



**Laois Public Participation Network
Minutes of Meeting of PPN Secretariat
Monday, 15th April 2019, at 8:00pm
Laois PPN Office, Lyster Square, Portlaoise, Co. Laois**

Present: Mr. Mick Dowling - Chair
Mr. PJ Campbell
Mr. Michael Cobbe
Mr. Donal O'Shea
Mr. Paddy Buggy

Apologies: Mr. Robbie Quinn
Mr. Bolaji Adeyanju

In Attendance: Ms. Suzanne O'Connor, PPN Coordinator.

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th March, 2019 were proposed by Donal O'Shea, seconded by Michael Cobbe, confirmed and signed.

- **Funding & Resources Workshop Review**
Attendance was great and was a great event for Laois PPN. Also received great PR though local newspapers. Correct to leave our speaker on the night. Some stands did not turn up, why was this? Those working on stands were also very pleased with the event as it raised awareness of their organisation.
- **"Hands for Life" CPR**
Once again this was a well attended event for Laois PPN. The event was well run and those who attended learnt a lot in a short space of time. Also a good PR exercise. Laois PPN were able to provide this training to member organisation as the it was offered free of charge from the Irish Heart Foundation. Laois PPN are on the right track to engage with people from difference organisations
- **Vision for Community Wellbeing**
Funding from the Dept for the appointment of a Support Worker was provided in order to complete this piece of work. This piece of work must be completed. Go with consultations in each of the three municipal districts and afterwards the on-line consultation. We need each MD to come back with their vision for their area.

Any Other Business

- The question was asked in relation to the appointment of the Support Worker. We are just waiting on the appointment to go through the LA.
- In Laois PPN we currently have 12 linkage groups. It was suggested that we compress these groups to make 5 linkage groups. Suzanne to send the full existing list of linkage groups to the secretariat and also the suggested new list.
- Suzanne informed the groups that John Bonham is the new environmental secretariat member for Portlaoise MD.
- It was proposed that as a follow up from our Funding & Resources Workshop that Laois PPN should run a Workshop on how to write a “Successful Application”. This would be delivered in each MD with max capacity x15 per workshop. Proposed locations are Stradbally, Portlaoise and Mountmellick. The workshop will be facilitated by Storm Powell.
- Laois Africa Day were looking for admin and financial support for their upcoming Africa Day. Laois PPN cannot offer member organisations financial assistance but will promote the event through e-mail, newsletter and social media.
- Youth Work Ireland Laois sent correspondence in relation to difficulties new start up youth clubs face in the first year of formation. Again it was reiterated that Laois PPN cannot offer groups/organisation financial assistance but again can promote events though e-mail, newsletter and social media.
- Laois will host the next Midlands Region meeting on Wednesday 15th May which Paddy Buggy will chair.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Date: ____/____/____