

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

Present: Peter Brennan, Jason Mulhall, Frank Quaid, Amanda Mooney, Tom Byrne, Lorraine Hennessy, Brian Carty, Patrick Mboci, Brian Gleeson, Vibeke Delahunt, Stephen Fitzgerald, Aisling Heffernan, Cllr. Pat Kennedy (Chair), Cllr. Dermot O'Brien, Cllr. Peir Leonard and Cllr. Melanie Corrigan.

Apologies: Pat O'Suilleabháin, Jim Ruttle and Eileen Cullen.

In Attendance: Michael Nicholson (CO), Patricia Carmody, Patricia Reilly, Cllr. Tom Fortune, Máire Halvey (WCC) and Barbara Mason.

Item 1 Welcome & Apologies

Cllr. Pat Kennedy welcomed everybody to the meeting, introducing Patricia Carmody who has taken over from Martina Byrne, LAG/Article 48 Manager, WCC. He gave apologies from Pat O'Suilleabháin, Jim Ruttle and Eileen Cullen.

Adoption of the Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the LCDC meeting of 16th February 2022 were adopted with no matters arising.
Proposed by Cllr. Peir Leonard
Seconded by Cllr. Dermot O'Brien

Item 2 SICAP update

SICAP UPDATE:

Approval of SICAP Sub-contractors 2022: The SICAP sub-contractor lists for both Partnerships were circulated with the agenda for LCDC members' advance review. Stephen explained how each year the updated version of these lists need to come before the LCDC for our oversight and approval and that they contain the trainers, facilitators, consultants etc. which each of the Partnerships will use in implementing SICAP. The lists were proposed by Vibeke Delahunt and seconded by Patrick Mboci.

Update on Ukrainian refugees: Bray Area Partnership and Co. Wicklow Partnership gave an update on all of the work they are doing in partnership with others to support the Ukrainian refugees recently arrived to the county. A huge collective effort is being made by volunteers, NGOs, charities and state agencies.

There was a general discussion with everybody expressing their congratulations for all the work being done.

Item 3 LECP report

Michael Nicholson went through the report as follows –

LECP (Community Elements) Report to Economic and Enterprise Support SPC March 2022

Town & Village

Three County Wicklow projects are to benefit from funding of €310,000 under the Government's Town and Village Renewal Scheme as part of Our Rural Future which focuses on initiatives to bring town centres back to life. They are Wicklow town, Ballinaclash and Donard.

Funding of €221,000 has been awarded for a project to link Wicklow town centre to the port through its laneways. The aim of the project is to reanimate and revitalise the important links between the harbour, the Main Street and the Market Square while at the same time highlighting Wicklow's heritage.

Ballinaclesh has a vision of developing into a vibrant and attractive village and has been awarded funding of €63,000 to renovate and repurpose the community centre to meet the needs of the community, both present and future and to make sure that the centre is inclusive to people of all abilities. This funding will enable the centre to offer remote working facilities and improved community activities for all.

West Wicklow also benefitted from the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. Funding is awarded to the Donard community who have identified an opportunity to revitalise their village through developing a coffee shop in the community centre for visitors and residents. The positive social impacts would be immediate as "the Meeting Place" will provide an essential hub not just for the town residents and the surrounding environs but also to the tourists who enjoy staying at the nearby caravan park and those involved in outdoor trails.

A new Town & Village Scheme will open soon and we encourage all communities to get involved.

RRDF

Two applications will be submitted to the RRDF Cat 2 call for proposals, closing on April 29th. They are Baltinglass and Rathdrum.

CLAR

CLÁR (Ceantair Laga Árd Riachtanais) or Funding for Small-Scale Rural Projects is a targeted investment programme which provides funding for small-scale - infrastructural projects in rural areas that have suffered the greatest levels of population decline.

The 2022 CLÁR Scheme is now open

The Measures being funded under the 2022 CLÁR Programme are:

Measure 1: Developing Community Facilities & Amenities

Measure 2: Mobility, Cancer Care and Community First Responders Transport

Measure 3: "Our Islands"

Closing date is May 6th 2022

Local Economic and Community Plan

The development of the new LECP is underway. The community elements of the plan are being overseen by the Local Community Development Committee while the economic elements are being overseen by the Economic Development and Enterprise Support SPC.

Update:

The consultation process is ongoing at present.

There is an online survey in conjunction with the PPN to consult on both the LECP and the PPN Well Being Statement, closing on April 21st. The invitation for written submissions closes April 21st also. Public workshops are being held in May in each of the Municipal Districts and one online.

The LCDC and the PPN have received funding of €40,000 as one of four pilot projects to undertake meaningful consultation with marginalised groups.

The socio-economic profile for the County has been completed and further updated.

Plans are being put in place for a review of the current LECP.

Item 4 Any Other Business

Máire Halvey spoke to the committee about the Community Activities Fund grantees, the list of which had been circulated prior to the meeting. She asked that this list be kept confidential as it still needs final approval from the Department.

~~Michael Nicholson explained that with the exception of two applications, everybody who applied has been granted some funding.~~

Proposed by Vibeke Delahunt
Seconded by Cllr. Melanie Corrigan

PK thanks Máire Halvey for her work on the applications for funding.

Item 5 Date of next meeting.

The date for the next meeting will be 29th June 2022 and it is hoped that this will be an 'in person' meeting.

Signed: Pat Kennedy
Pat Kennedy.
Cathaoirleach

Date: 29th June 2022