

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY BUILDINGS, WICKLOW ON MONDAY 1st JULY, 2019, COMMENCING 2PM

PRESENT:

COUNCILLOR I. WINTERS, CATHAOIRLEACH, COUNCILLORS T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A. CRONIN, G. DUNNE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN-KENNEDY, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, S. MATTHEWS, G. MCMANUS, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS, G. WALSH AND J. WHITMORE.

APOLOGIES:

COUNCILLORS S. CULLEN AND M. MURPHY.

IN ATTENDANCE:

**MR. F. CURRAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MR. S. QUIRKE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. T. MURPHY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. C. LAVERY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. B. GLEESON, HEAD OF FINANCE
MS. L. GALLAGHER, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR
MR. M. FLYNN, SENIOR ENGINEER
MR. F. KEOGH, SENIOR ENGINEER
MS. M. HARTNETT, SENIOR RESIDENT ENGINEER
MS. J. CARROLL, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS. K. BOYLE, ANALYST DEVELOPER
MS. A. MINION, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MS. G. LANG, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER**

VOTES OF SYMPATHY: Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of the late Mr. Joe Cleary, Mr. John Maher, Mrs. Geraldine Forristal, Mr. Timothy Burns, Ms. Margaret Messett, Ms. Skaidrite Valdgeima, Mr. Phelim Byrne, and Mr. Conor Teevan. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

ITEM NO. 1

To confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 29th April, 2019.

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. G. O'Neill and agreed to confirm and sign the minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 29th April, 2019.

ITEM NO. 2

To confirm and sign minutes of Annual meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Friday 7th June, 2019.

It was proposed by Cllr. P.O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. G. Walsh and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of Annual meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Friday 7th June, 2019.

ITEM NO. 3

To consider the disposal of the freehold interest in property comprised in Folio No. WW332L being 11 Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Paddy Finn, 11 Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed to dispose of the freeholder interest in property comprised in Folio No. WW332L being 11 Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Paddy Finn, 11 Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co. Wicklow as set out in notice circulated.

ITEM NO 4

To consider the disposal of the freehold interest in property comprised in Folio No. WW2753L being 1 O'Connell Terrace, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Michael Russell and Ms. Kay Redmond, personal representatives of Ms. Kathleen Russell, deceased.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed to dispose of the freehold interest in property comprised in Folio No. WW2753L being 1 O'Connell, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Michael Russell and Ms. Kay Redmond, personal representatives of Ms. Kathleen Russell, deceased as set out in notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 5

To consider the disposal of the freehold interest in property comprised in Folio No. WW3305L being "Hawthorn", Tomacork, Carnew, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Aidan Kinsella, "Hawthorn", Tomacork, Carnew, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. V. Blake, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed to dispose of the freehold interest in property comprised in Folio No. WW3305L being "Hawthorn", Tomacork, Carnew, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Aidan Kinsella, "Hawthorn", Tomacork, Carnew, Co. Wicklow as set out in notice circulated.

ITEM NO 6

To consider report in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended; Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 – 2006 as amended: Glendalough – Laragh Visitor Access.

Elected members were circulated with Report dated the 27th of June, 2019 signed by the Chief Executive.

The Chief Executive advised that the proposal will improve visitor access and signage in and around Laragh and Glendalough. The proposal will seek to improve the aesthetics of the Laragh and Glendalough approach in conjunction with improved carparking.

Ms. Margaret Hartnett Senior Executive Engineer, presented by power point to the elected members. She advised that the presentation summarises the feedback received from the public consultation process which ended at 12 noon on the 20th of June last with a view to obtaining the views of the public and interested parties on all design aspects of the Scheme.

Ms. Hartnett advised that the Council commissioned a high level review of access considerations at Laragh - Glendalough that resulted in the publishing of the report; Visitor Access Arrangement at Laragh – Glendalough April 2012. The proposals conform with and support the policies and objectives of the Wicklow County Development Plan 2016 – 2022 and the supplementary Laragh-Glendalough Settlement and Tourism Plan.

