



*Comhairle Chontae Mhuineacháin—Monaghan County Council*

# Community Department Community Roundup 2017

## Season's Greetings!

It's been a very busy year for community development across Co. Monaghan. We thought it would be nice to take a look back at how much we have all achieved this year. When you see it in one place, it's makes for very impressive reading!

We've a message we want to impart too: as you go through these pages, you may notice much that you were unaware of; perhaps opportunities your group may have missed for a few bob in funding here or there.....

We who are working full time in this field, could hardly keep up with the many programme calls during 2017—some of which had very tight deadlines for applications. The lesson we took away from 2017 is that if Co. Monaghan communities are to benefit from future funding calls, they must prepare in advance. We hope to help you with that during 2018. More detail on that later in the Roundup.....

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous 2018.

### The Community Development Team:

Social Inclusion Officer— **Bernie Bradley**

Community Development Officer—**Carol Lambe**

Public Participation Network Support Worker—**Leona Keenan**

Peace IV Partnership Manager—**Nicola Payne**, supported by **Gillian Costello**

Peace IV Small Grants & County of Sanctuary Officer—**Brenda Clerkin**

Peace IV Intergenerational Project—**Mairead Mohan**

Youth Development Officer—**Fiona McEntee**

SICAP & LEADER admin—**Ann Murray, Theresa McGuirk**

Community & Environment Fund—**Fionnuala Mulligan**

Community Sector Audit—**Liz Brannigan**

Local Community Development Committee Executive Officer—**Fintan McPhillips**

Director of Community & Economic Development—**Paul Clifford**



## CLÁR

On Friday, 15th December, a number of Emergency Response groups joined the newly appointed Minister for Business Enterprise & Innovation, Heather Humphreys, for a photocall as they collected new equipment purchased for them by the Council under Measure 4 of the CLAR programme. The total investment coming into the county in new equipment is just under €67,700, with Monaghan County Council putting up the match funding of 15%.

A number of defibrillator cabinets were purchased under this scheme and a few are still looking for homes. Contact us if your community needs one.



*Annyalla Cremartin Community First Responders receiving some of their new equipment from Minister Humphreys, Cathaoirleach Cathy Bennett and Civil Defence Co-Ordinator Brendan Buckley*

## We're none of us getting any younger, you know!

Which is why the work of the Age Friendly Network is so important. They've had another productive year, rolling out their Age Friendly Towns initiatives, and finishing up 2017 with an Age Friendly Business Week.

Look out for their excellent guide to communicating in an age-friendly way: it is full of great tips for keeping the language and layout of your adverts, posters, press releases and publications clear and understandable by older people. And that can only help everyone else as well. The work in Monaghan has been creating waves across the pond, earning Monaghan Age Friendly Programme co-ordinator, Bernie Bradley an invitation to address an Ageing Better Symposium



in the House of Lords in London on 20th March. Here she is with her new best friend, Lord Geoffrey Filkin, who leads up the House of

Lords Centre on Ageing. Go Bernie! We hear the shops took an awful battering afterwards—but the least said about that the better :)

## Great Things Happened on the Greenway

If you're a fan of sustainable transport, 2017 was a year to get excited about. We drafted a County Walking & Cycling Strategy, which will be out early in 2018. We fed that into the Dept of Transport Tourism & Sport's new National Greenways Strategy, which is currently under construction. And Carrickmacross got a walking & cycling strategy.

But the big news was undoubtedly the project launch of the Ulster Canal Greenway Phase II, which will involve constructing 22km of greenway from Middletown in Co. Armagh to Smithboro, connecting to the existing section in Monaghan town. A Project Manager, Roisin Moore, has been appointed to drive the €4.95 million project, and during 2017 an ecology study was carried out on the route. This will be necessary to support a planning application, which it is hoped to submit next year.

Also achieved in 2017 was the formation of a Regional Partnership with the Councils either side of

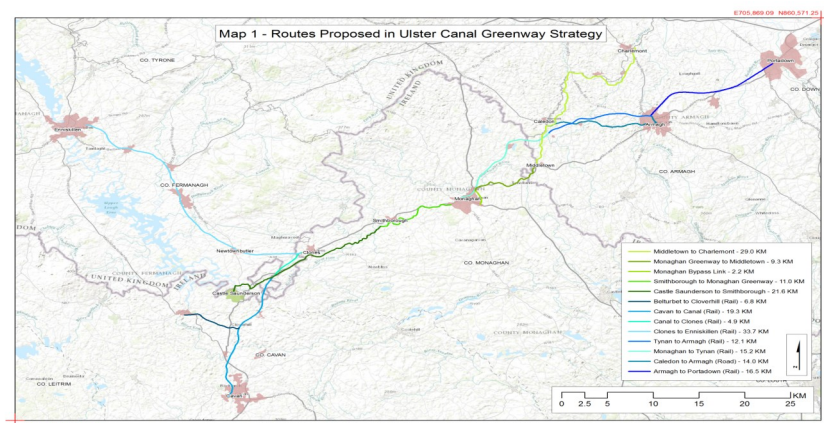
Monaghan, and agreement of a 190km-long route taking in old railway lines, extending out from the Ulster Canal and linking the towns of Cavan, Enniskillen, Armagh and Portadown into the project.

Ultimately, the aim is to tempt visitors arriving into Ireland at Larne or Belfast to explore this part of Ireland over the course of a few days rather than hop in a car or bus to reach the west of Ireland in a few hours, bypassing the charms of central Ulster in the process.

The route has the potential to be a game changer for tourism across the region, and will be one of the

longest in the country when complete. It has already been written in to the Northern Ireland Greenways Strategy, and our NI partners have already secured funding to scope their sections. Monaghan Co Co will begin to scope the final section, from Smithboro to Clones, during 2018, in readiness for future funding opportunities.

A Strategic Plan has been produced, detailing the vision for the long distance route. A full Environmental Impact Assessment has been carried out on the Plan. You can find out more on [www.ulstercanalgreenway.com](http://www.ulstercanalgreenway.com)



# We all got very Peaceful

2017 was the year that the Peace IV Programme finally got underway, and Co. Monaghan's Peace Partnership was the first of the local partnerships out of the traps. Our Multi-annual Plan was the first to be approved by the SEUPB, and was launched on 7th September.

There are three main themes in our Plan:

- Children and Young People with a budget of €638,544.89
- Shared Spaces and Services with a budget of €1,078,906.06
- Building Positive Relations with a budget of €1,321,117.01

The Plan is to be delivered through a variety of Measures, some of which involve direct delivery through Partners on the Partnership.

Two Measures are reserved for Small Grants which are open to community groups to apply. €580,000 is available under these measures, which opened to applications on the 1st Sept and closed 27 Oct. These were for **Shared Spaces** and **Building Positive Relations**. The applications are currently being assessed, with the outcomes expected early in the New Year.

Some of the projects which are to be delivered directly through the Partners include:

- a massive playground in Rossmore Forest Park
- An intergenerational programme
- A County of Sanctuary programme
- A Maker Space programme, being run through the Library

In addition to the Monaghan Peace Partnership, Monaghan County Council has a very large project currently competing for funding under the Shared

Spaces element of the Peace IV programme at a regional level, to construct a Peace Campus in Monaghan town on the site of the old Council machinery yard, behind the Garda station. This will act as a giant community and youth centre for the town, a very badly needed facility. It will also house a new library and museum. Fiona Mc Entee, Youth Development Officer, is heading this exciting project up, which will make a huge impact on the youth of the town. The outcome of the funding application will be known in mid 2018.



Launch of PEACE IV Monaghan – Paul Clifford Monaghan County Council, Niamh Smyth TD, Caoimhghin Ó Caoláin TD, Gina McIntyre SEUPB, Heather Humphreys TD, Cathy Bennett Cathaoirleach of Monaghan County Council

## Council and Community—Partners in Events and Festivals

One of the ways that local authorities help communities out a lot is in the organising of public events. As the owners of many public spaces, and as we carry a very comprehensive insurance policy, we can often do things in places that a community group cannot, and carry a level of risk that a group simply cannot afford to take. Government Departments have recognised this for some time, and have been rolling out many initiatives through local authorities in recent years, including:

- National Play Day
- National Recreation Week
- National Bike Week

New this year were our events under the new Creative Ireland Plan for the county. And of course we had our second Science Festival from 7-23 November, for which the team in the library, along with their colleagues in Cavan County Council, won a Chambers Ireland Award last month. We're good at this—so use us!

# It was an honour to be Nominated.....

That's a lovely sentiment, isn't it? Well, we have no truck with it here in Monaghan. When a Monaghan community is asked to represent the county in competition, they're not there to be nominated, they're in it to win! The stops don't just get pulled, they get pulled CLEAN OUT of the organ and chucked away!

Mind you, we are extremely fortunate here in Monaghan to have such a strong tradition of community self-help, and our nominees do tend to shine when given the spotlight.....in fact, it's sometimes a little hard to get the microphone back off them!

So here's a little homage to a couple of those who excelled during 2017.

