



## Minutes of Meeting of Sligo Local Community Development Committee

Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 9.30a.m., Chamber of Commerce, Quay Street, Sligo

### PRESENT

Councillor Sinéad Maguire	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Councillor Séamus Kilgannon	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Councillor 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
Ms. Patricia Garland	State Agency	Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan HSE
Mr. Aidan Doyle	Business Interests	Sligo Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Hugh MacConville	Trade Union Interests	Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Mr. Chris Gonley	Local Development Sector	Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG
Mr. Seán Tempany	Farming / Agriculture Interests	Farming / Agriculture Pillar
Mr. Michael Kirby	Environmental Interests	Environment Pillar (PPN)
Mr. Finbarr Filan	Community & Voluntary	PPN
Ms. Elizabeth King	Social Inclusion	PPN

### APOLOGIES /ABSENT

Ms. Mairin Haran	State Agency	Dept. of Social Protection
Ms. Mary Brodie	State Agency	Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB
Ms. Jackie Sweeney	Community & Voluntary	PPN
Dr. Jennifer Van Aswegen	Social Inclusion	PPN

### In Attendance

Ms. Dorothy Clarke	LCDC Chief Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Margaret McConnell	Senior Executive Officer	Sligo County Council
Mr. Jude Mannion	A/Senior Staff Officer	Sligo County Council

Ms. Fiona Gilligan	<b>Staff Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Mr. Daithi Gallagher	<b>Economic Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Ms. Sinéad Branley	<b>A/Senior Staff Officer</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
<i>Dr. Oran Doherty Presented to LCDC under Item 4a</i>	<b>Manager</b>	<b>Regional Skills Forum</b>
<i>Mr. Joe Gethin</i>	<b>Administrative Officer, Cranmore Project Office</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
<i>Mr. Martin McAndrew For Peace IV Update</i>	<b>Peace Manager</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>

**a. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mr. Chris Gonley declared an interest in SICAP.

**b. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2019**

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019 were proposed by Mr. Michael Kirby seconded by Mr. Aidan Doyle and agreed.

**c. MATTERS ARISING**

There were no matters arising.

**d. UPDATE ON LECP IMPLEMENTATION:**

- a) Regional Skills Forum – Presentation by Mr. Oran Doherty**
- b) Healthy Ireland Programme**
- c) General Update on the Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP)**

- a.** Dr. Oran Doherty, Regional Skills Forum Manager gave a presentation to the LCDC on the work of the **Regional Skills Forum**. The Forum works in collaboration between industry and local education and training providers to identify current and future skills needs of companies in order to inform delivery of appropriate training. Mr. Doherty's presentation outlined the Sligo and Leitrim Tech Group which was set up by RSF Manager in 2018 to promote working and studying in the Tech sector in Sligo & Leitrim. Future skills noted include Human/Business Acumen/Tech/Digital with Data analysts listed as No. 1 of the *10 most in-demand jobs in 2020 – Globally*.

Members thanked Dr. Doherty for his presentation and noted that a change of mindset is required where skills are concerned as the emphasis on career guidance is still geared towards more traditional jobs.

In relation to a query on up-skilling of people already in employment, Dr. Doherty advised of the ETBs 'Skills to Advance' programme, IT Sligo's Springboard programme and Sligo Chamber Skillnet.

Mr. Ciarán Hayes advised of the Smart Community Initiative recently launched in Tubbercurry. If this Initiative is successful in Tubbercurry, it could be replicated in other areas. Mr. Hayes also advised that the Grow Remote organisation is holding its next conference in Tubbercurry.

Dr. Doherty's presentation is to be circulated to Members of the LCDC for information.

Dr. Doherty then left the meeting.

- b. Report on the **Healthy Ireland Programme** was circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Jude Mannion briefed Members on update in respect of the 2018 – 2019 Scheme (Round 2). POBAL took the decision to extend the programme delivery period deadline to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019 (previous deadline was 31/3/19) A video capturing many of the programmes funded is being compiled and will be shown at the SI & SICAP Monitoring Committee meeting on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019.

