



# **Public Participation Network Meath**

**Review on Plenary of Meath PPN**

**27<sup>th</sup> November 2025**

**Ardboyne Hotel, Navan**

1. **Chair of the Plenary:** Ingrid Reilly, Girley Bog Meitheal
2. **Agenda:** circulated before event



### 3. Registration and Welcome

At the Plenary of Meath PPN, held on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2025 in the Ardboyne Hotel, Navan, 24 people were in attendance, representing 25 different groups from across the Meath PPN network. **See Appendix 1.**

### 4. Opening

Chairperson of Meath PPN, Ingrid Reilly, thanked everyone for coming and went through housekeeping and the agenda for the evening, introducing the different presenters and making note of other contributors who formed part of the showcase.

## 5. Meath PPN

The Chair introduced the Secretariat before outlining for attendees what had been achieved since the last Plenary.

This included the updating of the 'Grants Calendar' detailing the most relevant and reoccurring grants with approximate dates that they are issued. This calendar will be sent to all registered groups early in the New Year.

Regular updates from PPN staff via fortnightly newsletter, website updates on 'News' section and through social media accounts, kept members informed of important events in the county, consultations opened and training available.

Networking and enabling groups to meet face to face remained an important function of Meath PPN, flagged by members as being of great benefit to them. This enabled the PPN to organise a number of facilitated workshops, grant information sessions and day trips, to encourage this conversation but also provide information to the groups.

The highlight of Meath PPN's year was the hosting of the 2025 National PPN Conference in Trim. Over 200 delegates from all 31 PPNs attended over two days in October. Nicky will present on this later.

Meath PPN now has 814 Member Groups, up from 774 or an 5.2% increase since the May Plenary.

The Chair mentioned how Meath PPN will undergo a re-registration process in 2026. This ensures an up to date register of member groups with accurate contact details are in place.

The Chair then handed over to staff who outlined information in the grants calendar as well as how Meath based groups can participate in the PeacePlus Changemakers Programme.

## 6. Presentations

The next section of the evening focused on four presentations from different organisations, all with relevant information for attending groups:

*Nicky McDonnell, Meath PPN ([Presentation Here](#))*

Nicky gave a presentation outlining the success of Meath PPN, in collaboration with Meath County Council and the Department of Rural and Community Development and the Gaeltacht.

This highlighted how all 31 PPNs were in attendance, with workshops on different topics, two report launches, excursions to four Meath community groups, an in-house expo or groups with best practice, and a gala dinner reception, with keynote address delivered by Minister Jerry Buttimer.

*Aisling O'Donnell, Healthy Meath* ([Presentation Here](#))

Aisling was unable to attend on the evening so Nicky gave an outline of her presentation. The Community Connect resource is a living document which will continue to be updated as more participants join.

Meath specific community maps were given to everyone in attendance and these are also available online.

A call out for more 'Champions' was made and anyone interested, asked to contact Aisling directly.

*Anne Duffy & Tom Morgan, Meath DPO* ([Details Here](#))

Anne and Tom spoke to attendees about the recently established Meath Disabled Person's organisation, which is supported by Independent Living Movement Ireland. They outlined their manifesto and governance code, highlighting how this is a 'lived experience' group.

They aim to make more connections with key policy and decision makers and will seek to influence these areas, so that people with disabilities, have the same opportunities as others.

*Mary D'Arcy, Meath Climate Action* ([Presentation Here](#))

Mary gave an overview of the current Community Climate Action Fund, which is now in its second phase. She highlighted successful projects from round 1 and emphasised how groups could learn from these projects to inform their own applications.

*Rachel Grant and Marie Daly, Crann Support Group* ([Presentation Here](#))

Rachel and Marie discussed the establishment of Crann Support Group and how they provide comprehensive support services for community childcare services and social inclusion projects.

## 7. Acknowledgments, Networking & Raffle

Following the presentations Nicky highlighted how the current Secretariat were reaching the end of their terms. Four members were at the end of their first term while a further three were at the end of their second term.

Nicky explained how the election of new Secretariat members will take place. To ensure the PPN continues to function according to its governance and policies, the longest serving members step down first whereby, nominations and elections, if required will take place across these pillars and MDs. Following this, those coming to the end of their first term step down and a similar callout is done in these pillars and areas.

In line with this governance, this marked the end of terms for Garret O'Brien, Ronan Murtagh and Andy Ogle having reached a total of 10 years' service on the Secretariat. The Plenary expressed their thanks for their commitment and wished them well in the future. A commemorative token will be given to each, as a token of appreciation from Meath PPN.

Some light refreshments were then served and participants were invited to network amongst each other. This has been a key component of the last number of plenaries, providing a platform for groups to discuss with and learn from each other.

Chairperson Ingrid Reilly thanked everyone for attending before holding the raffle for a selection of prizes following which everyone was wished a safe journey home.

### Appendix 1 – List of Groups in Attendance:

Youth Work Ireland Meath	Gardening Dynamic
Ballinlough GFC	Mornington Tidy Towns
Beechmount Residents Association	Na Fianna CLG GAA
Boardsmill GAA	Trim Family Resource Centre
Girley Bog Meitheal	Summerhill CE Scheme
Comhaltas na Mí	Meath East Community Association
Moynalty Steam Threshing	Trim GAA
Kentstown ICA	Kentstown Tidy Towns
Trim Haymaking Festival	Bohermeen Community Centre
Meath DPO	Crann Support Services
North East Sand Sculptures	Meath Council of Trade Unions
St. Mary's Villas	Coastwatch
Inland Waterways Ireland	