## Latton Bawn—Officially the Best Wee Community in Ireland 2017



At the IPB Pride of Place awards in Letterkenny on 2nd December, Latton & Bawn, representing Monaghan County Council, achieved the top position in Category 2, which is for communities with a population between 300 and 1000 people. In their remarks the judges said:

*“The winning entry is a long established rural community that has made significant incremental improvements over the last twenty years. Successes include a model rural transport scheme, a peace and reconciliation project, high quality community facilities and an extensive child care facility. The whole community turned out on the day of the judges’ visit, in a carnival atmosphere, taking great and justifiable pride in their achievements and*

*exhibiting a wonderful community spirit”.*

The competition is judged by way of a 3-hour visit to the community by two judges back in the summer, during which the community showcases why they feel they deserve to be given an award.

The community prepared for the competition by forming a steering group comprising members of all the local clubs and organisations, and then they planned out the various places they wished the judges to see, and people they wished the judges to speak to. They were guided in their preparations by

Carol Lambe, Community Development Officer. That's her, second from right in the back row (we thought you'd need a little help to recognise her in the dress!).

A week after the awards, the community held a celebration night in the GAA complex, and Carol was asked to speak. A lot of people commented to her afterwards on what she said, so here it is again, in brief:

*“You didn't win this award for the buildings you've put up, impressive though they are. You've won it for the community that you've built, for the spirit you've created, for creating a place where people belong. This is something of value, something worth doing. What Latton has built is called 'social capital'. The people of the community care about one another and look out for each other. This is what Pride of Place is rewarding; knowing that a community is its people.”*

If we were all to model ourselves on Latton, and the children of our communities were to soak up from an early age the lessons of how to build strong communities, imagine their influence as they set off on their adult lives into new communities, sowing chaos across the globe, but in the post positive of ways!

How proud would we all be!

# Golden Glaslough!



The picture perfect village of Glaslough put Co. Monaghan firmly on the European map last Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> September, as 19 delegates from the village, accompanied by staff and Cathaoirleach from Monaghan County Council, descended on the spa resort town of Podčetrtek, Slovenia for the announcement of the results of this year's prestigious Entente

In preparation for the Jury's visit, Council staff worked for months beforehand with local community groups to bring a number of projects to fruition, and Carol Lambe prepared the programme materials including a brochure summarising the village's bid and a map to aid the Jury in their marking. No stone was left unturned—literally!

the effort the community makes to communicate their participation in Entente Florale to the public. The involvement of local businesses and partnership with local government also were factors in the marking. The Jury Feedback commented :

*"Its greatest strength lies in its community endeavour and its capacity for engaging in fruitful partnership with the Local Authorities and statutory bodies."*



The Jury assessed the village against ten criteria, awarding marks for the quality of the natural and built environment, the care that the community take of the landscape,

Achievements like these don't happen by accident. They take years of effort, and months of planning. They need the commitment of many people and the support of all, from the local authority to the school, to the business community to each and every house owner in the village. Achieving success at the highest level in Europe requires leadership, and Glaslough is lucky to have that within the community. Monaghan County Council and Municipal District Council staff were pleased to be able to lend our expertise to the work.

Florale Europe awards, and came home with a Gold Award, the highest accolade in the competition.

the level of awareness and education, the quality of the public spaces, how new buildings blend with the old, and how the village blends with the surrounding countryside. Community effort was also taken into consideration, as was

Glaslough's journey to Europe began last December, when the Dept of Environment & Local Government asked Monaghan County Council if it would be interested in putting the village forward to represent Ireland in 2017. The Council jumped at the opportunity, and so in July, an international Entente Florale Jury visited the village, and spent four hours examining every aspect of life in the village.



*Entente Florale Steering Committee members Gareth Corrigan, Louise Duffy, Irene Gormley and Claire Cunningham accept the award along with County Cathaoirleach Cllr Cathy Bennett and MD Cathaoirleach Cllr Paudge Connolly*

During 2017, the Dept of Arts, Heritage, Regional & Rural Affairs resurrected the CLAR programme, and charged local authorities with managing the application process for three of the four measures. Councils were asked to advertise the scheme to local communities, then assess the projects which came forward and select those which the Councils wished to put forward for consideration to the Dept for funding under the CLAR programme. The time allowed for the process was very tight.; the scheme was launched by the Dept on 31st of March, and the Councils had to have the projects selected and forwarded to the Dept by 5th May.

This illustrates the importance of two things:

1. It's worth a group's while having projects ready to go
2. It's crucial to keep the Council informed of what you're up to—you never know what pot of money might land on our desk next, and which we might be able to put your way!

CLÁR Measure Number	DED	Project Description	SCHOOL NAME / COMMUNITY FACILITY	Amount of CLÁR funding
1	Churchill	Car Parking	Art Mooney Childcare	€30,000
1	Aghabog	Carparking & footpath in Community Centre	Aghabog Community	€50,000
1	Tedavnet	Car Parking Facilities	Tydavnet Tidy Towns	€27,000
1	Sheskin	Child Safety Signs / Speed Safety Signs/ road markings /pedestrian crossing	Knockatallon School & Community	€50,000
1	Ballybay Rural	Provide carparking at Derryvalley Hall	Derryvalley Hall	€30,000
1	Aghabog	Provide carparking at Doohat Orange Hall	Doohat Community Halls	€23,648
2	Clontibret	Provision of play area	Scoil Mhuire, Clontibret	€29,700
2	Clones Rural	Play & Recreation equipment for children with special needs + provide signage	St Tiarnach's Primary School	€33,120
2	Cormeen	Enhancement + Extension of play areas	Scoil Mhuire, Latton	€49,995
2	Dawsongrove	Resurfacing outdoor play areas & equipment	Rockcorry Community Childcare Ltd;	€5,771
2	Killeevan	Resurfacing outdoor play area	Killeevan N.S	€49,500
2	Monaghan	Drain field and add tarmac area	Edenmore NS	€46,000
3	Carrickatee, Cremartin, Clones Rural	Replace roof on existing structure	Carrickatee Hall Restoration Committee	€41,650
3	Carrickatee, Cremartin, Clones Rural	Provide village play area	Doohamlet Development Association	€41,650
3	Carrickatee, Cremartin, Clones Rural	Replace internal floor	Clones Youth Club	€41,650
3	Derrygoony/Latton, Castleblayney	Upgrade & repair footpath, repairs to roof, replace wooden stiles along Knappagh River	Bawn Area Community Group	€20,400
3	Derrygoony/Latton, Castleblayney	Fit out rural youth centre	Fingers & Toes Community Child-care	€20,400
3	Rackwallace	Site preparation and installation of outdoor recreation area inc walkway + additional car park	Ardaghey Community Development Committee	€50,000

**CLAR Measure 4:** €57,540 was secured to purchase CPR equipment, defibrillator cabinets and defibrillators to support the work of communities providing First Responder services in rural areas. We saw an opportunity to pull together the Community Safety Network to explore the potential for a global application to cover all the groups in the county, rather than risk losing out to the larger, more established 'search & rescue' type operations that this measure was aimed at.

From the announcement of the Funding Measure ,we had literally 3 weeks to pull all the emergency response groups in the county together to find out what their needs were and work those up into an application.

We knew that some groups would miss out because they didn't hear about this opportunity in time to have their equipment needs written in to the application. So we built in some spare capacity into the application. There is still some equipment available. If you are one of those groups, please make contact. There are also some defibrillator cabinets still available. clambe@monaghancoco.ie

**It's been a busy old year, hasn't it?** Things have just been flying in and out of the Community Dept all year. First, there were the 4 different Measures under the CLAR programme. Then there was the Communities Facilities Fund. Then an Outdoor Recreational Facilities Fund, Oh wait, we forgot, there was the Town & Village Renewal Fund before that one..... Then there was the call for angling projects, then the enterprise cluster one, then there was RAPID, we definitely remember RAPID because it went by very quickly, ho ho...

**There is a point to the rambling, by the way:**

ALL OF THE ABOVE had a few things in common:

- They came up at short notice
- They had a very short turnaround time
- So you needed to be on the ball to hear about the call on time and get your application in quickly

It's clear that the group that is prepared, and has done their homework in advance, is at a serious advantage.

**SO GET READY!**

Now, here's the good news: HELP IS AT HAND! We in the Community Department are only too willing to help a group to put a project proposal in order, if we know what you're trying to achieve. The trick is, WE'RE NOT MIND-READERS! You need to let us know what you're up to!

**Here are a few examples of projects who are glad they did:**

**Inniskeen Enterprise Development Group** came to the Council a few years ago to discuss the long term plans for securing the legacy of Patrick Kavanagh. We've agreed to become more involved in developing Kavanagh Country, and last year applied for and received funding of €188,636 under the Creative Ireland Arts & Culture Capital Scheme 2016 to refurbish the Kavanagh Centre. The work is due to start shortly. Next will come a whole new exhibition upgrade, and a re-imagining and re-positioning of Kavanagh for a modern audience. Council staff also supported the committee in organising the recent commemorations to mark the 50th anniversary of Kavanagh's death.



