

**Minutes of meeting of the Economic Development and Enterprise Support SPC held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> of June, 2017, at Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow.**

Present : Councillor Gerry Walsh Chair  
Councillor John Ryan  
Councillor Gail Dunne  
Councillor Tom Fortune  
Mr. Killian McGreal  
Mr. Michael Allen

In Attendance: Mr. Tom Murphy, Director of Services  
Ms. Lorraine Gallagher, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. Christine Flood, Senior Executive Officer  
Ms. Niamh Drain, Administrative Officer, Economic Development  
Ms. Deirdre Whitfield, Administration Officer, CCSD

Apologies Mr. Bryan Doyle, Chief Executive  
Ms. Sheelagh Daly, Head of Enterprise  
Councillor Jennifer Whitmore  
Councillor Oliver O'Brien  
Councillor Irene Winters  
Mr. Martin Burke  
Mr. Pat O'Suilleabhain  
Mr. Declan O'Neill

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**Vote of Sympathy**

At the outset of the meeting The Chairman proposed a vote of sympathy to Cllr. John Ryan on the recent passing of his mother. The committee observed a minutes silence for the deceased.

**ITEM 1**

**Minutes of meeting of the Economic Development and Enterprise Support SPC held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 (copy circulated).**

On the proposal of Cllr John Ryan seconded by Cllr Gail Dunne the minutes of SPC meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> of March, 2017 as circulated were agreed.

**ITEM2**

**Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **Item 3**

#### **Update: LECP Process**

Mr. T. Murphy DOS gave an update on the LECP process to date:-

He advised that there were 10 high level goals, 21 objectives and some 100 actions to be implemented over the lifetime of the plan in respect of which an implementation plan has been prepared up to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December, 2017 overseen by an Advisory committee (jointly chaired by Cllr. G. Walsh and Cllr. G. McLoughlin).

He highlighted the following Actions which he said were being progressed currently and which would be explained further within the reports to be presented to the meeting:

- The preparation of a marketing plan
- A film Hub for County Wicklow
- The review of the Wicklow County Campus 5 Year Strategic Plan, which was adopted by Wicklow County Council at the April Council meeting
- Harbour development Plan
- Establishment of Town Teams
- Pay parking policy for County Wicklow, which was adopted by Wicklow County Council at the June Council meeting
- The promotion and rejuvenation of our towns and villages
- County Wicklow Commuter Survey
- The development of a tourism strategy for County Wicklow.

### **Item 4**

#### **Update on County Wicklow Economic Think Tank: Implementation stage**

The Committee were circulated with an update on the CWETT implementation process reported comprehensively on by Ms. C. Flood and under the following areas.

#### **Key Areas:**

- Brand
- Communications and Marketing
- Film
- Retail
- Industry and Infrastructure
- Tourism

Ms. Flood updated the committee in relation to the following areas all of which were set out in the report circulated.

- The Florentine Project

- Town Teams
- The Web Portal Project
- Tourism Statement of Strategy and Work Plan, 2017 – 2022
- Next Steps
- Maritime

In relation to Branding, Ms. Flood advised that the elected members had passed a motion at the May, 2017 Council meeting that the Irish Language be reflected in the new brand logo and that this would be the case. There are two brands, one to reflect the English language which it was intended to use internationally and one for the Irish Language to be used appropriately. In relation to Film in respect of which the Wicklow LEO is the lead for the region Ms. Flood updated the committee on the recently held South Eastern Creative Corridor workshop, CCTV Schemes, BOI Enterprise Towns and recent Failte Ireland announcement with regard to Garden Festival Funding. The committee also noted a delegation of visitors visiting from Hainan China on the 8<sup>th</sup> of July next and who are interested in progressing common areas of interest such as tourism and film.

At the conclusion of the presentation, members of the committee asked that more work be done by the Council to highlight all of the work currently being undertaken to the business community of County Wicklow expressing the view that there is a lack of awareness of what is actually happening. The committee were advised of the press releases which issue regularly and also Countywise the quarterly newsletter which issues from Wicklow County Council and is delivered to every home in County Wicklow by An Post.

#### **ITEM 5: Update on Town and Village renewal scheme 2017**

Ms. Deirdre Whitfield circulated the following documents to the committee:-

1. Update on Funding Schemes, 2017
2. Town and Village Renewal Scheme, 2017 – Presentation of Slides to LECP Advisory Group, May, 2017.

Ms. Whitfield presented comprehensively on the contents of the reports covering the following areas:-

- Background to the committee set up to oversee the Town and Village Scheme and representation
- Expressions of interest submitted and details of the assessment outcome
- Applications received under the Outdoor Recreation Scheme, Measure 1 and Measure 2.
- CLAR funding

The report also contained an update of LEADER and SICAP Item 7.

#### **Item 6**

##### **Update on proposed Blessington Greenway Project**

The Committee were updated of progress on the Blessington Greenway Project which has a proposed capital investment value of €3,177,000 pending grant aid. The Part 8 Planning

Report will be presented to the elected members of Wicklow County Council at the July, 3<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting. Kilian McGreal reported that of the 293 submission received, 9 were opposed and 2 were observations, showing a remarkable support for the project. He said that parking will have to be addressed with along with draining issues, fencing and access to privately owned lands. Killian advised that this project has the potential/capacity to change the economic face of West Wicklow, with the potential of creating some 1,000 jobs. He circulated a report of the Blessington and District Forum which he said will be circulated to all of the elected members of Wicklow County Council prior to the Council meeting in July.

#### **Item 7**

##### **Update (a) LEADER/LAG, (b) SICAP, (c) REDZ and (d) CLAR**

This information was outlined within the report circulated at item 6 and presented on.

#### **ITEM 8:**

##### **Update: Regional Action Plan for Jobs 2016 – 2017 (Mid East Region)**

Mr. T. Murphy DOS, gave the apologies of Ms. Sheelagh Daly, Head of Enterprise who could not attend the meeting as she was attending the EI, Regional Information Session on the recently announced Regional Enterprise Development Fund, and circulated the report on the Regional Action Plan For Jobs prepared by Ms. Daly.

Mr. Murphy reported on the following areas contained within the report:-

- Summary of Mid East RAPJ Plan
- The South Eastern Creative Corridor
- Call for funding: Regional Enterprise Development Fund
- Implementation Committee – Mid East Regional APJ

#### **Item 10**


##### **Correspondence**

L. Gallagher advised of email received from the PPN dated the 13<sup>rd</sup> of April, 2017 advising in relation to membership Ms. Sarah Frankly, who was nominated to the EDES SPC on the mandate of the Luisne Murrough Foundation which does not exist anymore and accordingly a re-nomination process will commence by the PPN. This was noted by the committee.

##### Next meeting

It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the Committee on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017 commencing 10.00 a.m.

Signed:

  
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Cllr. Gerry Walsh  
Chair  
Economic Development and Enterprise Support SPC

18/9/2017.

Date \_\_\_\_\_