

The Cultural Development, Irish Language & Sport Strategic Policy Committee
Minutes of Meeting
22nd June 2021
Venue: Microsoft Teams

Present: Cllr. C. Kelly, Chairperson; E. Doyle, Director of Services; Cllr. P. McDonald; Cllr. P. Brady; E. Nwaneri; M. B. Duffy; Dr. B. Scott; E. Clancy, Meetings Administrator

Apologies: Cllr. S. P. O'Reilly; Cllr. C. Lovett; Cllr. V. Smith; M. Rudden; G. McPhillips

1. Adoption of Minutes of Meeting, 23rd February 2021
Proposed by Cllr. P. McDonald; seconded by Cllr. P. Brady
2. Declaration of Interests: Mr. E. Doyle, Director of Services outlined the responsibility of Committee members to declare any beneficial interest in matters being discussed by the SPC.
3. Standing Orders: Chairperson referred to the Standing Orders (documentation with amendments relating to the holding of remote meetings was previously circulated).
4. Progress Report on Virginia Civic Centre and Library:
Mr. E. Doyle, Director of Services, provided an update, advising that work has commenced. He explained that this project represents the biggest cultural investment in Virginia since the Ramor Theatre and ties in with the recent development of the Town Hall in Cavan. A staged reopening of the Town Hall is planned to take place while the Ramor Theatre is closed during building works. He referenced the fact that Cavan will shortly have two quality arts/theatre facilities managed by the local authority.
5. Creative Ireland:
Ms. E. Clancy, County Librarian, provided an overview of projects planned for 2021, including Cruinniú na nÓg, the national day of creativity for young people, which took place on Saturday, June 12th 2021.
6. Decade of Commemorations / Historian in Residence:
Dr. B. Scott, Historian in Residence with Cavan County Council, delivered a presentation on the Decade of Commemorations programme planned in association with Cavan Library Service. The programme commenced with a series of talks with schools across the county and will also include a series of webisodes, podcasts and lectures and on relevant topics, including the role of women during this period. Dr. Scott also advised that the Commemoration Programme in Cavan will be inclusive of all traditions, ensuring a respectful commemoration. Cllr. P. McDonald commended B. Scott and Cavan Library Service on the programme.
7. Outdoor Performance Space at Cavan County Museum: Mr. E. Doyle, Director of Services, gave an update on the outdoor space being planned at the County Museum. Part VIII planning permission has been sought for a new development at the car park, which boasts a natural amphitheatre style area, with tiered seating, paved area and a mobile stage. This proposal offers a very creative use of space at this popular amenity. It is hoped to commence work in September.

8. A.O.B.

Chairperson extended sympathy to E. Clancy on her recent bereavement – a minute's silence followed.

Cllr. P. McDonald enquired as to the County Museum. Mr. E. Doyle confirmed that the County Museum and all Libraries have reopened.

Mr. E. Doyle noted that the Town Hall will reopen at a later date, pending government guidance. Pdraic McIntyre, Manager, is planning a provisional programme for Autumn/Winter 2021.

Ms. M. B. Duffy informed the committee that rehearsals are taking place for an outdoor drama performance at the rear of St. Aidan's Comprehensive school in Cootehill.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 28th September 2021, 11.00am.