*Gratuitous Kavanagh photo!*



Over €220,000 was announced on December 12th to upgrade angling amenities around Co. Monaghan under a funding programme being run by Inland Fisheries. Funding of over €110,000 (€111,369) is being provided to develop angling access at South Lodge, Lough Muckno in Castleblayney. A further grant of over €20,000 (€20,549) is being allocated to resurface the access road and car park at Anney Shore, White Lake just outside Ballybay. A further €29,206 is to upgrade the access road and car park at the Lisgillan side of White Lake with a small grant of €1,705 being provided to upgrade the fishing stands. The application which made all this possible was facilitated by the Council's Tourism Officer, Dympna Condra. Dympna was also responsible for co-ordinating an application to the **Recreational Improvement Fund**, where the Dept asked the Council to identify local projects and compile a list of those it wished to see funded before forwarding to the Dept for consideration. **This again demonstrates the importance of letting the Council know about your project.**

Funding of €200,000 was announced on 11th December by Minister Humphreys for **Ballybay Food Park**. The funding comes from Enterprise Ireland's Regional Development Fund. This funding call was announced on 21st July and closed on 8th August. Some excellent work was done by our **Local Employment Office** staff to get this proposal in within the available time, but then we'd expect nothing else from a team who have been working hard supporting food enterprises and start-ups in the county for many years!

<b>Recreational Improvement Fund</b>	
Name of Project	Grant Aid
Scotstown Mass Path	€3,200
Rockcorry Path	€10,000
Gateway Signage to Sliabh Beagh	€10,000
Hollywood Park Trail	€8,000
Monaghan Way	€10,000
White Island, Lough Muckno	€10,000
Knockatallon Walks	€6,000
Ulster Canal Greenway	€10,000
Emylough Loop Walk	€7,600
Greenway Maintenance	€10,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€84,800</b>

## The Communities Facilities Scheme spread €64,500 of sunshine around Co. Monaghan earlier this year

The aim of this fund was to enhance grass roots communities, address disadvantage and improve social cohesion at local level by projects which relate to at least one key target group and thematic area in order to be eligible for consideration e.g. youth, older people, immigrants, etc. Projects which are part of the Creative Ireland 2017-2022 initiative.

The Fund came from the Dept of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government, and was given to local authorities to manage a Community Dept of the Council. The programme came in to us from the Dept in mid April, with a closing date of June 30th, the quick turnaround.

**You can do this through the Public Participation Network.** We send all information which we think is of interest to community groups through our Facebook page and website. If you're not tech-savvy, let her know—she can arrange training in that for you free of charge. You realise that the time to turn them around is so tight that there just isn't time any more to do a mail shot every time an email arrives from a government Dept. So we set your email account up to suck your emails through to your phone, so you can check your emails on the run, and earn extra cool points.

Name of Group	Description of project	Recommended
Castleblayney Trust for Homeless	New Office Computer + tyres for meals on wheels van	€900.00
Fáilte Isteach Monaghan	To purchase IT Equipment	€800.00
Unique Parents Support Group	To purchase special needs / sensory equipment	€800.00
Fáilte Isteach Carrickmacross	to purchase IT equipment	€800.00
Latton Social Services & Dev CLG	Purchase games, activities, tea making utensils for internet cafe	€800.00
Mullyash Daycare Ctre	to replace kitchen windows to double glazed	€800.00
Cairde Activation CLG	Purchase computers to provide service users access to IT	€800.00
St Michaels Reg Comm Dev	Purchase computer equipment to provide Information to Community	€800.00
Clara Community Hall	to purchase heating system for backstage area	€800.00
Glaslough Dev Ass	to upgrade existing room to use as community meeting room	€800.00
Clones Mens Shed	Repair + Refurbish premises	€800.00
Corduff Raferagh Community Assoc	To install solar panels, acoustic panels and minor repairs	€800.00
St Joseph's Pastoral Centre	to purchase office equipment	€800.00
Killeevan Development Association	to upgrade gents toilets in Acorn Centre	€800.00
Iontas Castleblayney Arts & Com Dev	Replace front door of Iontas Centre as they are too heavy	€800.00
CLGBT Youth Work Ireland	to provide support to young LGBT	€800.00
Border Bounce Gymnastics Club	to purchase computer and printer	€800.00
Monaghan Arch Club	to purchase new table tennis table + office equip	€800.00
Solas Drop In Centre	to renovate solas garden and solas logo in garden	€800.00
Fáilte Cluain Eois	Purchase new computer, printer/scanner	€800.00
Carrick Community Allotments	To encourage intergenerational and community involvement	€300.00
Castleblayney Comm Allotments	purchase laptop, microsoft package, hard drive	€800.00
Scotshouse Comm Centre Cmtee	Purchase catering tables for the community centre	€800.00
Clones Community Forum Ltd	Purchase Office Equipment	€800.00
Doohamlet Com & Res Centre	To Provide kitchenette in existing meeting room	€800.00
Truagh Development Association	to purchase a new gas combi oven for catering	€800.00
Ardaghey Comm Dev Assoc	To support the installation of energy efficient lighting around new walkway	€800.00
Bawn Area Community Groups Ltd	to replace chairs and burco boiler in community centre	€800.00
Connors Community Group	to purchase laptop and printer	€800.00
Clones Development Society	to purchase greenhouse	€800.00
Aghabog Development Assoc	to purchase projector, screen and laptop	€800.00
Farney Community Development Group	to replace guttering, downpipes on store + install 2 x water storage tanks	€800.00
Kilmore Swanns Cross Community Alert	purchase community alert signs, community get together evenings	€500.00
Ardaghey Community Centre Committee	to purchase projector and screen in the meeting room	€800.00
Monaghan Integrated Development	to install 2 x goal posts at Gortakeegan Halting Site	€600.00
Parenting Monaghan	to provide laptop and projector	€600.00

Magherarney Development Association	to support the co
Blayney Blades International Group	to purchase offic
Killeevan Gymnastics Club	to replace equip
Doohamlet Ladies GFC	to purchase new
Cornagilta School Heritage Centre	to equip a small
Ballinode Community Projects Ltd	to purchase new
St Dympna's Parish Church Hall	to replace old wi
Doohamlet District Comm Dev Assoc	To install goal po
Emyvale Tidy Towns	to provide outdo
Ballybay Tidy Towns Committee	Purchase laptop
County Monaghan Community Games	to purchase IT e
Blayney Blades Education Programme	to purchase gym
Aughnamullen Sports Social Dev Ass	to purchase a ra
Youthers Cafe	to purchase IT +
6th Monaghan Scouts	to build a shelter
Emyvale Amateur Boxing Club	to purchase offic
Drum Table Tennis Club	to purchase new
Killeevan Foroige	to purchase spo
Clones Boxing Club	to refurbish, red
Threemilehouse Residents Assoc	Replace Street F
Doohat/Rockcorry Table Tennis Club	to purchase 2 x
HOPE	to set up youth c
Clontibret O'Neills GAA	to purchase kitch
Annyalla Enhancement Group	to upgrade and
Irish Society Prevention of Cruelty Children	to launch the wo
Clones Town Football Club	To purchase equ
Cathedral Walk Residents	hard landscaping
Ardaghey Youth Group	To organise bad
Ardaghey Foroige Club	To purchase equ skills
Carrickmacross Camera Club	to purchase spe
Monaghan U3A	to purchase com
Monaghan Town Football Club	to promote and
Old School Boxing Club	to purchase lapt
St Michaels Little Scholars Ltd	To Purchase lapt
Parents Association of Annyalla NS	To develop frien age integration
Currin Gaelic Football Club	to purchase train

The Community Dept has also been out in Newbliss, consulting with the communities secured under the Town & Village Renewal



year.

providing small scale capital grants. Grants up to a maximum of €1,000 were available for projects of a capital nature. Applications had to be from residents, refugees, travellers, ex-prisoners, projects promoting cultural activity, equality, community development, integration and pro-

at local level. The decisions were made by the LCDC (Local Community Development Committee), which is run through the Community Development Group. It took a long time once again illustrating how important it is for communities to be linked in, and to stay in regular touch with us.

Thanks to Leona, and she sends it out to all groups which have registered an email with her. She also posts items instantly to the PPN's Facebook page. We really need to get on top of the technology—as you can see, these funding programmes are coming in so fast, and the time we're given to respond is short. Dept. Make it your New Year's resolution for 2018 to start checking your emails every day. If you get a smart phone from Santy, you can check points from the grandkids while you're at it!

Construction of community playpark	€800.00
Computer, desk and chairs	€800.00
Item previously stolen	€800.00
Training gear and equipment	€800.00
Kitchen with boilers, cups and utensils	€800.00
Lawnmower to maintain village green areas	€800.00
Windows in the hall	€800.00
Costs in area being developed as public park	€800.00
Exercise equipment	€800.00
Printer and office equipment	€800.00
Equipment	€800.00
Equipment	€800.00
Range of small exercise equipment	€800.00
Kitchen equipment for the youth cafe	€800.00
Work and storage area for equipment	€700.00
Office equipment + training equipment	€700.00
Tables and nets	€700.00
Sports equipment and board games	€700.00
Decorate training hall	€700.00
Furniture / planters	€700.00
Table tennis tables + nets	€700.00
Cafe	€700.00
Kitchen equipment/utensils	€700.00
Maintain equipment	€700.00
Work of the Intergenerational Project	€400.00
Equipment - to provide more productive training	€700.00
Design and install boundary fencing	€700.00
Table tennis tournaments and dance classes	€400.00
Equipment + develop projects to expand youth	€400.00
Specific computer equipment to develop skills	€700.00
Computer and printer	€700.00
Run a summer camp for all	€500.00
Computer, printer/scanner	€700.00
Equipment to plan activities for young children	€700.00
Partnership area in school playground to encourage	€700.00
Training equipment for juveniles	€700.00

Recent weeks in Emyvale, Oram and ... on how they would like to see the funding programme spent in their areas. Busy Busy!

