



County Longford Public Participation Network (PPN)

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*Happy
Christmas!*

and a Happy New Year



PPN NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2020



<https://www.longfordcoco.ie/your-council/news/-shoplongford-this-christmas.html>



<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Longford/Enterprise-Development/Look-for-Local/>

FREE Parking
in OFF-STREET CAR PARKS
Longford Town

Friday 27th November 2020
Saturday 28th November 2020
Saturday 5th December 2020
Every Day from
Sat 12th Dec 2020 - Fri. 1st Jan 2021

Free Parking Every Sunday

PPN Latest News



Podcast

Visions for Community Wellbeing – Public Participation Networks

There has been a recent political shift towards wellbeing, with talk of a Wellbeing Budget for 2021 and the publication of a discussion document on Wellbeing Indicators with that Budget. This is a good thing, but how those Wellbeing Indicators are developed, and who is consulted, will be key to their success.

In 2018, the Public Participation Networks (PPNs) embarked on a large consultative project to develop Visions for Community Wellbeing across all Local Authority areas. This process saw community groups come together to develop a vision for their community for this and future generations.

In this episode of Social Justice Matters, Colette Bennett speaks to **Siobhán Cronogue of Longford PPN**, Helen Howes of County Wicklow PPN and Dr. Harriet Emerson, independent consultant, about the process of developing these Visions; their policy impact, and the potential for this process to inform the national Wellbeing Indicators.

Listen to the Podcast on link below:

<https://SocialJusticeIreland.podbean.com/e/55-sji-interviews-ep28-visions-for-community-wellbeing-public-participation-networks/>



PPN Global Goals – *Have a Happy Ethical Christmas*

On 10th December Longford PPN and Wellbeing Coach Anna D Atkinson delivered a seasonal workshop and discussion and shared ideas, hints and tips on how to make more creative choices to ensure your Christmas celebrations are more sustainable and earth friendly. This online workshop was one in a series of workshops delivered by Longford PPN the aim of which was to raise community awareness and encourage engagement with the Sustainable Development Goals, otherwise known as the Global Goals.

Focusing specifically on the Christmas Season, this interactive session looked at ways in which we can alter our impact on the environment by making alternative choices in relation to how we shop, exchange gifts, eat and celebrate.

View Anna's presentation on the link below:

<https://www.longfordppn.ie/news/>

FUNDING NEWS

2nd Round of COVID-19 Emergency Fund

Longford Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) invites applications from Community Groups under the 2nd Round of COVID-19 Emergency Fund.

Closing date is **12 noon on Monday 25th January, 2021.**

[2nd round of COVID-19 Emergency Fund](#)

Community Grant Support Scheme 2021

<https://www.longfordcoco.ie/your-council/news/community-grant-support-scheme-2021.html>

Closing Date: Friday 26th February 2021

Community Water Development Fund now open for 2021
Funding for communities to deliver water, biodiversity, and climate action initiatives (information below)

Sports Capital Grant 2021

*Community Loan Information for Sports Capital Grant Applicants
(information below)*

Community Water Development Fund now open for 2021



**Funding for communities to deliver water,
biodiversity, and climate action initiatives.**

The Community Water Development Fund aims to support the delivery of local projects and initiatives to address the major issues of water quality, biodiversity loss and climate change. The fund is administered by the Local Authority Waters Programme (LAWPRO) on behalf of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage and is available to all community and voluntary groups.

Types of projects considered for funding will include:

- Capital projects such as: wildlife conservation and restoration of habitat; natural flood mitigation measures; fish passage projects; invasive species control, tree planting, rain garden and Nature Based Solutions, etc.
- Awareness raising and information initiatives, such as videos and publications.
- Projects that promote public awareness/education and events such as biodiversity days, surveys, training workshops, surveys and plans, water conservation initiatives, Citizen Science, etc.
- Community benefit and amenity such as: beach clean-ups, improving amenity areas, bird watching facilities, etc.

Grants awarded will range from €500 to €5,000; up to €10,000 and up to €25,000.
Contact Karen Kennedy, Community Water Officer at kkennedy@lawaters.ie or 085 8085495

Community Loan Information for Sports Capital Grant Applicants – a message from Clann Credo



The Sports Capital Programme opened for a new round of applications today!

Clann Credo can help local clubs and community groups to maximise Sports Capital funding by providing bridging and match funding loans as part of their applications.

