

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 27th September 2022 via ZOOM

Present: Amanda Mooney, Tom Byrne, Lorraine Hennessy, Brian Carty, Patrick Mboci, Brian Gleeson, Aisling Heffernan, Cllr. Pat Kennedy, Cllr. Dermot O'Brien, Cllr. Peir Leonard, Cllr. Melanie Corrigan and Eileen Cullen.

Apologies: Peter Brennan, Jason Mulhall, Frank Quaid, Pat Ó'Suilleabháin, Jim Ruttle, Vibeke Delahunt and Stephen Fitzgerald

In Attendance: Michael Nicholson (CO), Patricia Carmody (WCC), Deirdre Whitfield (WCC), Dr. Kathy Walsh (KW Research) and Barbara Mason (WCC).

Item 1 Welcome & Apologies

Cllr. Pat Kennedy welcomed everybody to the meeting, introducing Kathy Walsh of KW Research who is attending the meeting in order to conduct the first workshop for the preparation of the new LECP.

Adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the LCDC meeting of 19th July 2022 were adopted with no matters arising.

Proposed by Cllr. Melanie Corrigan
Seconded by Cllr. Peir Leonard

Item 2 SICAP update

As Stephen Fitzgerald was unable to attend the meeting, Michael Nicholson gave the update as follows:

Both Partnerships recently applied to the government's International Protection Integration Fund which supports the integration of International Protection Applicants. The types of projects applied for include: Facilitation of additional English language classes; Supporting pre-school children's integration into the local community; Supporting eligible individuals into employment; Counselling sessions; Meditation workshops and craft classes; Fitness training; English classes for teenagers. Both companies are currently waiting to hear if they have been successful.

Both of the Wicklow LDCs have stated that they are on track to fully achieve on their 2022 KPIs as originally set out and will not be seeking a reduction in targets from Pobal.

The audit of Bray Area Partnership's Programme took place the week of September 19th and the audit of Co. Wicklow Partnership's Programme will take place the week of October 24th.

The annual engagement meeting between Pobal, the two programme implementers and the SICAP Sub-group will take place on October 18th.

Brian Carty spoke about the budget for the first quarter of 2023 and the need to prioritise the funding for the Ukrainian support workers.

Item 3 LECP - Workshop on the Development of the Local Economic and Community Plan

PK asked Deirdre Whitfield to introduce this item on the agenda. She began by explaining the responsibility of the LCDC with regard to their input into the upcoming LECP and that Kathy Walsh was going to run a workshop at this meeting in order for the committee to discuss the objectives and actions for this six-year plan.

KW then went through a presentation, which explained that the plan is designed to influence the economic, social and community development of Co. Wicklow, that the community element of the plan is prepared by the LCDC and that the economic element is prepared by the Economic Development Strategic Policy Committee. It went on to say that actions are undertaken by the Local Authority directly and in partnership with other economic and community development stakeholders. The committees will be required to review the existing plan and set out, for the next six-year period, the objectives and actions required.

The plan will have two parts –

1. Strategy (with high-level goals and objectives)
2. Implementation Plan (with the actions and timelines)

There are three elements of the LECP –

- Analysis of sound evidence
- Consultation
- Connection with national, regional and county level policies and programmes.

KW then divided the committee into 3 'break out rooms' to discuss the following 3 topics –

1. Review the High Level Goals and Objectives to ascertain if they are appropriate
2. Check if you think anything is missing
3. Check if any additions are required

When they returned to the full meeting there was a lengthy discussion about what each group had noted about the current LECP and any items which might need altering or additions to the new plan.

DW explained that there would be themed workshops in the coming months and they will have the opportunity for further input then.

Item 5 Any Other Business

Ailsing Heffernan told the group that the first meeting of the Health and Wellbeing Sub-committee had been held, with further meetings planned for October and December. She said there were really good representatives around the table. The emphasis was on bedding down what's working well at present and trying to deliver what's required. There was a representative from HSE CH07 area, which is the area crossing between West Wicklow and Kildare.

Cllr. Peir Leonard asked about the possibility of Primary Health care and 3rd Level Education in the Arklow area due to the restriction of good transport out of the area and asked if it was possible for anything to be done on this front.

PK asked AH to speak about what is available in the Primary Health Care buildings locally at the next meeting.

Item 5 Date of next meeting.

The date for the next meeting is yet to be decided and the committee will be informed once a date is set.

Signed: _____
Pat Kennedy.
Cathaoirleach

Date: _____