



Minutes of Meeting of Sligo Local Community Development Committee

Thursday 29th March 2018 at 9.30a.m., Council Chamber, City Hall, Sligo

Present

Cllr. Séamus Kilgannon	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Cllr. Chris MacManus	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Mr. Ciarán Hayes	Local Government /CE	Sligo County Council
Mr. John Reilly	Local Government / LEO	Sligo County Council
Mr. Kieran O'Dwyer	State Agency	Dept. Of Social Protection
Ms. Patricia Garland	State Agency	Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan HSE
Mr. Chris Gonley	Local Development Sector	Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG
Mr. Aidan Doyle	Business Interests	Sligo Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Hugh MacConville	Trade Union Interests	Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Mr. Seán Tempany	Farming / Agriculture Interests	Farming / Agriculture Pillar
Mr. Michael Kirby	Environmental Interests	Environment Pillar (PPN)
Mr. Gerard O'Connor	Community & Voluntary	PPN
Ms. Jackie Sweeney	Community & Voluntary	PPN

Apologies

Cllr. Sinéad Maguire	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Ms. Mary Brodie	State Agency	Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB
Ms. Sharon Boles	Social Inclusion	PPN
Ms. Bernadette Maughan	Social Inclusion	PPN

In Attendance

Ms. Margaret McConnell	Senior Executive Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Fiona Gilligan	Staff Officer	Sligo County Council

Ms. Maria Collery	Clerical Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Karen Comaskey	Clerical Officer	Sligo County Council
Mr. Martin McAndrew For Peace IV Update	Peace Manager	Sligo County Council

Ms. June Murphy, SLPCO – SICAP Update

Mr. Seán Tempany, Vice Chairperson of the LCDC chaired the meeting.

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Mr. Chris Gonley (County Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG) declared an interest in SICAP.

2. MINUTES

Minutes of last meeting held on the 22nd February 2018 were proposed by Mr. Michael Kirby and seconded by Mr. Aidan Doyle and agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Mr. Hugh MacConville highlighted the need for Sligo to maximise the opportunity of the National Planning Framework and expressed concern that Sligo would not lose out as a lead in the region due to lack of initiative initially. In response Mr. Ciarán Hayes stated that on the contrary Sligo demonstrated particular leadership and readiness to act as lead in its numerous submissions to the process which no doubt resulted in Sligo's designation as a regional growth centre in the final document.

4. GENERAL UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ASPECTS OF THE LECP

- **Presentation on Local Enterprise Office activity by Mr. John Reilly, Head of Enterprise**

LECP Update Report circulated to Members. Ms. Margaret McConnell outlined the report and advised that a time-lined review of actions in the Plan has taken place whereby the actions are considered under the Time frame afforded to their implementation in the LECP. Engagement with lead agencies around themes is ongoing.

It was agreed at the February meeting of the LCDC that the Advisory Steering Group would meet to discuss monitoring of the Plan – date to be confirmed with Cllr Sinéad Maguire, Chair.

Mr. John Reilly, Head of Enterprise gave a presentation on '*The Local Enterprise Office - Support available to Small Business*'. Mr. Reilly outlined the services the LEO provides including training, mentoring and financial supports with an increased focus on social media to assist businesses in the current economic climate. One of the key roles of the LEO is in the promotion of an enterprise culture through Sligo Schools Enterprise Programme, Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur (IBYE) Competition, Sligo Women in Business Programme and Enterprise Europe Network (E.E.N.).

Mr. Reilly also advised on innovative actions, in particular the Rhode Island Programme which has proved very successful. Companies engaged in this programme have access to business address/rented property/free meeting space in Rhode Island.

Some discussion around the Rhode Island Programme followed the presentation. Mr Reilly advised that the programme is operating over four local authorities working with a US company to help Irish companies get a foothold in the American market.

5. SICAP UPDATE

Report circulated to Members. Ms. June Murphy, County Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG, outlined actions under the two goals for SICAP. Ms. Murphy advised that SLPC are working with clients most distanced from the labour market. The new Programme has an increased focus on quality of work. The 2018 Annual Plan has now been finalised and uploaded onto the Integrated Reporting Information System (IRIS).

