



**Líonra Rannpháirtíochta Pobail Chiarraí**  
**Public Participation Network Kerry**

Kerry Public Participation Network	
<b>Date:</b>	06.11.2025
<b>Time:</b>	Arrival 6:15pm for a 6:30pm start
<b>Venue:</b>	TFI Local Link Kerry, Castleisland

<b>Rotating Chairperson:</b>	Derry Murphy (DM)
<b>Present</b>	Alan O'Connell (AOC) Catherine Lenihan (CL) Ciaran Forde (CF) Joanne McCarthy (JM) Julieann Lane (JL) Laura Bennett (LB)
<b>In Attendance</b>	Máiréad Costelloe, PPN Development Worker (MC) Kathy Molyneaux, PPN Support Worker (KM)
<b>Apologies:</b>	Jennifer O'Sullivan (JOS) Olha Yatsyk (OY) Tomás Stack (TS)

<b>1. Selection of rotating chairperson/facilitator</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>DM will chair until the end of the year. Proposed by AOC, Seconded by JL</li></ul>
<b>2. Welcome &amp; Induction for New Secretariat Members</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Joanne McCarthy (Killarney Civic Arts) – Killarney MD Representative</li><li>Ciaran Forde (Fenit Coast Conservation) – Environmental Pillar Representative</li><li>Established members provided an introduction to the role of Secretariat member. Both new members have received the Secretariat induction pack.</li></ul>
<b>3. Minutes from last secretariat meeting – 26th September 2025</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Proposed AOC, Seconded CL</li></ul>
<b>4. Matters Arising</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Pride of Place Awards takes on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> November with 3 Kerry PPN groups shortlisted, Social Action Group Rathmore, Cromane Community Council, Cúmanh Iveragh.</li></ul>

## 5. PPN Development Officer Report

- The Autumn Plenary was held in the Brehon Hotel, Killarney on the 9<sup>th</sup> of October and 48 people attended.
- Agreement that the focus for the Spring 2026 Plenary will be on sharing success stories amongst member groups.
- LCSP Induction meeting will be held on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November then the first meeting of LCSP will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December with 8 representatives selected from the PPN

Name	Role
Derry Ó Murchú	Local Resident Representative – Castleisland Corca Dhuibhne MD
Michael O Mahony	Representative from the Kerry Older People's Council (Over 55's Network)
Tom Walsh	Local Resident Representative – Killarney MD
Eamon Horgan	Local Resident Representative – Kenmare MD
Tony Hanlon	Local Resident Representative - Listowel MD
Sean Roche	Community and Voluntary Sector Representative
Brenda O Connor	Local Resident Representative – Tralee MD
Daniel Quirke-Soundy	Representative for New/Minority Communities

- Autumn Training Programme for groups: attendance was poor for Literacy Awareness training. Good uptake on Setting Up & Running a Small Not- for Profit Group, Writing Grant Applications training and the Census Roadshow.
- AOC requested that online training be recorded where possible so more groups can share training at time that suits them.
- MC presented a proposal for 2026 Spring Training with Carmichael. MC advised to review the proposal, looking to limit the courses to those identified on the training needs analysis and to see if a better price could be negotiated with fewer course options.
- Secretariat approved funding of online grant writing workshop and a social media for community group workshop in Q4 2025/ Q1 2026.
- Kerry PPN are hosting 2 information sessions for groups on Community Climate Action Programme Fund on 17<sup>th</sup> November.
- MC presented the 'Overview of Funding Programmes' brochure that KCC & Kerry PPN have collaborated on. This has been very well received.
- Q3 financial update was presented. Secretariat would like 2026 budget to be adjusted in areas where there has been an underspend in 2025.
- Secretariat approved production of PPN Guidance Booklet for 'Setting up and running a community group', similar to Westmeath PPN's publication. Approved print run of 300.
- Secretariat approved updating of the Kerry PPN pull up banners in Q4 2025. .

## 6. Update from Linkage Groups & PPN representatives

- Environmental Linkage Group- Meeting held October 6<sup>th</sup>. CF nominated to fill vacant Secretariat seat. Next meeting to be held 6<sup>th</sup> December to decide policy priorities for 2026.