- This review includes vehicular and pedestrian modes, focusing in particular, on the following key objectives –
- Establishing a more effective regime for the management of traffic visiting Glendalough;
- Facilitating and encouraging maximum visitor numbers to the area; and
- Facilitating the establishment of Laragh as tourism 'base' in Wicklow County

Laragh – Glendalough - An area of scenic, archaeological and architectural importance.

- The overbearing vehicular presence in the area reduces the amenity nature of the area.
- The proposed development aims to minimise the impact of vehicular traffic while also providing enhanced environment for pedestrians and cyclists.
The scheme will also provide a sense of 'arrival' or 'gateway' at Laragh Village.
- The Part 8 Report describes the proposals for Laragh – Glendalough Visitor Access Infrastructure Improvements.
- It forms the first phase of physical infrastructure identified in the Visitor Access Arrangement at Laragh – Glendalough Report 2012, kick starting the longer term ambition and vision for the area.

The proposed development consists of improvement works at six locations as follows:

- Glendalough Green, located at the junction of the Regional Road R755 Roundwood Road and R115 Military Road.
 - R755 & R756 Lynham's Junction, the T-junction at the R756 Glendalough / Wicklow Gap Road and R755 Rathdrum Road.
 - R756 at McCoy's Store and Petrol Station.
 - R756 / R757 Junction. The R756 Laragh to Wicklow Gap and the R757 Glendalough Road.
 - Glendalough Visitor Centre Entrance.
 - Glendalough Village, situated at the bridge over the Glendasan River and the entrance to the Monastic Site.
- **Feedback received from the consultation process regarding the proposed works**
35 submissions were received
Main issues - General
 - Support for the principle of making Laragh the visitor hub / base providing services and facilities for visitors to Glendalough, improving the visitor environment and highlighting the need for a large visitor car park is noted.
 - Concern that the proposed scheme will cause traffic congestion
 - Construction materials need to be sympathetic to the rural village setting and the heritage of the area
 - There is a requirement to provide an area for buses and coaches to turn around in Laragh.

Main Issues - General contd.

- Based on the public consultation exercise there is general support for the improvements to the Glendalough Village, Glendalough Visitor Centre Entrance and R756 / R757 (Wicklow Gap) junction.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the forecourt at R756 at McCoy's Store & Petrol Station but this should be resolved by relocating the pedestrian crossing to the east of McCoys shop away from the forecourt.

- Concerns were also expressed regarding a property access to the R755 & R756 (Lynhams) junction but this should be resolved by slightly realigning the road away from the property to improve visibility and creating an informal bus lay over, and a bus stop provision but design could
- Glendalough Green - concern that new layout will cause traffic congestion, affect the monument and affect the enjoyment of the people sitting outside the coffee shop due to fumes etc. from extra traffic

It is proposed to recommend that the Council proceed with the Scheme as displayed.

Subject to approval of the Scheme, the Council will:

- Review in detail the design issues raised in the submissions and bring forward all feasible measures for consideration at Detail Design Stage.
- Incorporate the modifications contained in the Planning, Development & Environment Memo dated 25.06.19 into the Scheme at Detail Design Stage.
- Incorporate the recommendations contained in the Heritage Officer's Memo dated 24.06 .19 into the scheme at detailed design stage.
- Proposed public areas will be detail designed by landscape architects who will select and detail materials that are appropriate to the heritage elements and the rural village character. Materials etc. will be considered further as part of detailed design and workshop organised with community to show etc.

Funding sources for construction of the scheme

- It is the intention of WCC to apply for this scheme under the current Government's Rural Regeneration and Development Fund as part of Project Ireland 2040
- This second call for proposals focuses on Category 1 capital regeneration projects which are ready to commence.
- Through a competitive process the Fund will support collaborative projects in rural settlements of less than 10,000, with funding available of at least €500,000
- The closing date for the receipt of proposals is 12 noon on **Tuesday, 6 August 2019**
- Construction estimates of this scheme will be finalised once detailed design is complete.

Following consideration and discussion on the scheme It was proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed by a margin of 30 votes for and 2 not present to proceed with the development as set out in the Chief Executive's report dated 27th June, 2019 as circulated, with the amendment as set out in map drawing number 04-GA-001 job no. 13.209 dated March, 19 with the map circulated to the elected members during the meeting.