Councillor Sinéad Maguire complimented Mr. Mannion and Ms. Sarah Wetherald on their work in co-ordinating the Healthy Ireland Programme.

- c. Mr. Jude Mannion then briefed Members on the **General Update on the Local Economic & Community Plan**. Mr. Mannion contacted the Department of Rural & Community Development in relation to mid-term review of the LECPs and was advised that national guidelines for the monitoring/review of LECPS will issue in December 2019.

In advance of the review, a reappraisal of all actions of less than 2 yrs in duration will take place and this will involve circulating a post completion questionnaire to all Lead Agencies to gather feedback on the Plan.

*\*\*\*Members agreed to take Item 7 ahead of remaining items on the Agenda\*\*\**

## 7. PEACE IMPACT PROGRAMME

Report circulated in advance of the meeting. Mr. Joe Gethin briefed Members on the Programme.

In 2016, the LCDC secured funding in the amount of €117,400 from the International Fund for Ireland (IFI) to deliver a Community Development Programme to address deficits in the Caltragh and Ballytivnan areas. This funding provided support for a Project Officer/Co-ordinator. Mr. Keith Lyons was initially appointed as Coordinator in January 2017 and continued in the post until his resignation in August 2017. The vacancy was filled by Ms. Sue Mahon in October 2017. The Coordinator was based in Caltragh and Ballytivnan for elements of the work and was supported by the Cranmore Regeneration Office. In order to provide oversight for the project an advisory group was also formed which was a partnership structure representing local government, local development agencies and state agencies/public service providers.

Mr. Gethin outlined the Inter-agency collaboration in Caltragh where the Caltragh Residents association and an inter-agency group had been active in the past. Working with Sligo LEADER

Partnership CLG (SLPC), the interagency group was reactivated with a view to bringing services into the area. This in turn led to the reactivation of the Residents Association. The Inter-agency model was then used in Ballytivnan with the group expanded to include relevant agencies/community representatives from the area, including St Edwards National School. The Ballytivnan Community partnership (BCP) was formed to represent the residents in the area.

Additional funding was leveraged from other Programmes such as the Communities Facilities Scheme, Community Enhancement Programme and RAPID.

A key outcome of the programme is the formation of a strong Residents Association in the Ballytivnan area following community elections in January 2018. Representatives from 14 streets were elected to the Association and two members represent the group on the interagency committee. Another significant outcome is the strong relationships that have developed between agencies who are now working together to address the needs of the communities in Caltragh and Balytivnan.

Mr. Gethin advised that the IFI have agreed to fund analysis of a socio-economic profile of both communities. This work is ongoing and will provide a basis for further funding applications to support these areas and shape emerging ideas for the social, economic and physical development.

Councillor Sinéad Maguire, on behalf of the LCDC, thanked Mr. Gethin, Ms. Sue Mahon and Mr. Keith Lyons for their work on the Peace Impact Programme and noted that the outcomes were significant with the Programme creating a platform for funding into the future.

Mr. Chris Gonley complimented Mr. Gethin and his team and acknowledged the support from the IFI in these disadvantaged areas. Mr. Gonley advised that SLPC, Sligo County Council and Sligo LCDC need to ensure that these communities continue to receive support. Mr. Gonley also commented on Ms. Mahon's experience in working with the community.

Councillor Chris MacManus wished to put on record the work of Ms. Sue Mahon in the community and wished Ms. Mahon well in her post as Manager of the Northside Community centre.

Councillor MacManus agreed with Mr. Gonley with regards the need for continued oversight and support in these areas.

Mr. Gethin then left the meeting.

**a. National Community Weekend: 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019 – Consideration & Approval of applications**

Report circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Jude Mannion advised that in September 2018, Minister Michael Ring announced the launch of the National Community Weekend – 'The Big Hello' which will be held for the first time on the May Bank Holiday weekend. The scheme was formally launched on March 6th 2019 with funding of €10,000 made available to each of the 31 Local Community Development Committees. This funding is to be allocated by the respective LCDCs in the form of small grants to support local

events. A total of 18 No. applications were received by the closing date of 29<sup>th</sup> March with 2 subsequently withdrawn as the promoters felt they would clash with other events in the area and might not be viable. Mr. Mannion's report outlined the recommended allocation for each application/project with a rationale for each allocation.

