

North Connacht Community Forum

Minutes – 3rd November @7pm via zoom

Present: Philip Durkin (Swinford Amenities Development CLG), Cllr Joe Murphy (Roscommon County Council), Anne Kearney (Bonnifinglas Graveyard Committee), Susan Heffernan (Mary Robinson Centre), Cllr John O` Hara (Mayo County Council), Cllr Annie May Reape (Mayo County Council), Pat Towey (Ballaghaderreen Mens Shed), Kieran Gallagher (Swinford Amenities Development CLG), Angela Wallace (North Mayo West Sligo Heritage Group), Tommie Killeen (Conn Rangers FC), Geraldine Walsh, (Fr Peyton Centre), Cllr Gerry Murray (Mayo County Council)

Also in attendance – Bobby McCormack (Development Perspectives and Chairperson of the Forum / Avril Wilson (EirGrid), Eoghan O Sullivan (EirGrid)

Apologies: Mags Downey Martin (Ballina Chamber of Commerce), Padraic Walsh (Fr Peyton Centre)

The meeting began at 7.02 with Bobby welcoming people and taking the group through the agenda for the evening and some online etiquette before moving to introductions.

- **Introductions**

Bobby gave an overview of who he is and where he is from. This was followed by the EirGrid team (Avril Wilson and Eoghan O Sullivan) before getting the rest of the forum to do the same. Those present highlighted why this forum was important.

- **How we work together – principles and agreement**

Bobby took a few mins to explain how this would work. A G drive link would be distributed to the forum members (See below) which they could populate up until the 1st of December. 20-30 mins of the agenda on the 1st of December would be put aside to visit this document and also to draft a group agreement for the forum. This will guide how the forum will work and operate in 2022 and beyond if necessary. This document is a live document and will be re visited throughout the lifetime of the forum.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OXepbrrvqoeZnWcsfISHdkWf_wJ4gYIE/edit?usp=sharing&oid=111121242154827599637&rtpof=true&sd=true

- **Overview of project to date**

Eoghan O S took us through the project to date involving the routing and the timeline that has been involved as well as briefly going through the stages to date.

- **Community Benefit fund**

Avril took us through the Community fund and how it would operate. Avril highlighted the thematic areas that the fund could look at and also explored the role of the forum in co creating the strategy for consideration. Examples of possible funding were highlighted. Avril also took the forum through the associated timeline and milestones.

- **Questions and comments from the forum members**
Pat T / Tommie K / Philip D raised questions which the EirGrid team addressed.
- **Tentative timeline and milestones**
Bobby indicated that there would be one more meeting in 2021 with the possibility of 4-6 meetings in 2022.
- **Recap on action points**
Bobby invited sending in suggestions for agenda of next meeting before the 25th of Nov.
Bobby also asked the group to begin to populate the G drive doc re working together before the next meeting.
- **Date and time of next meeting**
1st December at @7pm via zoom
- **AOB**
Bobby asked for permission to share the minutes and all future docs through CC rather than bcc. No one present raised a concern and no one subsequently mailed Bobby, however those not present at the meeting but included in the membership list will be included in bcc when the mins are distributed on the 5/11/21

Bobby, Avril and Eoghan thanked everyone for their participation and attendance. The meeting was concluded at 8.17pm