

# Kildare Meath Community Forum – EirGrid upgrade

## Minutes of Meeting 8 – 14<sup>th</sup> of June @7pm via Zoom

Meeting started at 7.05. Bobby welcomed everyone. Bobby welcomed Kevin D, Ailbhe F and Eoghan O S from EirGrid

Apologies were given and record of attendance was noted.

### In attendance

**Anne Cowley** (Twomilehouse say No Action Group), **John Kennedy** (Clane Community Council), **Philip McCormack** (Batterstown Village Enhancement Association), **Damien O Reilly** (Meath County Council), **Fionnuala Corcoran** (Kilcock Tidy Towns), **Allan Shine** (Kildare Chamber of Commerce),

**Apologies:** **Rose Donovan** (Straffan Community Association) **Aidan Farrelly** (Kildare County Council), **Tracey O Dwyer** (Kildare County Council), **Karen Mahon** (An Taisce, Meath), **Patrick Lynch** (Red Road Residents Association),

**Also in attendance – Bobby McCormack** (Independent Chair from Development Perspectives), **Kevin Dolan** (EirGrid), **Ailbhe Farrell** (EirGrid), **Eoghan O Sullivan** (EirGrid)

### Minutes of the last meeting were perused.

The mins of the last meeting (7th of March) were proposed by John K and seconded by Anne C. No other matters arose.

**Agenda** – Bobby noted that community forum members can contribute to the agenda or suggest items for discussion. The following draft agenda was presented

- Apologies and checking in
- Welcome and updates
- Mins of last meeting and matters arising
- Agenda for the evening
- EirGrid update – Best performing (Route) option – (BPO)
- Questions from forum members
- Membership of the KMGU Forum – Next Phase
- Date and time of next meeting – Physical Meeting?

AOB

**The Best Performing (Route) Option** - Kevin D began the presentation at 7.13pm and gave the group a tour through his slides as well as taking them through the interactive map. Kevin D indicated that Q 1 of 2023 was likely to see the planning application.

There was then an opportunity for a Q and A from members of the forum. 5 members of the forum had questions which were responded to by the EirGrid team (Kevin D, Ailbhe F and Eoghan O S). Phillip McC, Damien O R, Anne C, John K and Allan S all raised questions.

### Membership of the KMGU Forum – Next Phase

Bobby explained the transition that lay ahead in terms of what the forum will begin to focus more on (Development of a community benefit strategy and associated capacity building). Bobby indicated that the forum members would be asked to indicate if they wish to continue their involvement in the forum. Bobby mentioned that a mapping of the BPO will be looked at in terms of forum membership to help us identify any geographical areas that are not represented. Anne C, Fionnuala C, John K all outlined their interest in continuing on the forum. Bobby outlined that if gaps were identified then an expression of interest process would open in advance of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the forum.

Bobby thanked the EirGrid team for their openness and transparency.

#### **Recap on action points**

Bobby to circulate minutes and to liaise with the EirGrid team regarding an in person meeting in early to mid September.

#### **Date and Time of next meeting**

An in person meeting was discussed for early to mid September. Bobby to liaise with the EirGrid team and come back to the forum members.

The next meeting will be the 9<sup>th</sup> Community Forum meeting.

#### **AOB**

Phillip McC raised the point about a further forum regarding proposed works in Dublin / East Meath and whether or not that work needed a forum. Ailbhe F clarified that it would and invited Phillip to information sessions that are happening as well as the website that has updated information available.

Bobby thanked everyone for their attendance and participation. The meeting was concluded at 8.25pm