<b>Carrickmacross Community Childcare</b>	to construct one hour fire partition to adhere to fire regulations	€600.00
<b>Edenbeag Childcare Centre</b>	to create paved area, water butts, planting, bird tables and seating area	€600.00
<b>St Oliver Plunkett Com Preschool Ltd</b>	to create a small outdoor sensory garden /horticultural area	€700.00
<b>Latton Bawn Historical Group</b>	Erect commemorative plaque + stone	€600.00
<b>Beechgrove Residents Association (Clones)</b>	To provide a wildlife garden for the community	€600.00
<b>Castleblayney Sustainable Energy Group</b>	to provide basic office equipment	€700.00
<b>Camphill Community Ballybay</b>	To provide a safe tranquil environment for residents	€ 600.00
<b>Carrickmacross Snooker &amp; Social Group</b>	new LED lighting, fuse board, insulation for windows, white boards	€300.00
<b>Blayney Academy FC</b>	upgrade goals, line marking + paint changing rooms	€700.00
<b>Clogher Historical Society</b>	to view historical books in a showcase	€600.00
<b>Aghabog Early Years CLG</b>	to provide outdoor play facilities for preschool	€700.00
<b>Christ Church Aughnacullen</b>	to provide lighting, amplification + interactive whiteboard to host events	€600.00
<b>Clones Film Festival</b>	To purchase laptop, printers and broadband unit	€600.00
<b>Glaslough Harriers AC</b>	to purchase laptop and printer	€600.00
<b>Castleblayney Show Ltd</b>	Purchase office supplies/equipment	€500.00
<b>Doohamlet Tidy Towns</b>	Purchase and plant native hedging and trees	€500.00
<b>Carrickmacross Arts Festival</b>	purchase new marquee to house talks + workshops at festival	€500.00
<b>Muckno Cycling Club</b>	to fund equipment for weekly events, cycle repair tools, warning signs	€600.00
<b>Monaghan Cricket Club</b>	purchase training mat for indoor and outdoor training	€600.00
<b>Inniskeen Enterprise Dev</b>	to purchase computer and laptop	€500.00
<b>Oriel Sailing Club</b>	Purchase bouyancy aids, life jackets, safety equip	€500.00
<b>Monaghan United Football Club</b>	Provision of new computer, printer, scanner	€600.00

**Dormant Accounts Funding Award of €10,000**  
 Monaghan Sports Partnership is pleased to announce that, following an application made in July 2017, it has been successful in securing €10,000 from the Dormant Accounts Fund via Sport Ireland for the provision of Sports Leadership training courses for young people. These courses will be offered primarily to Post Primary Schools with the added opportunity for a Community based course.

The Sports Partnership also accessed funding during 2017 to start a Community Sports Hub in Emyvale. The funding enabled the Partnership to provide groups in the town with a space in the Enterprise Centre, the idea being that the availability of this space would enable the local groups to increase the range of activities they provide to local people.

So many initiatives, so many 'pots' of funding.....

## Did YOU have your Say?

We consulted with the community sector on all of the following very important issues during 2017. How many of them do you remember?

How many did you miss????

- County Development Plan
- County Walking & Cycling Strategy
- Regional Greenway Strategy & Environmental Impact Assessment
- Sliabh Beagh Tourism Masterplan
- Sports Partnership's Strategic Plan
- Monaghan Cultural & Creative Plan 2018-2022
- Architectural Conservation Plan for Glaslough village
- The future of Hope Castle & stable buildings

We're consulting on the introduction of a CCTV system in Monaghan town centre at the moment.

Do you want to have your say on that? Maybe you should attend the meeting in the Market House on **Weds 17th January at 7.30pm**. More info on [www.monaghan.ie](http://www.monaghan.ie)



## A good day at the Office!



Monaghan County Council was named Local Authority of the Year at the Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Awards on 23rd November. The 14th annual Awards showcases and celebrates the best of Local Government in Ireland, and was adjudicated on the strength of a number of initiatives which were submitted by the Council for consideration. These included the work of the Age Friendly Alliance, the social media campaign organised by Bernie to highlight the inconsiderate use of disabled parking spaces by non-permit holders, 'A Minute Matters', the work of Fiona McEntee's Comhairle na nÓg and Trevor Connolly and his Monaghan Town Team, to name but a few. That was a good day at the office! It was even better because I managed to dodge going to that event and didn't have to make any spiders homeless in the search for a pair of shoes with heels :)

## Here's another wee 'Pot' that came our way during 2017—What Project Might you have ready for Next Time????

2017 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

10 projects being funded in Co. Monaghan:

10 projects in Monaghan have been successful including:

- €100,000 to develop a Clones Lace Museum
- €100,000 for Doohamlet for a new public park and walking trail linking all facilities in the village
- €100,000 for the development of a major trails network in Sliabh Beagh
- €100,000 to develop a Creative Hub in Monaghan Town
- €40,000 each for Carrickmacross, Castleblayney and Ballybay for works to the public realm
- €20,000 each for Newbliss, Oram and Emyvale for works to the public realm



Congratulations to Emyvale Tidy Towns, who celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> year in style by winning the National Tidy Towns' Waters & Communities Award. The group also took the highly commended spot in the Sustainable Development Award - both awards for their work at Emy Lough. Congratulations also to Glaslough and Carrickmacross - both retained their Gold Medal in the National Tidy Towns competition, in their respective categories. Glaslough was placed 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in the national competition and was only 2 marks behind the title winner. We also congratulate Monaghan Town on retaining their Silver Medal. Congratulations to Scotshouse on winning the County Endeavour award for the first time. The Community Dept play a very modest role in supporting Tidy Towns through running a Network, and occasionally tipping the odd group off to special awards in the national competition and suggesting they should enter!

## Have you ever heard of REDZ?

REDZ stands for Rural Economic Development Zones. The concept grew from the Commission for Economic Development of Rural Areas (CEDRA) Report, which identified that rural downs have a unique effect on the fortunes of the area surrounding them. So, if you lift the economic fortunes of the town, you are also lifting the fortunes of the rural area around that town.

And so, the concept of zones around rural towns was born. Last December, Monaghan

County Council was awarded €90,000 by the Dept of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs, towards two projects, one in the Carrickmacross REDZ region, and one in the Clones REDZ region.

We were able to put forward these projects only because we had been actively working with groups on the ground and had proposals in the pipeline, ready to take advantage of the funding call when it was announced.

We need you, the community, to come forward with your ideas, your needs, and your solutions. It might take time; the right funding opportunity might not present itself straight away. But if we don't have the project, we can't pounce when the opportunity presents.

**So please, lift the phone. Make an appointment. Come in and talk to either someone in the Community Dept, or your Municipal Co-Ordinator.**

# Environmental Partnership Fund Local Agenda 21 Fund 2017

The Department of Communication, Climate Action and Environment (DCCAE) has approved the list of projects submitted for funding. The allocation is 50% funded by the Department and 50% Monaghan County Council, managed by the Environment Section. All applications were assessed using the scoring criteria issued by the Department.

The following projects were successful in securing funding from this year's Fund:

Project Lead	Project Name	Funding Amount
Carrick Community Allotments	Repairing of Rainwater Harvesting & Collapsed Bank	1,500.00
Carrickmacross Arts Festival c/o Eldergreen Entertainment	Junk to Art: Using other people's junk to make beautiful art to enhance our environment	1,500.00
Monaghan Tidy Towns	Monaghan Town Arboretum	1,500.00
Clones Tidy Towns	Clones Town Habitat Survey	1,500.00
Monaghan Community Allotments	Environmental Awareness and ECO Systems and Wildlife Habitat Programme	1,500.00
Teach na nDaoine FRC	Mullaghmatt/Cortolvin Community Garden	1,500.00
River Blackwater Catchment Trust Ltd.	Blackwater River Watch at Knockconan	1,150.00
Doohamlet District Community Development Association	Pollinator Paths	1,000.00
Ballybay Tidy Towns Committee	Ballybay Pollinator Plan	1,000.00
Phoenix Forest School	Phoenix Forest School Primary School Project	1,000.00
Cavan Monaghan ETB/Tanagh Outdoor Education and Training Centre	Evening Forest School for 6 to 12 Year olds exploring the natural world and developing a love for the outdoors, nature and woodland	1,000.00
Rockcorry National School	Rockcorry National School Forest School and Bio Diversity Garden	1,000.00
Castleblayney Community Enterprise CLG (in association with Castleblayney Sustainable Energy Group)	Castleblayney Energy Awareness Project	1,000.00
Cairde Activation Company Limited by Guarantee	Clones Fairy Tree Trail	950.00
ESD Training	Human Powered Screening of the Leonardo DiCaprio Climate Change Documentary "Before the Flood" at the Clones Film Festival	800.00
Transition Monaghan (Monaghan Ecological Group)	Environmental Education Workshop	700.00
Ardaghey Community Development Association	Sustainable Landscaping and Planting of New Outdoor Recreation Area	500.00
Tullyree Residents Association	Planting Hedgerows, trees, provision of bird feeders and houses and water butts on the houses in the green	500.00

## Community Smoke Alarm Scheme

Monaghan County Council each year also takes delivery of 500 smoke alarms, funded by the Dept of the Environment's Fire Prevention unit. The alarms are available to vulnerable households, which the Dept defines as older people, people living alone, or people living in private rented housing. The alarms are 10 year, sealed units, so require no maintenance beyond checking every so often to ensure they're still working. The Council loves to work with voluntary groups to identify houses who currently don't have a fitted alarm. All you have to do is tell us how many houses you need alarms for, then after you've distributed the alarms, report back to us with a simple tick-box form to report on the type of household each alarm was allocated to. Some groups like to use the alarm scheme as a way to make contact with isolated people in their community, so that they can link them into other services which are offered either by the community or by organisations such as the HSE or the Council.

