



Minutes

Tipperary PPN Secretariat Meeting

December 2024

Date: Thursday 5th December 2024

Time: 5pm

Location: McCarthy's Hotel, Fethard.

Facilitator: Michael Kealy **Minutes:** Alan Moore

Present: Daniel Long, JJ O'Sullivan, Derry O'Donnell, Sangeeta Molloy, Sharon Melbourne, Ruth Smith, Ann Scanlon, Anne Williamson, Charles Stanley Smith, Derry O'Donnell, Alan Moore, Michael Kealy.

Apologies: Séan O'Farrell, Kuldeep Joshi, Niamh Ni Chillin

1. **Welcome**
2. **No conflict of interest identified.**
3. **Agree draft agenda.**
4. **Minutes of previous meeting:** approved (Proposed Daniel, Seconded Alan).
5. **Matters arising:** It was noted that Daniel's article on the Land Observatory was shortlisted for a journalism award at recent FBD award ceremony.
6. **Correspondence:**
7. **Finance Meeting:** AIB digibox for Kuldeep has finally arrived.
8. **Coordinators Report:** SEAI Energy Masterplan application: we have applied for 20k (to encourage PPN groups to do energy audits). The application form was signed by relevant Secretariat members. A letter to Revenue is also required, closing date Dec 12th. Ruth reported that two Ukrainian workers at KRC have just completed the Beginners Facilitation Skills course.
9. **Policy Subgroup:** Ruth thanked all on the group for their excellent work which required several draft of the new PPN constitution that is finalised and ratified at the autumn Plenary.
10. **Re-Registration Process:** It is mandatory in the national PPN handbook that PPN groups have either Rules or a Constitution but TPPN has not asked for this document. Discussion took place about the amount of work this will generate for the Secretariat and staff to scrutinize these documents to ensure they comply with our values. It was however accepted that this is inevitable.

11. **Training 2024 and 2025:** Facilitation course ended today. Ann who attended reports that this was a really excellent course. She also attended a CPR course which was very poorly attended with only 8 showing up of 16 who booked. Discussion was had about different ways of addressing this problem such as charging for attendance and donating money accrued to charities etc. It was agreed that for the moment we will review and strengthen the wording of our communications reminding attendees of consequences of wasted slots.
12. **Vision of Community Wellbeing Update:** Ruth reports that the roadshow reviews didn't work as hoped, the events were too busy, too much to read on the flipcharts, though some useful feedback received. Ruth proposed a future event next year to complete the process.
13. **Extra Funding:** Fiona Crotty had a surplus because the SPC year finished early and has allocated us 2k with the prospect of a further 2k later for the Climate Coaches.
14. **Rep update:** There will be a webinar with Tipp CoCo next week for new SPC reps. There are still some vacancies to fill. Ruth had a call from Valerie Connolly from the Sports Partnership to say that there will be a reduction from 7 to 4 reps on this committee. There is no Joint Policy Committee at present. N. Tipp have had no reps in past but will be getting them (Michael Murray is doing this.) The LCDC call out has also gone out.
Charles reported that SPC committees now require workplans and all members need to be involved in writing them.
15. **Plenary Review.** Pros and Cons of the recent plenary were discussed. All agreed that it was a very successful event. Highlights were Mike Geary's presentation about the Ballyporeen Community Council, the breakout groups, the venue (Halla na Feile in Cashel). Suggestions for future included more time at the breakouts, badges for Secretariat members, a facilitator at each table. Also a bigger attendance. Next Plenary Thursday 6 March 2025.
16. **Environmental News:** Environment & Climate Action SPC met yesterday. The last quarterly Cabragh Wetlands meeting was successful and well attended. There was a recent night walk at Cabragh for the Community Climate Coaches which was very interesting. Expressions of interest are being sought for the Environment fund from Leader including climate training, deadline Dec 18th.
17. **NAG news.** Charles reported that the Roadmap has been submitted and is awaiting comeback from the Department.
18. **Secretariat news:** Niamh has sent a report to Ruth. The Secretariat have taken a decision to look at housing shortage issue. Ruth suggested that she would forward Secretariat meeting minutes to Tipp Secretariat members.
19. **Next year's meeting dates:** 23 Jan, 20 Feb, 20 March, 17 April, 15 May, 19 June, 17 July, nil in August, 18 Sept, 16 Oct, 20 Nov and 18 Dec.
20. **Reminder** to fill in travel expenses for 2024.
21. Alan raised the Uplift petition to end the use of pesticides which has been initiated by a group of teachers including Louise Lawlor, a member of SuirCan in Clonmel. It was agreed that this should be circulated through the National PPN network