

Cumann Pheadair Naofa
(St. Peter's GAA Club, Warrenpoint)
www.warrenpointgaa.com



CUMANN PHEADAIR NAOFA C.L.G.
COISTE FORBARTHA

REPORT BY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

TO CLUB AGM ON 8 NOVEMBER 2022

26 October 2022

Cumann Pheadair Naofa
Implementation Progress Report by Development Officer –October 2022

We are currently proceeding towards the end of the process of implementing our second 5 Year Club Development Plan for 2017 to 2021 and plans are at an early stage for the preparation of the Club Development Plan 2023 – 2028, which will be assisted by our completion of the new Club Maith certification process.

This 5 Year Development Plan reflects and integrates the following core parts of the club's planning process and strategy for the 5 year period as summarised below:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mission | - Why we exist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vision | - What we aspire to be |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Values | - What we believe in |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Strategic Context | - Where we are at (baseline) and who we serve |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Action Areas | - What we want to focus on |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Goals / Strategies / Actions | - What we want to achieve and in what manner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Measures and Monitoring of Success | - Utilisation of predetermined Key Performance Indicators and review and monitoring of same to facilitate, how we'll know when we've been successful |

The following were identified as **core themes** in the 5 Year Development Plan:

- Volunteerism and retention of people within club family
- Community
- "Whole of family for the whole of life"
- People Centred (not restricted to physical and infrastructure development)
- Joined up thinking and inclusiveness
- TEAM** Cumann Pheadair Naofa i.e. **W**orking **T**ogether **E**veryone **A**chieves **M**ore
- Games development and coaching
- Effective holistic plan for facilities, acknowledging in the short to medium term that the club will be operating multi-site facilities
- Consistent with the Official Guide of the GAA (An Treorai Oifigiúil)

Moving forward from Covid-19 times, the club has continued to implement its full range of activities without the challenging restrictions of the past two years.

In June 2020, the club commenced GAA for All, a bespoke programme for children aged 4 – 14 with additional needs with a focus on assisting participants with ball skills (across all GAA Codes), exercise and more importantly fun and inclusion in a safe child centred friendly environment. This has been a very significant club community development project which has gone from strength to strength in 2022 with recognition from Newry, Mourne & Down District Council, a visit to Croke Park and a Reception at Stormont hosted by Justin McNulty MLA. Michael Carvill was awarded an Ulster GAA Hero Award in March 2022. The introduction of Gaelic For Mothers and Others (G4MO) has been a welcome programme and has encouraged the further participation of women in sport. Our Senior Committee has continued to meet using a combination of face to face and virtual communications and a number of unique communications and coaching programmes were facilitated via social media, video and the club website. A designated section for Coaching and Games Development has been added to the website and it is hoped that there will be further utilisation of this resource in the coming season.

Cumann Pheadair Naofa
Implementation Progress Report by Development Officer –October 2022

The following continue to be the **key issues** facing Cumann Pheadair Naofa and these are all addressed within the 5 Year Club Development Plan:

- Vision, joined up thinking, clarity and a holistic integration of club activities.
- Ongoing Governance and Club Policies.
- Developing Coaching and Games Development Plan across all 5 games, including strategy to address player drop-out and retention by the age of 19.
- Ongoing emphasis to increase participation across all club activities alongside achieving elite performance.
- Recruitment of adequate and committed volunteers to ensure the delivery of the proposed Club Development Plan.
- Ongoing enhancement of the finance function, without which it will be impossible to implement the proposed Club Development Plan.
- Facilities with priority for renewing Strategic Alliance with St. Mark's High School, upgrading dressing rooms, 125 Pavilion, provision of spectator stand at Pairc Liam Uí Ír, explore possibility of handball wall at St. Dallan's and new Club Handball facilities. In context of facilities, explore potential for greater utilisation of upstairs room in Clubrooms at Mary Street.
- Community, Health and Wellbeing Initiatives to further embed our club in the community and increase its attractiveness to all ages and genders.
- Retention of young people (both players and non-players), and encouraging former players and non-playing members to remain active and maintain a link with Club.
- Build upon excellent foundations and continue to improve club communications, both internally and externally.
- Embracing evolving ICT across all club activities to enhance efficiency and effective utilisation of limited resources.
- Achieve renewal of Club Maith platinum accreditation. Much work has already been invested in the review of the current Club Maith process.

Within the current 5 Year Club Development Plan, **Action Plans** were developed under **eleven strategic themes** as listed below:

- Governance, Administration, Club Policies and Procedures;
- Club and Community Development;
- Communications and ICT;
- Irish Culture and Heritage;
- Games: Gaelic Football, Hurling, Camogie, Ladies Gaelic Football and Handball;
- Coaching Structures and Games Development;
- Youth and Schools;
- Developing a Healthy GAA Club in Warrenpoint;
- Development of Club Facilities;
- Finance and Fundraising; and
- Social Committee Activities.

