

Minutes of Feasta Trustees' May meeting 13/05/2109

Present: Graham Barnes, Morag Friel (Minute taker), Mark Garavan (Chair) Mike Sandler, John Sharry and Caroline Whyte

Apologies: Michele Brady and Willi Kiefel

1. Minutes of April's meeting were not available so agreement of these, and discussion of any Matters Arising, is postponed til the June meeting.

2. No significant issues arose from Morag's report.

It was noted that the IEN will be giving each group a €4,000 partial-payment once their funding applications have been submitted. There is no date yet for when the rest of the funding will be released by the Department.

Morag also reported that she has updated the membership spreadsheet and sent a copy to Caroline. A 3-monthly "Membership Dashboard" will be brought to June's meeting.

3. Feasta's IEN funding application: Caroline reported that she has submitted this and Justin has acknowledged receipt.

4. Caroline feedback as IEN director:

The new IEN Co-ordinator, replacing Michael Ewing who is retiring, is Karen Ciesielski. She is starting soon.

5. LVT: A new Feasta member, who is an academic researcher, has expressed interest in Land Value Taxation. Caroline is to contact him.  
Agreed to discuss this at the June meeting.

6. Upcoming Feasta Events:

6.1 The annual Rossbeigh Retreat week has been set for the week August 17<sup>th</sup>. Brian Davey is the main organiser. There has been a good response and the list of attendees will be finalised at the end of May - if there are still places then an invitation can be emailed to the wider list.

6.2. *Food For Thought*, May 17<sup>th</sup>, GMIT, Castlebar, co-hosted by Afri

Mark reported that the event schedule and practicalities are close to being finalised. Hoping for around 40 people, either pre-booked via the Eventbrite page or on the day itself. Richard Douthwaite's sons, Joss and Boru are doing a workshop on Transformational Change. Hanny Van Gelen, of Via Campesina, and Michael McCaughen are the 2 other speakers. Local musicians providing music: Mark is arranging for the talks of the static speakers to be recorded in-house. Food will be a combination of pot-luck and some basic fare to come from local business; Caroline will email attendees with details.

Publicity: Mark had an interview on Flirt FM, the NUIG student radio station (he's not sure if we can get a recording). Afri's Joe Murray has been interviewed regarding the

Famine Walk and the FFT event on Mid-West Radio and Castlebar local radio and there has been coverage in the Connacht Tribune.

7. Finding new Feasta Directors:

Caroline emailed members, as agreed. No response thus far.

Mike has 2 contacts who are possibly interested and will pursue. It was agreed to continue with "head hunting" within our own circles and to sign us up to Boardmatch. (The latter has a free basic-level membership we can avail of; Morag to follow up on this.). Graham will liaise with Caroline to look our old account with LinkedIn and then see if this would be useful for this.

**AOB**

1. Caroline reported on the Feasta Podcasts: The third one is about to be launched. It is on the Commons; and has interviews with Orla O'Donovan and poet, Paddy Burke.

2. Also; a young person, Clare, who met Seán O'Conláin at a recent food security event in Dublin, has come on Board to help out with the podcasts. She has just finished Transition Year.

3. Caroline is representing Feasta at *Lush* Prize skills-building week in the UK next week.

**Next meeting will be on June 10<sup>th</sup>. John Sharry will chair.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Date :

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Secretary

Date :