



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Miontuairiscí Coiste Polasaí Straitéiseach Pobal & Cultúr

Minutes of the Community and Culture Strategic Policy Committee Meeting

Dé Máirt 5ú Aibreán 2022 14:00

Tuesday 5th April 2022 at 2 pm

Council Chambers

Members in attendance:

Cllr. Shelly Herterich Quinn (Chairperson)	Galway County Council
Cllr. Andrew Reddington	Galway County Council
Cllr. Liam Carroll	Galway County Council
Cllr. Padraic Mac an Iomaire	Galway County Council
Helena McElmeel	Business Representative
Máirtín Davy	PPN Representative
Megan Flynn	PPN Representative

Staff in attendance:

Liam Hanrahan	Director of Services
Sharon O'Grady	Arts Officer
Mary McGann	Administrative Officer
Bernie Kelly	A/County Librarian
Amie Lawless	Assistant Arts Officer
Claire Connolly	Clerical Officer

Apologies:

Cllr. Peter Keaveney	Galway County Council
Cllr. Ivan Canning	Galway County Council

Cllr. Herterich Quinn welcomed everyone to the first meeting of Community and Culture SPC and thanked everyone for their attendance in person and noted the apologies received.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

1. Minutes of Community and Culture meeting 14th December 2021.

Cllr. Herterich Quinn asked if there were any matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting of the Community & Culture SPC. No queries arose. On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Carroll seconded by Cllr. Padraic Mac an Iomaire, the minutes were agreed and adopted.

2. Update on Arts Programme 2022.

Ms. O'Grady, Arts officer gave an overview of the Arts Office Programme for 2022 with a budget of €161,500.00 funding supports under the following headings.

- **Supporting Artists** (Artists Bursary Scheme, Artist in Residence Schemes- Tyrone Guthrie, Artists Development & Capacity building Programme)
- **Arts in Context** (Arts in Disability projects, Arts in Older Years Projects)
- **Culture Night**- September 16th, 2022
- **Creative Communities** - (Arts Festival supports, Participatory events)
- **Arts & Youth** - (Children's Book Festival- Library, Youth Arts Programme, Artists in School)

Arts Office also oversees the following programmes:

- **Film / Arts Centres** – Screen west, Wrap Fund, UNESCO City of Film, Áras Éanna
- **Other Projects**-Creative Places Tuam, Platform 31, Erasmus& Culture Up project, Music Generation Galway County.
- **Funding Schemes / Direct Programming**- Arts Grants (CSS Grants €48,000.00), Local Live Performance Scheme €143,000.00, Culture Night €15000.00, Public Art Programme.

Ms. O'Grady outlined details pertaining to the *Local Live performance Scheme 2022* whereby proposals were invited through the Arts office for new outdoor and indoor live performances in County Galway during period of 1st Mat to 30th June 2022. 7 applications from promoters/ venues being currently assessed to include Athenry, Ballinasloe, Inis Oirr, Ballygar, Oranmore, Clonbur and Tuam. The scheme, funded through Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media is to support employment and wellbeing in the arts and culture sectors by live performances by professional artists, musicians, crew, and other staff members.

Ms. O'Grady introduced and welcomed Ms. Amie Lawless who joined the Arts office in the past fortnight as Assistant Arts Officer.

3. Update on Creative Ireland Programme 2022.

Ms. O'Grady, Arts Officer gave an overview of Creative Ireland Programme. A presentation was given by the National Creative Ireland team recently to the Galway County Council Culture Team with overview of Creative Ireland Programme for the period 2023-2027.

Five Pillars for Creative Ireland Programme 2023-2027

- Creative Youth
- Creative Communities
- Creative Industries

- Creative Health & Wellbeing
- Creative Climate Action & Sustainability

Funding Programme for Galway County Council is €175,161.00 for 2022. The Programme this year includes bursaries (€25,000.00), Culture team Programme (€75,000.00), Cruinniú na nÓg (€30,000.00), Project Management, Projects, Promotion, film, photography, Documentation (€45,161.00). Total Investment made by Creative Ireland to Galway County Council from 2018- 2022 was €761.406.