LCDC approval to the allocation of funding of €10,000 under the National Community Weekend – 'The Big Hello', as outlined in Mr. Mannion's report was proposed by Councillor Sinéad Maguire, seconded by Mr. Finbarr Filan and agreed.

#### **b. Community Enhancement Programme 2019**

Report circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Councillor Sinéad Maguire mentioned the recent CEP acknowledgement events held in Sligo & Tubbercurry and thanked all involved in the organisation of these events. Mr. Jude Mannion briefed members and advised that the 2019 allocation for Sligo under the CEP is €134,084 with a national closing date of 30<sup>th</sup> May 2019 for applications. The scheme was launched locally at the 'Get Funding ready' event in the Clayton Hotel on the 11<sup>th</sup> April.

It was noted that the timing for the scheme is better this year as it was advertised earlier. It was further noted that the 2019 allocation is much lower than 2018. Mr. Mannion advised that caps will be in place to ensure consistency with the outcomes of the 2018 programme.

### **8. SICAP UPDATE**

Ms. Margaret McConnell mentioned recent notification from Pobal in relation to the upcoming visit of the recently appointed Central Operations Officer, Mr. Ray Bonar on 24<sup>th</sup> April. Mr. Bonar is hoping to set up a meeting with members of Sligo LCDC and support staff if available in order to get an understanding of the role of LCDCs with the various programmes that Pobal manage (SICAP, LEADER and HIF). Three members volunteered to attend this meeting with Pobal staff – Mr. Aidan Doyle, Ms. Patricia Garland and Mr. Hugh MacConville.

Mr. Chris Gonley then gave a brief update on SICAP and advised that the Internal Auditor from Sligo County Council had commenced work on the audit of the programme. Mr. Gonley also outlined recent events including the very successful KickStart event in the Glasshouse on the 29<sup>th</sup> March with guest speaker Mr. Simon Delaney. This event was held in collaboration with the Dept of Employment Affairs & Social Protection with over 140 people in attendance. The Healthfest event in Ballymote in early April was also successful and a good example of where the overlap of the Healthy Ireland Programme and SICAP works well.

Ms. Margaret McConnell advised members that projects for verification/visit by the LCDC in Quarter 2 will be notified to Members in due course.

### **9. EDUCATION, TRAINING AND LIFELONG LEARNING – UPDATE ON PROPOSAL TO SET UP A FORUM**

Ms. Dorothy Clarke briefed members on the update with regards the setting up of an Education Forum as had been agreed at the February meeting of the LCDC. Since this meeting, Ms. Clarke had

met with Mr. Hugh MacConville and Ms. Mary Brodie and they agreed draft list of agencies proposed to attend an exploratory meeting scheduled in May to discuss the role and need for such a forum.

## **10. PPN UPDATE**

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Michael Kirby briefed Members on update on PPN activities and proposals. Councillor Sinéad Maguire referred in particular to the very successful '*Get Funding Ready*' event in the Clayton Hotel. Mr. Kirby thanked all agencies who collaborated with the PPN for this event including the MSLETB, Sligo Volunteer Centre, Sligo County Council and Sligo LEADER Partnership.

It was noted that the PPN Secretariat is now down two members to six following the resignation of Mr. Thomas Walsh as he is running as a candidate in the upcoming local elections and Dr. Jennifer Van Aswegen who resigned due to conflicting work responsibilities.

Mr. Kirby also advised that Sligo PPN will be taking the lead on a series of CPR training sessions in partnership with the Civil Defence which will build on the work already carried out in mapping Defibrillators in Sligo town, with plans to expand the mapping to the county and deliver a combination of certified CPR training in the Civil Defence centre in Sligo town and County to show people where and how to access Defibrillators. This training exercise was welcomed by the LCDC.

Mr. Ciarán Hayes asked that Climate change be placed on the PPN agenda. Mr. Hayes comment was supported by Councillor Maguire who advised that while more people are getting engaged with Climate change, leadership would be welcomed.

