

## **Online Meeting**

**25th May 2022**

### **Let's Develop our Vision for our Community**

#### **Participation Democracy and Good Governance**

3 main structures : PPN/PPN Reps, Comhairle na nOg, Older People's Council

LECP fairly baggy – delayed by Covid

National Climate Action Plan

Changing to actual targets by 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2022

Will help meet our targets by 2030

Services – most appropriate more fitting

Lacken – Social Enterprise – using natural resources

#### **Values, Culture & Meaning**

Vision to practise

Changes to society – facilitate

Community events, community hall,

Schools bare a lot of the burden – schools do a lot – teachers doing all the work – need supports

Take children in – invite kids to GAA – spectator stands events = culture from both sides

Travellers – long term included

Incorporated into classes – teachers & nuns – difficulty with family that is not integrated

Volunteers to manage & host community events, early intervention for all (minority) groups

Children feel they are valued

Things work well with respect for all

New visitors

## **Social & Community Development**

More resources need to help community groups to be inclusive of all

Aim to be as inclusive as possible and become more inclusive in time

Reduce the burden of bureaucracy as this is a barrier for hard to reach communities and results in the stronger community groups to access the majority of funding supports Or Resource organisations to do more support/capacity building work.

Ensure all our diverse communities are involved in decision making and not just as programme participants

Community led housing to ensure no one is left out – affordable

Community gardens, community skills

Consultation between all

Communication between groups, organisations to bring people together

Need to get more younger people involved

Communities, amenities need to be looked after

We need to keep Wicklow the beautiful county, too much dumping etc,

Community hall does not have to be a hall, it can be virtual as well

Community hubs & community halls

More creative – community committee – re-imagined could be delivering

White elephant in the middle of no-where

Housing for older people – independent living

## **Environment and Sustainability**

We need to change our attitudes & resource real change

Education -education-educations through parents, community groups & schools – start this early

Large organisations with a vast reach e.g. GAA has a huge impact on young people, could they be resourced to set a green example & instil environmental protection & values in their members –

Less developer led planning in the county – more sustainable planning. Planning can be difficult to get – yet in some cases it can be destructive

Need to conserve more natural spaces – we need resources to combat Climate Change & Biodiversity loss

All government funding programmes/funding should have a green/environmental provision/green regulation- grants should be clawed back/penalties if green policies/criteria isn't followed through.

Green spaces/public spaces not given enough thought – we need them to facilitate connectiveness & a sense of community – connecting people & the environment

Need a county architect/team to develop physical spaces that build communities as well as facilitating good physical & mental health

As individuals we need to allow the wildness to come back into our gardens so that nature can take care of itself

Greenways need to ensure biodiversity protection & maintenance – this may need expertise & extra Resources – but necessary to ensure the protection of our species

No water pollution

Need holistic planning for rural areas

Learn to access/appreciate the beauty/history/flora/fauna – the desire to protect will follow

Support and make initiatives such as 3 for the Sea & Reduce, Reuse, Recycle more widespread

Education is key to how we can do better as individuals

We need to balance our appreciation of our natural environment (in out door activities/tourism) with preserving it

Better public transport/more connectedness/better links & connectedness

Need to hold bigger organisations more accountable – make them adopt better environmental practices and punish them when they don't implement them

Cash Crop v Nature - Coillte – clear out forests – toxic waste left behind – we need more sustainable practices – its getting better but too slowly

Money & Resources V Doing the right thing – Environmental protection must take priority – make money in other ways preferably environmentally friendly ones.

Ensure there are enough recycling facilities

## **Economy & Resources**

Childcare – recruited people from Spain -no accommodation

Retail has gone through the roof

## **Health (Physical & Mental)**

Introduce less sensory outputs, lower music/lights – widescale – benefit outer places

Not enough supports for older people

Job attractive – for carers etc

Ensure everyone has a sense of purpose and feels valued

Ensure that people have homes and that there are family supports available

Good physical and mental health begins at birth

Ensure good functional interdependence

More community gardens for good nutrition, physical activity, social interaction and good mental health- intergenerational supports

Ireland needs to open itself up to ideas from other countries eg allotments began in UK during the war, has been slow to take off here

Community led housing successes in other European countries

Support families to bring up their own children rather than having to work and engaging childcare

Resource home helps to enable people with needs to remain in their community

Investment in community health care and preventative healthcare

Everyone should be part of/feel part of a community – Keep people in the community

Reduce the cost of living on communities

Sports/physical fitness is not always accessible – cost of bikes! – financial barriers

Sports should not be inaccessible (it can be elitist and expensive)

Need affordable sports & recreation infrastructure

Need sufficient resources for schools – every child should have a school space near their home and the space should be adequate/well maintained/warm etc

### **Values, Culture & Meaning**

Recognise the value & importance of art & creativity in helping young people appreciate their culture

Make the community attractive to stay and live in it particularly for families

Engage a graphic designed to help children create a “brand” for their village to help create a sense of community

Build communities from an early stage in new housing initiatives, ensure interconnectedness & opportunities for intergenerational activities & learning

The more atomised we are the more disconnected we become.

Social media is disruptive

Intergenerational learning/projects need more resources to create more opportunities for this to happen in homes, schools and community centres

Stop building small halls for small groups, build big halls for ALL groups – infrastructure should be aimed at joining people up all the time

We need to learn more from each other, share experiences, best & successful practices

Protect our own culture & embrace others – literature, art etc & then cross pollinate

Create community with initiatives (and support the initiatives) like Home Alone & Street Feast

Covid has made people re-examine what community is particularly in relation to wellbeing – how to look after ourselves & our communities more

Middle aged/older people seem to care for community more

Accessibility for wheelchair users and buggys on pathways and in buildings

Inclusion of new communities & acting/adapting to the changes this will bring to our society – key aspiration & practise

Community events – need community place – invite people in

Learn from schools – schools are good at inclusivity – schools & communities should work together on this

Sharing cultures – ours & others

Inclusion should happen early in primary schools

Support volunteers that provide community service

Meaningful & wide consultation to develop targeted plans to support inclusions

More efforts to maintain our built, cultural (Irishness) & natural heritage to pass on to future generations

More language supports & translation services for new communities

Continue to teach the tin whistle & other Irish cultural habits

Phenomenal sense of community in Co Wicklow. C&V groups take on enormous responsibility & work – be proud of it and pass this caring nature on to future generations

More support for current volunteers & encouragement of new volunteers

Participation is key – Diversity & Inclusion is important

Community led participation – needs to be shared across generations & ethnicities

Ask/Invite people to get involved

Non violent communication – well developed form of communication without making assumption as well as eradication of habits that don't function to improve communications

Sociocracy – making sure everyone's voice is heard- particularly those that are meeker

Need to lead by example

Culture is fluid and constantly changing – Hand on our history of pacifism & neutrality and be proud of it – a positive position that will show the way forward

Need to listen – really hear – what is a person's need (open hearted listening)

Our communication skills have become more difficult – we need to communicate more clearly & voice our emotions in a constructive way.

