



Minutes of Meeting of Sligo Local Community Development Committee

Thursday 19th September 2019 at 9.30a.m., City Hall, Quay Street, Sligo

PRESENT

Councillor Chris MacManus	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Councillor Dara Mulvey	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Ms. Patricia Garland	State Agency	Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan HSE
Mr. John Kennedy for Ms. Mairin Haran	State Agency	Department of Social Protection
Mr. Hugh MacConville	Trade Union Interests	Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Mr. Chris Gonley	Local Development Sector	Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG
Ms. Kathleen Henry	Farming / Agriculture Interests	Farming / Agriculture Pillar
Mr. Michael Kirby	Environmental Interests	Environment Pillar (PPN)
Ms. Elizabeth King	Social Inclusion	PPN

APOLOGIES /ABSENT

Mr. Ciarán Hayes	Local Government /CE	Sligo County Council
Councillor Joseph Queenan	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Mr. John Reilly	Local Government / LEO	Sligo County Council
Ms. Mary Brodie	State Agency	Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB
Ms. Jackie Sweeney	Community & Voluntary	PPN
Mr. Aidan Doyle	Business Interests	Sligo Chamber of Commerce
Ms. Ann Marie Snee	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
Ms. Aisling Smyth	Administrative Officer	Sligo County Council

Mr. Daithí Gallagher	Economic Development Officer	Sligo County Council
Mr. Jude Mannion	A/Senior Staff Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Sinéad Branley	A/Senior Staff Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Fiona Gilligan	Staff Officer	Sligo County Council
Mr. Martin McAndrew	Peace Manager	Sligo County Council

In advance of the meeting, Councillor Chris MacManus, on behalf of the LCDC, made a presentation to Councillor Sinéad Maguire, to mark her departure from the LCDC and to recognise the great contribution Councillor Maguire made to the Committee, in her role as Chairperson over the past few years.

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr. Chris Gonley declared an interest in SICAP.

2. MINUTES OF MEETING OF 25TH JULY 2019

Minutes of the last meeting held on the 25th July 2019 were proposed by Mr. Michael Kirby seconded by Mr. Chris Gonley and agreed.

3. MATTERS ARISING

In response to query from Mr. Hugh MacConville on the JASPER project Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised that JASPER officials will be in Sligo w/e 27th September and that this will mark the introduction to a lengthy process on this project. Ms. Clarke advised that the LCDC will be involved in consultation at a later stage. It was noted that a limited number of projects are being considered nationally and Sligo is one of these.

4. LECP IMPLEMENTATION:

- a) Healthy Ireland Fund Round 3 & Community Mental Health Fund – Approval of Actions for submission to Pobal**
- b) Approval of the allocation of funding for Men’s Sheds under the 2019 Community Enhancement Programme**

- a. Report outlining **Healthy Ireland Fund Round 3 & Community Mental Health Fund** was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Aisling Smyth briefed Members on this report which was set out in two parts. Under **Healthy Ireland Round 3**, Ms. Smyth advised of 13 No. Expressions of Interest from which 5 actions (Programme of Works) were derived for consideration and approval of the LCDC. Ms. Smyth briefly outlined these actions as set out in the report circulated.

Approval to the Programme of Works (five actions) to Pobal in respect of Round 3 of the Healthy Ireland Fund 2019 – 2021 was proposed by Mr. Michael Kirby, seconded by Mr. Hugh MacConville and agreed.

With regards additional funding of €62,050 announced on the 22nd August for the **Community Mental Health Fund (CMHF)**, the report circulated to members outlined the 2

no. Actions which must be included under this fund namely €30,000 towards a small grant scheme and €32,050 to develop 1 no. Project to be used *“to support innovative actions that promote collaboration and partnership with formal mental health and suicide prevention services and to co-ordinate and implement activities in local community settings”*.

Ms. Smyth advised that due to the tight timeframe and considering that any proposed action developed must *“promote collaboration and partnership with formal mental health and suicide prevention services”* it was considered appropriate to refer to the expertise of the HSE to identify an appropriate action and delivery mechanism which responds to community needs and which could be considered by the LCDC. This was advanced via the HSE Representative of the LCDC. It was noted that Pobal correspondence had stipulated that the HSE cannot be a lead reporting agency and delivery partner on an ‘Action’ under both the current round of funding under Healthy Ireland and the Community Mental Health Fund.

The project put forward for consideration of the LCDC as Action No. 6 is *‘Building a case for a community solution to mental health and wellbeing in Sligo’*. The lead agency proposed is the Centre of Independent Living, Sligo. The project is to conduct a scoping and feasibility study to inform the establishment of a wellness hub.