FOR 30	CLLRS. T. ANNESELY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A. CRONIN, G. DUNNE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN-KENNEDY, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, S. MATTHEWS, G. MCMANUS, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS, G. WALSH, J. WHITMORE AND I. WINTERS.
NOT PRESENT 2	CLLRS. S. CULLEN AND M. MURPHY.

ITEM NO 7**To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, June 2019.**

The elected members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, June 2019 on 26th June, 2019. Mr. F. Curran, Chief Executive, in presenting the report highlighted the grant of €5m recently announced for the Blessington Greenway which will allow proceeding to detailed design, the contract from the new Library, Wicklow Town was signed that morning and the projects which are out to tender currently such as the business centre for Arklow and the road improvements at the N81.

Elected members raised the following queries which were responded to by the Executive.

- Query as to where the balance of funding for the Blessington Greenway will be sourced.
- Query as to the status of the Knockroe bends
- Query as to when WCC will commence building social housing at lands at Burgage Blessington.
- Query as to filling of staff vacancies
- Query as to how persons are removed from the register of electors
- Update on vacant site levy in relation to site in Bray requested
- Reference made to the delay in the Kilbride Lane project and is this due to the availability or lack of availability of skilled workers
- Reference made to the HAP Scheme and suggestion put forward that a working group of elected members be established to look holistically at the homelessness area.
- Reference made to local improvement schemes and that some schemes in West Wicklow are at a standstill and could this be examined.
- Suggestion put forward that a presentation on the HAP scheme be made to full council
- Reference made to the national monitoring programme and sampling of water from 36 rivers in County Wicklow, can the elected members have access to the reports
- Reference made to the environmental talk given to schools and are these talks available online.
- Concern expressed in relation to the over reliance on subsidised social housing through the private sector and query as to the housing units being developed at Greystones and the status of those developments
- Reference made to the Special purpose Vehicle Company for the Greystones Harbour and query as to the membership of the Company, will membership be up for review and will it be discussing commercial fishing at Greystones
- Reference made to the Arklow Sewage Treatment project and the Arklow Flood Relief Scheme project and query as to whether there are any plans for public consultation with members of the public and elected members before the schemes commence.
- Reference made to the arrears of rents figure , query as to how long the arrears have been in place and request for a breakdown.

Responses:-

- Blessington Greenway: Consultants will be appointed and costs will be determined
- Scheme at Kilbride Lane: There is a lack of skilled workers nationally, there is a lot of activity on site and project on track
- Homelessness: There is an action plan for homelessness, and the SPC is in place to consider issues. Homeless figures is a real issue
- Schools environment programme: Plan is to roll it out to additional schools

- Decision in relation to Arklow Sewerage Sewage Treatment Plant due shortly,
- Rent arrears – a large number are historic and held over, a breakdown can be provided
- Local Improvements schemes – these need the agreement of land owners to allow works to be carried out and if there is not agreement, unfortunately the Council cannot undertake the work.

In relation to the compilation of the register of electors Mr. T. Murphy, DOS advised that this is a continual process involving staff and some 30 field workers. Each of the field workers are charged with calling to every household in the County, they call at least twice, or more, and if there is no response they will leave a card and/or a form. Wicklow county Council register of electors is widely acknowledged as being one of the most accurate and this is due to the team of staff in place. The responsibility is on the citizen to ensure that their details are up to date and it is the responsibility of each citizen to fill out a form each year if they miss the Field worker.

- Cllr. J. Behan proposed that Wicklow County Council do not take people off of the register unless the Council has a written request to do so, expressing the view that if people exist they are entitled to be on the register, and that this be brought in on a trial basis. This was seconded by Cllr. A. Ferris
- Query as to whether there are any plans for people to register on line and could Wicklow County Council write to the minister and request that this be rolled out for all counties.
- Suggestion put forward that persons should be written to and advised when they have been taken off the register

In response, Mr. T. Murphy advised that this is very much a national issue and that there as been much discussion about reforming the register of elector process, including registering on line, and using a PPN. He advised that the Council do not remove an elector from the register without first advising them in writing, removal is a last resort, up to then the field worker has called at least once, maybe twice and sometimes three times. He also advised that there are a cohort of persons who do not wish to be on the register of electors for different reasons and unless there is a change of policy at national level the Council will have to continue operating within the parameters as set down by the Department.

