



**LCDC**

Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Aitiúil  
Chorcaigh Thuaidh  
North Cork Local Community Development  
Committee

**Minutes of  
North Cork Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016 @ 14.30  
The Board Room, Cork County Council, Annabella, Mallow, Cork.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. Gerard Murphy, Cork County Council (Chairperson)  
Cllr. John Paul O'Shea, Cork County Council  
Mr. Kevin Curran, North Cork LEO  
Mr. Pdraig Casey, Ballyhoura Development Group  
Ms. Brid Coakley, Cork County PPN  
Ms. Geraldine Canning, Cork Education & Training Board  
Ms. Marie O'Flynn, Dept of Social Protection  
Mr. Michael Doyle, Environment Pillar  
Mr. Julian O'Keefe, IFA (ICMSA)  
Ms. Maura Walsh, IRD Duhallow  
Ms. Margaret Fenton, Respond! Housing

**APOLOGIES:**

Cllr. Bernard Moynihan, Cork County Council  
Mr. James Fogarty, Cork County Council  
Mr. Declan O'Leary, Foróige  
Cllr. Noel McCarthy, Cork County Council  
Mr. Sean Hegarty, Avondhu Blackwater Dev. Partnership  
Mr. Sean Kelly, Cork County PPN

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. Niall Healy, LCDC Chief Officer, Cork County Council  
Ms. Fiona Hayes, LCDC Support Officer, Cork County Council  
Mr. Andrew Lewis, Cork County Council  
Mr. Pio Condon, Cork County Council

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016 and Matters arising**

On the proposal of Ms. Maura Walsh, seconded by Mr. Kevin Curran, the minutes of the North Cork LCDC meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> July 2016 were agreed and adopted by the meeting.

**2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

It was noted that this relates to Item 4 on the agenda and would be considered at this stage of the meeting.

**3. Local Economic & Community Plan – update**

Mr. Pio Condon provided an overview on the final draft Local Economic and Community Plan and amendments as circulated.

The contents of the plan were noted by Members. In particular the 30 key identified economic and community assets were noted.

The LCDC was advised that the Northern Regional Assembly and each of the eight Cork County Municipal Districts and have now adopted appropriate statements on the plan.

Mr. Condon explained that the next phase involves establishing a monitoring facility for the strategy. It will be important to measure and monitor assets and to identify where are doing



well and not so well as a County. The optimum achievement to strive for is to make Cork a good place to live and work in.

Ms. Maura Walsh suggested including the three County Local Development Strategies prepared for the Rural Development Programme LEADER submissions as appendices to the LECP. This was agreed by all.

Mr. Pdraig Casey queried if the LCDC members would be included in the Asset Management Groups. Mr. Condon replied that agencies have not yet been asked to join the groups, this will be a further process and requires discussion. It will require the Asset Management Group, the SPC for Economic Development and the LCDCs to all work together.

Mr. Condon thanked all members for their help and input to the LECP on his own behalf and on behalf of the Planning Policy Unit of Cork County Council.

Niall Healy confirmed that the implementation of the plan will now form the next body of work for the LECP team. The existing LECP Advisory Steering Group will continue to exist. The Corporate Affairs Directorate of Cork County Council will have a primary oversight role.

It was confirmed that the final draft of the LECP should now be adopted by the Committee for presentation to full council.

**The LECP was adopted and approved at 3p.m. this was proposed by Cllr. John Paul O'Shea and seconded by Mr. Kevin Curran and there was a majority of members from the private sector in place for the decision.**

#### **4. SICAP- Mid Year Review 2016**

At 3.15 the Chair asked members if they had a conflict of interest for this item and the following members stepped out of the meeting;

Ms. Maura Walsh-IRD Duhallow Ltd.

Mr. Pdraig Casey- Ballyhoura Development Group Ltd.

Mr. Andrew Lewis updated the members. It was noted that the SICAP budget for the three Lots in the North Cork area has increased from €448,188 (9 months of 2015) to €597,777 (12 months of 2016).

