

Independent People with Disabilities Ltd.
Westmeath ● Longford ● Roscommon

Address: 96 Seán Costello Street, Athlone, Co. Westmeath.
Telephone: (090) 64 70044 E-mail: independentpwd@gmail.com

We Are Here to Help You !

New Website: <http://www.independentpwd.ie>

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Company Registration Number:

C524496

Charitable Status Number:

20251

Business Advice:

**Mr. Mike O' Reilly,
O' Reilly Business Solutions,
Parkmore Electrical Building,
Creagh Road,
Ballinasloe,
Co. Galway.
Mob: (087) 257 0923**

E-mail: mikeoreilly@orbs.ie

Accountants:

**Tom Carolan & Co.
Chartered Accountants & Registered
Auditors,
33 Austin Friars Street,
Mullingar,
Co. Westmeath.**

Mobile: (087) 121 6345

E-mail: tcaccounts@eircom.net

Current Company Board of Directors

- **Mr. Mark Ahern.**
- **Mr. Michael Mulvey.**
- **Ms. Carol Harrington.**
- **Mrs. Mary Meares.**
- **Mr. Larry Quain.**
- **Mr. Noel Mulvihill.**
- **Mr. Dermot Hope.**
- **Mr. Seán Kane.**
- **Mr. Joe Faherty.**
- **Ms. Emma Mc Manus.**
- **Mrs. Gene Mulvihill.**
- **Mr. Padraic Mac Craith.**

ANNUAL REPORT 2020

Dear Member,

It is that time of year again when we the Board of Directors must inform you as members about our activities in the year just gone by. We were all looking forward to another good year in our organisation, but on Thursday 12th March 2020 the country had to be Locked down as per government guidelines because of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Independent People with Disabilities were available to people who needed our help even through the pandemic with limited access to the office put in place to protect both the office staff and the general public.

Activities for 2020

All our fundraising activities for 2020 had to be cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic as had our Annual Disability Services and Information Day. All activities of the office were conducted behind closed doors and when anyone needed us they made contact with Michael Mulvey (Company Secretary and Office Manager) to arrange a meeting with social distancing measures put in place and we managed to get a few cases completed with positive outcomes which meant more happy customers.

We had a total of three board meetings in 2020 to tie up loose ends that needed to be completed for the year one of these meetings were deemed to be our A.G.M. because we could not have large gatherings in hotels.

Independent People with Disabilities purchased a new webcam system for the office which meant that we could start conducting our business online where possible.

Michael was now able to be actively involved in decision making meetings at County Council level and with the Public Participation Network of Westmeath County Council.

At the end of the year, we held our own Board meeting in November on ZOOM because as a charity we were fully aware of our obligations to comply with the new Charities Governance Code which has to be completed annually and submitted with our Annual Report from 2021, so we discussed some of the issues pertaining to this code.

Representation

The organization continues to have local representation in the various committees such as:

- ✓ Westmeath Public Partnership Network
- ✓ Westmeath Local Community Development Committee,
- ✓ Disability Subgroup of Westmeath Community Development Ltd
- ✓ Westmeath Youth Forum
- ✓ Westmeath Older Peoples Forum
- ✓ Westmeath Joint Policing Committee

This gives the organization significant influence in the community.

At National level we are represented on the board of Iarnród Éireann and also at meetings with the Department of Social Protection in Dublin.

It is important that people with disabilities are represented at these meetings and that our voices are heard both locally and Nationally.

Collections 2020

Independent People with Disabilities wishes to take this opportunity to thank all the businesses who gave so generously to us during the year. They include the following:-

- ✓ Westmeath County Council,
- ✓ Disability Subgroup of Westmeath Community Development Ltd.,
- ✓ Health Service Executive, Dublin Mid-Leinster,
- ✓ Courts Poorbox,
- ✓ Shannonside Radio,
- ✓ Athlone Credit Union,
- ✓ Mullingar Credit Union,
- ✓ Our landlady,
- ✓ Brendan J. Kelly,
- And
- ✓ The Sheraton Athlone Hotel.

In Conclusion

Michael Mulvey (Company Secretary) would like to thank all of his fellow Directors on the Board for their continued support in 2020. Though this was a difficult year we managed to get through it together giving support to each other in difficult times, maybe the year ahead will be better for us all but only time will tell. I hope we can all meet up in 2021 as a group and work as we always have.

Ends.