

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 22nd APRIL 2026 2:30pm, CLERMONT CAMPUS

Present: Cllr. Melanie Corrigan, Cllr. Peir Leonard, Cllr John Snell, Michael Nicholson, Liz Wall, Amanda Mooney (via Zoom), Carina Holmes, Patrick O'Driscoll, Peter Brennan, Tom Cavanagh, Pat Ó'Suilleabháin, Stephen Fitzgerald

Apologies: Imelda Halton, Eileen Cullen, Vibeke Delahunt, Linda Lambert, Fionnuala Curry

Not in Attendance: Oisin Jordan

In Attendance: Máire Halvey, Anne Marie Kelly, Lia Reynolds, Alison Keogh, Evelyn Murray, Patricia Reilly, Aisling Kirwan, Patricia Carmody, Lorraine Horan

Item 1 Welcome and Apologies

Melanie welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave the apologies.

Item 2 Adoption of the minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting of 25th March 2026 were adopted.

Proposed by: *Stephen Fitzgerald*

Seconded by: *Carina Holmes*

Matters arising:

In response to the discussion on funding for Community Centres at last month's meeting, Melanie confirmed that this issue does not fall within the remit of this committee. The matter will instead be referred to the Community Strategic Policy Committee, where an audit of Community Centres will be undertaken.

Item 3 Presentation on Food Poverty

Melanie introduced Aisling Kirwan, County Wicklow Food Coordinator with BNWAP since 2024, who delivered a presentation on the ongoing work around the County to address Food Poverty.

The presentation was well received, and the committee commended Aisling on the work undertaken in this area to date. Members highlighted the importance of this role in the context of health and wellbeing, particularly against the backdrop of the current cost-of-living crisis. The need for cross-service collaboration was also emphasised.

A copy of the presentation will be circulated after the meeting.

Item 4 Presentation on the Local Community Safety Partnership

Patricia Carmody, Local Community Safety Partnership Coordinator, delivered a presentation on the work to date on the new Community Safety Partnership that was officially established on 1st December 2025.

Trish outlined that a number of public consultations will take place across the County in advance of the preparation of the Community Safety Plan. Members commended Trish and her colleague, Lorraine Horan, for the work undertaken to date.

A copy of the presentation will be circulated after the meeting.

Item 5 SICAP Updates

BNWAP Case Study 2026: A synopsis of BNWAP's 2026 SICAP Case Study was circulated with the agenda. As outlined, the case study will focus on addressing food poverty through a number of key approaches: Direct provision of food supports; Practical education initiatives; Development of collaborative food partnerships; Food environment research study with local priority target groups. The case study will be presented through a combination of video and written narrative report capturing both the impact and the collaborative processes underpinning the work. Approval of the case study was proposed by Pat O'Suilleabháin and seconded by Carina Holmes.

The 2026 SICAP case study from Co. Wicklow Partnership will be brought forward to an upcoming LCDC meeting. This has been slightly delayed due to personnel changes.

Personnel changes at Co. Wicklow Partnership: Kay O'Connor, previously SICAP Programme Manager, was recently successful in the competition for post of Chief Executive Officer and will be moving to that role shortly. We would like to pass on our congratulations to Kay on her appointment and to thank her most sincerely for her great work in managing the SICAP programme for the past number of years. The LCDC would also like to acknowledge and thank Liz Wall Chairperson of CWP for her all of her work and contribution to the LCDC and to SICAP over the past 10 months in her position as acting CEO. Arising from Kay's SICAP programme manager vacancy CWP have appointed a new staff member, Dr. Marianne Breen, to take over this role. Marianne comes to this position with a wealth of professional and academic experience.

Item 6 LECP Update

Máire Halvey gave an update on the LECP, a copy of which will be circulated after the meeting.

Item 7 Annual Progress Report

Máire gave an overview of the LCDC Annual Report for 2025, a copy of which was circulated prior to the meeting.

Proposed by: *Peir Leonard*

Seconded by: *Melanie Corrigan*

A question was raised about how progress could be reported in more measurable terms. Máire advised that she is engaging with other Local Authorities on this issue, as some are using reporting systems to produce annual and biannual reports. She noted that this is challenging, as meaningful reporting depends on input from multiple stakeholders to produce tangible outcomes.

Ultimately, it was agreed that implementing a reporting system at a broader level would be a positive and valuable tool for showcasing the significant work being undertaken.

Item 8 Any other business

Melanie reiterated her thanks to Liz Wall for her time and contribution to the committee.

Item 9 Date for next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 27th May 2026. It is hoped to hold training and project visits on this date, information on same will follow shortly.

Signed: Melanie Corrigan Date: 23/9/26.
Cllr. Melanie Corrigan
Cathaoirleach

