

**Minutes of
 North Cork Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
 Monday 15th November 2021 @ 2.00p.m.**

Present:

Name	Organisation	Public/Private
Cllr. Bernard Moynihan	Cork County Council	Public
Cllr. Gearóid Murphy	Cork County Council	Public
Cllr. Gerard Murphy	Cork County Council	Public
Cllr. Pat Hayes	Cork County Council	Public
Mr. James Fogarty	Divisional Manager North Cork	Public
Mr. Kevin Curran	LEO North Cork	Public
Ms. Tracie Williams	Dept. of Employment Affairs and Social Protection	Public
Ms. Geraldine Canning	Cork Education & Training Board	Public
Ms. Brid Coakley	Cork County PPN	Private
Mr. Michael Doyle	Environment Pillar	Private
Ms. Maura Walsh	IRD Duhallow CLG	Private
Mr. Pdraig Casey	Ballyhoura Development CLG	Private
Mr. Sean Hegarty	Avondu Blackwater CLG	Private
Mr. Sean Kelly	Cork County PPN	Private

Apologies:

Mr. Declan O'Leary	Foróige	Private
Mr. Julian O'Keefe	IFA (ICMSA)	Private
Vacant	Respond! Housing	Private

Staff in Attendance:

Ms. Kay Keegan	LCDC Chief Officer	Cork County Council
Mr. Andrew Lewis	Finance Officer	Cork County Council
Mr. Jesse Dorrington	Staff Officer	Cork County Council

<p>Quorum=10 (50% of 17 rounded up + 1 = 10) In attendance= 14 (6 Private: 8 Public) Apologies= 3 Total membership= 17</p>

Welcome and Introduction

The LCDC was conducted through Microsoft Teams.

It was noted that a quorum was in place and the meeting commenced.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous LCDC Meeting of 18th October 2021

The Minutes were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Gerard Murphy and seconded by Sean Kelly.

Matters arising

None.

2. SICAP:

- Ballyhoura Development CLG Sub-Contract Approval for Lot 18-2 (2 Nos.) for noting.

1.

Pre approval by LCDC of proposed Sub-contracting of SICAP Services by Programme Implementer 2021

Name of Programme Implementer: Ballyhoura Development CLG

SICAP Lot No: 18-2

Action to be Sub-contracted (include description from the Tender /Contract Action Plan)	Estimated Value €
Goal 1:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action 1-Community Information & Animation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mitchelstown Social Hub Community Engagement Audio case study Action 2-Community Engagement, Planning and Resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Socio Economic Plan Community Profile Doneraile Action 4-Community Development Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Skills Ballindangan Committee Skills Churchtown Influencing policy & decision making with a Community Plan 	€1445 (previously approved) €1000 (previously approved) €500 (previously approved) €500 (previously approved) €750 (previously approved)
Goal 2:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Action 9- Youth engagement- Yoga for mental Health-workshop for Battview Matters homework club Action 9-Youth Engagement-Delivery of a 2-day workshop to young people aged 7-12 living in the Batt Donegan and Hillview Drive Estates of Charleville, Co. Cork (Battview Matters, Charleville Community and Family Support Project). The estimated cost includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rap, Song writing, Production & Recording Workshops (2 workshops) Post Production, Editing, Mixing and Mastering Action 11-Ballyhoura Rural Enterprise Supports-Business Mentoring for a SICAP client to include support to develop a comprehensive Business plan & 3 year financials 	€140 €993.16 (previously approved) €450 (previously approved)
Total Estimated Value to be sub-contracted	€5,778.16

2.

**Pre-approval by LCDC of proposed Sub-contracting of SICAP Services by
 Programme Implementer 2021**

Name of Programme Implementer: **Ballyhoura Development CLG**

SICAP lot No: 18-2

Action to be Sub-contracted (include description from the Tender/Contract Action Plan)	Estimated Value €
Goal 1:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action 1-Community Information & Animation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mitchelstown Social Hub Community Engagement Audio case study • Action 2-Community Engagement, Planning and Resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Community Socio Economic Plan Community Profile Doneraile • Action 3 Civic Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Doneraile Active Retired Group-Xmas Activity • Action 4-Community Development Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Committee Skills Ballinadangan ○ Committee Skills Churchtown ○ Influencing policy & decision making with a Community Plan ○ Influencing Policy and Decision making with a community Plan (additional session) 	<p>€1445 (previously approved)</p> <p>€1000 (previously approved)</p> <p>€500</p> <p>€500 (previously approved)</p> <p>€500 (previously approved)</p> <p>€750 (previously approved)</p> <p>€350</p>
Goal 2:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Action 8-Lifelong Learning <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mitchelstown Social Hub online arts and crafts ○ Online Yoga • Action 9-Youth Engagement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Christmas Activity for Battview Matters homework club • Action 9- Youth engagement- Yoga for mental Health-workshop for Battview Matters homework club • Action 9-Youth Engagement- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Delivery of a 2-day workshop to young people aged 7-12 living in the Batt Donegan and Hillview Drive Estates of Charleville, Co. Cork (Battview Matters, Charleville Community and Family Support Project). The estimated cost includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rep, Song writing, Production & Recording Workshops (2 workshops) ○ Post Production, Editing, Mixing and Mastering • Action 11-Ballyhoura Rural Enterprise Supports- • Business Mentoring for a SICAP client to include support to develop a comprehensive Business plan & 3 year financials • Business Mentoring for a SICAP client to include support to develop a comprehensive Business plan & 3 year financials 	<p>€600</p> <p>€350</p> <p>€400</p> <p>€140 (previously approved)</p> <p>€993.16 (previously approved)</p> <p>€450 (previously approved)</p> <p>€400</p>
Total Estimated Value to be sub-contracted	€8378.16