The 5 Year Club Development Plan reflects the desired future direction and journey for the Club, the challenge for us all, will be implementation of the eleven Action Plans. We currently review the Action Plans every 6 months and I am delighted to record that we are broadly on target, and in some instances ahead of target.

From a development perspective, the major project over the past 24 months has been the involvement of the Our Vision Project.

Cumann Pheadair Naofa
Implementation Progress Report by Development Officer –October 2022

St. Peter's GAA Club Warrenpoint were granted full Planning Permission on 20th October 2021 at the Newry Mourne & Down District Council Planning Committee Meeting in respect of its Planning Application (submitted March 2020) for the proposed development (of the Our Vision Project) comprising a new practice pitch with goals, ball stops and dugouts, on the former Pony Field, a walking track, amenity areas, internal road, improvements to the existing car park, boundary fencing, a two storey pavilion incorporating changing rooms, toilets with meeting rooms, improvements to existing entrance to the Rostrevor Road.

The granting of planning permission for the Our Vision project development adjacent to the club's existing Pairc Liam Úi Ír facilities at Moygannon is a significant forward step in the implementation of the club's integrated Strategic Plan to facilitate the community development of the provision of sports facilities to service the growing needs of existing and future Gaelic Football, Ladies Gaelic Football, Hurling, Camogie, GAA for All, and Handball activities in the Warrenpoint area. The proposed project which includes a walking track will also encourage greater community participation in physical sport.

We would like to thank the professional team led by local architect Bernard Dinsmore who assisted with the Planning Application and acknowledge the exceptional ongoing support, commitment and generosity of Our Vision Project Patrons, the help and encouragement from public representatives, including local Councillors, MLAs and MP and also thank the GAA at county, provincial and national level, and Community Finance Ireland for their support.

With anticipated public funding support to complement the great efforts of Our Vision Patrons, enabling field ground works commenced in August 2022, and it is hoped the overall Our Vision capital development project could be completed before the end of 2024. A small dedicated Our Vision Focus Group is determined with support from the Senior Committee to see the successful delivery of the Our Vision Project.

In addition to the priority of moving along the Our Vision project, I believe other initiatives to be addressed over the next 12 months should include a renewed emphasis on child safeguarding, utilising the GAA Complete Guide to Volunteer Recruitment, Retention and Evaluation to empower the club to develop and implement a Volunteer Action Plan to recruit additional volunteers and enhance the competencies and outputs from our volunteers. Completing our Club Maith accreditation and commencing the preparation for our new 5 Year Development Plan should also be priorities.

All Club Policies, Individual Officer Portfolios and Terms of Reference for various Sub Committees were updated and approved on 16 February 2022. In terms of transparency and communications, all this information, including the Club Organisation Chart is available for download in dedicated section from the club website warrenpointgaa.com which has been redeveloped to be a more user friendly website. In August 2022, the club adopted the GAA Inclusion Charter acknowledging the club's commitment to providing a welcome club for all. The club Roll of Honour is regularly updated on the club website and continues to be a quality reference source.

The club was featured with a video presentation in the Bank of Ireland Ulster GAA Club Together Conference as a showcase for Governance, one of four clubs in Ulster selected to present at the conference. There was a good representation of our club volunteers at the annual Ulster GAA Conference on 19 February 2022.

We are actively participating in the Youth Sports Inspire Volunteer Awards Scheme and will continue to develop the Volunteers Awards Scheme in the coming year and encourage more young volunteers to participate in the Gold Mark Club. We are delighted that two of our young members, namely Teagan Carvill and Ben Lock, have been selected to attend a workshop in Croke Park on 2 November to contribute to a workshop on Developing Youth Leadership Structures for Gaelic Games. This significant workshop will inform a report to

Cumann Pheadair Naofa
Implementation Progress Report by Development Officer –October 2022

GAA Congress which will then inform a full youth forum on the topic on 15 April 2023. The GAA for ALL programme has provided volunteer opportunities for our young members.

During the winter, the club participated in the Ulster GAA, in association with the IFA and Ulster Rugby, Club Development Virtual Workshops.

Club Trustee Feargal McCormack, Chairman of Down GAA Audit and Risk Committee, gave a presentation on Governance and Risk at the seminar hosted by Croke Park and Ulster GAA in October for Ulster Counties.

The club also has requested to participate in the Ulster GAA Club Planning Programme as part of renewing the club's Club Maith Accreditation.

St. Peter's GAA Club has also through its Our Vision sub-committee, been exploring possible funding options for our planned Our Vision development at the Pony Field and Pairc Liam Uí Ír.

In recent times, the club has been pro-active in expressing its views and support for a new Community Centre in Warrenpoint.

The club has also participated in the Down GAA Strategic Planning Policies and made contribution to the Down GAA Strategic Review Committee.

It has been a great honour to serve this club as Development Officer over the past 12 months and sincere thanks to all especially to the club's Senior Officers for their support.

Is mise le meas.

Aine Mhic Cormaic
(Oifigeach Forbartha)

26 October 2022