

# Minutes from meeting 10 of the Kildare Meath Community Forum

24th January 2023 via Zoom

Meeting started at 7.05. Bobby welcomed everyone

## In attendance

**Anne Cowley** (Twomilehouse say No Action Group), **John Kennedy** (Clane Community Council), **Allan Shine** (Kildare Chamber of Commerce), **Patrick Lynch** (Red Road Residents Association), **Aidan Farrelly** (Kildare County Council), **Naomi Scott Hayward** (North Kildare Eco Action Group), **Philip McCormack** (Batterstown Village Enhancement Association),

## Apologies:

**Tracey O Dwyer** (Kildare County Council), **Karen Mahon** (An Taisce, Meath), **Richard Morris** (Blackhall Gaels GAA), **Richard Muller** (Kilcock Tourism Group), **Fionnuala Corcoran** (Kilcock Tidy Towns), **Rose Donovan** (Straffan Community Association), **Damien O Reilly** (Meath County Council), **Sharon Langan** (Naas Serpents basketball)

**Also in attendance – Bobby McCormack** (Independent Chair from Development Perspectives), **Ailbhe Farrell** (EirGrid), **Grainne Duffy** (EirGrid), **Eoghan O Sullivan** (EirGrid) **Evan Boyle** (MaRei)

## Minutes of the Previous meeting

Naomi asked about the TOR. Bobby indicated that the older TOR would be circulated for perusal. Pat L asked that the mins were amended to reflect the impact on Batterstown at a community level of multiple projects.

The mins were proposed by Allan S and seconded by Pat L.

## Agenda

The agenda was shared onscreen and agreed upon.

## EirGrid Update

Grainne D gave an update to the forum. There was no new announcements. Consent(s) are still being worked on and the routes is the same as was shown previously. Grainne D outlined that once further news was available, the forum would be informed.

Philip Mc C asked if there was a forum for the East Meath project, which Grainne responded to affirmatively. Pat L asked about EirGrid getting back to him regarding IFA input and updates. Eoghan O S outlined that the EirGrid team had been informed about this prior to Christmas and he would ask them to get back to Pat.

CPO is not a road EirGrid want to pursue.

In relation to the Community Benefit strategy, 2.35 million may be available. 30% of that will be allocated to Meath and 70% to Kildare. That will be made available over an approximate timeframe of 2 years.

### **Capacity Building for Community Benefit strategy**

The group(s) was given 15 mins to identify what areas they would like to see inputs in regarding the Capacity Building phase. People were divided into 3 breakout rooms for further discussion. A PDF was circulated detailing the discussions in the breakout rooms.

Participants were urged to look beyond their own community groups interests at this stage and to begin to identify what is needed for the entire area.

A question related to participatory budgeting was raised. Evan spoke to this from a MaRei perspective and Bobby agreed to follow up separately in relation to this.

### **Energy Roadshow**

Grainne D gave an update on the Energy roadshow details for Kildare and encouraged forum members to spread the word and looked for positive attendance. Further information will be available in March regarding the Meath roadshows.

**Date and time of next meeting** – This matter was discussed with some different views expressed. It seems that post Easter (Mid to late April) is the best time for the next meeting and that this be in person to move on the capacity building element of the forum.

**AOB** – No further AOB

Bobby thanked everyone for their participation and contributions. Meeting was concluded at 8.35pm