

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC POLICY
COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 29TH JUNE, 2020 IN CLERMONT CAMPUS.**

Present: Irene Sweeney, Kevin Mann, Gertie Salley, Chairman Cllr Gail Dunne, Cllr Vincent Blake, Cllr Melanie Corrigan, Cllr Miriam Murphy, Cllr John Mullen.

Apologies: Celine O'Neill, Cllr Anne Ferris.

In Attendance: Michael Nicholson, Caroline Fox, Mary Tuite.

The following updates were circulated to members prior to the meeting, for their information.

- Community Enhancement Programme 2020
- Disability Federation Ireland
- Wicklow to Greystones Coastal Route
- Development of Wicklow Migrant Integration Strategy
- Capital Projects Update
- Arklow to shillelagh Greenway
- Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership
- Libraries
- Arts Office
- Local Community Development Committee

{1} Adoption of the Minutes

The Chairman opened the meeting with a welcome back to members.

Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting of 9th December, 2019 was proposed by Irene Sweeney and seconded by Cllr Vincent Blake.

{2} Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

{3} Covid Update

Michael Nicholson updated members on procedures and practices which had been put in place to deal with the Covid emergency.

- Management meet every morning to review any new arrangement needing to be made.
- The Community Call Helpline was still in operation , 7 days a week, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. He thanked the voluntary groups who worked in co-ordination with staff to provide this service.
- 40% approximately of staff back working in the building, some doing shift work.
- No rates this year and parking and rental revenue down.
- All staff is CCSD section back working in county buildings.
- Thanked all staff, the PPN for their flexibility during the crisis. This was endorsed by Kevin Mann, John Mullen, Melanie Corrigan and the Chairman Gail Dunne.

{4} Project Ireland 2040 Rural Regeneration Programme Updates.

CLAR 2019 – Report circulated showing progress on existing schemes. Clár 2020 scheme announced. Application deadline August 28th 2020. No change in Clár area. Michael Nicholson informed members that an extension of the CLAR areas in Co. Wicklow based on the 2011 census had been requested.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2018/2019 – Report circulated showing progress to date. Town and village 2020 announced. Three application deadlines, 3rd July, 14th August and 28th August 2020. John Mullen requested that the Rural Recreation Officer be invited to attend the next meeting.

Community Enhancement 2020 - Report circulated giving detailing announcement of 2020 scheme. Funding for this year reduced from €141k to €61k. 8th September deadline. Funding for Arklow Disability Playground could be sought under this scheme.

Healthy Ireland - Position of Co-Ordinator had been advertised and interviews to take place in July. Internal competition.

Urban and Rural Recreation Development Schemes – Three projects submitted under each scheme. Funding expected to be announced shortly.

{5} Strategy Updates

Healthy Wicklow Strategy – awaiting appointment of Co-ordinator and funding to be announced.

Food and Beverage Strategy – Implementation progressing. Food poverty identified in pockets in the county during Covid emergency.

Greenway Strategy – Arklow to Shillelagh – update circulated. John Mullen indicated that this is an important linkage trail including into Wexford. Miriam Murphy said that Irene Sweeney and the Town Team had put in a lot of work progressing this project.

Wicklow to Greystones – Awaiting outcome of application for funding under the Carbon Tax Initiative to carry out necessary studies. Cllr Gail Dunne suggested that because there were problems with this greenway north of Kilcoole that possibly progressing the section from Wicklow to Greystones should be looked at as an option.

Blessington Greenway- Works have been delayed due to Covid and completion date of 2022 now expected. A trial section from Valleymount to Ballyknocken going ahead. An engineer and clerk of works had been employed as this was more cost effective. Technical and project meeting held fortnightly.

Creative Ireland Strategy - Update circulated.

Play and Recreation Strategy - Update circulated. Two new playgrounds officially opened – Laragh and Roundwood. MUGA being built under Clár funding in Rathcoyle. Successful tenderer Spraoi Linn. Cllr Gail Dunne expressed thanks to Senator Pat Casey for his involvement in bringing these projects to fruition. Michael Nicholson indicated that the focus going forward will be on refurbishment of older playgrounds as there are sufficient playgrounds in the county at present. Irene Sweeney enquired about the provision of allotments and Melanie Corrigan about community gardens. Michael indicated that dog parks and allotments and community gardens were being requested but these required large tranches of land. It was something that would be explored.

Age Friendly Strategy – Update circulated. Access to technology highlighted as a serious problem. Age Friendly are collaborating with BAP in a scheme which hopes to address a technology need in nursing home. John Mullen highlighted the need to continue the meals on wheels in Carnew which is being run on a voluntary basis at present and also the need to include and highlight age friendly living spaces in the County Development Plan.

Arts Strategy – Update circulated.

Library Strategy – Update circulated. Cllr Vincent Blake welcomed the works being undertaken in Baltinglass. Cllr Gail Dunne thanked the library staff for their working on the Community Call Helpline and in the re-opening of the libraries.

Migrant Integration Strategy – Update circulated.

{6} Wicklow Sport & Recreation Partnership Update- Update circulated. Michael Nicholson indicated the recruitment to replace Andrew McBride and to recruit the Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator was underway.

{7} Any Other Business – Miriam Murphy requested that Disability Access be included on the SPC Agenda going forward and that she be invited to make a presentation to the next meeting.

{8} Date for next meeting. – Monday 21st September, 2020.

Signed:


CLLR GAIL DUNNE
CHAIRMAN

Date:

20/10/20