In relation to the query on the Special purpose Vehicle Company for the Greystones Harbour and query as to the membership of the Company, Mr. Sean Quirke, DOS, advised as to the background and setting up of the company and that it arose as part of the debate where sales could be held up where for example there was no Council meeting in the month of August and that the Company was a vehicle that would allow house sale completions. He advised that the Directors of the company comes with responsibility, nominated by the Council and that its function is merely a conveying tool. Concern was expressed in relation to the nomination process and that it did not come before the Council for ratification. At the conclusion of the discussion the Cathaoirleach suggested that board members discuss it and come back to the Council in relation to the matter.

ITEM NO 8

To consider the Wicklow County Council Draft Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Scheme 2019-2024.

Elected members were circulated with letter dated the 26th of June, 2019 from Ms. L. Gallagher, SEO, Enterprise and Corporate Services and the Draft Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Scheme 2019-2024 dated 18th June, 2019.

Ms. L. Gallagher advised in relation to the statutory basis for the establishment of SPC as well as the:-

- Role and function
- SPC meetings and procedures
- Proposed number and configuration
- Proposed assignment of sector to each SPC and the number of representatives from each sector for each SPC
- Principles applying in relation to the appointment of members/sector representatives and nomination process.

The elected members were advised that the CPG had considered the draft scheme at meeting that morning and had recommended the draft scheme to the Council with an addition being representation from An Comhairle Na Nog and Fisheries and Forestry on the Climate and Biodiversity Action SPC. Members were advised that if they adopted the draft scheme as circulated the public consultation process could then commence inviting submissions from interested parties in relation to sectoral representation and the configuration of the scheme. At the conclusion of this process the Council will revert to the elected members at CPG and meeting of the 2nd of September for final adoption, following which various sectors and represented bodies will be invited to put forward their nominees.

Cllr. J. Behan proposed that the Council retain flexibility when a final decision is to be made in September and that he would like to see people with interest or expertise in specific areas being considered. This was seconded by Cllr. Dermot o Brien. Following a short discussion on the matter it was proposed by Cllr. S. Matthews, seconded by Cllr. J. Whitmore and agreed to place the draft SPC Scheme 2019 – 2024 out to public consultation as recommended by CPG and as circulated.

ITEM NO 9

To establish the Audit Committee of Wicklow County Council.

Mr. T. Murphy, Director of Services, advised the members in relation to the establishment of the Audit Committee of Wicklow County Council in that:-

- The LG Reform Act requires that each Council must establish an Audit Committee within three months of polling day.
- The Audit Committee plays a key role in advising the Council on financial reporting processes, internal controls on risk management and on other audit matters.
- The LG Audit Regulations provide that the Audit Committee shall consist of five members and shall include not less than three external members and not more that two serving or retired elected members.
- Nominations for appointment to an Audit Committee shall be made by the CPG to the Council following consultation with the Chief Executive
- Appointment of an Audit Committee is a reserved function
- Membership of the outgoing committee is Mr. T. Gregan, Chair, Ms. Mary Savage, Mr. Noel Geraghty, and Councillors E. Timmins and G. Walsh, who are all agreeable to remain on the committee.

Mr. Murphy also explained the role of the committee members which involves, periodic meetings as required by legislation, consideration and approval of the annual audit plan, dedicated meetings with members of the management team, annual training day, consideration of internal audit reports including those prepared in connection with the public spending code, consideration of reports issued by NOAC, consideration of various value for money reports, review of the AFS and meetings with the Local Government Auditor and consideration of the statutory audit report.

He advised that all five members of the current committee are agreeable to continue serving on the Audit Committee. Following a discussion on the matter it was agreed that Mr. T. Gregan, Ms. Mary Savage and Mr. Noel Geraghty be nominated to serve again on the Audit committee. The following elected members were nominated to the Audit Committee, nominees to meet with Mr. T. Murphy, DOS to agree participation of the elected members over the next 5 years.