**The RAPID programme** was new to Co. Monaghan in 2017. This programme targets disadvantaged urban areas, and €64,500 was available for capital projects in our five towns for projects. Again, there was a very tight turnaround on this programme, which opened for applications on 15th November and closed on the 24th. Decisions were made by the LCDC at their December meeting.

Clones Tidy Towns	€8,000.00	carry out improvement projects in areas of high disadvantage
Clones Amateur Boxing Club	€6,000.00	to purchase a boxing ring and storage container
Carn Heights O'Neill Park Residents Association	€2,000.00	to turn a corner of the estate into a small play amenity
Youth Work Ireland Cavan - Monaghan - Clones	€6,000.00	to upgrade the interior of the Ionad na nOg youth drop in centre
Teach Na nDaoine Family Resource Centre	€20,000.00	the renovation of space in the community shop to provide a youth drop-in centre
Monaghan Garda Youth Diversion Project.	€500.00	funding for training programmes, plus purchase a table tennis table
Carrick Community Allotments	€6,000.00	to provide CCTV to the community garden
Drumillard Community Group	€14,000.00	to upgrade play facilities on the estate
Castleblayney Community Enterprise	€1,500.00	to upgrade IT equipment in the centre,

## Better Energy Communities

During 2017 Monaghan County Council assisted Glaslough Tidy Towns to organise a community application to the SEAI's Better Energy Communities grant for 2017. 40 homes in Glaslough village received free energy audits of their homes, as well as BER certs and heating controls (where boiler systems were suitable).

## Did ANY group in the County avail of:

- Dormant Accounts Fund
  - Life after Caring
  - Support for Female Refugees
- Artist and Youthwork Residency Scheme
- Community Foundation for Ireland Social Change Grant
- Community Foundation for Ireland Older persons Fund
- Coca Cola Thank You Fund
- Arts Council's Festivals & Events scheme
- Social Innovation Fund Ireland's Resilient Communities Fund
- Community Text Alert Rebate scheme
- Sports Capital Fund (National Lottery)

There is a lot of funding out there, if you know where to look. All of the above were notified to members of the PPN as they were announced. If you aren't actively participating in the PPN, you could be missing out on a lot more than the opportunity to have your say.....!

In 2017 the people of Monaghan have been active and proved age is really only a number. With 21 active adult programmes and 451 participants taking part in a range of activities, pilates, yoga, aqua aerobics, dancing and more, organised by Monaghan Sports Partnership's Active Adults (50+) Programme. We're exhausted just writing about it all!

# Property Marking Initiative on its Way

Last spring, Carrickmacross Division of An Garda Síochána invited us down to have a look at a machine they had borrowed from a group in West Cork. It was the only one of its kind in Ireland, but was common in the UK, where many community-run property marking schemes are in operation.

The machine stamps your Eircode into anything from an iPhone to an Ifor Williams. The Gardai have devised a warning sign to be displayed in the area to inform would-be thieves that property is marked. The idea is that marked property is less attractive to thieves, as it is harder to pass on. It is also much easier to reunite the property with its rightful owner in the event of it being recovered. It's very handy too, for the Gardai, if lost property like a phone gets handed into the Garda station, and an Eircode is stamped on it—all the Gardai have to do to find the owner is look up the Eircode and make a simple house call!

The Gardai brought the concept to Monaghan Joint Policing Committee, who agreed to purchase a machine for the county, and put it at the disposal of the Community Alert groups, to conduct property marking days in communities.

Monaghan County Council is in the process of purchasing the machine, which should be with us early in the New Year.

We will also have a budget for purchasing a number of 'property marking scheme in operation' signs, which will be erected in community alert areas where property marking events have been held.

Groups interested in availing of the machine and holding property marking events should contact Carol Lambe to make a booking.

[clambe@monaghancoco.ie](mailto:clambe@monaghancoco.ie)

**H18 YT50**



*Sgt Ken Coughlan marking a ride-on mower at a property marking event in Rockcorry last summer. The machine can be operated from the mains supply or by battery, so can go up the farmyard and mark items which are not easily brought inside. Community volunteers can be shown how to operate the machine in a few minutes. Once a person knows their Eircode, the rest is simple enough!*

# Delivering a Community Park in Scotshouse

**A childhood TV hero used to say, 'I love it when a plan comes together!' One of the great things about working in the Community Dept of Monaghan County Council is that you get to work with communities towards long term plans, and see those plans come to fruition. Here is the story of how one of those unfolded during 2017.**

Monaghan County Council has been working for many years with Scotshouse Tidy Towns Committee, making incremental improvements on the visual appearance of the village. Some five or six years ago, Lorraine Burns approached us, pointing to the many new houses in the village, the new families which had moved to the area as a consequence and that there were no play facilities in the village for them. We did our homework on the Census data, and the facts backed up the anecdotal evidence; there was a sizeable population of under 12's in the village, and no amenities for them.

Unfortunately, there was also no site available for a playground. The Council owned no ground in the village, so we went back to Lorraine and asked her to use her local knowledge to see if she could identify a suitable site. Lorraine also decided to start fundraising so that when a site was found, the funding available would be up to the task.

It took a couple of years, but eventually, Lorraine made contact again. A local developer had agreed to give the community the corner of his site for development as a playground. The site was right beside the community centre, in the middle of the village—perfect for the purpose!

We applied for funding to the Dept

of Children & Youth Affairs and were awarded €20,000, on condition that the Council matched the amount. Ballybay Clones gladly did so. And by this time, Lorraine's fundraising efforts had paid off, meaning that the kitty had some €60,000 in it to go playground shopping.

A short time after the playground was completed, the developer approached the Council. Would we be interested in acquiring the rest of that site? We had no interest in the site for housing—but we knew that the community would be interested in it as an amenity for the village. And so the site was purchased by the Council on behalf of the community, with the intention of developing it into a community park.

In February this year, a public consultation process took place in the village, involving both the school children and the wider community. Various options for development of the park were presented, and people's views were listened to and taken in by the landscape designer before a final design was drawn up.

That design was drafted in detail, completed with costings and quantities for materials etc. This left it ready to pull off the shelf should a funding opportunity present itself.

That opportunity might come in bits and pieces. For example, perhaps the Youth Hangout Zone will be done as a standalone project, or maybe the outdoor performance area, or the biodiversity elements, or the walking track..... But over the next two years Scotshouse Community Park will happen, and it will be wonderful!

It will happen because of:

- the vision of a community
- the persistence of one person—one person CAN make a difference!
- The partnership formed between the community and the Council
- The existence of a PLAN, so that we can jump on the funding as it comes along

A lot of elements needed to line up just right for Scotshouse to find itself with a wonderful park. But it can happen. The good news is that it isn't rocket science; all it takes is for someone in the community to make contact with someone in the Council, communicate the need, find the opportunity, and leave the rest to us.....



*There was great debate at the public consultation event about what kind of park it should be. The consensus was for a space which nurtures wildlife and with natural play elements for children and places for the community to come together for performances and picnics*

# Community & Environment Fund 2017

Each year, the Council puts aside some funds in its Budget to assist communities, and manages this through an annual application process. The application forms usually come out in March, with a closing date in April. Projects are assessed by the staff in May, and go to the Council's June meeting.

In 2017, € 170,000 was given out under three Measures. The measures were:

- Measure 1 - Supporting Small Projects & Capital Works
- Measure 2 - Supporting Community Activities
- Measure 3 – Environmental Activity Supports & Tidy Areas

Council funding can be very valuable to a group. Because it isn't sourced from Europe, it can be used to match funding from programmes such as LEADER, helping to close the gap in match funding that a group has to find to finance a larger project. **So €1,000 from the Council, if used as part of a group's match funding contribution where they are being grant aided at a rate of 90%, might become 10% of something a lot bigger, enabling the group to leverage another €9,000 into their community.**

Here are the recipients under each of the Measures for 2017.

