to inform the organisation that they would need to apply locally with local secretary, chair, office etc.

Action: PPN SO to contact Jonathan King

11. Date of Next Meeting:

The facilitator of the next meeting is Jonathan King. The next meeting will be held at 10.00 on 5th October using Microsoft Teams.