

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNTY WICKLOW LOCAL
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 16th
JANUARY 2019 IN THE GLENVIEW HOTEL.**

Present: Peter Brennan, Richard Webb, Niamh Wogan, Chris Hill, Mags Crean, Lorraine Hennessy, Brian Carty, Martina Cronin, Stephen Fitzgerald, Siobhan Fitzpatrick, Ray Tedders, Cllr. Grainne McLoughlin and Peter Hayden.

Apologies: Pat O'Suilleabhan, Mai Quaid, Frank Curran, Cllr. Mary McDonald and Cllr. Pat Kennedy.

In Attendance: Michael Nicholson (CO), Cllr, Gerry Walsh, Caroline Fox, Patricia Reilly and Barbara Mason (WCC).

Part 1 Apologies, minutes of previous meeting and matters arising/clarifications.

Grainne McLoughlin opening the meeting and welcomed everybody. The minutes were adopted with no matters arising.

Proposed by Stephen Fitzgerald

Seconded by Peter Brennan

Part 2 Presentation by Sorcha Walsh, Planning & Economic Development, Wicklow Co. Co. – Draft RSES (Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy).

Sorcha gave her presentation and will circulate a copy of this in the coming days.

There was a discussion regarding the links with the LECP and Sorcha said it will be clearer once the new LECP is completed.

Cllr. Walsh spoke about the many projects not mentioned in the RSES.

Richard Webb felt the strategy seemed very unbalanced, with the main regions mentioned, being close to Dublin.

Cllr Walsh spoke about the transport issues for the county.

Peter Hayden welcomed the fact that the East of the county is benefitting from it's proximity to Dublin.

Sorcha pointed out that the closing date for submissions is Wednesday 23rd January 2019.

Cllr. McLoughlin thanked Sorcha for her presentation and introduced Donal.

Part 3 Presentation by Donal O'Keeffe, Broadband Officer, Wicklow Co. Co. – A digital Strategy for County Wicklow.

Donal went through his presentation, copies of which had been circulated to the committee members, prior to the meeting. He said there are working groups which they would welcome people coming on to.

Niamh Wogan spoke about the issue of lack of access to computers etc. in the disadvantaged areas in Bray where she works and the difficulties elderly people face, who don't want to or can't apply for things, etc. online.

There was a lot of interest in this strategy and Deirdre Whitfield informed the group that they would be very welcome to attend the Digital Strategy Citizen Smart meeting on 22nd January or to put in a submission in writing.

Michael Nicholson explained that Wicklow County Council would hope to move to longer opening hours in the libraries and that Arklow library will be the pilot, opening from 8.00 am to 10.00 pm. Early in 2019.

Cllr. McLoughlin thanked Donal for his presentation.

Part 4 SICAP UPDATE

Stephen Fitzgerald gave a short report saying that the 15th February is the deadline for submissions for the end of year reports.

The sub-group will analyse and meet with each LDC prior to the next LCDC meeting – they have to make a recommendation to the committee.

Part 5 LECP updates

Deirdre reported that there was very little change from the previous report.

She mentioned the Healthy Ireland strategy, which is to be launched and also the Food Strategy which it is hoped, will be launched in February 2019.

Part 4 Correspondence & Circulars

Replacement member for LAG sub-group

Date for next meeting

There were no correspondence or circulars for note.

With regard to a member for the LAG sub-group, Cllr. McLoughlin has asked for nominations to be emailed in for consideration at the next meeting.

She also asked that Vibeke Delahunt be emailed to request a nomination for the committee to represent the LEO.

Cllr. McLoughlin also said that if it was possible, that a representative from the LCDC should sit on the assessment team for the Community Grants.

Michael agreed to consider this.

Brian Carty informed the meeting that there could be as many as 15 projects for the committee to consider at the February meeting so it was decided that the LAG committee meeting should begin at 2.30, which will take place on 20th February.

Signed: Grainne McLoughlin

Cllr Grainne McLoughlin

Cathaoir/each

Dated: 20/2/2019