Community Group	Description of project	Amount
Carrickmacross snooker club	Upgrade heating system	€1,000
Farney Community Development Group Ltd.	New boiler	€1,000
Corduff Handball Club	Renovate the existing handball alley	€1,000
Carrickmacross Community Childcare Ltd	Purchase automated external defibrillator	€700
Corduff Raferagh Community Association	Upgrade of the community centre facilities	€1,000
Castleblayney Men's Sheds	Tools, wood, paint	€300
St Michaels Regional Comm Development	repairs to play park	€1,000
Aughanmullen Sports Development Assoc	Refurbishment of Fitness Suite	€1,000
Carrick Cruisers Basketball Club	Renovation of Basket ball rings	€400
Castleblayney Community Enterprise CLG	Refurbishment of units	€1,200
Muckno Community Partnership	Refurbishment of paths in Walled Garden	€1,000
Latton Social Services CLG	Purchase of Mobile Stage	€1,000
Castleblayney Community Gardens & Allotments	Further Development of Gardens/ Allotments	€600
St Joseph's Cemetery Carrickmacross	Tarmac Driveways	€1,000
Carrickmacross Arts Festival	Purchase of Festival Equipment	€1,000
Doohamlet Community and Resource Centre	Stage 2 consultancy services	€1,000
Ballybay Men's Shed	New shelving, benches, storage for tools and heating system	€700
Drumhowan Community Group	Install led lighting in hall	€1,000
Magherarney Development Association	Construction of community car park	€1,000
Scotshouse Tidy Towns	Repaint derelict buildings, install new heri- tage style benches	€1,000
Connors Social Club	repairs to Handball Alley + Store room	€1,000
Aghabog Development Association	Fire + Other Door Replacement	€1,000
Killeevan Development Association	Repairs to Centre	€1,000
Clones Boxing Club	Repairs to Centre	€1,000
Clones Chamber of Commerce	Preparation of Mapped tours	€1,000
Parish of Ematrix Rockcorry	Floor Restoration and Wheelchair Access	€1,000
Clones Development Society Ltd	Develop a visitor information talk	€1,000
Clones Men's Shed	Purchase Equipment	€1,000

Measure 1: Small Projects & Capital Works



**Measure 1: Small Projects & Capital Works**

Tyholland Community Sports Complex	Strip old plaster of wall, re-plaster and paint	€1,000
Truagh Development Association	Upgrade catering appliances	€1,000
Glaslough Development Association	Upgrade existing meeting room and foyer in the Glaslough Community Centre	€1,000
Monaghan Men's Shed	Build scaled model of Christian Bros School	€100
Riverbank Community Childcare	Refurbishment of Kitchen	€1,000
Old School Boxing Club	Repairs to Centre	€500
St Dympna's Well Committee	To Improve Access to St Dymptnas Well	€1,000
Glaslough Tidy Towns	Provision of Seating	€1,000
CROCUS (Cancer Support Group)	Create outdoor seating area	€1,000
Glaslough Community Playschool	Provision of Storage Units	€700
Tydavnet Village Community Centre Ltd	purchase industrial dishwasher	€700
Border Bounce Gymnastic Club	Provision of Matting	€1,000
Ardaghey Hall Committee	Provision of Childcare Facility	€1,000
Donagh Development Association	Refurbishment of lakeside	€1,000
Tydavnet Tots to Teens	Update Kitchen facilities	€1,000
St.Dymphna's Parish Church Hall Ballinode	Update ladies and gents toilets	€1,000

**Measure 2: Community Activities**

Community Group	Description of project	Amount
Carrickmacross Comm allotments	Expenses for ongoing maintenance to community	€700
Carrickmacross snooker & social club	Repainting of club, recovering of bench seating	€500
Primroses Ladies Club	Art classes during summer months	€500
Irish Bog Snorkelling Championships	Trophies, BBQ	€500
Carrickmacross Housewives Club	Trip to West Ireland	€400
Inniskeen Country Music Festival	Festival weekend	€800
Inniskeen Enterprise Development Group Ltd	Cost towards running the Inniskeen Road July evening festival	€1,000
Castleblayney Cycling	Complete a cycling tour of Co Monaghan	€400
Carrickmacross Vintage Society	Advertising refreshments for vintage rally	€1,000
Blayney Blades Women's Group	Multi Cultural family day 24th June	€700
Social Services Council	Day outing, hire of bus	€400
The Hill Reunion Carrickmacross	Reunion of past and present residents	€500
St Michaels Regional Community Development	Festival dancing at the crossroad	€500
Castleblayney Annual Fair Day	Fair Day	€500
Knockcarrick Residents Association	Street Party	€300
Donaghmoyne Youth Band	Uniforms, instruments	€500
Castleblayney vintage club	Erect 9 large images of places in Castleblayney	€500
Aughnamullen Church of Ireland	Facilator to train group in community dev	€500
Irish Blind Golf	Welcome packs for blind golfers in Nuremore hotel	€800
Inniskeen Young at Heart active retirement group	Art classes, bus trips	€500
Castleblayney Park run	Promotion for the 100th Castleblayney park run	€400
Laragh Heritage	Aimsir Láithreach 5 day programme/scholarships	€500
Convent Lands Community Bingo	community activities	€300
Castleblayney Show	Castleblayney Show	€1,000
Lisdoonan Ladies Club	Prog of Activities	€400

**Measure 2: Community Activities**

Aughnamullen Pipe Band	Training + Run Concert	€400
Castleblayney Community Gardens & Allotments	Open Day to promote gardens + allotments	€500
Carrickmacross Arts Festival	Payment towards Artists, musicians etc	€500
Inniskeen St Patrick's Parade Committee	St Patricks Day Parade	€500
Carrickmacross Hurling Club	promotion of hurling	€300
Maghera cloone Development Association	Promotion of local community groups	€500
Farney Community Development Group Ltd.	Commission a Public Art Piece	€700
Carrickmacross Cycling Club	Purchase Safety Equipment + Signs	€200
Blayney Academy FC	Parent info night, new kit, pitch rental	€500
Corduff Raferagh Active Retirement	Programme of Activities	€500
St Dymphna's Church Hall Tydavnet Parish Church Ballinode	Fold up tables, two gazebos	€500
Doohamlet District Community Development Association	Free Christmas event	€200
Drum Development Association	Heritage brochures	€400
Circle of Friends	Glass painting class & bus trip	€500
Clones Family Resource Centre	FRC summer camp for kids	€500
Oriel Sailing Club	Sailing regatta to coincide with Monaghan fleagh in Ballybay	€500
Clones Parenting Group	Trip to build a bear, talk for parents on legal matters, yoga sessions	€500
Connos Community Group	Provide cross community activities to develop interests in local history and arts	€500
Tydavnet Historical Society	Design of roll up banners	€300
Aghabog Development Association	Funday, hot water geyser, projector	€500
Cairde Activation CLG	Fundraising dance/concert	€600
O Neill Park & Environs Residents Association	BBQ, street party	€300
Beechgrove Residents	Community street party	€300
Family Carers Ireland (Monaghan Region)	Health Fair Day	€1,000
Cavan Monaghan Climbing Club	Taster session to promote club and invite the local community to rock climbing	€300
Latton Social Services	First St Patrick's Day Parade	€300
Ballybay Community Crèche	Family appreciation day	€500
Urbleshanny N S Parents Association	Purchase Catering Equipment	€400
Clones Community Connect	Promotion of Festival Weekend	€500
Clones Development Society Ltd	H&S Training, literature printing etc	€700
Latton Bawn Historical Group	Repair and digitise Books	€600
Clones Photography Group	Exhibition	€500
Clones Men's Shed	2 x Open Day Events	€500
Scoil Mhuire Magherarney Parents Association	Race night & raffle	€500
Edenbeag Childcare Centre	Summer camps	€500
Fáilte Isteach Monaghan	Room hire, Transport	€1,000
Monaghan University of the Third Age U3A	2017 Walking festival	€300
Truagh Development Association	Theatre outing for over 65s in North Monaghan	€500
Glaslough Life	Provide sporting equipment for use at the community centre and park	€500
Monaghan Youthreach	Project to teach young people where food comes, process, practical math skills	€600
Tydavnet Jamboree In The Village	Festival weekend	€600
Lithuanian Community of Monaghan	Celebration 10 year anniversary	€600

**Measure 2: Community Activities**

Dochas for women	Social / Information sessions	€600
Monaghan Women's Group	Conference on prostitution and violence against women	€1,000
Tydavnet Show	Running cost of show	€1,000
Emy & District Anglers	Youth fishing outing on Glenkeen trout fishery	€300
Drumlin Youths FC	Promote healthy eating, fun equipment	€200
Glaslough Community Playschool	Family fun day and education green seating area	€500
Monaghan 50/50 Group	2 events on getting women involved with the political process	700
Lisnagrieve Community Development Association	Arts & crafts classes, social events	€500
St Macartan's Pipe Band	Train pipers and drummers	€400
Cornagilta School Heritage Group	Promote Cornagilta School as a rural heritage centre	€700
Sliabh Beagh Association	Masters gala advertising and PR, pool hire, prizes	€600
Tydavnet Tots to Teens	Summer camps	€600
Teach na nDaoine FRC	Produce a professional quarterly newsletter	€500
Kilnacloy St Patricks Tce Residents Association	Mass & function for deceased residents	€500
Monaghan County Childcare Cmtee Ltd	Childcare Staff Training Course	€500
Clogher Historical Society	Publication of annual journal the Clogher Record	€700
Muineachán Le Gaeilge	Irish language camps	€800
Monaghan Phoneix Athletic Association	Monaghan Phoneix Marathon	€700
Positive Age Ltd	Publication and promotional materials to develop one good morning service	€500
Monaghan County Board Comhaltas Ceoltóiri Éire-	Activities of the Fleadh in Ballybay	€500

