

**Miontuairiscí Choiste Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil Chontae na Gaillimhe a
tionóladh 30 Meán Fómhair 2025 @10.30 am**
Minutes of Galway County Local Community Development Committee meeting
held on 30th September 2025 Via Teams

Cllr. Michael Connolly, LA Member (Chairperson)	Public
Michael Owens, DOS, Galway County Council	Public
Cllr. Pádraig Mac an Iomaire, LA Member (Vice-Chair)	Public
Cllr. James Charity, LA Member	Public
Karen Mannion, FORUM Connemara Ltd	Community
Steve Dolan, Galway Rural Development	Community
Anne Mitchell, IFA	Community
Vincent Lyons, PPN	Community
Laurence Gaughan, HSE West	Public
Kevin Gavin, PPN Social Inclusion	Community
Regina Higgins, Department of Social Protection	Public

Apologies:

Máire Uí Mhaoláin, Comhar na nOileán Teo	Community
Caroline McDonagh, Local Enterprise Office	Public
Dónal Walsh, GRETB	Public
Aoibheann O'Brien, PPN	Community
Eveanna Ryan, Galway Chamber	Community

Also in Attendance: Lorna Baek, Theresa Donohue, Helen Melia, Mairead O'Malley, Galway County Council.

Cllr. M Connolly, Chair of the LCDC welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies received. He gave a special welcome to the two new PPN reps, Mr. Vincent Lyons who is representing the Community Pillar and Ms. Aoibheann O' Brien who is representing the Environmental Pillar. He noted that Aoibheann had sent her apologies for this meeting.

- 1 Miontuairiscí an Choiste Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil (LCDC) a tionóladh an 15 Iúil 2025 (cóipeanna i gceangal)
Minutes of Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) held on 15th July 2025.**

The Minutes of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) held on 15th July were proposed by K. Mannion and seconded by Pádraig Mac an Iomaire. There were no matters arising from the minutes.

2 Cur i láthair ó Chomhairle na nÓg ar Chiste na gCuntas Díomhaoin 2025 Presentation from Comhairle na nÓg on the Dormant Account Fund 2025.

The Chair welcomed Deirdre Bermingham, Chief Operations Officer and Shannon O'Shea from Youth Work Ireland to the meeting. Theresa Donohue advised that in September 2024, Galway County LCDC was notified of funding under the 2024 Dormant Accounts Fund (DAF) with a particular focus on actions included in the National LGBTI+ Inclusion Strategy. The funding was available to local organisations for the provision of services that include:

- Extending drop-in hours, developing information and guidance tools, holding additional community events
- Delivering LGBTI awareness/sensitivity training in healthcare settings, businesses, schools etc.
- Providing outreach support
- Providing sporting/physical activity programmes to promote inclusion, community participation, health and wellbeing

Youth Work Ireland applied for the fund and received funding of €11,636.42 under the 2024 Dormant Account Fund and €8,083.58 under the 2025 Dormant Account Fund. The total amount of **€19,720** has been paid to Youth Work Ireland.

Shannon O'Shea gave a presentation to the committee members and advised that the funding was used to employ Sharon to provide services in the Tuam Area for LGBT+ and support work Galway. They outlined all the activities they ran under the programme. Over 50 members attended the programme and it gave them a social outlet and allowed them to express themselves. Challenges they faced were funding as there is a high need for a support worker in this area.

M. Connolly thanked them for their interesting and informative presentation and asked if there were any questions. K. Gavin stated it was a great presentation and was a good benefit to the community. He stated that he had applied for Dormant Account funding in 2024 and it was May of 2025 before he was notified of been successful. As a result of the delay in notification of the fund, the quotes submitted had gone out of date and the costs had increased. T. Donohue informed the meeting that there had been no delay in this fund and that she would speak to Kevin after the meeting to discuss further. She also informed the meeting that she had experienced a months delay with the LECP grants this year. M. Connolly stated this happens on a regular basis, but the Council cannot award any funding until they get approval from the government. K. Mannion also complemented Deirdre and Sharon on the presentation and was aware how important it is to have stability in funding. She queried if they could get funding from any other

sector. Sharon informed the meeting the funding was a big issue, and they had applied to the Department of Education for funding but there was no guarantee they would be successful.

3 Bród Áite 2025 - nuashonrú Pride of Place 2025 – update.

Theresa gave a brief overview of the Pride of Place competition and advised that the judges had recently visited the Marconi Mens Shed in Clifden and Clarinbridge Tidy Towns. IPB Pride of Place in association with Co-operation Ireland is an all-island competition that acknowledges the work that communities are doing all over the island of Ireland. The competition focus is about people coming together to shape, change and improve daily lives in their communities.

The Competition is open to all local community groups and entries can be made in general population categories or in the 'single issue' categories. Single issue categories will be judged on the specifics of that specialist category. Population categories will be judged on all aspects of community living.

The Marconi Men's Shed entered under the Community Wellbeing Theme and Clarinbridge Tidy Towns entered under the population category, 300 to 1,000.

K. Mannion gave a presentation on how the Marconi Men's Shed was set up and outlined all the activities they are involved in and what they had achieved to date. M. Connolly thanked Karen for her great presentation, and it was great to see it going from strength to strength. He stated it was important to reach out to people who would benefit from the activities of the Men's Shed. K. Gavin stated it was a great initiative and acknowledged their upcycling skills. M. Connolly wished them the best of luck in the competition and stated that it is important to acknowledge the voluntary work that takes place in our community.


T. Donohue then gave a presentation on Clarinbridge Tidy Towns and outlined the itinerary that had been set for the judges on the day by sharing photos of the different groups that met with the judges. V. Lyons stated that he has been involved in voluntary work in the community and is aware of the vast amount of work that is involved in these projects. K. Gavin stated it was great to get the history of the Project. M. Owens echoed what had been said and stated that both projects had a positive impact on communities. He acknowledged all the work Theresa, Helen and her team had done to bring the projects to completion. M. Connolly also thanked Theresa and her team for all the work involved in these projects. The Pride of Place Awards is taking place on the 7th November in Limerick.

4 Aon ghnó eile
Any other business

T. Donohue stated she has sent an email to the members of about an upcoming LCDC Networking Event that is taking place in the Landmark Hotel, in Carrick on Shannon. If anyone is interested in attending, they have received the link to register.

The date of the next meeting is scheduled for 4th November at 10.30 online.

The Meeting then concluded.


LORNA BAEK
CHIEF OFFICER.


CLLR MICHAEL CONNOLLY.

