

LOCAL COMMUNITY & CULTURAL STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

10.00 a.m. on Thursday 5th October 2023.

Members in Attendance:

Statutory	Non-Statutory
Local Government Elected Members: Cllr. Carmel Kelly (Chairperson) Cllr. Tracey O'Dwyer Cllr. Bernard Caldwell Cllr. Aidan Farrelly	Local Community Interests: Vivienne Kelly-Keane Lorraine Benson PJ Fagan

Also in attendance: Marian Higgins (Director); Paula O'Brien (Senior Executive Officer); Anne Meyler (Senior Executive Librarian); and Colin Ennis (Clerical Officer).

- I. **Declaration of pecuniary or beneficial interests**
Cllr. Kelly asked the committee to declare if they had any pecuniary or beneficial interests with regard to today's agenda items. No declarations were made.
- II. **Confirmation of Minutes**
The minutes of the meeting of the 6th of July 2023 were approved and adopted on the proposal of Vivienne Kelly-Keane seconded by PJ Fagan. There were no matters arising from the minutes.
- III. **Correspondence**
Cllr. Kelly noted apologies for Cllr. Aoife Breslin, Eoghan Ryan, Celina Barrett and Maureen Bergin. No other correspondence was received.
- IV. **Director of Service Progress Report**
Marian Higgins and the committee wished Lucina Russell well as she is taking a year off from her role with the County Council. Marian talked the committee through the Director's Report. A request for a contact or link to the Department of Education was made to possibly share the Brigid 1500 school's pack nationwide. A new Director of Service was approved for the Local authority Integration Team. Kerdiffstown will open at the end of October.

Questions were asked on who covers the cost overrun of Naas Library. It was confirmed that Department will cover some of this. It was asked if it could be confirmed that the Reader's Festival email was sent around to everyone. The

language classes and coffee mornings were enquired about, and it was confirmed that they were better attended in Celbridge due to transport accessibility. There were questions on the funding for the Library Programmes and if the PPN have been linked within relation to the Sports Ability Day. It was confirmed that most of the funding for Library Programmes is applied for and that the PPN have linked in with Sports Ability Day. Feedback was requested for the Community Response Forum and if the elected reps list could be updated for this. Anyone that wanted to get involved in Brigid 1500 sponsorship was asked to contact Paula or Marian.

V. Update on the Library Development Plan

Anne Meyler provided the update on the Library Development Plan. There will be quarterly meetings through the plan to review it. Discussions took place around the budget for books in Kildare and how this will need to be increased. There has been an increase in online numbers, but this has impacted the numbers of books that are physically borrowed.

VI. Update on Brigid 1500 Programme

Paula O'Brien gave an updated on the Brigid 1500 programme. The committee commented that it was a great start for the programme in the last year, but the February bank holiday needs to become a go to event for families.

VII. AOB

Lorraine Benson informed the committee that it will be her last meeting. The committee thanked Lorraine for her time and wished her well for the future.

The next meeting date will be confirmed once the Calendar of Meetings for 2024 is confirmed. It will then be emailed on to committee members.

The meeting concluded.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cennis Kelly', is written over the text of the email contact information.