



Public Participation Network Feedback Form: County Longford Tourism Committee



PPN Community & Voluntary elected Representative: Martin Smyth, Matt Farrell

Date of Meeting: 17/02/2021 Online

Meeting Agenda

1. Minutes of last meeting
2. Update from Fáilte Ireland
3. Longford in Spring Video
4. Website
5. EZxploring
6. Longford Town Audio Trail
7. County by County
8. Royal Canal Greenway
9. AOB

In Attendance: Matt Farrell, Michael Nevin, Uruemu Adejinmi, Michéal Carrigy, Dympna Reilly, Tara Cunningham, Bartle D'Arcy, Darragh Feighery, Martin Smyth, Sarah McCarthy, Mona Considine, Garry Murtagh,

Apologies: Donal Mac An Bheatha, Christine Collins, Noel Carberry, Camilla Kelly, Sarah Mulligan, Sheila Mullen, Frances McPartland, Margaret Walsh, Jude Flynn, Patricia Cumiskey, Seadna Ryan, Gerard Farrell, Sylvia Smith.

Presentations: Yes / No (details if Yes)

Agenda item	Member	Discussion	Actions / Who
Item 1 Matters arising	BD & MS	Granard Motte Community Enterprise CLG two amendments to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning Permission for Norman Park has not yet been submitted. • Facility for Camper Van Park at proposed Norman Park subject to funding & permissions. 	DR
Item 2 Update from Failte Ireland	<i>Sarah McCarthy</i>	Budget 2020 for hospitality businesses is the VAT reduction to be reduced to 9%. Covid Safety Charter – very few Longford businesses have signed up for same. Adaptation Fund – Some applications received from Longford businesses. Failte Ireland are re-starting the Ireland’s Hidden Heartlands Network Programme. Training invites going out in the next week to attractions/activity providers, Failte Ireland will liaise with Tourism Officers in each county with regard to this	SMcC
Item 3 Potential Caravan / Camping Parks	Michael Nevin	Dympna and Tara had done some research on what surrounding counties have to offer in terms of camp sites. Longford hope to develop one in each Municipal District, starting in Ballymahon possible Lanesborough or Abbeyshrule; Longford at Clondragh and Granard at either Dring Car Park or at Granard Motte Site.	MN
Item 4 Winter Video / Audio Tour / Website	Dympna Reilly	Gave an update and has circulated the Winter Video; Audio Tour is now completed in English, German and French (Irish version last one to complete). www.visitlongford.ie however can still be used as it is to be redirected to www.longford.ie and the content can easily be updated by Longford Tourism. Local business and attractions can be included.	DR & TC
Item 5 Royal Canal Greenway	Dympna Reilly	Longford Tourism are working with Waterways Ireland, Meath, Kildare and Westmeath County Councils on a marketing plan to launch and promote the Royal Canal Greenway. Directional signage has recently been erected on the Greenway with Storyboards currently being designed. Bike hire in Clondra, National Famine Way will be featured on the Storyboards and request for Queen Maeve Táin Trail be linked in with the greenway trail?	DR
A.O.B	Mona Considine Bartle D’Arcy Martin Smyth Michael Nevin	Overview of Backstage Theatre since Covid restriction and funding. s. Mona said a decent amount of funding, audience sizes when opening up, small scale productions. Knights & Conquests virtual media presence and preparing for opening up slot appointments when allowed. Updated plans and visitor experience getting ready for submission for Norman village in Granard for planning permission. Any cultural events in the next few months to talk to Mary Reynolds or Martin Morris and to promote them. Clonfin re-enactment Donal said the Lanesborough to Ballinakill path/walkway is complete. He said Corlea Bog phase 2 is nearly complete. Donal also mentioned Newcastle Woods is being very heavily	

		<p>used with lots of cyclists and also people riding horses through it which they shouldn't be doing. Perhaps we need to identify a site for cycling/horse riding. will open from September.</p> <p>Uruemu said about trying to link municipal district with cycling routes – Donal said there will be more urban greenways in the next few years.</p> <p>Martin said the Midir & Etain trail needs some more signage – Michéal said he would meet with Martin to discuss this in more detail.</p>	
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