**COMHAIRLE CONTAE ÃTHA CLIATH THEAS
SOUTH DUBLIN COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Report of Social and Community Strategic Policy Committee**

**Held on the 20th September, 2016**

**In the Community Services Conference Room**

**Attendance:**

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| Members | Officials |
| Cllr. D. Looney | B. Coman, Director of Services |
| Cllr. V. Casserly, | A. Silke, Sports Officer |
| Cllr. S. Holland | P. McAlerney, Senior Community Officer |
| Cllr. K. Egan | A. Byrne, Administrative Officer |
| Cllr. J Graham |  |
| Cllr. M. Murphy |  |
| L. Kelly, PPN |  |
| G. Ní Mhuirí, PPN |  |

**Minutes of May 2016 Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 31st May, 2016 which have been circulated were approved.

**Community Initiative Fund 2016**

Paul McAlerney gave an update to the SPC and reported applications for the Community Initiative Fund 2016 were invited from 29th of March and closed on 29th of April. There was a good response with 69 applications received totalling a cumulative funding request of €1,038,491.38. Shortlisting and Assessment followed which led to 18 Groups being awarded funds to support a wide range of project types. A list of the successful groups was circulated.

**Community Grants (2nd Round)**

Round 2 opened on the 22nd of August and closed on the 16th of September. Assessment of these applications is underway.

**Community Endeavour Awards**

Applications for the Community Endeavour Awards will be invited the week starting 26th September and will close on Friday 14th October. The event will take place in the Red Cow Moran’s Hotel on Friday 2nd December. Awards will be made in ten categories:

* Civic Pride & Community Endeavour
* Community Facility of the Year
* Sports & Recreation Award
* Social Inclusion Award
* Active Age Award
* Gradam na Gaeilge
* Community/School Garden or Allotment
* Community Sustainability Initiative
* Corporate Endeavour Award
* Volunteer Award

There will be one Overall Community Endeavour Award (with the possibility of Special Recognition Award(s)

An Independent Panel will be put in place to judge the applications.

**Summer Projects, Family Days, Festivals**

Each year the Community Development Teams assist the organising of a number of Summer Projects, Family Fun Days and Village/Community Festivals in the South Dublin County Area. So far in 2016 support has been given to a total of:

* 33 Summer Projects
* 6 Family Fun Days
* 9 Village/Community Festivals

The support of Residents Associations, Youth Groups/Organisations, Festival and Family Day Committees, Community Centres, Civil Defence, An Garda Síochána, Local Volunteers was acknowledged and appreciated by the members.

Disability Training for those organising events was discussed and this will be explored with the Sports Disability Officer and may be included as part of the training for summer programmes and raised at the information meeting for summer projects.

The following items were discussed under Any Other Business:

**Pride of Place Competition 2016**

Irish Public Bodies Pride of Place is an all-island competition that acknowledges the work that communities are doing all over the island of Ireland. Local Authorities are invited to enter and can nominate up to a maximum of 5 projects, within a number of broad categories and a maximum of 1 entry per category. South Dublin entered five projects for 2016:

* Glenasmole Community Association
* RAMS (Newcastle)
* Recreate
* SDC Public Participation Network
* Dominic’s Community Centre

Two Independent Judges visited the 5 nominated projects over the days of the 23rd 24th and 25th of August. Awards will be made at a ceremony on the 26th of November.

**SPC Agenda**

There was a discussion about the agenda of the SPC and the freedom of members to raise issues for discussion. The Chair Cllr. Looney will discuss this further with the Director of Services.

**Training for Groups**

There was a general discussion over capacity building for community groups so they are well positioned to make submissions, representation to plans, consultation forums etc. It was agreed that the PPN can support this and also the Community Development Team are available to support groups to build capacity.

**Health and Wellbeing Week**

The work of the staff and other organisations involved in Health and Wellbeing was acknowledged. The successful Sunday event in Corkagh Park was highlighted. The County is still awaiting news on their application for Healthy County status.

**Chamber Ireland Awards**

The following projects are shortlisted for Chamber Ireland Awards:

* Community Initiative Fund,
* Sport Cycling Programme
* Healthy County/Health and Wellbeing.

 Awards will be made at a function in November.

The meeting concluded at 7.30 p.m.

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