

Cork County PPN Secretariat Meeting - Tuesday November 12th at 7pm

Attendees: Pauline Dwyer (Chair), Liam McCarthy (Chair), John Fuller, Jose, Doug Lucey, Carol Harpur (minute taker), Brid Coakley, Ena Howell, Donal Kissane, Michael Doyle,

Apologies: Sean Kelly, Jithin Regani

Staff: Morrin Drislane (Coordinator)

Agenda:

1. **Welcome, apologies, ground rules:**

MD welcomes new chairperson Pauline Dwyer and thanks Liam for his help in the role.

John suggests in future the election of meeting should happen at a meeting as best practice. Discussion with Jose about not full attendance at meetings and favours online vote, Brid supports that chair would be elected at a meeting. Liam thinks maybe keep an option to vote online. Chair suggests asking the secretariat for comments.

Welcome from the new chair Pauline. Apologies read out and note of the resignation of Tadgh Quill Manley.

2. **Minutes (Draft) Accept?** Minutes not available until Noelle returns. Pauline sends regards to Noelle on behalf of secretariat.

3. **Matters Arising:**

4. **Correspondence:**

Email from Andrew about LCDC seats, increase in number of PPN seats, now stands at 5 seats on each LCDC (2 S-I, 2 C&V, 1 ENV) .

MD noted that Cork County and City resource workers are hosting the meeting of the regional resource workers network.

Question about number of SPC seats; (9 SPCs x3 reps) 27 representative places.

Liam said it would be good to achieve a geographic spread of representatives on the SPCs, Jose , this could be done by encouraging nominations across a wide area. MD noted a query in the new LCDC seats about the term of service of those on the LCDC, should it match the full term of the LCDC, 5 years, and asked for a volunteer to check the policy. Secad correspondence about opening first LEADER call. - Mayors awards – see below.

5. **Sub-Committees:**

6. **Grievances/ Complaints:**

7. **New Groups:**

none available yet, waiting for Noelle.

8. **Plenary**

Plenary pushed back as waiting to resolve the reps for SPCs. 3 seats to be contested that will go for election. Need people from environmental pillar – have places ; only environment spc and coastal spc are filled.

DK asked which 3 are going for election. MD listed spcs, will contact people who are going forward to elections .. Everyone who is registered for the plenary .

Question on the use as previous by election buddy. DK asked about the process for election and that it should be open to all PPN groups not just those at the plenary.

LmcC said council wont allow election buddy. Need to email out to groups for election of reps.

Date of plenary 26th nov at 7pm online.

9. **National Secretariat Network:** Update from Liam McCarthy – No update until next meeting.

10. **Support Worker Updates:** Working on updating email list and contacts and working on social media posts. Training is being organised, strategic planning training was postponed and will go ahead soon. MD working on filling reps seats.

And the SPC submission , she will email out the document. Upcoming mayors awards, looking for 3 volunteers for this to meet online to help judge the awards ; - John Fuller (North), Liam (South), need volunteer for West Cork area, Ena nominated.

11. Coordinator Updates:

MD wanted to comment on two things, the MD plenaries that were held in the last few months some were successful and others were not. Question on how to follow up on this – do we continue doing this or adjust the approach. Something to think about for next year and the workplan

Second point is the workplan for 2025, what direction do you want to take – Jose thinks we need a coach / facilitator to discuss the workplan and strategic forward plan in a brainstorming session.

DK needs the linkage groups to be reconvened and the MD linkage groups. No linkage group meetings held in 2024. PD said there was problems with the linkage groups. CH suggested a focus on the reps (SPCs and LCDCs) and making sure they are all set up properly, supported and fully understand the role. Jose said yes help them find their feet, consolidate them before creating too complicated a structure and overburden them with extra work. Morrin invited DK to come forward with ideas on how to approach to setting up successful linkage groups. DK said a huge deficit is the lack of SPC linkage groups. PD said very low attendance at the recent training.

12. SPC/LCDC Elections - Linkage Groups – Thematic Groups - Update

13. Municipal District Plenaries: What Next?

Discussion from DK about municipal district reps, confusion on this. CH thinks that

we are nominated to the secretariat from a municipal district but we are not municipal district reps. Donal will send on the piece from the handbook to support his view in this.

Doug thought it is important to work at the MD level, it is the level people connect at. Will try to come up with ideas on how to encourage activity at this level.

MD tried to encourage thinking outside the box that would be the best approach to make the most of what we have and how to give back to the groups. John said we are not alone – same problem across the board. Suggests to follow up on the successful funding training and make it more local . Pauline suggested roadshows eg on retrofitting community centres.

Suggestion from one of the plenaries to go to the library , to do a show and tell meeting at a library.

Pauline said do a test run of one location and see how it works.

Pauline said to email in any ideas to Morrin.

14. **AOB**

Broad discussion on how to get more groups engaged.

Thanks and close from the chair.

Next meeting Friday 13th Christmas in person in vertigo .