A new Creative Ireland 2023-2027 Strategy for Galway County Council will need to be completed by the end of 2022 and will need to consider priorities which have been identified by Local Authorities in the coming few years and where Culture and Creativity may support these. Priorities identified include

- Climate Change
- Local Economic Development
- Inward Investment
- Town Centre First
- Changing Demographics & Biodiversity
- Resilient Communities
- Digitalization and Ongoing transformation
- Great Places
- Housing

4. Update on LLPS Scheme 2022

Local Live Performance Scheme in 2021 was very successful supporting local venues and festivals providing a live music element. Total spend in 2021 €190,000.

Ms. O'Grady advised that the Local Live Performance Scheme is going ahead for 2022 with funding of €143,000.00. The events will take place during the summer months and are being coordinated presently.

5. Update on Ukrainian Refugee Crisis

Mr. Hanrahan, Director of Services, gave an overview of Ukrainian refugee situation, outlining that each Local Authority is required to source accommodation. Ms. Angela Spellman is the liaison officer for Galway County Council presently tasked with identifying properties and sourcing beds. Three to six months contracts are being put in place with hotels in the County.

Last Friday, 1st April, Galway County Council were tasked with putting 50 to 75 cot beds in the community Centre Oranmore as a temporary measure due to overhang from City West, Dublin. Guests arrived at 3am Saturday, 2nd April, tired & distressed following long arduous journey from

war torn Ukraine. All services were brought on board prior to moving mostly women and children to alternative accommodation the following Monday.

The emergency set up operated well with all the associated services on board operating quietly away from media.

A Ukrainian Inter Agency response forum will meet on Wednesday 5th April, this group includes members from LCDC and Community. This group will check out premises and emergency work requirements to have accommodation in fit state for occupants. They are assessing other buildings presently in conjunction with Department.

Cllr. Carroll commented that he witnessed the situation and complimented Liam, staff and supports for going above and beyond the call of duty, for the outstanding work in Oranmore at the weekend. Cllr. Carroll mentioned even down to a helper buying food for a dog was heartening.

6. Pride of Place

The National Pride of Place awards are taking place this year with nominations for up to 3 groups. Application forms are available, and the Community Department are inviting applications and promoting awareness.

Two applicants will be put forward by 13th May 2022. Interviews will follow with Awards taking place early next year.

Previous winners included Inis Meain. Comhairle na nÓg and Clonbur. Due to Covid we have no results yet from last year's entries Headford lace and Clonbur.

7. A.O.B

Ms. Flynn outlined details in relation to the Intercultural forum and ongoing projects. The Integration Conferences will take place online from Dublin and one in Galway 12/5/2022 in NUIG, hosting 80 people for migrants with cross representation from all sectors.

Africa Day is due to take place on the 25th of May 2022. They are presently looking at outreach in library facilities – bringing in families when library is closed to make them feel welcome and to get set up for using library. Oranmore library is hosting an event on the 28th of April.

The Interagency group are compiling a code of practice for city & County which all groups can display and will be circulated via P.P.N newsletter

Cllr. Herterich Quinn outlined details of the new Ladies shed in Athenry, events, talks etc. are progressing.

Cllr. Reddington asked about location for ladies shed. Cllr. Herterich Quinn confirmed soccer club have given their meeting room to the ladies shed.

Ms. McElmeel commented that she is looking forward to viewing the code of practice and noted that Headford is seen as a very friendly and welcoming location.



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe
Galway County Council

Mr. Davey offered to go out to Athenry to the women's shed as Pastime Connemara has ladles and wood could give demonstrations to the group

Cllr Mac an Iomaire wished to congratulate Radio na Gaeltacht for 50 years on the airways and their continued contribution to culture. All echoed congratulations and wishes for continued success in the years ahead. Cllr Mac an Iomaire also wished to congratulate Sean Ban Breathnach on his retirement and his immense contribution, with his instantly recognizable voice to the Irish language sport and culture across all media networks for the past number of decades. All present echoed his sentiments.

Date for next meeting set for September 2022

The meeting then Concluded.