

The Cultural Development, Irish Language & Sport Strategic Policy Committee
Minutes of Meeting
2nd March 2022
Venue: Microsoft Teams

Present: Cllr. P. McDonald, Chairperson; E. Doyle, Director of Services; Cllr. P. Brady; Cllr. S. P. O'Reilly; Cllr. C. Lovett; E. Nwaneri; P. McIntyre; C. Cusack Smith; E. Clancy, Meetings Administrator

Apologies: Cllr. C. Kelly; Cllr. V. Smith; M. Rudden; G. McPhillips; M. B. Duffy

In the absence of Cllr. C. Kelly, Chairperson, Cllr. P. McDonald assumed the role of Chairperson.

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting, 15th December 2021
Proposed by Cllr. P. Brady; seconded by Cllr. Shane P. O'Reilly
2. Declaration of Interests:
Chairperson outlined the responsibility of Committee members to declare any beneficial interest in matters being discussed by the SPC.
3. Live Events / Town Hall Theatre:
Mr. P. McIntyre provided an update on programming of Live Events at the Town Hall Theatre following the easing of restrictions. He reminded the Committee that the Town Hall is starting out as a new venue, with no previous customer base. He and his team have developed a very strong programme which includes sold-out performances by Seamus O'Rourke, a new production of Tarry Flynn, and the outdoor drive-in Irish-language theatre show, Fiach, at Cock Hill. The schedule also includes high-calibre musical acts such as Peggy Seeger, alongside a host of classes and workshops. He encouraged all Committee members to spread the word and to help to build a new audience for the Town Hall venue. Chairperson paid tribute to P. McIntyre and the Town Hall team for the tremendous work being done. Cllr. P. Brady also noted the great work in progress.
4. Irish Language & Culture:
Ms. C. Cusack Smith, Irish Language Officer with Cavan County Council, reported on the Draft Irish Language Scheme which is currently being prepared. It is planned to present an update on this Scheme at the next SPC meeting. She also highlighted the range of programming planned for Seachtain na Gaeilge which runs from March 1st – 17th. The programme includes storytelling and games for children, Oral Irish language workshops for Leaving Certificate students and Beginners Irish Classes for young people and adults. Cavan County Council will also offer a number of Gaeltacht scholarships for Coláiste na bhFiann Colleges. The Chairperson complimented Carmel on the work being done.
5. Decade of Commemorations / Creative Ireland:
Ms. E. Clancy, County Librarian, provided an update on plans for the 2022 Decade of Commemorations programme which has been submitted to the Department for

consideration. It is hoped to continue the successful Historian in Residence component during this very important year of commemoration.

Ms. Clancy also reported on the 2022 Creative Ireland programme which will include a range of programmes developed by Cavan County Council's Culture and Creativity Team and a number of Strategic Partners. A new five-year strategy programme has been approved by central Government to run 2023-2027.

6. A.O.B.

It was noted and agreed that the committee will comply with the Transparency code of the Public Lobbying Act 2015. This will be done by regular circulation of minutes and the agenda of committee working groups / task force meetings on the Council website. The website will also detail membership and terms of reference of the committee.

Cllr. Clifford Kelly
Chairperson,
Cultural Development, Irish Language & Sport SPC