



Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe  
Galway County Council

**Minutes of the Community and Culture Strategic Policy Committee  
Meeting held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 11.00am on Teams online.**

**Members in attendance:**

Cllr. Ivan Canning (Cathaoirleach)	Galway County Council
Cllr. Liam Carroll	Galway County Council
Helena McElmeel	Business Representative
Cllr. Padraic Mac an Iomaire	Galway County Council
Cllr. Andrew Reddington	Galway County Council
Cllr. Shelly Herterich Quinn	Galway County Council
Megan Flynn	PPN Representative
Cllr. Peter Keaveney	Galway County Council

**Staff in attendance:**

Kieran Coyne	A/Senior Executive Officer
Sharon O'Grady	Arts Officer
Bernie Kelly	A/County Librarian
Claire Connolly	Clerical Officer

Alan Farrell

A/Director of Service

Ruth Gordon

Project Manager Creative Ireland

( Galway County Council 2021)

**Apologies:**

Máirtín Davy

PPN Representative

Mary McGann

Administrative Officer

Cllr. Ivan Canning welcomed everyone to the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Community and Culture SPC (Strategic Policy Committee) 2021 and thanked everyone for attendance online and he noted apologies.

**1.Minutes of Community and Culture SPC meeting held on 3/12/ 2020**

Cllr. Ivan Canning asked if there were any matters arising from the Minutes of that Meeting.

No queries arose.

On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Carroll seconded by Cllr. Ivan Canning the Minutes were agreed and adopted.

**2.Creative Ireland 2021**

Ms. Sharon O'Grady, Arts Officer gave a detailed PowerPoint presentation under the following headings:

**A.Introduction (Ruth Gordon PM)**

Ms. Ruth Gordon was introduced to the group as Project Manager for Creative Ireland 2021 who comes on board with many years of experience and is looking forward to the role with the Expression of Interest application extended to April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021

**B.Recap on 2020**

Completed 22 projects in 2020 with a total claim of €156,774

Key Projects included: CAOIN, *imagine a Castle, People Place and Pace,*

Baile – Heart of Gort, Carrying the Songs, Eilis Dillon- Galway's Great Read,

ComicCon@Home, Reading the Landscape, The Barn Owl Project, Le Chéile and the many bursary projects.

### **C.Funding for 2021**

Programme Fund from CI: (€145,161 core funding + €15,000 Cruinniú na nÓg funding) to allow Galway County Council to deliver collaborative projects of scale, innovation and ambition in 2021.

Creativity In Older Age 2021 challenge fund: €11,500 (Mobile Music to Nursing Homes –M McGann)

### **D.Bursaries 2021**

Deadline for Expressions of Interest extended to Thursday 29th April 2021 at 4pm. To date there are 21 expressions of interest, these will be shortlisted and assessed by a panel.

### **E.Cruinniú na nÓg**

This event is on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2021 with all events online

20 successful acts in both English and Irish mostly online with engagement from Youth work Ireland & Corlaith na nÓg.

### **F. Programme 2021 Include:**

Bursaries 2021

Programme Elements from Culture Team

Confirmed to date: Comicon, The Mighty Ocean (TG4)

### **G.Creative Climate Fund**

There are two strands of funding available:

1. An open call – to organisations, NGOs, charities, enterprises, institutions and collectives/ networks working with creative and cultural practitioners

2. A closed call – to local authorities, either individually, with other local authorities or external partners.

Expect to fund between 10 – 20 projects until the end of 2022 with budgets of between €30,000 – €200,000, however this will be determined by the number and scale of applications received.

Closing date Friday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2021

Following presentation Ruth Gordon was welcomed as Creative Ireland project Manager 2021. A general discussion took place with all attendees involved which centred around the importance of building the profile of Creative Ireland. Ms. O' Grady was thanked for comprehensive power point and for breath of work delivering key cultural policies at the end of 2020 which were adopted in December 2020. Cllr Padraig Mac An Iomaire , Cllr Andrew Reddington, Cllr I van Canning, Cllr Shelly Herterich- Quinn ,Cllr Peter Keaveney, Cllr.

Liam Carroll also thanked the Arts team for ongoing work during Covid 19 to ensure events happened in the communities.

Ms Bernie Kelly stated that Creative Ireland funding gave the libraries opportunities to complete projects that otherwise wouldn't occur. Cllr. Liam Carroll stated the importance of the events in the Oranmore library during summer 2020 and hoped that last year's events will be repeated this year. He was encouraged by level of interest for bursaries.

Mr. Alan Farrell stated that a Creative Ireland interim review was completed in 2020, and commitment exists to funding in the coming years, Climate change will be one of the priorities in the next few years, however it will need significant resources to deliver the many opportunities that have come available.

Clár funding is currently available, Town & Villages has not yet been announced but is expected soon. Creative spaces funding is available until end of June 2021.

Current outdoor spaces funding opportunities are being managed internally and include collaboration with the Arts and Tourism offices alongside the Regeneration team which is very important.

Ms Helena McElmeel commented on the on the value the Creative Ireland funding for the public realm projects in Headford embeds ongoing engagement in the Arts,

### **3.A.O.B**

Cllr Shelly Herterich- Quinn thanked the council for the funding and support for mural by Shane O'Malley in Athenry part of legacy project from Galway 2020 in conjunction with Ríonach Ni Neill. The mural lifts spirits and highlights the importance of public art. In relation to outdoor seating Cllr. Herterich Quinn advised that all businesses be advised to apply for funding

Mr Alan Farrell noted that the public art group will be formed shortly, and work will begin on developing a program with the budgets available. This SPC will be updated on the progress at a later date. He acknowledged the work and reach to the communities from the Community Support Schemes with €239k announced yesterday at plenary meeting. He stressed that this funding is part of an annual discretionary budget. Unsuccessful Community Support Scheme applicants will have the opportunity to get feedback on their applications. Fáilte Ireland Outdoor has funding initiatives available to premises' serving food.

Cllr. Peter Keaveney advised that a local theatre group weren't successful with CSS 2021 scheme.

Ms Sharon O'Grady advised that there is new funding available for amateur groups suitable for unsuccessful CSS 2021 amateur groups and forwarded the supporting link. This has been a challenging time for the sector, no guidelines are available in terms of reopening Theatre venues and their total reliance on box office income has been devastating for the sector.

Mr Kieran Coyne advised that following a regional meeting of Chief Officers of LCDCs it was suggested that we may have to look at an exit strategy in relation to the Covid Community Response initiative. While there is no official guidance on this yet, it is something that will have to be looked at in the Galway County from the appropriate forum.

Mr. Alan Farrell advised of the upcoming Cathaoirleach Awards and is expecting a large demographic spread to recognise work done in the community. There are several categories with nomination closing date 21/05/2021 and online awards expected by 9<sup>th</sup> June 2021.

Next SPC Community & Culture meeting to be advised, envisioned to be late June 2021.

Meeting concluded at 12.30 pm.