

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY, CULTURAL AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC POLICY
COMMITTEE ZOOM MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 29TH MARCH AT 11 A.M.**

Present: Irene Sweeney, Anne Gregory, Gertie Salley, Cllr Gail Dunne, Cllr Anne Ferris, Cllr John Mullen, Kevin Mann.

Apologies: Cllr Miriam Murphy.

In Attendance: Michael Nicholson, Brendan Martin, Máire Halvey, Caroline Fox, Aisling Hubbard, Jenny Sherwin and Mary Tuite.

Cllr Gail Dunne opened the meeting and welcomed new member Anne Gregory, new representative for the Environment/Conservation Sector.

{1} Adoption of the Minutes

Adoption of the Minutes of the meeting of 14th December, 2020 was proposed by Irene Sweeney and seconded by Gertie Salley.

{2} Matter Arising.

There were no matters arising.

{3} Covid Update

Michael Nicholson provided an update on services being provided i.e. Community Call, Keep Well Campaign, Befriending Service and other projects being undertaken by the Library, Arts and Sports sections of CCSD. A PowerPoint presentation from the HSE covering the vaccination roll out would be circulated to members. Two vaccination centres to open in Wicklow. One in Greystones and one in Arklow. It was anticipated that some WCC staff would assist with operating these centres if needed.

{4} Wicklow Sports and Recreation Partnership Strategy

A presentation on the strategy was circulated to the committee and the strategy was adopted by consensus.

Aisling Hubbard informed members that the LSP are undertaking an online audit of school facilities. Irene Sweeney said she was happy to see the audit taking place and that clubs and community groups can find it difficult to access some local schools, whereas others are available for rental.

The Chairman highlighted the opportunity for clubs to work together in applying for sports capital and there is potential also to link to schools for these grants.

{5} Rural Regeneration Programme Updates

Programme updates were circulated prior to the meeting.

{6} Strategy Updates

Greenways – Caroline Fox provided an update.

- **Wicklow to Greystones** – coastal erosion study taking place – main impact ecological.
- **Arklow to Shillelagh** – route identified – consultation almost complete. Delivery date – start 2022. 18 months construction. John Mullen enquired about costing for Arklow to Shillelagh. Caroline Fox advised that it was expected to be similar to Blessington.
- **Blessington** - €15m allocated to complete the project. Route has changed with new bridges, lakeshore protection works, etc. The project's planning documents will be submitted to An Bord Pleanala. Expected start late 2021 or early 2022 to be completed 2023. In house construction team to manage and control costs.

Creative Ireland - Jenny Sherwin uploaded an update. Cllr Anne Ferris congratulated Jenny on the extra funding received and the tremendous work she has done.

Play and Recreation – Funding been sought to re-surface the running track at Charlesland.

Age Friendly – 500 Care Packs had been distributed to the elderly. A Befriending Service has been set up in Arklow and Tablets has been distributed to Nursing Homes.

Library - Draft Library Development Plan for 2021 – 2025 had been circulated prior to the meeting. Cllr Anne Ferris proposed adoption of the plan and this was agreed by members. This would go forward to the full Council for adoption at their next meeting.

Migrant Integration Strategy - Adopted and to go to next Council Meeting.

{7} Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership Update

An update on all the activities circulated prior to the meeting. A draft of the Wicklow Sports & Recreation Partnership Strategic Plan 2020-2023 was also circulated and approved to go forward to Council for adoption.

{8} Ethics – Local Government Act 2001, Circular LG2/2015 – Non elected members on committees. This was circulated to members to note.

{9} Any Other Business

This issue of community groups struggling with mortgages and bridging finance due to inability to fund raise or complete works due to Covid. The Chairman suggested writing to T.D's to highlight the issue but Michael Nicholson suggested it needed to be raised at a county level and suggested it should be listed as an Agenda item at the next Council Meeting.

The next meeting date was set for Monday 21st June.

Signed: _____

CLLR GAIL DUNNE

Date: _____

23/3/22