Clann Credo is excited to see a new round of funding under the [2021 Sports Capital Programme](#). These grants fuel the growth of local sports clubs that play such a vital role in our communities.

€10 Million Community Sports Loan Fund

Clann Credo has a dedicated €10 Million Community Sports Loan Fund available to help sports clubs and community groups maximise their Sports Capital grants and has years of experience in assisting clubs to develop their facilities.

Clann Credo Match Funding Loans

The Sports Capital application requires clubs to show evidence of own funds. While having cash on deposit is best, a loan offer from Clann Credo is also acceptable as evidence of own funding and can boost your scoring in the application. The approval will be provided in the format required by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

Clann Credo Bridging Loans

Sports Capital grants are paid following submission of receipts for works completed and paid for. This can be a barrier to accessing the grant if the club doesn't have funds on hand to pay for works or equipment upfront. Clann Credo can provide clubs with a Bridging Loan to pay for works done on their project, allowing them to draw down their grant. The Clann Credo loan is repaid when the club receives its Sports Capital grant.

Information evening – Community Sports Loans for Sports Capital – 13th January 2021

Clann Credo is hosting an information evening for all sports and community groups who may require evidence of loan finance to support their application under the 2020 Sports Capital Programme.

This will involve:

- Practical advice on how to use loan finance effectively to maximise your grant

- Top tips on applying for a Clann Credo Community Sports Loan
- An introduction to your local Clann Credo representative
- Advice from clubs who have combined grants and loans to develop their facilities in the past

The information evening will take place online on **13th January 2021 from 7:30 – 9:00 pm**

You can register for this event [HERE](#).

Places are limited, so please register early to avoid disappointment!

There isn't much time! Please Contact Clann Credo Now.

The deadline in February may seem like a lot of time to get applications together, but successful applications take time!

There is huge demand from clubs and community groups nationwide for these grants. In order to allow Clann Credo time to process new finance requests, the **closing date is 29th January 2021**. If your club or community group is interested in working with Clann Credo to get your application ready, you need to contact us *as soon as possible!* The regional Clann Credo representatives can be found [here](#). Alternatively, you can email info@clanncredo.ie or phone 01 400 2100 for further information.

We look forward to hearing from clubs and community groups that are making Sports Capital grant applications!



CLÁR Funding 2020

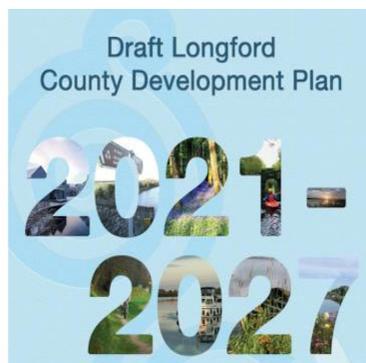
The Department of Rural and Community Development has approved funding of €265,667.70 towards eight projects in Co. Longford.

See Longford County Council [Co. Longford CLÁR 2020](#) for details of approved projects.

Longford County Council will fund up to 5% of the estimated cost of these projects.

REMINDER

SUBMISSIONS INVITED before 18th January 2021



NOTICE OF PREPARATION OF DRAFT LONGFORD COUNTY DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2021-2027

Longford County Council is currently preparing a Draft County Development Plan 2021-2027 and is inviting submissions.

The Draft Longford County Development Plan 2021-2027 is currently available for public inspection from via the Council's website at the following link:

<https://www.longfordcoco.ie/services/planning/preparation-of-longford-cdp-2021-2027/longford-county-development-plan-2021-2027.html>

The Plan and all associated documents will also be available for public inspection in hard copy format during normal opening hours (subject to Covid-19 restrictions and excluding public holidays) at the following locations:

- Planning Department, Longford County Council Offices, Áras an Chontae, Great Water Street, Longford, N39 NH56.
- All County Longford Branch Libraries – Longford, Ballymahon, Drumlish, Edgeworthstown, Granard and Lanesborough Libraries (please check locally for opening hours).

These physical display locations are subject to Covid-19 pandemic restriction requirements. Longford County Council website will be kept updated of any changes.

In this regard further to the publication of the public notice in the Longford Leader dated Friday 23rd October 2020, **the libraries will now be closed until 1st December 2020. An appointment will be required to view the documents at the Planning Department by either email at planning@longfordcoco.ie or telephone on (043) 3343323.**

Submissions to the Draft County Development Plan 2021-2027 may be made by members up to **4pm on Monday 18th January 2021** or alternatively you may send your submission to

PPN@longfordcoco.ie or scronogue@longfordcoco.ie and your submission will then be included as part of the PPN submission.

