

Minutes of Cork County Public Participation Network Spring Plenary 23/04/2026

Attendees: Liam McCarthy (Acting Chairperson), Krisztina Berecz, Adriana Gerhart, Joseph Cronin, Michael Mulry, Julian Smith, Doug Lucey, Diarmuid Cronin, Betty Hennessy, Mary Murphy, Ena Howell, Deirdre Hickey, Catherine Foley, Anne O Neill, John Hurley, Gosia Waldowska , Marielle Xuereb , Tom Howard, Carol Harpur, Ken Butterworth.

Staff: Noelle Nally (Support Worker, Minute Taker)

PPN Facilitator: Harriet Emerson

Guest Speakers: Cathal O Meara

Apologies: Noel Forde, Pauline O Dwyer, Jose Ospina, Liz Downes, Gerry Foley, Raffaella Valenti, Bernadette Connolly, Anne O Brien, Maggie McColgan, Kathleen Moylan, John Fuller, Judith Gilbert, Suzanne Damery, Brid Coakley, Mairead Johnston, Marc O Sullivan, Ross Bonner, Gavin Falk, Eamonn Murray.

1. Welcome address by Chairperson – Liam McCarthy welcomed everyone to the Plenary. A short presentation on Village-scapes took place.

2. Housekeeping Duties, Health and Safety

4. Approval of Minutes of last Plenary and Matters Arising: Proposed by Tom Howard, Seconded by Carol Harpur. No matters arising. L. McCarthy noted that as our Resource Worker took ill toward the end of last year, there was no Winter Plenary. He explained that we have been working away in the background – the Support Worker, the Secretariat and the Staff Liaison Subgroup.

5. 2025 Workplan Review: The 2025 workplan was reviewed; See slides.

6. 2025 Financial Report – Due to staffing issues, projects set for completion in 2025 were not brought to completion. Therefore, ringfenced monies have not yet been paid out, leading to an underspend of **€32,687.20**, that we will apply to the DRCDG to retain.

D. Lucey proposed the Financial Report, and M. Mulry seconded it.

7. 2026 Proposed Workplan L. McCarthy set out the 2026 Workplan; See slides.

D. Lucey Proposed it, and D. Cronin seconded it.

8. Policy Review Work to update our policies was agreed on it 2025 and has been completed. Harriet Emerson presented the updated policies; See slides. There was some discussion around same.

9. PPN Vacancies Only roles on the SPCs, LCDCs and our Secretariat were listed.

10. AOB & Closing Remarks

L. McCarthy extended our thanks to everyone for coming along.

He gave his thanks to Cathal O Meara for his presentation.

He gave his thanks on behalf of the SLG to Noelle Nally for her work.

The Plenary slides will be sent out. Any questions, email ppn@corkcoco.ie .

This concluded the business of the meeting.