1. Cllr. J. Behan proposed Cllr. M. Kavanagh which was seconded by Cllr. J. Snell. He added that this was in addition to the existing 2 elected members.
2. Cllr. P. Fitzgerald proposed Cllr. G. Walsh which was seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne
3. Cllr. I. Winters proposed Cllr. E. Timmins which was seconded by Cllr. Kennedy

ITEM NO 10

To receive a presentation of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and to consider increasing the number of elected members on the LCDC from 3 elected members to 4 elected members (agreed at Annual Meeting held on Friday 7th June, 2019).

Mr. M. Nicholson reminded the elected members that at the Annual Meeting elected members asked that the LCDC membership be increased from 3 elected members to 4, advising that the LCDC has 19 members, 10 from the private sector and 9 from the public sector. He referred to the revised list circulated showing the LCDC makeup and that this has been endorsed by the CPG that morning. He also advised that it had been agreed at the CPG that he would come up with a mechanism to better inform the wider elected members of the work of the LCDC, notwithstanding the fact that it is included in the monthly report of the Chief Executive. It was proposed by Cllr. D. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. A. Ferris and agreed that the make up of the LCDC comprise 10 from the private sector of 9 from the public sector as circulated.

Mr. M. Nicholson gave the following presentation to the elected members:

County Wicklow LCDC

Background

- **Putting People First – Action Programme for Effective Local Government** outlines Government policy for reform and development across the local government system. It sets a vision of local government “as the main vehicle of governance at local level – leading economic, social and community development”.
- The local government reform programme is built around this vision with a clear rationale for the role and potential of local government. Consistent with the vision, Government policy provides that the functions of government at local level will be performed through the local government system to the greatest extent possible.
- In the context of local and community development, *Putting People First* outlines a central role for local authorities in oversight and planning of local and community development interventions and programming, with **Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs)** and **Local Economic and Community Plans** as the primary governance mechanisms through which this will be achieved. This commitment was given legislative effect through the **Local Government Reform Act 2014**.
- LCDCs can comprise between 15 and 21 members drawn from a range of public and private socio-economic interests, though membership ranges typically from 17-19 members in most cases. Membership is determined locally with the majority of members drawn from the private sector. In a typical 19 member LCDC, nine members are drawn from the public sector with 10 members drawn from the private sector.
- **Wicklow LCDC has 19 members.**

- The public members include local authority elected members and officials. Each LCDC typically has between three and four local elected members and two local authority officials, namely the Chief Executive (or their nominee) and the head of Local Enterprise Office. They also include representatives from locally-based State bodies, including the HSE, ETBs, the Department of Social Protection, third level institutions etc.
- The private members include representatives from local development bodies, the PPN, business interests, trade union and other community or local interests. **The PPN nominate a minimum of five members representing community & voluntary interests (2), social inclusion (2) and environmental interests (1).**
- LCDCs have been established on a statutory basis as committees of their respective local authorities, however they are wholly independent in the functions assigned to them, such functions being assigned by their parent local authorities or Government Departments and State agencies, as appropriate.

Functions of Local Community Development Committees

- To prepare the community element of a 6 –year Local Economic and Community Plan.
- To implement or arrange for the implementation of the community elements of the plan
- To review the community elements of the Plan
- To co-ordinate, manage and oversee the implementation of local and community development programmes
- To seek to ensure effectiveness, consistency, co-ordination and avoidance of duplication between public funded local and community development programmes
- To consider and adopt a statement for consideration of the Council in respect of the economic elements of a draft of the Plan prepared by the local authority.

LEADER & SICAP

- LEADER – a programme for socio-economic development in rural areas. All of County Wicklow is defined as rural. Funded by the EU through national government. Mainly a funding scheme where community groups and entrepreneurs apply for funding for their projects. LEADER also do capacity building in communities
- SICAP - To support the long-term unemployed, marginalised target groups and build capacity of communities. SICAP is not a grant awarding scheme. The government funds organisations with professional community development workers to work directly with marginalised communities

L.E.C.P. And P.P.N

- The Local Economic and Community Plan is a 6-year plan with 10 High level goals (5 Community and 5 economic), and 20 Objectives (7 Community and 13 Economic) and 130 Objectives (25 Community and 105 Economic).
- The Public Participation Network is a network of local community groups and is the main vehicle used to engage with all sectors of the community.

Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme

- SICAP is delivered by **45 Programme Implementers (PIs)** covering **50 lots** across the country and is led by Local and Community Development Committees (LCDCs).

SICAP Delivery in Wicklow

- Delivered in Co. Wicklow by two Programme Implementers

- **Bray Area Partnership Company** (based in Bray town centre) in conjunction with Little Bray Family Resource Centre (based in the Fassaroe estate) runs the programme in the Bray & Greystones MD Areas (referred to as Lot 15-1) €711,777
- **Co. Wicklow Partnership Company** (based in Arklow) runs the programme in the Wicklow, Arklow & Baltinglass MD Areas (referred to as Lot 15-2) €597,842

SICAP GOALS

- To support socially disadvantaged areas and society's most marginalised groups to improve their quality of life and create more sustainable communities (capacity building, engaging with relevant state agencies etc.)
- To support disadvantaged individuals to engage in further education/training and to support those most disengaged from the labour market in accessing employment and self-employment opportunities

Policy Context

- **SICAP 2018-2022** design considerations have been influenced by national policy document from Government, including:
 - Programme for Government
 - Action Plan for Jobs
 - Updated National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2015-2017
 - Action Plan for Rural Development
 - Further Education and Training Strategy
- **Our Communities:** A Framework Policy for Local and Community Development in Ireland

Key Aims of SICAP 2018-2022

- Engage in meaningful community development work in Wicklow's most marginalised neighbourhoods and build-up the capacity of Local Community Groups.
- Support disadvantaged individuals to improve their education and training qualifications.
- Support unemployed into employment.

Co. Wicklow SICAP statistics from 2018:

- **36** Local Community Groups supported
- **721** disadvantaged individuals supported
- **495** participants received supports in relation to progressing their educational and training qualifications
- **36** participants progressed into employment
- **66** participants assisted to progress into self-employment
- **32** Local Community Groups received capacity-building supports

Examples of SICAP 2018-2022 actions:

- Public health initiatives, particularly in the area of mental health
- Adult education access programmes
- Initiatives to prevent early school-leaving
- Assist substance mis-users and their families access support services
- Provision of one-to-one self employment and entrepreneurship supports

L.E.A.D.E.R.- (Acronym)

Liaisons Entre Actions de Developpement de L'Economie Rurale

Policy in Context

LEADER - Rural Development Programme

- Originates – EU Common Agriculture Policy (CAP)
- Supported through – European Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD)
- Delivered through – National Co-Financed Programme
- Local Government Reform Act – Establishment of LCDC Committees (LAG)

LEADER RDP Programme

LEADER is a Community Led Local Development (CLLD) approach that involves the participation of rural communities in developing responses to the key economic, environmental and social challenges identified in their areas.

Local Development Strategy (LDS)

The Local Development Strategy is a Community Led Local Development (CLLD) Plan, developed and driven by rural communities through the LAG, to address the needs identified and to achieve a defined set of local objectives.

Role of the LAG (LCDC)

- Build Capacity in operational area (CWP/IP)
- Determine direction and strategic changes for delivery of LEADER
- Develop fair and transparent selection criteria for project assessment
- Ensure that at least 51% of decision making votes are not from public authorities or any single interest group
- Ensure coherence with the Local Development Strategy
- Agree and publish calls for proposals (time specific/rolling) (IP)
- Makes all Funding Decisions
- Monitor & Evaluate LDS progress and implementation

LAG (LCDC) Meetings & Decisions

- Ensure a quorum of 50 percent to hold LAG meeting (17 member = a quorum of 9)
- Ensures that any member with a Conflict of Interest absents themselves from the relevant deliberations/decision-making process
- Ensure decisions are voted on by a least 50% of the LAG membership (following any COI issues)
- Ensure that at least 51% of the votes are from non-public sector partners
- Ensure decision-making is non discriminatory and transparent
- No casting vote for Chair
- Restricted facility to accommodate votes by written procedures or phoned in decisions in advance
- Record in respect of each decision - public/private member balance has been achieved; and the sectors represented by the members attending the LAG meeting.