**Measure 3: Environment**

Name of Group	Amt		
Dun Ard Residents Association	500	Kilnacloy, St Patricks Tce Residents	600
Ard Chluain Residents Association	450	Willows Residents Association	450
Cherry Park Residents	500	Blaeberry Walk Residents	600
Beechgrove Residents	500	Drumlynn Manor Residents	300
O Neill Park & Environs Residents Ass	500	Rosevale Residents Assocation	600
Annyalla Enchantment Group	1000	Killycard Manor Residents Association	300
Manor Crest Management Committee	450	Newbliss Tidy Towns	1250
Ard na Gaoithe Residents Association	450	Killeevan Tidy Towns	800
Manorwood Residents Association	600	Cappog Residents Association	450
Magherarney Residents Association	450	Ballinode Tidy Towns	1350
Tully Residents Association	600	Parents Association St. Dympna's NS	450
Scotstown Tidy Towns	1350	Killyneill Tidy Towns	1250
Inniskeen Tidy Towns	1350	Tyholland Tidy Towns	1250
St Michaels Regional Community Dev	1000	Woodlands Residents Assocation	450
Residents of Drummond Dale	450	Knockturnagh Residents	600
O'Duffy Tce Residents	500	Lakeview Residents	600
Castleblayney Cty Gardens & Allotments	600	Drumillard Community Group	600
Clones Tidy Towns	1000	Ardaghey Tidy Towns	1250
Urbleshanny National School Parents Ass	450	Newbliss Residents Association	500
The Ferns Residents Committee	450	The Alders Residents Assocation	450
Milltown Residents Association	500	Lisdrumclave Residents Assocation	400
Smithborough Tidy Towns	1200	Lisanisk Residents Association	500
Latton Social Services	1200	Drumbear Wood Residents Association	600
		Donagh Development Association	600

Threemilehouse Residents Association	600
Monaghan Community Allotments	800
Mullaghmatt/Cortolvin Development	800
Scotshouse Tidy Towns	1200
Deery Tce Residents Association	450
Magherarney Development Association	800
Glenowen Residents Association	450
Derryolam Park Residents Group	300
Scoil Éanna Parents Association	450
Drumcrew Residents Association	400
Mulladuff Residents Association	500
Carrickroe Tidy Towns	1000
Carrickroe Residents Association	400
Blackhill Residential Group	600
Tydavnet Tidy Towns	1250
Ballybay Tidy Towns	1500
Woodvale Residents Association	500
Foxfield Residents & Owners Association	600
Coolshannagh View Residents Association	450
Doohamlet Community & Resource Centre	600
Drum Village Development Association	1250
Aughnamullen Community Development	500
Ascail Dubh Residents Association	450
Crann Nua Residents Association	600
Highfield Residents Association	600
Ard/Lis/Culbanagher Residents Group	600
Doohamlet Tidy Towns	1350
Greenan's Cross Development Committee	1250
Lakeview Heights Residents	400
Alderwood Residents Association	400
Bree Residents Association	600
Rockcorry Tidy Towns	1250
Kilmore/Swanns Cross Community Alert	400
Emyvale Tidy Towns	1400
Gort An Chaibleara Residents	400
Lakeside Village Residents Group	450
Carrickmacross Mens Shed	200
Convent Lands Community Bingo	500
Clonseady Residents Association	450
Drumkill Day Care Centre	500
Cluain Árd Residents Association	450
Scoil Bhríde Parent Association	500
Convent view Carrickmacross	450
Cloughvalley Res Assoc	600
cathedral walk res assoc	450
Glaslough Tidy Towns	1500
Fermanagh Terrace	400
Chapel Hill, Doohamlet	450
Beechgrove Lawns Res Assoc	600
Wylies Hill Residents	600

## It's all Fun & Games in the Council's Community Dept!



*Minister Humphreys officially opening the new play equipment, which was funded by the CLAR 2016 programme. Bernie Bradley led a very successful consultation exercise with families of children with disabilities before designing the new park. Her experience has now led to the adoption of an Accessible Play Policy by the Council*

Monaghan's first Inclusive playground opened in Ballybay Town Park on November 13<sup>th</sup>. The new playground is the result of a year-long project led by the social inclusion department of Monaghan County Council and Ballybay Clones Municipal District. It features play equipment for children with a range of physical, sensory and other disabilities.

We know a LOT about playgrounds. Talk to us BEFORE you start designing your project.

We have a lot of information about the latest research in child development, and how providing perfectly level, rubber play surfaces and removing all risk from play is not necessarily in the child's best interest.

We have a lot of information too on Natural Play, on connecting children with nature. Information on what is happening on the continent around free play, outdoor classrooms, all sorts of wonderful things which don't require burying half your budget in rubber wet pour and a safety fence!

There is also the whole area of insurance to consider. Did you know that Monaghan County Council's insurance policy can be extended to cover ANY playground—even those not owned by the Council—provided the Council undertakes to maintain the playground?

And THAT's a good reason to talk to us before you start your project.....

# Sliabh Beagh Masterplan

How do you go about realising the potential of a whole region when you're only one small community in the middle of it?

Well, you're going to need to work with the other communities around you to get anywhere on that one.

Two years ago, a long-standing cross border partnership between the Councils of Monaghan and Fermanagh & Omagh, known as Clones Erne East Partnership, called together the communities across the mountain region of Sliabh Beagh.

'We see two things here,' they said. 'We see an area which has experienced great hardship in the past, and continues to face significant challenges going forward, including being isolated physically, being an uplands area with marginal farmland, social isolation issues around rural transport, lack of broadband, an ageing population etc.

"But we also see an area which has tremendous natural resources, including pristine waters, a haven for wildlife, natural beauty, a dark night sky, a walker's paradise within easy reach of Ireland's two largest urban population centres. There is tremendous potential, but no Masterplan for developing the Tourism potential of the region."

So, CEEP proposed to bring the communities together to:

- Identify what the tourism product is
- Agree how it should be best managed
- Develop an identity for it
- Develop a strategy for its promotion going forward

Once the Masterplan was in place, each local community, they argued, would be able to see how their local project fits into the overall development of the region. They would

also be able to show this to prospective funders, to help show them how their project fits into the wider picture.

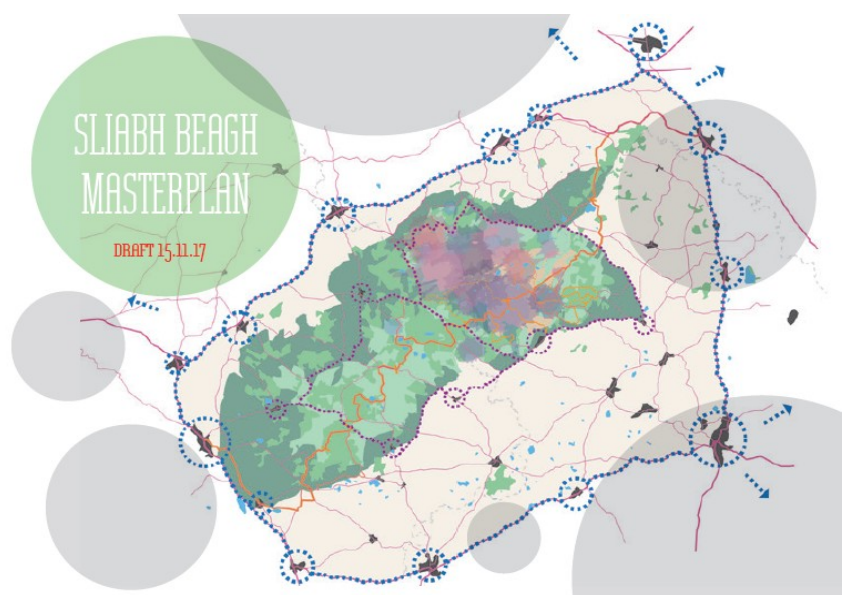
This had been a particular problem for some communities on the Northern Ireland side of the mountain, who had struggled to make the case for funding for large infrastructural projects, as the numbers didn't appear to stack up based on the low usage currently being experienced in the area.

The idea to adopt a regional approach came from Monaghan County Council's Community Dept, which facilitated a number of meetings held with the community groups in search of solutions to their difficulties in accessing funding for their local projects. 'Because their local populations were small, justifying the expense of putting a large infrastructural project halfway up a mountain was hard to sell to a funding agency,' explains Carol Lambe, who facilitated those sessions. 'However, by giving those large infrastructural projects the proper context—that they were acting as Gateways onto a mountain kingdom of breathtaking beauty—then the scale of the

mountain makes the scale of the investment seem far more reasonable to the funders. Funding is all about context."

Paul Hogarth Associates were appointed to devise the Masterplan at the end of 2016, and they embarked on a comprehensive series of consultations across the communities which are located on or near the mountain.

The final Masterplan is now complete, and will be published in early 2018. It identifies a number of key Themes under which the region's tourism product can be developed. Some of the work will be best done by the private sector, such as provision of accommodation, and some of it will need the co-operation of communities, such as walks development and the proposed Dark Skies initiative. Other elements can only be delivered by the two Councils, for example road signage. Overarching it all though is the need for close collaboration between Councils and community, and there is a proposal to establish a partnership between the two to drive the initiative going forward.