## **11. PEACE IV PROGRAMME UPDATE**

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Martin McAndrew briefed Members on programme update with regards implementation. An Invitation to the Peace IV Project - Tales & Harmony concert will issue to Members shortly.

Councillor Maguire noted the extensive list of projects underway and thanked Mr. McAndrew for his management of the Programme to date.

## **12. LCDC ANNUAL REPORT – ACTIVITY IN 2018**

Ms. Margaret McConnell advised that Section 128B of the Local Government Act 2001, sets out the functions of the LCDC which include the preparation of an annual report. The report outlines attendance at LCDC meetings, SICAP, Community Enhancement Programme, LEADER Programme, Peace IV Programme, Atlantic Economic Corridor, Tourism Strategy and Diaspora. Ms. McConnell acknowledged the work of Ms. Fiona Gilligan in drafting this report with input from other LCDC support staff.

LCDC adoption of the 2018 LCDC Annual Report was proposed by Ms. Patricia Garland and seconded by Councillor Séamus Kilgannon.

Mr. Ciarán Hayes and Councillor Sinéad Maguire noted that the report demonstrates the extensive workload of the LCDC.

Mr. Hayes also noted that it was fitting that the report includes a photo of the late Councillor Margaret Gormley, RIP at her last public engagement at the CEP acknowledgement event in Tubbercurry.

### **13. BREASTFEEDING FRIENDLY INITIATIVE**

Ms. Dorothy Clarke briefed Members on this communitywide Initiative which is hoping to encourage businesses, communities and public service settings to welcome breastfeeding mothers. CYPSC is proposing to make an application for funding under the Healthy Ireland fund to support a Worker engaged in LifeStart who would take on an implementation role for the initiative. To progress the matter representatives from the LCDC and CYPSC are being sought to sit on the Project Steering Group who will be involved in due course in rolling out. It will be necessary to involve Sligo Chamber also. Ms. Elizabeth King advised that this project is already rolled out in Limerick and the plan is to replicate their model in Sligo.

Ms. King volunteered to be the LCDC rep on the Steering Group. Ms. Patricia Garland advised that she is already on the Steering Group.

Sligo LCDC's agreement to support the Breastfeeding Friendly Initiative was proposed by Mr. Ciarán Hayes and seconded by Ms. Elizabeth King.

### **14. Correspondence**

- a) **National Healthy Cities and Counties of Ireland – Survey (DRCD email 12.3.19)**
- b) **Targeting external workplaces for Men's Health Week 2019 (HSE email 28.3.19)**

Correspondence as above was circulated in advance of the meeting and noted by Members.

### **15. DATES FOR NEXT LCDC/LAG MEETING – 30TH MAY 2019**

Noted by Members.

### **16. AOB**

Mr. Finbarr Filan announced his resignation from Sligo LCDC as he is running as a candidate in the upcoming local elections on the 24<sup>th</sup> May 2019. Mr. Filan thanked the LCDC and LCDC support staff for their assistance over the last year. Mr. Michael Kirby, on behalf of the PPN Secretariat thanked Mr. Filan for his representation on the LCDC and wished him well with the election.

Councillor Séamus Kilgannon also acknowledged Mr. Filan's contribution to the LCDC and wished him well in the forthcoming elections.

Councillor Sinéad Maguire thanked Mr. Filan for his contribution to the Committee and commented on his good attendance record. On behalf of the LCDC, Councillor Maguire and Ms Dorothy Clarke wished him well in the future.

Ms. Margaret McConnell advised that it is in order for the existing Elected Members to the LCDC, to attend the next meeting of the Committee on the 30<sup>th</sup> May as the term of outgoing members ends

on the seventh day after Polling Day, in this case that would be Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 - so technically they remain members until this date.

Ms McConnell also advised Members of the upcoming launch of the Diaspora Strategy in City Hall on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2019 at 4pm with an Invitation to issue to members shortly.

Meeting concluded at 11.20a.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Date: \_\_\_\_\_