Role of the Financial Partner (WCC)

- Provide advance administration & animation funding to support the activity of the LAG/IP
- Make payments to Promoters on behalf of the LAG
- Carry out administration and financial oversight
- Verify and approve claims through LAG
- Submit LAG approved drawdown claims to Department
- Support and provide secretarial duties to the LAG

ITEM NO 11

To ratify the appointment of Councillor Gerry O'Neill (Baltinglass Municipal District) and Councillor Steven Matthews (Bray Municipal District) being the Municipal District's not represented on the CPG.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. V. Blake and agreed to ratify the appointment of Councillor Gerry O'Neill (Baltinglass Municipal District) and Councillor Steven Matthews (Bray Municipal District) being the Municipal District's not represented on the CPG.

ITEM NO 12

To ratify the appointment of the following 14 elected members to the Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee:

1. Councillor Joe Behan (Bray Municipal District)
2. Councillor Dermot O'Brien (Bray Municipal District)
3. Councillor Steven Matthews (Bray Municipal District)
4. Councillor Tom Fortune (Greystones Municipal District)
5. Councillor Margaret Crean (Greystones Municipal District)
6. Councillor Gerry Walsh (Greystones Municipal District)
7. Councillor Irene Winters (Wicklow Municipal District)
8. Councillor Paul O'Brien (Wicklow Municipal District)
9. Councillor Shay Cullen (Wicklow Municipal District)
10. Councillor Vincent Blake (Baltinglass Municipal District)
11. Councillor Avril Cronin (Baltinglass Municipal District)
12. Councillor Sylvester Bourke (Arklow Municipal District)
13. Councillor Tommy Annesley (Arklow Municipal District)
14. Councillor Peir Leonard (Arklow Municipal District)
15. Vacant – Baltinglass Municipal District

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed to ratify the appointment of the 14 elected members to the Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee.

It was further proposed by Cllr. V. Blake, seconded by Cllr. J. Mullen and agreed to ratify Cllr. Gerry O'Neill as the representative for the Baltinglass Municipal District area to the Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee being 3 elected members from each Municipal District.

ITEM NO 13

To ratify the appointment of the following 5 elected members to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC):

1. Councillor Joe Behan (Bray Municipal District)
2. Councillor Lourda Scott (Greystones Municipal District)
3. Councillor Irene Winters (Wicklow Municipal District)
4. Councillor Gerry O'Neill (Baltinglass Municipal District)
5. Councillor Peir Leonard (Arklow Municipal District)

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed to ratify the appointment of the 5 listed elected members to the Local Traveller Accommodation Consultative Committee (LTACC) being one elected member from each Municipal District.

ITEM NO 14

To ratify the appointment of the following 3 elected members to the Bray Area Partnership:

1. Councillor Grace McManus (Bray Municipal District)

2. Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy (Bray Municipal District)
3. Councillor Lourda Scott (Greystones Municipal District)

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed to ratify the appointment of the 3 listed elected members to the Bray Area Partnership being 2 from the Bray municipal district and 1 from the Greystones municipal district as requested by BAP.

ITEM NO 15

To ratify the appointment of the following 3 elected members to the East Coast Regional Drugs Task Force:

1. Councillor Margaret Crean (Greystones Municipal District)
2. Councillor John Snell (Wicklow Municipal District)
3. Councillor Tommy Annesley (Arklow Municipal District)

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. R. O'Connor and agreed to ratify the appointment of the 3 elected members listed to the East Coast Regional Drugs Task Force being one from each of the municipal districts of Greystones, Wicklow and Arklow as requested by the ECRDATF.

ITEM NO 16

To ratify the appointment of the following 5 elected members to the Wicklow County Tourism Ltd.:

1. Councillor Melanie Corrigan (Bray Municipal District)
2. Councillor Gerry Walsh (Greystones Municipal District)
3. Councillor Paul O'Brien (Wicklow Municipal District)
4. Councillor Patsy Glennon (Baltinglass Municipal District)
5. Councillor Miriam Murphy (Arklow Municipal District)

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed to ratify the appointment of the 5 elected members listed to the Wicklow County Tourism Ltd. Being one elected member from each municipal district.

ITEM NO 17

To ratify the appointment of the following 1 elected member to Bray Tourism Ltd.: Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed to ratify the 1 elected member to Bray Tourism Ltd.

