



Public Participation Network Feedback Form: Climate Action & Planning SPC



PPN Community & Voluntary elected representatives: **Marcella O'Connor, Pat Murphy**

PPN Environmental Rep: **Francesca Pawelczyk**

Date of meeting: **21st of January 2022**

Meeting Agenda

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Climate Action and Planning Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on the 20th October 2021 - copy enclosed.
2. Matters arising from Minutes.
3. Declaration of Interest by Members.
4. Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 – 2027.
5. Proposed arrangements including fees associated with the recently constructed Columbarium Wall at Ballymacormack Cemetery.
6. Date of next meeting.

In Attendance: Councillors Garry Murtagh (Chairperson), Gerry Hagan, Peggy Nolan, and Uruemu Adejinmi. Mr. John Brannigan, Director of Services. Mr. Tom Murtagh, Senior Engineer. Angela Brady. Claire McNabola. Lorraine McKee. Andrew Mc Hugh. Francesca Pawelczyk.

Apologies:

Absent: Councillor Mark Casey. Marcella O'Connor. Pat Murphy.

Presentations: Yes / No (details if Yes) Yes.

Agenda item	Member	Discussion	Actions / Who
<p>Item 1 Draft River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2022 – 2027</p>	<p>Mr. Tom Murtagh, Senior Engineer</p>	<p>Mr. Murtagh’s presentation showed the current water quality of the Longford catchments and upcoming policy and directive implementations.</p> <p>Currently, no water body within Longford is rated as ‘Bad’. Areas of poor water quality include Edgeworthstown, Granard, and Longford Town.</p> <p>Ms. Pawelczyk advised the ‘Community Water Development Fund 2022’ is open to applications from community groups until the 8th of February: “This Fund helps local communities deliver projects and initiatives that enhance the local water environment, delivering multiple benefits for biodiversity and climate action.” - https://lawaters.ie/community-water-development-fund-2022-now-open/</p> <p>Mr. Murtagh advised the arterial drainage of the Camlin River has successfully contributed to its rating. Cllr. Nolan advised she ensures funds for this are included in each budget.</p>	<p>Presentation will be made available to committee members</p>
<p>Item 2 Proposed arrangements including fees associated with the recently constructed</p>	<p>Mr. Tom Murtagh, Senior Engineer</p>	<p>“Longford County Council has recently completed the construction of a 40-niche columbarium wall at Ballymacormack Cemetery. The direct costs associated with the construction and engraving per columbarium wall niche is €716. Other costs including direct and indirect costs such as caretaker, administration and future operation and maintenance costs etc of circa €280 are likely to arise. The costs for a similar columbarium wall facility service in Mount Jerome Dublin and Kerry is</p>	

<p>Columbarium Wall at Ballymacormack Cemetery.</p>		<p>currently €1200 or higher. For these reasons it is recommended that the price set by Longford County Council for use of this new facility at Ballymacormack Cemetery is €1000 per niche. It should be noted that this cost per each niche allows for 2 urns and the associated name plate engraving service.”</p> <p>Further to members questions, Mr. Murtagh confirmed the €1,000 fee per niche is a one-off payment, which includes space for two urns and engraving of name plates.</p> <p>Cllr. Nolan complimented the excellent construction and finish of the columbarium wall. Mr. Murtagh noted the work of Mr. Bernard Shea in bringing the wall to fruition.</p> <p>Ms. Pawelczyk asked if a feasibility study on the creation of a ‘green graveyard’ would be possible – due to the high emissions of the cremation process and to provide additional end-of-life options for people.</p>	
<p>Item 3</p> <p>List of policy development opportunities</p>	<p>Ms. Francesca Pawelczyk, PPN Environmental Representative</p>	<p>List of policy development opportunities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water fountains (public) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Further to Cllr. Adejinmi’s motion at the September County Council meeting for the installation of a water fountain in The Mall: Requested an update on the status of installation. Proposed installation of water fountains in all towns and villages. 2. Community gardens <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Further to Mr. Lorcan O’Connor Lloyd’s ‘Food Provenance in Longford Town’ presentation at the 20th of October 2021 SPC meeting: Requested the creation of community gardens in all towns, villages, and schools in the county. 3. Rewilding and restoration programme across the county 4. Grass cutting <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Reduce the frequency of grass cutting by Longford Council, community groups, and property owners – would tie-in with Item 3: Rewilding and restoration programme 	<p>Ms. Pawelczyk will email the list to committee members.</p>

		<p>5. Re-wetting of all bogs in the county</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Re-wetting of all bogs in the county to support the Mid-Shannon Wilderness Park UNESCO application – would tie-in with Item 3: Rewilding and restoration programme <p>6. Green Graveyard</p> <p>7. Waste (Household) Pollution</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Further to Cllr. Ross’ motion at the January Council meeting: “I call on the Minister for the Environment to implement a policy where a database of registered Bin users in each county is available to each Local Authorities Litter Wardens to help identify those who do not dispose of their waste and rubbish in a proper manner. Illegal dumping is growing at a massive rate and is one of the greatest scourges of our county”. <p>Advised was not in favour of the motion. Requested the implementation of council held waste collection events where people can dispose of their household waste for free or, if possible, offer a monetary donation.</p> <p>8. Ban single-use plastic bottles at public (sports) events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Would tie-in with Item 1: Water fountains (public) and Item 7: Waste (Household) Pollution <p>Mr. Brannigan advised items will be looked at to see if they are operational or policy.</p>	
<u>Item 4</u>			
<u>Item 5</u>			

<u>A.O.B</u>			