Ms. Murphy also advised of the Rickter Scale model which SLPC piloted in 2017. This Scale is being used as a precursor for the Distance Travelled Tool which Pobal are tendering later this year. The Rickter scale is a self assessment tool used for every individual supported and is guided by questions asked regarding employment, finances, relationships, health & happiness, i.e. the individual is in control of the process. A score is then registered and a Personal Action Plan developed. Once SICAP interventions have taken place, the client is asked the same questions in order to measure their progress.

Ms. Margaret McConnell mentioned verification visits of SICAP events. This matter was raised during the recent SICAP audit and furthered considered by the SICAP Monitoring Committee. Ms. Murphy advised of two upcoming events which may be of interest to the LCDC;

- BTWEA Information day on 9th April and
- Governance training for Local Community Groups on 28th April

Dates to be circulated to members of the LCDC.

6. PPN UPDATE

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Margaret McConnell briefed Members on PPN update and advised that the new PPN Development worker, Ms. Sarah Wetherald will commence in mid April 2018. PPN elections are scheduled for 19th April with closing date of 5th April for nominations. Ms. McConnell paid tribute to the work of the current and outgoing PPN representatives on the LCDC.

Mr. Michael Kirby noted error in report circulated in that there are 17 groups registered with the Environmental College and not 50.

7. PEACE IV PROGRAMME UPDATE

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Martin McAndrew briefed Members on programme update.

With regards the Heaney Yeats Project, Mr. McAndrew advised that Sligo is working on a partnership basis with Mid Ulster District Council. The joint programme will include facilitated workshops providing opportunity for discussion on literary festival development along with the development of a shared literary trail concept. Specific to Sligo, this process will inform and advise on the content

for Yeats themed signage. The outcome will be development of and installation of interpretive signage at six points in County Sligo with strong links to Yeats.

Mr. Ciarán Hayes advised of the recent launch of the Tourism Strategy for County Sligo which is looking to promote Sligo on the basis of the Yeats theme. Mr. Hayes also mentioned the possible future development of a Yeats Interpretative Centre which has potential to further develop the link between Heaney and Yeats.

Mr. Chris Gonley advised of a Yeats Society event scheduled for Poetry Day Ireland on 26th April. A delegation from The Heaney Homeplace will be in attendance.

The importance of collaboration between both regions was noted.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

- **Pobal letter 16th March re Healthy Ireland Fund - extension of grant agreement**

Ms. Margaret McConnell outlined correspondence from the Pobal in relation to the Healthy Ireland Fund. Further details relating to Round 2 funding are to follow in April 2018.

Ms. McConnell also advised that a meeting is proposed between the Council and Ms. Patricia Garland (HSE) to progress a collaborative approach to the Healthy Ireland funds anticipated in 2018.

9. DATE FOR NEXT MEETING – 31ST MAY 2018

It was agreed that consideration would be given to bringing forward the date of the next LCDC/LAG meeting to the 24th May to facilitate consideration of the recent targeted call for Small Festivals & Events (LEADER Programme). Ms. June Murphy advised that there have been 28 Expressions of Interest to date under this call, however not all of these will come to fruition. One festival is to take place on the 1st June.

10. AOB

Ms. Margaret McConnell mentioned the review of membership of the LCDC. This matter had been raised at previous meetings and particularly the February meeting of the LCDC.

Ms. McConnell advised that in accordance with Department Guidelines all non-statutory representatives on the LCDC are to be reviewed, including Trade Union, Business and Farming Pillars. Ms. McConnell went on to acknowledge the major contribution from these sectors to date. The Community & Economic Development section will be contacting the National Trade Union & Farming Pillars seeking their renewed nominations. It was noted that as Mr. Aidan Doyle is new to the LCDC, there is no need to review the Business pillar at this time.

It was noted that PPN representatives on the LCDC were notified of this on 15TH March in order to be appraised well in advance of the PPN elections scheduled for 19th April.

The Chief Officer's report on the LCDC Membership review will be considered by the Corporate Policy Group at their next meeting.

LCDC Meeting 2018/2

Mr. Chris Gonley mentioned that it is important to achieve gender balance for committees of the LCDC.

Meeting concluded at 10.45a.m.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Chairperson