

## **EIRGRID COMMUNITY FORUM MINUTES 27.04.22**

Community Forum – Clashavoon Dunmanway

Time, Date: Venue:

**Project Title:** 

27.04.22

In Attendance:

• Colleen Savage, Emma O'Mahony- M-Co

zoom

- Michelle Walsh- EirGrid
- Dave Foley, Avondhu-Blackwater Partnership CLG
- Marissa Duarte- Cork CoCo District Co ordinator.
- Michael Murphy- Canovee Circle of Friends
- Deirdre Kelly- Dunmanway Chamber of Commerce
- Ger Coakley- Rusheen National School
- Tommy Collins- Dunmanway Town Council
- Frances O'Riordan, Secretary of Kilmichael Pitch & Putt Course

Agenda Item	
1.0	<ul> <li>Update on Funding process-</li> <li>The meeting kicked off with an update on the funding process and how it had been run, and the communications of funding.</li> <li>M-CO outlined that the fund had been oversubscribed, and there had been the decision to reduce the size of funds per project to ensure distribution to as many projects as possible that qualified.</li> <li>M-CO highlighted that there had been enough interest within the agreed community fund boundaries, and apart from one project all successful organisations were within the boundaries.</li> <li>A number of forum members Tommy Collins, and Frances O'Riordan noted their thanks for the funding and outlined how it would assist their communities.</li> <li>The forum also thanked EirGrid for the fund as it would benefit the local area and community groups.</li> </ul>
2.0	<ul> <li>Deep dive on Community fund allocations</li> <li>M-CO presented the range of projects that had been funded and provided a break down by size of the project, location and type of activity funded.</li> <li>The forum agreed that the funding had achieved a good balance in terms of locations, scale of projects and type of project.</li> </ul>

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	• It was felt that the balance between large and small projects was appropriate, as there were a lot of smaller projects in the area.
3.0	<ul> <li>Outline of recent PR visit and sharing on type of projects funded</li> <li>M-CO shared the images and feedback on the PR/ Project kick off visit by EirGrid to some of the approved projects. They extended their thanks on behalf of EirGrid and M-CO for the really strong participation and warm welcome received.</li> <li>Ger Coakley of Rusheen National School said it had been a very enjoyable experience for all the local projects who were funded, and especially the pancakes that were provided for Pancake Tuesday!</li> <li>M-CO mentioned that there may be another visit arranged but more as an opportunity for all the projects to come together and mark the impact of the funds, when most projects are underway.</li> <li>The forum were happy to be involved with this, and Tommy offered to support this in Dunmanway if required.</li> </ul>
4.0	<ul> <li>Feedback on funding process to date from funded projects</li> <li>Michael Murphy suggest that M-CO/ Eirgrid provide a PDF version on the online application. M-CO mentioned that this had been provided on request, but he suggested that it should be made clearer that this is available.</li> <li>Tom Colins mentioned that it would be useful to provide a short video on how to fill in the application- this is a good idea.</li> <li>Tom Collins from the Dunmanway group pointed out the the PPN network was a very useful network to belong to, and are going to set up training on funding applications. He suggested that Eirgrid could ask all applicants to join the PPN</li> <li>Marissa Duarte mentioned that she would put Michael in touch with the PPN person who would represent Cannovee.</li> <li>Michael also was unclear what would be involved in getting a Tax Clearance cert, as Circle of Friends are not currently registered.</li> <li>He also wanted to discuss the requirement for bridging finance as this can be challenging for a small organization.</li> <li>M-CO are to arrange a meeting with him and the organisation separately.</li> </ul>
5.0	AOB

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•	There were no other matters arising, and the Forum agreed
	that no meeting would be required until there were
	evaluations of the projects to review.