Submissions/observations can be made as follows:

Online: www.longfordcoco.ie/cdp

Email: cdp@longfordcoco.ie

Hard copy: Administrative Officer, Draft County Development Plan, Forward Planning Unit, Longford County Council, Áras An Chontae, Great Water Street, Longford, N39 NH56.

Chief Executives Report for November 2020

The Chief Executive of Longford County Council publishes a monthly report with the latest updates, news and achievements from across the Council. Chief Executive Report is presented to Elected Members at Council meeting every month. The report outlines key aspects of our service delivery and performance in delivering the agreed objectives in the Council's published [Corporate Plan](#).

Read the latest Report [here](#).

Recent Reports can be found [here](#).

National Excellence in Local Government Award

Longford County Council Takes National Excellence in Local Government Award for the Use of Remote Working Technology



The Excellence in Local Government Awards are hosted by Chambers Ireland in partnership with the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to showcase the best practice and innovation in local government across Ireland. The annual Awards began in 2004 to recognise the Local Authority of the Year and many other achievements delivered by Local Authorities.

The 2020 awards were announced online by Ms. Mary Kennedy on Thursday 26th November 2020 with Longford County Council taking the prestigious award for “Outstanding Initiative through the Municipal Districts”. The award recognised Longford County Councils strive for innovation and leadership in adopting digital technology to allow the elected members continue to serve their communities. For more information click on the link below:

<https://www.longfordcoco.ie/your-council/news/press-releases/national-excellence-in-local-government-award.html>

Longford County Council ‘Stronger Together - Local Action’ campaign



The Council has released a new video to remind people of the importance of adhering to public health advice, as we work together to address increasing COVID-19 numbers in County Longford.

New video available on the following Longford County Council’s Social Media platforms and are also in various languages:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LongfordCountyCouncil/>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/longfordcoco/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/longfordcoco>

Youtube: <https://bit.ly/2T4yoM6>

Please bring this to the attention of all your members and "Like" and "Share" to get the ‘Stronger Together - Local Action’ campaign message out to everyone in the community.

Keep Well Campaign



The Government Plan for Living with COVID-19: Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021 highlights the important role that individual and community resilience will play in contributing to our ongoing response to COVID-19.

Cathaoirleach Paul Ross welcomed the recent launch of the new 'Keep Well' campaign, by An Taoiseach, Micheál Martin TD and ministerial colleagues.

This 'Keep Well' campaign builds on the 'in this Together' campaign that happened earlier this year and aims to support people and communities in being resilient through minding their physical and mental health and wellbeing over the coming months.

'A range of wellbeing activities and interesting initiatives will be delivered by the Council with local partners over the winter months to help people keep well and active and I would urge you all to engage in and participate in these activities and enjoy your local amenities' said Cathaoirleach Ross.

The campaign is focussed on five themes: Keeping Active, Staying Connected, Switching Off and being creative, Eating Well and Minding your Mood.

The Council, through the established Community Forum will co-ordinate the local response to local needs, work with Sports Ireland and deliver wellbeing programmes locally.

The Community Library network have commenced the 'Rewarding Reads' and 'Ireland Reads' initiatives and will going forward deliver other creative initiatives across the five themes of the 'Keep Well' programme.

The Cathaoirleach of Longford County Council Cllr. Paul Ross, and the Chief Executive, Mr. Paddy Mahon encourage all in our County to engage in this innovative campaign.

Further details on all activities and initiatives at county level will be made available on the Council's website www.longfordcoco.ie

MapAlerter – New Digital Communication Tool - FREE Service for Citizens

MapAlerter will streamline all alerts relating to LCC service disruptions e.g. road closures, floods, severe weather, water outages, planning and updates on National Broadband Ireland fibre rollout. Citizens can subscribe online to MapAlerter <https://www.mapalerter.ie/signup> or contact LCC at 043 3343508 and we will post out a form for you to complete.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2020 Approved Projects

Further information on Round 2 may be found at

<https://www.longfordcoco.ie/your-council/news/town-and-village-renewal-scheme-round-2-accelerated-measure-2020.html>

Further information on Round 3 may be found at

<https://www.longfordcoco.ie/services/regeneration/>

Broadband Connection Points (BCPs)

Further information on BCPs in Longford may be found at :

<https://www.longfordcoco.ie/longfordcoco/services/information-technology/broadband/broadband-connection-points/>