

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY CULTURAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE HELD ON MONDAY 11TH MARCH, 2018 IN
COUNTY BUILDINGS**

Present: Cllr Jim Ruttle, Chair; Cllr Brendan Thornhill, Cllr Miriam Murphy, Cllr Shay Cullen, Irene Sweeney, Kevin Mann, Celine O'Neill, Gertie Salley.

Apologies: Cllr Pat Kennedy, Cllr Grainne McLoughlin.

In attendance: Michael Nicholson, Brendan Martin, Máire Halvey, Caroline Fox, Jenny Sherwin, Aisling Hubbard, Martina Byrne, Mary Tuite.

Cllr Jim Ruttle opened the meeting by welcoming the new members from the Public Participation Network, Kevin Mann and Celine O'Neill.

{1} Adoption of the Minutes

Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting of 10th December, 2018 was proposed by Cllr Shay Cullen and seconded by Irene Sweeney.

{2} Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

{3} Project Ireland 2040.

Letter from Department outlining grant schemes to be made available in the coming months was circulated to members. MN indicated that funding workshops would be held around the county to ensure that projects would be ready once the schemes are announced.

{4} National Community Weekend – May 2019

Details circulated outlining this national initiative. Grant funding of €10,000 had been granted to each county. This grant scheme would be administered through the PPN.

{5} Update on the following –

- **Playgrounds 2019** – update circulated.
- **Celtic Routes Interreg Project**
 - MN outlined the scheme progress to date.
- **CLÁR Grants 2018**
 - MN informed members that he had made a case to the Minister regarding the limited access to CLÁR funding in Wicklow and that other parts of the County should be included.
- **Healthy Ireland Grants 2018**
 - Final date for spending 2018 grants has been extended to June 2019.
- **Town & Village Renewal Grants 2018**
 - Almost all projects completed.

- **Avondale Forest Park Project**
 - Planning received . Wicklow County Council would have no further input going forward. Expected to go to tender this year with works starting 2010. Multi-million development creating jobs in tourism. Cllr Miriam Murphy raised the issue of accessibility and MN stated that representations had been made to the developers to include facilities for same.
- **Fáilte Ireland Festival Grants 2019**
 - Handout circulated. Any suggestion for eligible festivals to be forwarded to Máire Halvey by 15th April. MN indicated that the MD's also had festival funding grants available.
- **Ronnie Delany Sculpture, Arklow**
 - To be erected in the new courthouse development in Arklow in Summer 2019.
- **Arklow Pottery Museum**
 - Part 8 complete. URDF funding to be sought in 2019. This project is a joint venture with the Arklow Chamber of Commerce who are carrying out a business case for the project.
- **Creative Ireland Programme**
 - Jenny Sherwin circulated update. Ambitious programme in Wicklow.
- **Community CCTV Scheme**
 - Arklow – work due to start shortly. Blessington, Greystones and Wicklow to follow. Concerns about GDPR have been taken on board.
- **Katie Taylor Bursary**
 - The Council's Protocol committee has again rejected the recommendation from the SPC and the LSP that the name of this bursary be changed and that the name is to remain as is.
- **Community Enhancement Programme 2018**
 - 2018 scheme complete. Awaiting funding announcement for 2019.
- **Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2018**
 - Four applications submitted under Measure 3 and Three successful. All projects submitted under Measure 1 and Measure 3 were successful.

{6} Food and Beverage Strategy

Details circulated. Launch on Monday 8th April to include a Producers Showcase.

{7} Healthy Wicklow Strategy

Details circulated.

{8} Wicklow Outdoor Recreation

New strategy for 2019 is being developed, and a number of public information sessions have been held.

MN circulated map funded by measure 1 of the ORIS and produced by the Uplands Council which showed 38 Way Marked walking trails in the County.

Cllr Miriam Murphy asked about accessibility on trails. MN indicated that where possible trails were made accessible. Aisling confirmed that the Great Outdoors outlined guidelines for accessibility on walking trails.

{9} Library Update

Update circulated. Discussion re monitoring and extra cost involved in Open Library. Brendan Martin indicated that technology costs are covered by the Department and that

security/cleaning costs would be 20% extra. Open Library to be reviewed in partnership with the unions in 3 months. Arklow Open Library would be open 14 hours a day, seven days a week from April 2019.

{10} Local Sport Partnership

Report circulated.

{11} Wicklow Gaol

Licence agreement for Wicklow Gaol to be extended. Funding received for a major storytelling project.

{12} Greenways

Blessington

A site visit was carried out by the Grant assessment team on 1st March and an announcement on funding is expected by May. It's an €8.5 m project. The old HSE building is to be purchased and this will be converted into a visitor centre where EBikes can be hired amongst other things. The entire route will be accessible.

Wicklow to Greystones

A consultant has been appointed and consultations have taken place. Discussions continue with affected landowners.

Arklow to Shillelagh

Discussions taking place with landowners. Arklow Town Team hope to progress the Arklow to Woodenbridge section separately as there are no land issues on that section.

{13} Development Schemes

Funding for 2019 expected to be announced later this year for the URDF and RRDF schemes.

{14} Any Other Business

Máire Halvey to clarify if the MD Tourism Grants will be made available again this year.

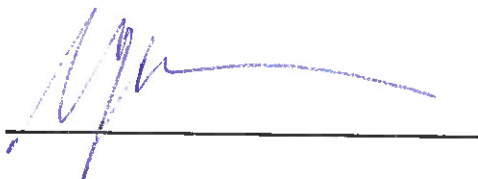
Cllr Shay Cullen paid tribute to Cllr Jim Ruttle on his retirement. He said his dedication was unrivalled and he would be a great loss to the county and particularly to the rural areas of West Wicklow. He wished him a long and happy retirement and all members present concurred with this.

Cllr Jim responded and said he was delighted to have worked with such a positive committee and he thanked the Director, members and staff for their courtesy, kindness and friendship.

{15} Date for next meeting.

Date to be decided after the local elections.

Signed: _____



Date: _____

24th October 2019

