



LCDC

Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil
Chorcaigh Thiar
West Cork Local Community Development
Committee

**Minutes of
West Cork Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
Tuesday 19th July 2016 @ 14.30**

PRESENT: Mr. Finbarr Harrington (Chairman)
Ms. Clodagh Henehan, Divisional Manager, Cork County Council
Cllr. Declan Hurley, Cork County Council
Cllr. Rachel McCarthy, Cork County Council
Mr. Kevin Curran, Head of LEO
Ms. Phoebe Bright, Environment Pillar
Ms. Máire Ní Shé, Udarás na Gaeltachta
Mr. Enda McWeeney, Cork ETB
Mr. Colm Leen, Cork Chamber
Mr. John Kennedy, Youth (Foróige)
Ms. Eileen O' Shea, Civic Society
Mr. Ryan Howard, SECAD
Ms. Maria Hurley, Department of Social Protection
Mr. John Walsh, Comhar na nOileán Teo

APOLOGIES: Cllr. Noel O' Donovan, Cork County Council
Mr. Richard Connell, IFA
Cllr. Pat Murphy, Cork County Council
Mr. Ian Dempsey, WCDP
Mr. Cathal Wilson, Cork County PPN

IN ATTENDANCE:
LCDC Support Team
Mr. Niall Healy, LCDC Chief Officer, Cork County Council
Ms Fiona Hayes, Community & Enterprise Development Officer
Mr. Andrew Lewis, Cork County Council

PPU Support Team
Mr. Pío Condon, PPU, Cork County Council

1. New LCDC Member

The Chair announced that Mr. Cathal Wilson has joined the LCDC representing the Cork County Public Participation Network (PPN). Mr. Wilson had given his apologies for the meeting.

2. Confirmation of Minutes of 11th February 2016 and Matters arising

On the proposal of Mr. Kevin Curran, seconded by Cllr. Declan Hurley, the minutes of the West Cork LCDC meeting of 11th February 2016 were agreed and adopted by the meeting.

3. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

It was noted that this relates to Item 5 on the agenda and would be considered at this stage of the meeting.



4. 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 Southern 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 areas that the County is and is not succeeding. The optimum achievement to strive for is to make Cork a good place to live and work in.

Cllr. Declan Hurley complimented Mr. Condon and the team of staff on the LECP and stated that it provided a measure of what West Cork has and is doing best and hope that this working document will be built into other strategies.

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.

In order to protect the private sector majority for the decision making part of this item Mr. Kevin Curran and Ms. Máire Ní Shé withdrew from the meeting. The time of withdrawal was noted as 2.47p.m.

The LECP was adopted and approved. This was proposed by Cllr. Rachael McCarthy and seconded by Cllr. Declan Hurley.

5. SICAP- Mid Year Review 2016

At 2.50p.m. the Chair asked members if they had a conflict of interest for this item and the following members stepped out of the meeting;

Mr. John Walsh, Comhar na nOileán Teo.

Mr. Andrew Lewis updated the members. It was noted that the SICAP budget for the three Lots in the West Cork area has increased from €360,096 (9 months of 2015) to €480,127 (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 (i.e. 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 Mr. Kevin Curran and Ms. Máire Ní Shé withdrew from the meeting. The time of withdrawal was noted as 3.00p.m.

On the proposal of Mr. John Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Phoebe Bright the SICAP mid-year report was approved by Members.

6. Rural Development Programme LEADER 2014-2020 – Update and Contract

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

The Chief Officer reported as per correspondence received in June from the Department of Rural Development and Rural Affairs to inform the LCDC that the West Cork LCDC (and its partners) had submitted the best quality local development strategy bid in West Cork, and was provisionally awarded Local Action Group status. This decision has since been appealed by WCDP and we await the outcome of same.

Mr. Healy advised that if the LCDC is confirmed as LAG, the next step will be to prepare a Service Level Agreement with the implementing partners. This outlines the roles for the Implementing Partner and the Financial Partner. Once these agreements are in place a formal publicity phase would be carried out including the launch of the Expressions of Interest and formal call for projects. This is all dependent on the outcome of the appeal process which is not expected to be known until late August/September.

Mr Healy detailed the appeal process timeline in as much as it is known. He elaborated on implementation issues that may arise, including the new ICT Management System, the Expressions of Interest Process, Timelines for calls for projects. The 25% funding top up scheme from Cork County Council and the most recent version of the LEADER Operating Rules were all discussed.

The role of the Implementing Partners was discussed.

The members complimented the staff and all who had put in tremendous work in the process.

The Chief Officer advised that going forward there would be contract documents, SLAs etc 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.

In order to protect the private sector majority for the decision making part of this item Mr. Kevin Curran and Ms. Máire Ní Shé withdrew from the meeting. The time of withdrawal was noted as 3.25p.m.



On the proposal of Ms. Eileen O'Shea, seconded by Cllr. Declan Hurley, the authorisation of the Chairman to sign future documents on behalf of the LCDC/LAG was agreed.

7. Draft Annual Report 2015.

The contents of the LCDC West draft Annual Report for 2015 was noted by members.

In order to protect the private sector majority for the decision making part of this item Mr. Kevin Curran and Ms. Máire Ní Shé withdrew from the meeting.

On the proposal of Mr. John Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Maria Hurley the LCDC West Cork Annual Report was adopted.

8. FLAG (Fisheries Local Action Group)

The development of a Fisheries Local Action Group FLAG for County Cork was considered by members. It was noted that coastal areas are invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) to support coastal fisheries and aquaculture under the terms of the scheme as set out by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF). Cork County has approximately 15% of the national coastline and a fund of €1.3m - €1.5 m is therefore potentially available. A single FLAG area would be applied for combining the South and West Cork LCDC's and with the support of BIM and 2 Local Development Companies. If successful, the FLAG would cover the entire Cork Coastline from Youghal to Beara Peninsula. The Chief officer announced that the South Cork LCDC were happy to support the EOI process.

In order to protect the private sector majority for the decision making part of this item Mr. Kevin Curran and Ms. Máire Ní Shé withdrew from the meeting.

On the proposal of Mr. John Kennedy, seconded by Ms. Eileen O'Shea, supporting the submission of an Expression of Interest EOI application for FLAG status for South and West Cork was approved by Members.

9. LCDC Logo / Branding

New LCDC West Logo noted by members.

10. Correspondence

National Launch of the LECP

It was noted the Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government, Mr. Simon Covney 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.

11. Any Other Business

The Chair extended congratulations to Niall Healy on his promotion to Director of Corporate Services with Cork County Council. Niall thanked the LCDC members for all their support during his time as Chief Officer. He advised that he would be remaining as Chief Officer on a transitional basis pending appointment of a replacement.



Cllr. Declan Hurley gave a vote of sympathy to the Chairman, Mr. Finbarr Harrington on the death of his father. He also expressed congratulations on the birth of the Chairman's son. Cllr. Rachael McCarthy wished to be associated with these offers of sympathy and congratulations.

8. **Date of next meeting** is Tuesday 27th September 2016 at 14:30.

Meeting Concluded

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

Date of meeting: _____

Signed: _____
CHAIRPERSON

Dated: _____

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