ITEM NO 18

To ratify the appointment of the following 6 elected members to the Greystones/Bray Cliff Walk Management sub-committee:

1. Councillor Melanie Corrigan (Bray Municipal District)
2. Councillor Steven Matthews (Bray Municipal District)
3. Councillor Rory O'Connor (Bray Municipal District)
4. Councillor Tom Fortune (Greystones Municipal District)
5. Councillor Derek Mitchell (Greystones Municipal District)
6. Councillor Gerry Walsh (Greystones Municipal District)

It was proposed by Cllr. D. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. L. Scott and agreed to ratify the appointment of the 6 elected members to the Greystones/Bray Cliff Walk Management Sub-committee as listed, being 3 from each of the municipal

ITEM NO 19

To ratify the appointment of the following 2 elected members to the Bray Harbour Joint Development Committee:

1. Councillor Steven Matthews (Bray Municipal District)
2. Councillor Anne Ferris (Bray Municipal District)

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. G. McManus and agreed to ratify the appointment of the 2 elected members to the Bray Harbour Joint Development Committee.

ITEM NO 20

To ratify the appointment of the following 2 elected members to the Bray Swimming Pool Committee:

1. Councillor Anne Ferris (Bray Municipal District)
2. Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy (Bray Municipal District)
3. Another to be appointed

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Matthews, seconded by Cllr. D. Mitchell and agreed to ratify the appointment of the 2 elected members to the Bray Swimming Pool Committee. Bray MD to revert with the proposed 3rd nominee.

ITEM NO 21

To ratify the appointment of the following 2 elected members to the Ballynagran Community Liaison Committee:

1. Councillor Gail Dunne (Wicklow Municipal District)
2. Councillor John Snell (Wicklow Municipal District)

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. M. Kavanagh and agreed to ratify the appointment of the 2 elected members to the Ballynagran Community Liaison Committee being 2 from the municipal district of Wicklow.

ITEM NO 22

To consider the appointment of 2 elected members to An Comhairle Na Nog.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed to appoint Cllr. Tom Fortune to An Comhairle Na Nog.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy and agreed to appoint Cllr. Grace McManus to An Comhairle Na Nog.

ITEM NO 23

To consider the appointment of 4 elected members to the Maritime Business Development Group (1 each of the Bray, Greystones, Wicklow and Arklow Municipal Districts).

1. It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. A. Ferris and agreed to appoint Cllr. Peir Leonard, Arklow Municipal District, to the Maritime Business Development Group.
2. It was proposed by Cllr. M. Corrigan, seconded by Cllr. G. Walsh and agreed to appoint Cllr. D. Mitchell, Greystones Municipal District, to the Maritime Business Development Group.

3. It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed to appoint Cllr. Gail Dunne, Wicklow Municipal District, to the Maritime Business Development Group.
4. It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed to appoint Cllr. Steven Matthews, Bray Municipal District, to the Maritime Business Development Group.

ITEM NO 24

To consider the nomination of an additional elected members (now 4) to the County Wicklow Partnership Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. P. Kennedy and agreed to nominate Cllr. Miriam Murphy as the additional elected member to the County Wicklow Partnership Committee.

ITEM NO 25

To consider the appointment of 5 elected members to the County Wicklow Heritage Forum (one from each Municipal District).

1. It was proposed by Cllr. D. Mitchell, seconded by Cllr. M. Corrigan and agreed to appoint Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy, Bray Municipal District, to the County Wicklow Heritage Forum.
2. It was proposed by Cllr. P. Glennon, seconded by Cllr. V. Blake and agreed to appoint Cllr. John Mullen, Baltinglass Municipal District, to the County Wicklow Heritage Forum.
3. It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed to appoint Cllr. John Snell, Wicklow Municipal District, to the County Wicklow Heritage Forum.
4. It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed to appoint Cllr. Peir Leonard, Arklow Municipal District, to the County Wicklow Heritage Forum.
5. It was proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed to appoint Cllr. Tom Fortune, Greystones Municipal District, to the County Wicklow Heritage Forum.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

**CLLR. IRENE WINTERS
CATHOAIRLEACH
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MS. LORRAINE GALLAGHER
SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

Confirmed at meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 2nd September, 2019.