



Galway City Community Network  
Líonra Pobail Chathair Na Gaillimhe

# Galway City Community Network

The Public Participation Network in Galway City

**27th March 2019**

**Harbour Hotel**

**AGM Minutes**

## **Attendance**

Please see below.

## **Apologies**

Karen Golden, Karina Timothy.

## **Presentation**

A presentation was given by Luke Kavanagh of Gaillimh le Gaeilge including an overview of the aims and remit of the organisation. Gaillimh le Gaeilge's primary aim is the promotion of the Irish language. They are currently carrying out a public survey up until April 12<sup>th</sup>. The research will be concluded by mid-June. GCCN agreed to circulate information and links to the survey to all members. Amongst the steering group are two representatives of Galway City Council and three representatives of NUI Galway.

## **Welcome & Introductions**

Tommy Flaherty, Chairperson, opened the Plenary and welcomed members to the meeting. He invited those in attendance to share their names and organisations.

## **Minutes and Matters Arising**

The minutes of the previous AGM meeting were proposed by Joe Loughnane and seconded by Eleanor Hough. Ann Irwin, GCCN Coordinator, restated the values of GCCN and presented the 2018 Annual Report.

## **Part I**

Part I highlighted several *Submissions* that were made through the year including:

- Submission on the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion;
- Submission on the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy;
- Submission on the N6 Galway City Ring Road;
- Submission on the Public Realm Strategy;
- Submission on Nuns Island Regeneration;
- Submissions on the review of the Local Economic and Community Plan and the development of an Implementation Plan;
- Submissions on the need for a Biodiversity Officer in Galway City;
- Submission on the Canal Works.

A strong focus of GCCN's work is on *Collaboration and Participation* which was highlighted in the Annual Report in several events that we co-hosted/co-organised/participated to in 2018, including:

- Conference on Housing and Homelessness;
- Loving Galway Sustainability Festival;
- Make Way Day Campaign;
- Healthy Galway City;
- Galway 2020;
- Flowers for Magdalenes;
- Equality and Human Rights Statement;
- Local Community Development Committee;
- National Participation through Resource Workers Meetings.

## Part II

**Part II** highlighted the development and implementation of progressive models of and approaches to participation and engagement. These included:

- Membership – transference from GCCN data base to Salesforce;
- GCCN Representation on the following structures:
  - Local Community Development Committee:
    - Social Inclusion Subgroup;
    - Healthy Galway City Steering Committee;
  - Local Economic and Community Plan Advisory Committee;
  - Housing Strategic Policy Committee;
  - Planning Strategic Policy Committee;
  - Economic Development, Enterprise Support and Culture Strategic Policy Committee;
  - Transportation Strategic Policy Committee;
  - Environment, Recreation & Amenity Strategic Policy Committee;
  - Galway Sports Partnership;
  - Joint Policing Committee;
  - Galway City Partnership;
  - The Galway City and County Childcare Committee;
  - Comhairle na nÓg;
  - The Western Regional Drugs & Alcohol Taskforce;
  - Healthy Galway City;
  - Human Rights and Equality Steering Committee;
  - Galway Age Friendly Alliance.

GCCN supports the following *Linkage Groups* as a means through which members have a direct say in how they are represented on various structures. The expertise and participation of members organisations is crucial to representation.

- Environment Linkage Group;
- Housing and Accommodation Linkage Group;
- Arts & Culture Linkage Group (in development);
- Social Inclusion, Community Development & Equality Linkage Group;
- Sports & Recreation Linkage Group (in development);
- Economic Development, Enterprise Support Linkage Group (in development);
- GCCN supports the Community Safety Thematic Group.

GCC provided/facilitated *training* in the following area in 2018

- Data Protection in the context of GDPR;

- Public Sector Duty facilitated by Equality Rights Alliance;
- United Nations Convention on The Rights of Persons' with Disabilities (UNCRPD) co-facilitated with Disability Federation of Ireland and Galway City Partnership.

*Communication and information sharing* are a regular tool that GCCN uses in order to keep members up to date on events and exchange information. We do this through a variety of ways including social and digital media, network meetings and attendance at various events.

*Governance, Office & Admin* together with *Income & Expenditure* were gone through and several questions were taken and replied to from the floor. Information in relation to *Income & Expenditure* was made available to all in attendance and circulated at entry to the meeting.

The members of the Secretariat for 2018 were:

- |                       |                     |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Tommy Flaherty;    | 8. Imelda Gormally; |
| 2. Nichola Tierney;   | 9. Shane Foran;     |
| 3. Derrick Hambleton; | 10. James Coyne;    |
| 4. Margaret Ó Riada;  | 11. John Rabbitte;  |
| 5. Garry Lohan;       | 12. Joe Loughnane;  |
| 6. Marian Maloney;    | 13. Fiona Jennings; |
| 7. Terence McDonough; | 14. Joan Kavanagh.  |

Resignations took place and were accepted from Nichola Tierney and Fiona Jennings. They were both thanked for the time and contributions they had made. Expressions of interest were sought prior to the AGM and no interest was expressed. It was agreed that nominations would not take place from the floor and that in the absence of expressions of interest members would be co-opted throughout the year.

## **AOB**

A vote of thanks was extended to staff and members of the Secretariat.

Tommy Flaherty concluded the meeting by acknowledging all the work that GCCN had completed throughout the year.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### List of Attendees - AGM Meeting March 27th 2019

Name	Organisation
Imelda Gormally	Galway City Partnership
Brendan Mulligan	Engineers Ireland West Region
John Cleary	Galway Age Friendly Older Persons Council
Tommy Flaherty	Ballybane Community Resource Centre
John Rabbitte	Woodhaven Residents Association
Joan Kavanagh	Galway Age Friendly Older Persons Council
Fiona Jennings	Irish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children
Nicole Blue	The Galway Buskers' Community
Michael Conneely	Galway City School of Judo
James Coyne	Westside Resource Centre CLG
Shane Foran	Galway Cycling Campaign
Joe Loughnane	Galway Anti-Racism Network
Margaret O'Riada	Galway Traveller Movement
Eleanor Hough	Grattan Court Residents Association
Kathleen Greaney	Respond
Brendan Smith	Ballinfoile Mór Community Organic Garden
Terry McDonagh	An Taisce
Caroline Stanley	Friends of Merlin Woods
Niall Ó Brocháin	GLUAS
Martin O'Connor	Cope Galway
Pauline O'Reilly	Stay-At-Home Parents Association
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