

LOCAL COMMUNITY & CULTURAL STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

11.30 a.m. on Thursday 4th February 2021.

via Microsoft Teams

Members in Attendance:

Statutory	Non-Statutory
Local Government Elected Members: Cllr. Aoife Breslin (Chairperson) Cllr. Carmel Kelly Cllr. Tracey O'Dwyer Cllr. Aidan Farrelly Cllr. Noel Heavey Cllr. Evie Sammon Cllr. Bernard Caldwell	Local Community Interests: Maureen Bergin Vivien Kelly-Keane Lorraine Benson

Also in attendance: **Sonya Kavanagh** (Director of Service, Economic, Community & Cultural Development), **Liam Dunne** (Senior Executive Officer, Economic, Community & Cultural Development), **John Shannon** (Administrative Officer, Economic, Community & Cultural Development), **Ciara Gallagher** (Clerical Officer, Economic, Community & Cultural Development), **Denis McDermott** (Administrative Officer, Economic, Community & Cultural Development), **Susan Bookle** (Local Community Development Committee Co-ordinator), **Emma Berney** (Kildare Children & Young People's Services Committee – Co-ordinator), **Marian Higgins** (County Librarian), **Amy Quigley** (Executive Librarian),

1. Welcome, new member introduction and apologies

Cllr. Breslin welcomed Lorraine Benson to her first meeting as the PPN Environmental/Conservation representative.

2. Confirmation of minutes / matters arising / conflict of interest

The minutes of the meeting of the 3rd December 2020 were approved and adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Aidan Farrelly seconded by Cllr. Carmel Kelly. There were no matters arising from the minutes. There were no conflicts of interest relating to today's agenda items.

3. Twinning Policy & Guidelines – Denis McDermott

The Twinning Policy and Twinning Guidelines were circulated in advance of meeting. Discussion was held on the twinning budget and reporting mechanisms for the Twinning Liaison Committee. Both documents were approved for consideration by the Corporate Policy Group on the proposal of Cllr. Evie Sammon seconded by Cllr. Noel Heavey.

4. Youth Mental Health Provision – Susan Bookle / Emma Berney

The report *'Redressing the Balance: The business case for investment in integrated youth mental health service provision in Kildare West Wicklow'* was circulated to the committee prior to the meeting. Both Emma Berney and Susan Bookle, via PowerPoint presentation, detailed the significant gaps in resources to deal with demand for services both in terms of staffing and funding arrangements generally regarding provision for mental health services for young people in County Kildare and West Wicklow. The committee was particularly concerned at the level of shortfall identified in County Kildare which has the highest proportion of under-25 years old persons in the country and it was agreed to send letters to the Minister for Health and the Health Service Executive to highlight these issues.

5. Right to Read programme – Marian Higgins / Amye Quigley

A report on the Right to Read programme circulated to all members in advance of the meeting. Amye Quigley further explained the programme to the committee via a PowerPoint presentation. The members expressed their support for this programme and acknowledged its importance for the community.

6. Any other business

There was no other business.

The next meeting will take place on Thursday 6th May at 11.30 a.m.

The meeting concluded.

Please contact cgallagher@kildarecoco.ie if you would like a digital copy of any of the documents, reports or presentations noted in these minutes.