The process for the Mid Year Review to be completed by the LCDC SICAP Sub Group consisted of four main elements as follows :

- **Headline Indicators Report (2 KPI's and 13 Other Headline Indicators)**
- **Budget Report (to ensure costs are within 25% administration & 75% Action Costs)**
- **Insurance & Tax Clearance Certificates are up to date**
- **Pobal Parallel Review (data quality check and explanations are sufficient)**

It was noted that the Programme Implementers has submitted all returns by 15 July 2016. An initial assessment of the returns by LCDC Support Staff, deemed the performance as satisfactory and in some cases targets had been exceeded. It was the role of the Sub Group to complete this review and meet with the Programme Implementers and



report back to the LCDC, however the Sub Group would not be reviewing these reports and data until next week (ie after today's LCDC meeting). As such it was proposed that the LCDC approve in principle the 2016 mid-year review subject to the completion of the review meeting by the SICAP Sub Group. Provided there were no adverse findings found by the Sub Group, then payment of the next contractual instalment would be approved.

In order to protect the private sector majority for the decision making part of this item Kevin Curran and Cllr. John Paul O'Shea withdrew from the meeting. The time of withdrawal was noted as 3.10 pm.

**On the proposal of Mr. Julian O'Keefe, seconded by Ms. Margaret Fenton the SICAP Mid-Year Review was approved in principle by Members subject to any adverse findings by the Sub Group.**

#### **5. Rural Development Programme LEADER 2014-2020 – Update and Contract**

The Chief Officer briefed the Committee on developments since the last meeting.

An invitation to the formal launch of the LEADER programme by Minister Heather Humphreys was received on 4<sup>th</sup> July and the launch was held in Virginia, Co. Cavan on 8<sup>th</sup> July.

As part of the launch the Chief Officer informed the Committee that the North Cork LEADER contract was signed by the three LAG Implementing Partners i.e. Avondu Blackwater, Ballyhoura Development Group, IRD Duhallow, the LCDC/LAG Chairperson, Cllr. Murphy and Mr. Tom Stritch, Cork County Council. Members expressed their disappointment with the Department that LCDCs/LAGS and Implementing Partners were afforded such short notice in addressing contract issues prior to signing.

Mr. Healy reported that a Service Level Agreement is currently being finalised with the three Implementing Partners and will be circulated to the LCDC in due course. This outlines the roles for the Implementing Partner and the Financial Partner. Once these agreements are in place a formal publicity phase will be carried out including the launch of the Expressions of Interest and formal call for projects.

A query was raised on the timeframe for invoices to be sent from Implementing Partner to the Financial Partner. Currently it is required to make returns on the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month for expenditure from the previous month. It was stated by Implementing Partners that this is too short. Members asked if this could be increased to making returns a month in arrears. The Chief Officer stated that he would make enquiries to the Department on this issue.

It was confirmed that LEADER Evaluation Committees will be established to review applications for project funding and this committee will report directly to the North Cork Local Community Development Committee (Local Action Group).

It was further noted that in light of the establishment of the North Cork LAG, arrangements for future LCDC meetings are now likely to change with monthly LAG meetings and perhaps less frequent LCDC meetings.

The Chief Officer advised that going forward there would be a range of documents which would require formal signoff by an authorised representative of the LCDC/LAG. He advised that it would be appropriate for the Chairman to undertake such a role.



**On the proposal of Mr. Kevin Curran, seconded by Julian O’Keefe, the authorisation of the Chairman to sign documents on behalf of the LCDC/LAG was agreed. A private majority was in place for the making of the decision.**

## **6. Correspondence**

### **National Launch of the LECP**

It was noted the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Mr. Simon Coveney TD, has extended an invitation to LCDC representatives to attend a National Launch event for the Local Economic and Community Plans at the Annual Ploughing Championships in Tullamore in September 2016. Further details to follow.

## **7. Any Other Business**

The Chair extended congratulations to Niall Healy on his appointment as Director of Service with Cork County Council. Niall thanked the LCDC members for all their support during his time as Chief Officer and advised that he will be remaining in the role on a transitional basis.

**8. Date of next meeting** is Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at 14:30.

*Meeting Concluded*

**The Minutes were approved by the North Cork Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)**

**Date of meeting:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CHAIRPERSON**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_