



**Fingal**  
**Public**  
**Participation**  
**Network**

## **DRAFT: Fingal PPN Plenary Meeting Minutes | 8th May 2019 | Carnegie Court Hotel**

### **Open and Welcome**

The plenary was opened by John Melvin, outgoing facilitator of the Secretariat. Minutes were proposed by Alice Davis and seconded by Michael Walsh, with no matters arising. John briefly recapped previous Plenary Meeting.

### **Retiring PPN Representatives**

John acknowledged the service of all retiring PPN members. He presented token Fingal PPN Pens to the following members: Lorcan Blake, Bod Laird, Arun Rao, Angela O'Flynn Bury, Ordan Reid, Charles Sargent and Peadar O'Kelly. It was noted that Eamon Price and Kenneth Lindsay were not in attendance.

### **PPN Team Structure**

John outlined the membership of the PPN Team. Secretariat is made of 9 members which will increase to 11 at this meeting. Thirteen newly (Re-) elected PPN Representatives were ratified. Seven JPC Representatives are to be elected in the future. Recruitment is underway for 2nd full time staff member.

### **PPN Activity Report**

Each member received a copy of the PPN Activity Report which included:

- 2018 income and expenditure. 2019 Revised Budget and expenditure to date.
- New website previewed, showcasing its smooth navigational features, Group directory, with fresh Linkage Group Icons.
- Fingal Africa Day 2019 – The PPN teamed up FCC and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade for funding towards Africa Day Celebrations securing €11,500.
- Progress report on the Strategic Plan provided.
- Fingal PPN partnering with Fingal LCDC to promote the National Community Weekend Bursary Scheme to PPN Members.

Emma Idowu, Secretariat member, reported on this.

Separately John Melvin reported on the on-going issue of the Community Safety Linkage Group and the future of the group (*Note: The Secretariat has since withdrawn this report and the presentation has been amended accordingly*).

## **Elections**

Michael Walsh, Secretariat member, facilitated this session.

### **Secretariat**

1 nomination was received for 1 community seat - Claire Ann Ferry from Meakstown Community Council.

1 nomination was received for 2 environment seats - Gareth Lee of Donabate Portrane Community Council.

Both nominees were deemed elected as a vote was not required.

### **Local Community Development Committee**

4 nominations were received for 1 Community seat. Odran Reid was appointed as teller. Anthony Ugbiyobo, Fingal Africa Association Tony Gordon, Finagllians GAA, Roger Blackburn, Naul Community Council and Martin Russell, The Hills Cricket Club. *Roger Blackburn, Naul Community Council won the nomination.*

## **Presentations from Networks**

- **Fingal Comhairle na nÓg** gave a presentation highlighting: what Comhairle is, their participation in various consultation activity, plans for the year, their recent projects, and their participation at Dáil na nÓg and Regional Networking events.
- **Fingal Environmental Network** gave a presentation highlighting: Their 4 focus areas of Air, Water, Biodiversity and Food, their plans for the future and how to work towards saving our ecosystem.
- **Fingal Ethnic Network** gave a presentation highlighting: their key objectives of representing and building the capacity of ethnic groups across Fingal. FEN also highlighted their upcoming AGM on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May and how to become a member of the network.
- **Fingal Community Facilities Network** gave a presentation highlighting: the role of the network, the capacity building measures they offer and how community facilities may apply for membership.

## **Constitution**

Michael Quirke of Carmichael Ireland provided a report on his work with the Secretariat on the development of a new PPN Constitution. Michael emphasised that the new constitution aligns with the PPN User Guide, and the Charities Regulator Governance Code.

John Melvin proposed the constitution for adoption. This was followed by a lengthy discussion and series of interventions from members including concerns on consultation, feedback being incorporated, members familiarity with the new constitution, the urgency of its adoption, the background legislation, the code of conduct and so on.

The following proposal was put to the plenary by John Melvin:

*“The constitution is adopted with the proviso that section 10 where it requires 30 members of the PPN to propose an amendment to the constitution is not activated, and that a steering group of PPN members (to be setup by the Secretariat) is put together to carry out consultation on the constitution and recommend any final changes for the next Plenary meeting in November 2019.”*

This proposal was carried by a majority of the Plenary.

## **Motions:**

### ***Motion 1: Local Community Networks – Passed***

Explore the establishment of village and town-based PPN groups in Fingal to promote community cohesion and encourage close collaboration between local groups and organisations. These local or micro PPNs will provide the supports necessary to encourage the free-flow of information between established community groups and also facilitate the establishment of new groups.

By providing an information hub and embedding PPN best practices, local events can be organised more effectively and in a way that ensures that they are open to participation by all members of the community. *Submitted by: Lusk Athletics Club*

### ***Motion 2: Community Safety Linkage Group – Not Passed***

That the Secretariat explain why it withdrew a report by the Community Safety Linkage Group to the Joint Policing Committee and subsequently withdrew the PPN's participation in the Fingal Joint Policing Committee. Also why did the Secretariat not seek retrospective approval for such action from the subsequent Plenary Meeting. *Submitted by: Rivervalley and Rathingle Residents Association*

### ***Motion 3: The Changing Places Campaign – Passed***

Changing Places facilities are different from standard accessible toilets. They have many features and additional equipment that make them even more accessible than the standard accessible

toilets we are all familiar with. There are just 8 in Ireland (there are more than 1,000 in the UK).

We as the membership of the PPN to support this campaign and to include 'Changing Places' in PPN submissions where appropriate. *Submitted by: Blanchardstown Centre for Independent Living*

### **Close of Plenary**

John Melvin closed the plenary session.