# MINUTES OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING 30<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2015

**Present:** Cllr. Grainne McLoughlin, Bryan Doyle, Niamh Wogan, Judy Osborne, Liam O'Loughlin, Peter Brennan, Tom Gregan, Brian Ogilvie, Kevin Lewis, Chris Hill, Maurice Farnan, Sheelagh Daly, Richard Webb

**Apologies:** Cllr. Pat Casey (Chair), Cllr. Pat Kavanagh, Martina Cronin, Rory Benville, Mai Quaid.

**In Attendance:** Michael Nicholson (Chief Officer), Deirdre Whitfield, Jackie Carroll, Patricia Reilly

Due to the absence of the Chair, Cllr. Pat Casey the meeting was chaired by the Vice Chair, Cllr. Grainne McLoughlin

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, Judy Osborne announced her resignation and introduced her replacement, Mr. Richard Webb, who was elected at the PPN AGM. The members thanked Judy for her commitment and contribution to the LCDC since its inception and welcomed Richard to the Committee.

### Item 1 Adoption of Minutes of 12<sup>th</sup> October 2015

Adoption of the Minutes was proposed by Bryan Doyle and seconded by Tom Gregan

#### Item 2 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

#### Item 3 To consider draft of Community element of LECP

The Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Grainne McLoughlin welcomed Cathy Walsh, who facilitated the presentation of the draft of the Community element of the LECP to the Committee (previously circulated).

The Committee welcomed the draft which has been developed to give high level strategic direction to a number of development plans and programmes and to the overall development of communities in County Wicklow for the next years.

It was noted that the objectives and actions have been developed on a three part process — consultation, evidence base/socio economic profile and national and EU programmes and schemes. As many of the relevant implementation agencies are considering the draft actions there are likely to be changes and additions to the plan.

The members discussed the objectives and strategies outlined and made some additions and amendments under the various headings.

The committee expressed concern regarding the capacity of the LCDC as the lead agency to deliver the required services.

The draft of the combined Economic and Community elements will be circulated to the members.

#### Item 4 Update on SICAP

Patricia Reilly updated the members on SICAP. The Programme Implementers are currently compiling their 2016 Annual Plans with a deadline of December 18<sup>th</sup> (since revised by the Department to January 15<sup>th</sup> 2016). The other key deadline coming up for the Programme Implementers is the submission of their 2015 End of Year Report. The submission date for this is January 14<sup>th</sup> 2016. Both their Annual Plans and End of Year Reports must be approved by the LCDC before February 15<sup>th</sup>. These Plans and Reports will therefore be brought before the LCDC meeting of February 12<sup>th</sup> for review and approval.

In relation to the setting up of a SICAP Sub-group Patricia has approached the HSE and KWETB. It would also be imperative that the Dept. of Social Protection be involved, as a protocol was recently developed between the DSP and the SICAP Programme nationally. The DSP should also be a member of the LCDC. It was therefore agreed that the Chief Officer will contact the Department of Social Protection for representation onto the LCDC. This representative will then also be invited onto the SICAP sub-group.

Assuming the DSP take their seat on the LCDC, the LCDC numbers will have to be reviewed in regard to the 49/51 public/private sector ratio. The Trade Union Sector was mentioned as a private body which could be invited to attend.

## Item 5 LEADER – To consider draft of Local Development Strategy

A further presentation was made on the final draft of the LDS Local Actions to the members by Siobhan Geoghegan. Clarification was sought on a number of actions by members. It was noted that although the lack of, or poor supply of, broadband was a major concern for the county it was agreed that given the investment required, coupled with the National Broadband Plan that this strategy would not include Broadband as a priority area for action. The committee, having considered the LDS proposal, agreed to sign off on its submission to the Department and thanked Siobhán and the team for their work on the strategy.

Members were then asked, and agreed to, sign a Declaration to accompany the LDS Strategy until the minutes of the meeting of the 30<sup>th</sup> of November were approved and adopted (as per the Departments interim solution). These minutes will then be forwarded to the Department.

Concern was expressed by the members as to their legal status as the LAG and the responsibility of their role in relation to LEADER. It was agreed that training will be provided for the members to fully equip them for this role.

The Chief Officer, Michael Nicholson, advised that he would be making a case to the Chief Executive, Bryan Doyle, for more staff to undertake the huge body of work involved in the LECP, SICAP and LEADER.

#### Item 6 Any Other Business

The Chief Officer circulated a presentation outlining the roles, responsibilities and expectations of the members in relation to LCDC, SICAP and LEADER.

#### Item 7 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that meetings would now take place on the second Tuesday of each month. It was also agreed that consideration would be given to holding at least one meeting per year in each of the Municipal Districts.

Signed:			
Dated:			