

MINUTES OF SPC FOR TOURISM, RURAL & COMMUNITY DEV., AN GHAELIGE & CULTURAL SERVICES MEETING HELD AT 3.00pm on Tuesday 28th May 2025, Peace Campus.

Present

Cllr. Sean Conlon	SPC Chairperson, Elected Member Monaghan County Council
Cllr. Pat Treanor	Elected Member Monaghan County Council
Cllr. Niamh McCooey	Elected Member Monaghan County Council
Cllr. Aidan Campbell	Elected Member Monaghan County Council
Cllr Raymond Aughey	Elected Member Monaghan County Council
Cllr. Paul Gibbons	Elected Member Monaghan County Council
Packie McCarville	Business / Commercial (Tourism/Hospitality Sector) (Online)
Fiona McGuinness	Business / Commercial (Tourism/Hospitality Sector)
Emer Brennan	PPN – Environment Electoral College
Carol Smyth	PPN – Social Inclusion Electoral College
Noel Treanor	PPN – Community & Vol Electoral College
Seán Ó Murchadha	PPN – Community & Vol Electoral College

In Attendance

Patricia Monahan	Director of Services Monaghan County Council
Deirdriu McQuaid	County Librarian Monaghan County Council
Olga McConnon	Director of Services Monaghan County Council
Leona Keenan	Administrative Officer Monaghan County Council
Dympna Condra	Tourism and Marketing Executive Monaghan County Council
Liam Bradley	Museum Curator Monaghan County Council
Lisa Connolly	Assistant Staff Officer Community Monaghan County Council

Apologies

Gareth McMahon	A/Director of Service Monaghan County Council
Somhairle MacConghail	Arts Officer Monaghan County Council

1.Welcome

Cllr. Sean Conlon, Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted apologies.

2. Minutes of Meeting 24.02.2025

Seán Ó Murchadha requested that in the presentation of the Arts Strategy, references to the new Arts funding stream in relation to the Irish Language performances be added to the minutes. On the proposal of Cllr. Niamh McCooey and seconded by Noel Treanor, the minutes of the SPC meeting held on 24th February 2025, were unanimously agreed.

3. Business referred from the Council (Disability Steering Committee)

Cllr. Sean Conlon read out correspondence from the Disability Federation of Ireland for consideration, the Disability Federation of Ireland documents from their report, 'Bridging the Gap: Local Authorities and Disability Inclusion motion in relation the Disability Steering Committee

Cllr. Conlon informed the meeting that the Advocacy Group was made up of people who had a disability themselves. There is interaction especially in the housing section engaging with people with disabilities it is very important and should be given consideration.

Cllr. Conlon requested that we defer to the next SPC and that Leona Keenan would circulate the report to the members before the next SPC Meeting.

This action was proposed by Cllr. Sean Conlon and seconded by Cllr. Aidan Campbell

4. Presentation of Museum Draft Strategic Plan 2025-2030

Liam Bradley delivered a presentation on the Draft Strategic Management Plan for Monaghan County Museum.

Liam informed the meeting that the purpose of presenting the Draft Plan to SPC was to ensure that the committee can review same in advance of the presentation to full Council.

A discussion followed and Liam responded to queries from the members.

The Draft Strategic plan was proposed by Cllr. Raymond Aughey and seconded by Cllr. Paul Gibbons.

5. Draft Festivals & Events Policy

Deirdriú McQuaid, County Librarian & Head of Cultural Services presented the draft Festival and Events Funding Policy. Deirdriú advised the committee that they have been working on this policy for the last 12 months and that it came about due to a number of grant/funding schemes coming in which each section's administrators individually and the policy is to ensure a strategic approach is adopted. This is a 2-year plan, a 2 year working policy and MCC will make adaptations as and when it is needed.

The purpose of the policy is to assess current needs and gaps, to review what we are funding how it is funded and if it is still relevant.

A discussion followed to which a number of members contributed and Deirdriú responded.

6. Schedule meetings 2025-

Thursday 18th September 2.30pm

Wednesday 3rd December 2.30pm


7. AOB

Cllr. Aidan Campbell drew the committee's attention to the great news that Michael Gallen has won the Fedora Prize, the world's largest award for new opera. Cllr. Campbell congratulated the success of Micheal Gallan and acknowledged that Monaghan County Council granted Michael seed funding to stage his first show

Cllr. Campbell concluded with "Mighty oaks from little acorns grow!"

Date of next meeting - Thursday 18th September @2.030pm

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed  Date: 25-8-25
Chairperson