



CORK NATURE NETWORK ANNUAL REPORT 2018



CORK NATURE NETWORK

A company limited by guarantee with no shares

Registered Address:

An sabin, Ballinvoher, Castletownroche, County Cork.

Charity number: 21602

Charity Registration Number: 20103200

Company number: 560881

2018 Directors.

Gill Weyman. Chair

Katriona Wallace. Treasurer

Anne Gaertner. Secretary up to September 2018

Grainne Keogh. Secretary from September 2018

Valerie Soma. Webmaster

Aideen Kane. Facebook Officer

Dave Murphy. Administration

Cian Gill. Education Officer.

Louise Maher from October 2018

Dave Murphy from October 2018

Bank account. AIB, Ballincollig, County Cork and Mallow Credit Union.

Accountants. Daniel J. Coleman & Co, Bishopstown.Cork.



Registered office, An Sabin, Ballinvoher, Castletownroche, County Cork
www.corknaturenetwork.com

Company Number 560881 / Registered Charity Number: 20103200 / Revenue Charity Number: CHY21602

Chair's report

I am delighted to introduce this annual report for 2018 and to thank all our volunteers for their commitment and enthusiasm. Cork Nature Network could not operate without their involvement.

We are a registered charity that was established in 2015. Since then we have been increasing in strength from year to year. At our first organisational meeting our original aim was to develop slowly and to slowly increase our achievements. We have achieved that and we are now becoming recognised as an organisation that works for the protection and conservation of the natural environment in Cork. We began with no members in 2015 and in 2018 we have a membership that has increased to 81. Our web page and online membership was not finalised until 2018 and this has made a great difference to numbers who sign up to our membership. In 2018 Blizzard Entertainment joined us as a company member and we worked with them on a project in the Glen where we worked with the company and its 50 staff members to run activities for a local school. We continue to work with them on an annual basis.

Our activities have continued to increase and we have offered a wide range of excellent quality events. Many of our events are being booked out and we are delighted that there is this interest in our natural world. We have run a number of walks and talks plus worked with other local organisations such as Birdwatch South West Cork and Cork Environmental Forum.

We continue to be part of consultative processes and contribute to SWAN and Birdwatch Ireland campaigns such as water quality and hedgerows.

We have held several stalls such as the Townlands Festival and Blarney Garden Festival. We have also been successful with a number of grants such as Creative Ireland and the Local Authority Waters and Communities Office.

I look forward to the future development of the organisation and hope that our success continues over the forthcoming years.



Gill Weyman

Chair



Summary of the Organisation's Purpose and Activities

The aim of Cork Nature Network is:

“To benefit the community of Cork by promoting and encouraging the conservation of wildlife and habitats in Cork City and County by educating and increasing the awareness of the need for conservation.

1. To promote nature conservation.
2. To educate and increase awareness on the need for conservation.”

Our work in 2018 has benefited the wider community of Cork. Our ethos is that everyone should be able to be involved in our events and in learning about wildlife. Our beneficiaries are the community of Cork.

We are complying with government legislation. We have signed up to the Code of Governance and are gradually working through the requirements. We have 2-3 board meetings per year and hope to continue working on our transparency and operations during these meetings.

Cork Nature Network is managed through a board of directors. Activities and projects are organised by an active management team. The following are summaries from our directors on progress in 2018

Louise Maher (Marketing Director)

Louise came onto the board at the end of October 2018 having been voted in at the 2018 AGM in October. The following is a summary of Louise's work from the end of October to the end of December 2018.

Social media campaigns included promoting a Pub Quiz, and autumn activities such as an Autumn workshop for children. Press releases were sent out for both these events to local papers and radio stations. A marketing team meeting was held with two other volunteers.

Contact was made with a company VMWare, who offered to assist with website amendments. The Marketing Officer and Website Officer met with VMWARE to ask for assistance with website improvements e.g. donate button.

Cork Nature Network had previously organised an event with North Monastery Primary School and Blizzard Entertainment. Bird, bat and insect boxes were painted and it was proposed in November to hold a press call to put the boxes up in the Glen Park. Louise organised the press call.

Valerie Soma (Website Officer)

Valerie has been with Cork Nature Network since 2015 as the Website Officer. During 2018, Website plugins were updated and a new plugin set up for GDPR compliance.

Legal pages were created e.g. Cookies and data protection. The website was updated with information on new directors and the annual reports updated. The website requires updates and amendments of new information on a regular basis.



Organisation Activities

Cork Nature Network run a number of public walks and talks. Number of activities have increased. In 2018, 32 events were held for the members of the public of which a total of 614 people attended. Examples of some of our events included an early bird chorus, litter clean ups, butterfly walk, habitats workshop, Doneraile Wildlife Park walk.

Month	No. Events	No. attended
Jan	1	30
Feb	3	54
Mar	3	30
April	2	30
May	1	20
June	4	75
July	4	55
Aug	6	150
Sept	3	35
Oct	1	20
Nov	3	90
Dec	1	25
Total	32	614



A day was held in Fota Wildlife Park to offer training for events assistants. The training was intended to assist in organising events across the county. A presentation on the organisation was given and a description of event organising processes were discussed.



