

**LOCAL COMMUNITY & CULTURAL STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**10:00 a.m. on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2019.**

**Áras Chill Dara, Naas**

**Members in Attendance:**

<b>Statutory</b>	<b>Non-Statutory</b>
<b>Local Government Elected Members</b> Cllr. Kevin Byrne (Chairperson) Cllr. Carmel Kelly Cllr. Teresa Murray Cllr. Brendan Caldwell Cllr. Sorcha O'Neill	<b>Local Community Interests</b> PJ Fagan Vivien Kelly-Keane

**Also in attendance:** **John Shannon** (Administrative Officer, Economic, Community & Cultural Development), **Sonya Kavanagh** (Director of Services, Economic, Community & Cultural Development), **Marian Higgins** (County Librarian, Kildare County Council).

**1. Apologies**

Joe O'Carroll.

**2. Minutes and matters arising from the minutes**

The minutes of the meeting of the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019 were approved and adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Caldwell seconded by Cllr. Kevin Byrne. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

**3. Community Grants Report**

John Shannon gave a comprehensive report on community grants approved to date in 2019 broken down by grant type and municipal district. He gave an overview of the public information meetings held in advance of the scheme

launch as well as highlighting some of the issues arising in processing the grants generally.

Cllr. Caldwell mentioned difficulties in obtaining proper receipts from street performers hired for festivals. Cllr. Murray stated she found the public meetings to be very useful to communities. Vivien Kelly-Keane asked about groups which might have funds in the bank which represented their annual budget; John Shannon confirmed if groups indicated this was the case they would not be penalised for having significant funds on hand.

Several committee members thanked the staff of the community section for their work in this area.

#### **4. Local C & C SPC review**

John Shannon outlined to the members some of the strategies, plans and policies adopted by the committee over the proceeding five years. The report also covered some of the general topics included on agendas for discussion. All members agreed that the committee had considered a varied and worthwhile workload over its lifetime.

#### **5. Decade of Commemoration review**

Marian Higgins presented a review of the many events and initiatives that had taken place since 2013 and mentioned the engagement of young people in particular. Some of these events had led to larger proceedings of national importance such as the Irish Military Seminar, now in its third year. It was agreed that Kildare continued to excel in this area, with further events planned until 2023.

#### **6. Any other business**

On behalf of council officials and the committee members, John Shannon made a gift presentation to Cllr. Kevin Byrne on the occasion of his last SPC meeting. Several members contributed warm remarks noting Cllr. Byrne's fairness and gentlemanly attitude.

Next meeting will be held on Thursday, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 at 10.00 a.m.

The meeting concluded.

*John Shannon*  
23/6/2020