



Community Work Ireland working collectively to support and promote community work as a means of addressing poverty, social exclusion and inequality and advancing human rights

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CWI Annual General Meeting

October 9th 2019

Present

Edmund Corrigan, Seán Regan, Marie Corcoran Tindall, Karol Quinn, Chris Nolan, Debby McAuley, Seanie Lambe, Ciarán Hudson, Georgina Lawlor, Valerie McFarlane, Felicia Loughrey, Lorraine O'Reilly, Nuala Kelly, Ciara Bradley, Catherine Lane, Rachel Doyle and Ann Irwin.

Apologies

Anastasia Crickley, Ronnie Fay, Trish Brennan, Liam McGlynn, Siobhán Mc Loughlin, Obert Makaza

Chair

CWI Vice Chairperson, Valerie McFarlane, chaired the meeting.

Welcome and Introductions

The Chairperson welcomed participants and invited them to introduce themselves.

The chairperson noted the extremely successful CWI climate action event which preceded the AGM and welcomed the establishment of the new CWI Climate Action members working group.

Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the last CWI AGM were read. The minutes were proposed by Seanie Lambe, seconded by Felicia Loughrey and agreed by the members.

Financial Report

The annual audited accounts were available for scrutiny by CWI members at the AGM and all present were provided with a summary income and expenditure sheet.

Ann Irwin presented the report of the CWI Auditor, Candor. Ann highlighted that the auditor has given the financial processes and procedures in the organisation their approval.

The financial report was proposed by Ciara Bradley, seconded by Georgina Lawlor and approved by the AGM.

A discussion was held on the level of resourcing for CWI and the low level of resources available to undertake the complex and wide-ranging work involved.

Appointment of Auditors

The CWI Central Group recommended the re-appointment of Candor Auditors for audit services. The re-appointment of Candor was proposed by Nuala Kelly, seconded by Ciarán Hudson and approved by the AGM.

Annual Report

Ann and Rachel presented the annual report for 2018 - 2019.

Rachel explained that the Annual Report covers the period from Oct 2018 – October 2019.

The Annual Report can be found [here](#)¹. The following highlights were particularly noted:

- The publication and launch in August 2019 of Sustainable Inclusive and Empowered Communities A five-year strategy for the community and voluntary sectors 2019 – 2024. The chair acknowledged the work of CWI staff on the cross sectoral group for the development of the strategy and the AGM expressed approval of much of the content of the document also noting that the real test of success will be the implementation of the strategy and the prioritisation of community work concerns in that regard.
- The establishment of the new CWI Policy and Practice members working group. The purpose of the working group is to create a space for discussion on issues pertaining to CWI and community work in general and Identify and respond to issues and developments that CWI should be concerned with. The working group is convened by Anastasia Crickley.
- The establishment of the new CWI Climate Action members working group. The working group was launched at the CWI climate action event preceding the AGM and being convened by Seán Regan.
- The level of outreach work where CWI made presentations on current community work issues and contexts and the work of CWI
- Policy submissions made in the areas of e.g. poverty, Traveller rights, direct provision, social enterprise, community services and volunteering
- Campaign work in relation to Travellers, housing, women's rights and equality
- Representation of the community sector on a range of fora
- Work on specific issues such as community sponsorship and commissioning

The staff were commended for the range and depth of work undertaken over the previous 12-month period.

Membership

Staff highlighted that over the previous 12 months a concerted effort was made to recruit new members to CWI and that during this period approximately 60 people joined as new members. The CWI database is fully up to date and GDPR compliant.

¹ <https://www.communityworkireland.ie/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/cwi-annual-report-2018-2019-4.pdf>

Central Group

Oonagh McArdle stepped down from the Central Group and was sincerely thanked for her contribution to CWI. It was noted that Áine Deeley and Jamie Gorman had stepped down from the Central Group during the year and the Chairperson thanked them for their strong involvement. The Chairperson thanked the members of the 2018-2019 Central Group for their significant contribution and commitment to CWI.

Central Group 2019/2020

Anastasia Crickley	Georgina Lawlor
Obert Makaza	Marie Corcoran Tindall
Valerie McFarlane	Ronnie Fay
Seanie Lambe	Catherine Lane
Patricia Brennan	Niamh Wogan ²
Liam McGlynn	

The appointment of the new CWI Central Group was proposed by Seán Regan, seconded by Felicia Loughrey and approved.

The Chairperson welcomed the new Central Group, thanked all present, and declared the meeting closed.

² Niamh is to consider the nomination and confirm as soon as possible