- **Presentation of 2021 Case Study Avondhu Blackwater Partnership CLG by Mary Gubbins. Thematic Area G2:1 Promoting Personal Development and Wellbeing.**

Social Inclusion and Communication Activation Programme 2018 - 2022

Introduction

- Our 2021 Case Study was a result of work with older people and people with a disability
- This group was supported under Goal 2 'Promoting Personal Development and Wellbeing
- Due to COVID we worked remotely with our KPI targets, focusing in particular on our most vulnerable groups which the pandemic has had the most impact, including elderly and people with disabilities.

Background

- At the onset of COVID Avondhu Blackwater Partnership attended meetings and participated in the Cork County Council's COVID Community Support Programme
- We have a strong track record of working with this cohort through our Community Connect programme
- This programme has been operational since 2007, delivering a handyman service, a telephone befriending service, organising information talks and administering applications for personal alarms
- Due to the onset of COVID, the SICAP Team redirected their resources which led to them supporting older people and people with a disability
- This led to the Community Connect reviewing its database and extending their call service
- The SICAP Development Officers joined the Community Connect Team making calls to older people & people with a disability
- The calls were to ensure this cohort had (1) support to access household essentials and medication, (2) Check their monitored alarm, (3) Offer them follow on call support and (4) Signpost them to other services
- This ongoing support led to the identification of this cohort as an emerging needs group for 2021

The Impact of COVID

- The COVID Pandemic, resulting lockdowns and cocooning for this cohort had a range of impacts
- Lack of access to services due to prolonged closures
- Severe geographical isolation increased vulnerability and marginalisation
- Lack of routine impacted on mental health and confidence of clients
- Going forward Avondhu Blackwater Partnership CLG looked for new COVID friendly ways of engaging with these groups
- In consultation with the Community Connect Project, Health Initiatives and other services we devised an initiative for this cohort in the 2021 plan.

The Project

- This project was part of an overall engagement strategy of delivering remote supports to older people & people with a disability in our area

The initiative has 3 elements

1. Guided Life Stories
2. Crochet for complete beginners
3. IT Training

Guided Life Stories

- Guided Life Stories: The purpose of the project was to connect people remotely and facilitate them to share and record their life stories. It was a 6 week programme
- The initiative was delivered over zoom, taking different themes each week, follow up with tutorial notes
- Individuals shared their stories and also worked on particular aspects of their story in breakout rooms
- 2 participants with writing difficulties, recorded their stories using digital recorders
- All scripts were typed and printed by the facilitator.

Crochet for Beginners

- Arts & Crafts have gained in popularity during the pandemic
- 16 people participated in our 6 week Crochet Taster sessions via zoom
- This afforded participants an opportunity to make new friends, learn a new hobby and busy their hands while focusing the mind
- Instructions took place during the sessions, with follow on assistance through YouTube tutorials
- This helped them choose the correct hooks, yarn, follow patterns and learn various stitches

IT Training

- During the course of our engagement with older people, many were cut off from family & friends due to lack of IT skills
- This initiative helped 13 people increase their IT skills, assisting them to make greater use of their smart phones and tablets
- The facilitator assisted them via telephone, circulating tutorial notes and eventually over zoom to connect with loved ones, access information, courses and classes online

Lessons Learnt

- 38 individuals participated in the project, mainly 65+ and with varying levels of ability.
- The project served as a means of connecting people
- Participants were given the opportunity to work at their own pace
- Zoom was invaluable in particular for the life stories project, as a means of sharing stories and photos
- The breakout rooms were useful for the completion of more intensive work

Challenges / Barriers

- Lack of face to face contact, sometimes led to the message being lost
- At times broadband and lack of stability was an issue
- The development of friendships and rapport was often missed due to lack of face to face contact, tea, chat etc
- 2 participants with intellectual disabilities would have benefitted greatly from one to one support

Conclusion

- Avondhu Blackwater Partnership intends to build on the success of this programme, offering more support and initiatives in 2022
- While we successfully delivered this initiative remotely we sincerely hope to be back delivering one to one in 2022

Cllr. Bernard Moynihan thanked Mary Gubbins for her presentation and praised the work being done under SICAP by Avondhu Blackwater Partnership CLG. Maura Walsh also thanked Mary and noted that this work is very important for the age group it affects

3. Draft LCDC/LAG Meeting Dates for 2022

The draft schedule of meetings for 2022 as previously circulated was proposed by Cllr. Gearóid Murphy and seconded by Cllr. Bernard Moynihan and unanimously agreed by the LCDC.

Cllr. Gearóid Murphy thanked the Chief Officer for accommodating the meetings on the third Monday of the month as it ties in with the North Divisional meetings. Cllr. Bernard Moynihan agreed.

4. AOB

N/A

5. Date of Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting is 13th December 2021.

Meeting Concluded

Signed:	 CHAIRPERSON
Dated:	<u>14th December 2021</u>