- Disability Linkage Group- Connie O’Leary has stepped back from the group. The progressing of the group is to be discussed at the December meeting of Secretariat and Representatives.
- MC and KM attended a national PPN staff session on Linkage Groups hosted by IEN featuring best practice examples from other counties. Agreed to circulate a survey to all reps based on that used in Leitrim PPN to identify challenges faced by reps in their role and establish how they could be supported by staff & secretariat.
- Joint Secretariat & representative meeting to be held on December 10<sup>th</sup> to review progress in 2025 & plan for 2026.

#### **7. Vacant Representative Positions:**

- The vacant Environmental Pillar Secretariat seat to be advertised in January.
- There are 2 vacant Housing SPC seats. We are awaiting the formal invitation to nominate representatives.
- National PPN Secretariat Network vacancy was discussed. MC will circulate the document detailing the role and responsibilities to all Secretariat members again.
- KCA are still to hold their ‘wash up meeting’ and issue an invite to fill the vacant seats.
- FLAG Southwest have indicated they may be looking for 2 representatives and will be in touch.
- LCDC Seat (environmental)– Ann Marie Fuller will stay on until replacement is available
- C.O’Leary confirmed that she has stepped down as trustee of Kerry PPN. This leaves 2 vacant trustee positions. The following were nominated: DM (Proposed CL, Seconded CF) & AOC (Proposed DM, Seconded JL)

#### **8. Older People’s Council & PPN Working Group Update**

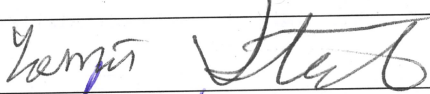
- The Kerry PPN & Kerry OPC Working Group met on 6<sup>th</sup> November. The group consists of MC, AOC & TS representing Kerry PPN and CL, Davina Griffin (KCC) and Ed O’Connor (Baile Mhuire) representing Kerry OPC Executive.
- It has been agreed to draft a memorandum of understanding between both groups setting out how the Over 55’s Network will be managed by Kerry PPN, the role played by the network in seeking nominees to the OPC Executive and how information will be shared between the two groups and out to the wider network.
- Davina Griffin & MC to prepare the draft and revert to the working group in January.

#### **9. AOB**

- MC to follow up & arrange a date for meeting with KCC CE, Fearghal Reidy. AOC, Ann Marie Fuller, JOS and MC will attend the meeting. A meeting will take with PPN sub-group members place prior to meeting the CE to agree the issues to be raised.
- Agreement to close the PPN office from 19<sup>th</sup> Dec 2025 to 5<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026. Proposed by AOC and seconded by DM. Social media post will be scheduled in advance. It will also be advertised to groups and council staff that groups can access their PPN numbers vis the website as this may be information they require for funding applications.
- JL attended the LCDC showcase in Leitrim where there was presentation from the Tipperary PPN Mapping Pilot. This is a joint initiative with TCC and Tipperary to develop a database of community services, groups and facilities. The goal is to create a software for this mapping and have it rolled out in the future. Agreement that Kerry PPN would be interested in participating in a roll out of this project if the opportunity became available.

Glossary	
•	<b>PPN:</b> Public Participation Network
•	<b>CE:</b> Chief Executive
•	<b>FLAG:</b> Fisheries Local Action Group
•	<b>IEN:</b> Irish Environmental Network
•	<b>KCA:</b> Kerry Community Awards
•	<b>KCC:</b> Kerry County Council
•	<b>LCDC:</b> Local Community Development Committee
•	<b>LCSP:</b> Local Community Safety Partnership
•	<b>OPC:</b> Older People's Council
•	<b>SPC:</b> Strategic Policy Committee
•	<b>TCC:</b> Tipperary County Council

Next Meeting	
<b>Date:</b>	January 29 <sup>th</sup> , 2026
<b>Time:</b>	6.30pm
<b>Venue:</b>	Aras an Phobail, Tralee

<b>Signed:</b>	
<b>Signed:</b>	