

Community Garden Network Meeting, Ballybeg Greens, Waterford, May 24th 2014

Items discussed included:

Survey Findings:

A survey was distributed to members in recent months. The main findings are as follows:

Soft skills (group work, group agreements etc) are still prioritised by the majority but people also want one or two practical workshops.

One day events are preferred.

Members can offer workshops but need to be competent.

People are happy to go with the “suggested donation” model of finance for the meetings.

Subjects from survey with a high % of “extreme interest”:

Social enterprise (54.55%)

Funding opportunities, applications etc (50%)

Advertising for new member/profile raising

Pruning and grafting (36.6%)

Seed saving (40%)

plant breeding/genetics (31%)

permaculture (40%)

orchard establishment (36.6%)

pest and disease management (36.6%)

natural building

Provisional Dates were set for the next 5 CGN meetings. Including 2014 meetings already taken place this will amount to 3 meetings a year. Dates, venues and workshops given below. The choice of workshop reflects the results of the recent CGN survey that was sent out to members.

- September 2014. Galway. Seed saving, varieties etc.
- January 2015. Seed Savers, Co Clare. Pruning workshop.
- May 2015. Northern Ireland. Exact location to be confirmed. Pest and Disease Management.
- September 2015. Sligo/Donegal. Permaculture
- January 2016. Wexford. Natural building techniques.