**MINUTES OF STRATEGIC POLI CY COMMITTEE MEETING ON HOUSING COMMUNITY, SOCIAL & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, COURTHOUSE, CAVAN**

**16th April 2019**

**Present:-** Cllr Val Smith, Chairperson

Mr Eoin Doyle, Director of Service

Ms Bridie McBrearty, Cavan County Council

Mr John Wilson, Cavan County Council

Mr Michael Mussi Cavan County Council

Ms Catriona O’Reilly, Cavan County Council

Cllr Noel Connell

Cllr Paddy O’Reilly

Cllr Madeline Argue

Mr Thomas Maughan, Cavan Traveller Men’s Shed

Ms Madelieine Ui Mhealoid, Society of SVP

**Apologies:** Apologies for inability to attend were received from:

Mr John Donohoe, Cavan County Council

Mr Larry McCluskey, CPPN

Cllr Clifford Kelly

Cllr Shane P O’Reilly

The meeting was opened by Cllr Val Smith, Chairperson.

1. **MINUTES**

On the proposal of Cllr Madeline Argue, seconded by Thomas Maughan, the minutes of the meeting held on 18th January 2018 were confirmed and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING**

none

1. **HOME FOR LIFE – MORTGAGE TO RENT SCHEME**

A presentation was made by Stephen Curtis of Home for Life AHB. Queries and observations from the Committee were addressed. Subjects included:

* How AHB is funded
* Income limits to avail of scheme restrictive
* How Differential rent is calculated
* No people in mortgage arrears in Cavan
* Lack of awareness of scheme and how it should be promoted.

1. **ARTS UPDATE**

Catriona O’Reilly Arts Officer gave an overview of the activities planned and ongoing in 2019 including:

* Links to Arts Council
* Peace IV
* Music Generation Project
* Women of influence
* Funding Streams
* Infrastructure (Town Hall refurb)
* Older people’s council
* Arts & Health Forum

A general discussion took place and the Arts section was praised for their work and enthusiasm by all Cllrs and Community Reps

**4 & 6. HOUSING REPORT AND TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PLAN 2019 - 2024**

Bridie McBrearty SEO gave a summary of the Housing sections activity in 2018 and spoke about the progress in adopting the TAP 2019 – 2024.

Questions were answered regarding the level of additional grants/ allocations in 2019 over 2018 and confirmation was given that the allocation of 1.457 million included the local authority contribution.

1. **HOUSING CONSTRUCTION REPROT**

John Wilson gave an overview of the 2019 allocations and planned construction projects in 2019. Q&A then took place around specific properties in Cavan Town.

**7. IRISH REFUGEE PROTECTION PROGRAMME (IRPP)**

Bride McBrearty SEO gave a presentation on the IRPP and how Cavan County Council propose to implement it in conjunction with the Dept Justice. The programme sets out to ensure that Refugees (Syrian) being accommodated in County Cavan are:

* Integrated into the community
* Have access to services
* Are housed appropriately
* Provided with the necessary supports and support workers

The next meeting with the Inter Agency Group coordinating the IRPP for Cavan will be held to discuss how to meet the needs of 20 households over the next 18 months and to consider the employment of an interpreter. A general discussion took place on this matter.

1. **A.O.B**

Bridie McBrearty informed the group that CANA has recently made a presentation to the Traveller Group and have asked that they meet with the SPC. This was agreed.

Eoin Doyle DOS advised that the local authority is waiting on guidance from the Dept regarding any amendments to the future make up of SPC’s. As a result the next SPC will likely take place @ September.

All members of the Committee wished Cllr Paddy O’Reilly all the best in his upcoming retirement who then thanked the committee for all their good work in the past.

1. **DATE AND VENUE FOR NEXT MEETING**

TBA

**Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Chairperson**