## A snapshot of Sports Inclusion programme in 2017

Monaghan Sports Partnership launched its Sports Inclusion Disability Programme in 2008, with an aim to increase the participation of people with disabilities in sport, fitness and physical activity in Cavan and Monaghan. This is achieved through working in partnership with statutory agencies, sports clubs, community groups, facility providers, schools, disability service providers and people with disabilities.

The programme is a joint initiative, supported by Sport Ireland, Monaghan County Council and Cavan County Council.

### 2017 SIDO Programme by numbers

- 10 programmes in a variety of sports
- 188 adult programme opportunities
- 61 Children programme opportunities
- 1 inclusive camps, 23 children attending
- 1 taster event, 49 adults attending

### Training and Education in 2017

- 148 people have successfully completed disability related inclusive sports training
- 78 people have completed Games4All
- 70 through Disability Awareness in Sport

### SIDO Programme by pictures, Cycling, Bowls, Soccer and More!



### Inclusive Summer Camp, New Weekly Club and new Chair Exercise class



Camp and Weekly club held in partnership with the Peace Link, Clones

### Participant Quotes:

#### Intro To Water Programme

"Really enjoys the pool now, loves getting into the water"

"Opportunity for our son to learn how to swim in own community"

#### Cycling Programme

"My child started to cycle independently on his own"

"Course was very well run and delivered with excellent outcomes for my son"

#### Gymnastics Programme

"first time my son tried gymnastics and loved it"

"Every week she got to try fun exercises with other children"

For more information on the sports inclusion programme please contact Dean McElroy, Sports Inclusion Development Officer on 087-2623956 or email [dmcelroy@monaghancoco.ie](mailto:dmcelroy@monaghancoco.ie)

# Supporting Community Activity

If you take one key message away from all these pages, let it be this: **the Council is here to support communities.**

There were many changes made to local government under the Local Government Reform Act 2014. Some caught the headlines, like us losing our function as provider of water and sewerage amenities to Irish Water. But some other very important changes went by with less fanfare.

- Every Local Authority was required to set up a Public Participation Network, in order to facilitate communities in having a voice in local decision making. Community groups now sit on almost twenty structures which directly control policy on a range of issues which affect the everyday lives of the people of Co. Monaghan.
- Councils were also given an expanded remit to drive economic and

community development in their area.

This means we are there to support communities to address the needs of their areas, and to put in place the infrastructure which addresses those needs.

We have been beefing up our team here in the Community Dept during 2017, and are ready to take on the challenge of assisting you during 2018. So use us. We can take it!!

We have also been speaking with our colleagues in Monaghan Integrated Development about how we can team up to offer communities the best support. Collectively we will be pooling our knowledge and carrying out a mapping exercise, to do a visual check for areas of the county which did not benefit from the funding opportunities which have come into the county during 2017. We will then target these areas for special attention during 2018, to try to make sure that the reasons for

the underperformance in these communities is rectified and they are in a stronger position going forward.

Early in 2018, we will be reaching out to every area of the county to conduct a comprehensive audit, to get a snapshot of the kind of help you might need. How up to date is your Area Development Plan, for example? When was the local playground last given an upgrade?

If we know when you are going to need funding for these things, we can plan ahead and be ready to assist you. We can have funding put aside in our annual budgets. If we don't know about your needs, we can't respond until next year's Budget.

So when we make contact, PLEASE don't ignore the letter. It's important.

**TO YOU.**

## A Thought from the Public Participation Network

The PPN is of course a very big part of the Community Dept, and the main vehicle through which the Council connects with community groups in an organised way.

The PPN does its own newsletters and Facethingies, which is why they only get a by-word in this publication. (Same story with Monaghan Sports Partnership, who are also part of the team in here).

But seeing as it's Christmas, we thought we'd give them a corner to put

out a special message from the Guest Speaker at their November Plenary, Shane Martin, who is a clinical psychologist and known for his work in the field of resilience.

Shane spoke about happiness, and identified three Key Ingredients which are necessary in order to have a happy life:

- Manage Stress. No stress at all isn't good either for a person, but don't ignore signs of stress. Do something about it if things are getting on top of you. There

will always be crunch times when you are really pushed, but don't let stress go on for prolonged periods

- Practice Kindness, towards others and equally importantly, towards yourself
- Be Social. Bouncing around inside your own head tends to turn a small issue into all you can think of. Get out. Talk. Man is meant to be a herd animal. We don't do well in isolation.





**Connecting for Life**  
Cavan and Monaghan

**If you are feeling low or distressed, please just talk about it with someone ...**

## EMERGENCY / CRISIS NUMBERS:

**YOUR LOCAL GP  
OR NORTH EAST  
DOCTOR ON CALL**  
**1850 777 911**

**GARDAI /  
EMERGENCY  
SERVICES**  
**999 / 112**

**THE SAMARITANS**  
**116 123**  
TEXT 087 260 9090  
EMAIL:  
jo@samaritans.org

**DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE SERVICE  
WOMEN'S AID  
NATIONAL  
HELPLINE**  
**1800 341 900**

**24/7 SUICIDE  
HELPLINE**  
**1800 247 247**  
TEXT: 'HELP' TO  
**51444**  
(PIETA HOUSE)

**AWARE  
SUPPORT LINE**  
**1800 80 48 48**  
Email:  
supportmail@aware.ie

**NATIONAL RAPE  
CRISIS 24/7  
HELPLINE**  
**1800 778 888**  
Email:  
counselling@rcc.ie

**CHILDLINE**  
**1800 666 666**  
TEXT: 'TALK' TO  
**50101**

**FARM AND  
RURAL STRESS  
HELPLINE**  
**1800 742 645**

## OTHER SUPPORTS:

**TEARMANN DOMESTIC  
ABUSE SERVICE**  
**047 72311**  
tearmannavs@eircom.net  
www.tearmann.net

**NATIONAL  
LGBT  
HELPLINE**  
**1890 929 539**

**MABS**  
(Money Advice  
& Budgeting Service)  
Helpline  
**0761 072 000**

**MENTALHEALTH  
IRELAND**  
www.mentalhealthireland.ie

**SHINE**  
**086 852 5422**  
Supporting People Affected  
by Mental Ill Health  
northeast@shine.ie  
www.shine.ie

**ONLINE  
COUNSELLING**  
www.turn2me.org

**GROW  
INFO LINE:**  
**1890 474 474**  
Supporting those experiencing  
mental health problems

**PARENT LINE**  
**1890 927 277**  
www.parentline.ie

**PLEASE TAKE A PHOTO OF THIS POSTER**



Please scan the code to  
download the Connecting  
for Life Cavan Monaghan  
Suicide Prevention Plan

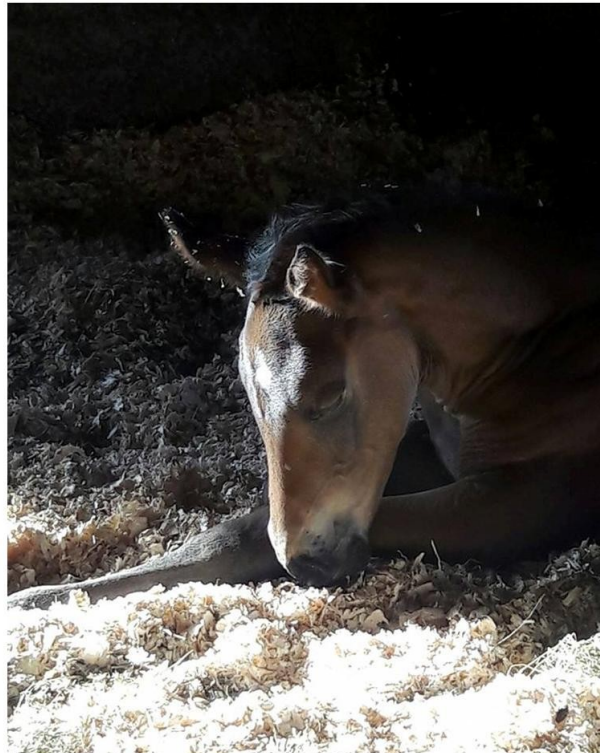
**HE** Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte  
Health Service Executive

Learn about mental health and how to  
support yourself and those you love:  
[www.yourmentalhealth.ie](http://www.yourmentalhealth.ie)



.....And Finally.....

My sources tell me  
That Santa is bringing PONIES  
To every good boy and girl this year!



**So have a Happy Horsemas  
Everyone!!**

*Pssst.....anyone want to buy a foal??*

*Col Lally*

### **Council Contact Info:**

**[www.monaghan.ie](http://www.monaghan.ie)**

Facebook: monaghan county council

Location: Council Offices, The Glen, Monaghan Town H18 YT50 Tel 047 30500

Municipal District Offices: Monaghan— housed within the County Council building above Tel 047 73777

Carrickmacross Castleblayney: Civic Offices, Riverside Road, CMX 042 9661236

Ballybay Clones: Pringle Building, Monaghan St. Clones 047 51018

The Community Dept staff are housed within the main Council building at the Glen Tel 047 30500

The Public Participation Network is also housed within the main Council building Tel 047 73724

The Environment staff are housed in the Carrickmacross office Tel 042 9661240

The Sports Partnership staff are housed in Ballybay Civic Building, Main St. Ballybay 042 9755126