

MONTHLY MEETING OF DÚN LAOGHAIRE-RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL

14 March 2022

Chairperson's Report of the Community, Culture and Wellbeing Strategic Policy Committee held via Microsoft Teams on Wednesday 15th December 2021 at 5.00pm

Councillors Present

Baker, Marie (Chair)	Hanafin, Mary
Ahmed, Kazi	Moylan, Justin
Donnelly, Deirdre	O'Connor, Oisín
Dunne, Daniel	Grainger, Anna
Fanning, Martha	McLoughlin, Sean
Fleming, Michael	O'Brien, Peter

SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT

Dr Josephine Browne, Sheila Grace, Andrew Clinch, Olivia Dunne

OFFICIALS PRESENT

Therese Langan, Director of Community & Cultural Development; Mary Ruane, Senior Executive Officer, Community and Cultural Development; Catherine Gallagher, DLR County Librarian; Jayne Parsons, Senior Staff Officer, Community & Cultural Development; Anne Murray, Biodiversity Officer, Parks; Ruairi O'Dulaing, Senior Parks Superintendent, Parks; Barry Dempsey, Sports Development Officer, Parks; Tina Falkiner, Clerical Officer, Community & Cultural Development.

Absent

Brian Kavanagh; Pierrot Ngadi

1. Welcome & Roll Call

Cllr. Marie Baker (Chair) welcomed everyone to the meeting and the roll call was carried out.

Cllr. Marie Baker (Chair) advised all participants that the meeting would be recorded for the purposes of minutes and the recording would be deleted thereafter. She invited anyone with objections to this to inform her. No participant objected and recording of the meeting began.

2. Confirmation of Minutes from SPC Meeting

Draft minutes of the SPC meeting held on Wednesday 06th October 2021 were agreed. The minutes were then adopted, having been proposed by Dr. Josephine Browne and seconded by Cllr. Mary Hanafin.

3. Matters Arising from the Minutes: None.

4. Information items submitted by members for written reply: No business.

5. Director's Business

(a) Biodiversity Plan Presentation

Anne Murray, Biodiversity Officer, DLRCC, presented the Draft DLR Biodiversity Action Plan.

Following questions from members, the Committee was given updates in relation to :

- The campaign to raise awareness of hedgehogs and prevent injury to them
- Progress with the Red Squirrel Project
- Pollinator Parks, and the work being carried out by Tidy Towns, in conjunction with the Parks Dept, under the All-Ireland Pollinator plan
- Wildlife corridors and the mapping of hedgerows

A query about setting up a wild flower scheme for the public to plant flowers in one of the County's parks would be passed to the Senior Parks Superintendent.

The hard work that went into the plan was duly noted.

The Biodiversity Plan Presentation was proposed by Olivia Dunne, and seconded by Cllr Deirdre Donnelly.

(b) Tree Tag Project

Ruairi O'Dulaing, Senior Parks Superintendent, DLRCC, gave a presentation on the Tree Tag Project, which was noted.

It was noted that the Tree Strategy was at the final proofing stage.

(c) Dublin Mountains Partnership Update

Ruairi O'Dulaing, Senior Parks Superintendent, DLRCC, gave a presentation on the Dublin Mountains Partnership. Following questions from members, issues in relation to Kilmashogue Hill, rights of way, car parking and engagement between the Council, Coillte and landowners were discussed.

The Chair thanked Mr O'Dulaing for the presentation, and the report was noted.

(d) Review of Social Inclusion Week and International Older Persons Day

Mary White, DLR Community Worker, DLRCC, gave a presentation on activities during Social Inclusion week and International Older Persons Day.

The committee was also briefed on the Acorn tablet lending scheme available through the Libraries service and the distribution of Acorn tablets to daycare centres and nursing homes.

(e) Celebrating Christmas in dlr 2021

Barry Dempsey, Sports Development Officer, DLRCC, gave a presentation on the events planned by the Council in DLR's parks and open spaces for Christmas 2021.

(f) dlr Arts Office engaging and supporting our communities through Arts and Culture

The presentation by Kenneth Redmond, Arts Officer, DLRCC, was deferred to the March meeting of the SPC.

(g) Community Grants Update

Mary Ruane, Senior Executive Officer, Community Dept., DLRCC, gave an update to the Committee on the DLR Community Grants Scheme 2022 which opened for applicants on 26th November. The closing date is 28th January 2022 and a report will be brought to the March 2022 Council meeting. These grants are open for categories including Community Activities, Age Friendly and Community Development and information webinars are arranged to promote the grants scheme.

Information was also provided on the Community Activities Fund 2021 – 2022, funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development, with a closing date of 18th February 2022. A report on the applications for this grant stream would be presented to the March meeting of the Local Community Development Committee.

The Chair thanked Ms Ruane for the report and reminded the committee to help disseminate the information in relation to these funding streams. Any queries in relation to these could be made to the Community Dept, DLR.

6. Business Referred from the Council (if any) - None.

7. Business Referred from the Corporate Policy Group (if any) - None.

8. Items for SPC Future Works Programme - None.

9. Any Other Business:

The Chair thanked the Committee and staff, as her term as SPC Chair had come to an end.

Therese Langan thanked Cllr Baker for the work she had done in her time as Chair of the Committee.

10. Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 16th March 2022 17:00pm – 19:00pm