A number of Cork Nature Network management team members also attended the training held by the River Maigue trust on river invertebrate sampling. Training was also given on presentation skills by a trainer Lorraine O'Donnell in Blackrock library.

Cork Nature Network is a member of SWAN, Sustainable Water Action Network and Cork Environmental Forum. As part of membership, a representative of Cork Nature Network attends meetings and workshops. Meetings attended included the AGM and the Water Basin Management workshop. These were attended by Gill Weyman and Donna Weiner. John Noonan attended meetings on behalf of Cork Nature Network for the PPN in Cork City. Gill Weyman was the representative for Cork County. John Noonan and Miriam Podstavkova were put forward to the Cork City Heritage Group.

In February a library exhibition was organised in Blackpool library where the photographs of the Facebook competition were displayed. Cork Nature Network also attended a circular Oceans meeting. A workshop on wildlife gardening was held in Fota Wildlife Park with presentations from Ann Daly, Gardener, Adam Carveth, Gardener, and Karen Loxton.

Cork Nature Network organised events in partnership with West Cork Birdwatch. A clean up was held at Inchydoney Beach followed by a talk on the Litter map by Sean in O'Donovan's Hotel, Clonakilty. In addition, an event was organised to clean up litter on Little Island with the local community. For Cork Harbour week a children's marine workshop was organised in Blackrock Castle. Cork Nature Network also ran a series of educational events on marine ecology for Cork County Council.

Stalls were held in Blarney Garden Show and Fota Wildlife Park. A stall was also taken to the Macroom Townlands Festival. A talk was also given by Karen Loxton at Douglas Street Festival.

Talks to community groups were also given to residents of Sherkin Island and Nano Nagle. A talk on habitat creation was given to Ahiohill Community Centre and to children in Macroom on autumn colours.

A new interest group was set up by Cork Nature Network to learn about invertebrates. This was the Cork Entomology Group.

An event was held over the summer in the Glen. It was funded by Blizzard entertainment and included working with North Monastery School, where children went on a bug hunt and painted bird and bat boxes that were made by Mallow Men's Shed.

A Christmas social was held and our webmaster who organises the fun activities did not disappoint.



CORK NATURE NETWORK PROJECTS

Cork Nature Network has two main projects that are managed on a long term basis.

1. Beaumont Quarry

There were six clean ups in the quarry in 2018. The clean ups have made a great difference with regard to the amount of litter that is present in the site. Our profile with companies is increasing and in 2018, 2 companies helped to clean the quarry.

Clean ups were held in January, March, April, August, October and November. The Beaumont Quarry steering group met on one occasion to discuss the management of the quarry. An Easter egg hunt was held and included as part of the Cork Learning Festival events.

In 2018, funding was secured for a sign post on Beaumont Quarry. During Heritage Week, an annual picnic was held. Beaumont Quarry was also registered as an experience for air bed and breakfast and in May a dawn chorus was held.

2. Cork Otters

In 2018, Cork Nature Network ran a project in Blackpool to promote the importance of the river in the community. An invertebrate survey was undertaken as a baseline for further information and a film called Resourceful Rivers produced. In addition, a story on otters was told in Blackpool library to over 25 children.

The Cork Otter Facebook page has gone from strength to strength and in 2018 reached x likes.

Membership.

In December 2018 membership was 81, an increase from 2017. We anticipate this will continue to grow.

Funders:

Local Waters and Community Office

Creative Ireland Fund

Local Agenda 21 funds.

Ballyhoura Development

Kieran McCarthy ward fund

Community Foundation

Cork County Council



Financial Report

DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Cork Nature Network CLG
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION RELATING TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DETAILED INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
for the year ended 31 December 2018

	2018 €	2017 €
Income	13,236	21,763
Expenditure		
Health & Safety Training	1,290	615
Insurance	475	615
Project Production costs	4,698	18,521
Printing, postage and stationery	69	140
Advertising	1,012	823
Legal and professional	20	180
Accountancy	800	690
Bank charges	80	46
Depreciation	93	93
	8,537	21,723
Net surplus	4,699	40



CASHFLOW

Cork Nature Network CLG CASH FLOW STATEMENT for the year ended 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018 €	2017 €
Cash flows from operating activities			
Surplus for the year		4,699	40
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation		93	93
		<u>4,792</u>	<u>133</u>
Movements in working capital:			
Movement in creditors		3,454	(1,398)
		<u>8,246</u>	<u>(1,265)</u>
Cash generated from/(used in) operations			
		<u>8,246</u>	<u>(1,265)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		<u>8,246</u>	<u>(1,265)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		<u>6,271</u>	<u>7,536</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	10	<u><u>14,517</u></u>	<u><u>6,271</u></u>



NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Cork Nature Network CLG

BALANCE SHEET

as at 31 December 2018

	Notes	2018 €	2017 €
Fixed Assets			
Tangible assets	5	370	463
Current Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents		14,517	6,271
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	6	(8,228)	(4,774)
Net Current Assets		6,289	1,497
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		6,659	1,960
Reserves			
Income and expenditure account		6,659	1,960
Equity attributable to owners of the company		6,659	1,960

Front cover. Isobel Abbott



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