



**Fingal  
Public  
Participation  
Network**

**Fingal Public Participation Network  
Extraordinary General Meeting  
29<sup>th</sup> May, 2023  
@7pm**

**Minutes**

Welcome & Introduction	Meeting was opened by Alice Davis and all were welcomed to the EGM.
Background to EGM	<p>Angela Donnelly gave an overview of the purpose of the PPN and what it is designed to do. She stated that FCC PNN isn't running at full capacity since June, 2022 due to the ongoing Resource Worker Vacancy.</p> <p>Angela gave a detailed account of the staff vacancies in the PNN since May 2022 and outlined the difficulties maintaining the PPN without support. She acknowledged the issues with the recruitment process at the moment resulting in two unsuccessful drives to secure a Resource Worker to date. She commended the good work of the previous Resource Workers and Support Worker. She informed the meeting that the PPN is currently being maintained by two Fingal County Council Admin staff, she thanked Fingal County Council for providing this support and acknowledged the good work carried out by the Admin Support workers Geraldine and Lisa.</p> <p>She mentioned the positive meeting held with FCC where it was agreed to upgrade the Resource Worker Post to Grade 6. FCC also appointed a Facilitator to assist the PPN. She also informed the meeting that a meeting is scheduled with the CEO and Director of Services for the 31<sup>st</sup> May, 23 to determine how FPPN should proceed.</p> <p>She informed the meeting that the Secretariat have been meeting every 7-10 days since April. She stated this is a big commitment as every member is a volunteer. She spoke of the Secretariat frustration regarding a number of issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• not having access to the database</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• not being able to communicate with members without a Resource Worker</li> <li>• no access to PPN email account</li> <li>• frustrations with their own email accounts</li> <li>• no Annual Review was carried out</li> <li>• no Work Plan</li> <li>• no Strategic Plan</li> <li>• no re-registration process</li> </ul> <p>She posed the question to the floor ‘What are we going to do?’ She said the current arrangement is the PPN in Fingal is hosted by Fingal County Council and made the meeting aware that not all PPN’s are hosted by Local Authorities and how the PPN may need to tweak how we work and advised the meeting that she had invited two guests from Clare PPN and Dublin City PPN to talk about how they operate their PPN Groups and outline how they work.</p>
<p>Presentation 1 - Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG)</p>	<p>Sarah Clancy from Clare PPN thanked the group for the invitation to attend. She outlined how Clare PPN operates in it’s capacity as a Company Limited by Guarantee (Clg) stating the secretariat act as the company directors. They work in Collages not in linkage groups. It is operating with 2 workers. The line manager is the Secretariat. The Plenary sets the Agenda. The Secretariat implements. They operate independently to LA so community groups are confident it is their PPN.</p> <p>The Secretariat have their own bank account and secretariat responsible for same.</p> <p>Secretariat draft their own work plan and oversee implementation. There is a service level agreement between Clare County Council and Clare PPN and PPN reports quarterly. She advised this is new and still in pilot stage so nothing set in stone still. Downside Offices and meeting rooms are rented and also that they are struggles working in Collages rather than Linkage Groups it creates a lot of work for meetings.</p>
<p>Presentation 2 PPN hosted by Volunteer Centre</p>	<p>Gerry Kerr and Resource Worker Ruth from Dublin City PPN thanked the meeting for the invitation. Gerry and Ruth collectively told the meeting that the PPN was initially hosted by Dublin City Council and he said they took a parachute jump and left and they are now hosted by a Voluntary Organisation. The issues encountered were outlined when hosted by the LA and stated the Service Level Agreement and MOU wasn’t</p>

	<p>working on both sides and leaving the Resource Worker in an awkward position. They tendered for a host company and Dublin City Volunteer Centre were selected. The PPN now have independence, clear boundaries, running very smoothly with a small secretariat and work directly with the groups. The PPN is now functioning with the Resource Worker providing Administration – The Secretariat make the decisions – Dublin City Volunteer Centre provide advice. They both were happy that Dublin City PPN is working very well while being hosted by the Volunteer Centre.</p>
<p>Discussion Q &amp; A</p>	<p>There were questions from the floor regarding the various structures.</p>
<p>Conclusion &amp; Way forward</p>	<p>Alice Davis agreed to circulate a brief of the 3 structures within a month along with a ballot paper. She urged everyone to discuss with their groups the way forward for FPPN.</p>