Councillor Chris MacManus acknowledged the contribution of Ms. Patricia Garland and the HSE. Ms. Garland confirmed that the project entails a feasibility study to establish if there is a need for a wellness hub. The project will also ascertain if additional funding will be required and identify funding streams. Ms Garland commented on the short time frame for turn-around of a proposed action under CMHF and in particular at a peak summer holiday period when key staff were on annual leave and not available for input. As a result one project has been brought forward by the HSE for consideration by the LCDC.

Councillor MacManus acknowledged the lateness in the announcement of funding under the Community Mental Health Fund with no extension to the deadline of 20th September for submission to Pobal.

In relation to the appointment of a Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator, Members were advised that sanction will be sought from the Dept of Rural & Community Development.

Approval to the submission identified as Action No. 6 in the Programme of Works to Pobal in respect of the Community Mental Health Fund was proposed by Mr. Hugh MacConville, seconded by Councillor Dara Mulvey and agreed.

- b. A report outlining the **allocation of funding for Men’s sheds under the Community Enhancement Programme 2019** was circulated in advance of the meeting. Mr. Jude Mannion briefed Members on this report and advised that funding of €10,471 could only be allocated to groups registered with the Irish Men’s Sheds Association. Mr Mannion also briefed members on the process of allocating funds to the eight registered Men’s sheds in Sligo, with a proposal for €171 to go towards hosting an acknowledgement event. It was noted that there are currently no Women’s sheds in Sligo. Ms. Patricia Garland queried if some funds could be put towards developing Women’s sheds in the County. Mr. Mannion advised that this could be highlighted at the acknowledgement event. It was suggested that

the development of Women's sheds could be explored further through Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG. Councillor Dara Mulvey welcomed funding and advised that some groups in rural areas are looking at setting up Men's sheds. Mr. Chris Gonley advised of supports available to assist start-up groups. As funds can only be allocated to registered Men's sheds, Councillor Chris MacManus asked that contact be made with the DRCD to check if funds could be used towards development work for future years.

Approval to the allocation of funds in the amount of €10,471 ring-fenced for Men's sheds under the Community Enhancement Programme 2019 was proposed by Councillor Dara Mulvey, seconded by Ms. Elizabeth King and agreed.

5. SICAP UPDATE

- a) Progress to date on work plan for 2019
- b) Site Verification visits (Suggestions for Quarter 4)

- a. Ms. Aisling Smyth introduced this item and advised Members that LCDC support staff continue to meet with Sligo LEADER Partnership to review SICAP and are working on developing a template to streamline reporting to the LCDC.

A report was circulated in advance of the meeting. Ms. June Murphy outlined this report and advised on progress update with 35 groups supported to date; representing 78% of the annual target of 45 groups and 393 Individuals supported which represents 91% of the annual target of 431 Individuals.

Ms. Murphy advised that most groups receive support around annual planning and noted some reluctance to engage in formal training.

Ms. Murphy's report includes a chart showing percentage of Local Community Groups by primary & secondary target group identified with 51% identifying '*People living in Disadvantaged Communities*' and 11% supporting '*disadvantaged women*'. Ms. Murphy advised that there could be a role within SICAP to support women's sheds. The report also gave a breakdown of supports provided to groups under SICAP and lists sample groups supported and collaborating partners.

In relation to Individuals supported, a table giving the breakdown by Target group shows the *Unemployed* target group being the largest group supported (55%) with the *Disengaged from the Labour Market* at 35%. Sample activities/supports include Personal development, Health Fests, Cookery courses, Seasonal camps, Youth development and family support. Collaborating partners include the DEASP, MSLETB, HSE, Sligo Social Services, Employers etc.

Ms. Murphy advised that Sligo LEADER Partnership CLG is also looking at supporting staff within Social Enterprises.

- b. With regards **Site verification visits**, the following projects were suggested for Quarter 4;
 - Intercultural Concert in The Model on the 5th October – this event is in collaboration with the Family Resource Centre
 - Yoga Classes on the 9th October in the Community Centre, Dromore West.

Notification e-mail to issue to all Members of the LCDC.

6. PPN UPDATE

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Michael Kirby briefed Members on the update on PPN activities and proposals.

It was noted that Insurance survey, devised by Sligo PPN was released to the national media on the 11th September and featured in a number of national papers and on local and national radio stations.

The survey showed 83% of community groups have seen insurance costs rise in last 3 years with 47% saying that their group is in danger of stopping altogether if insurance costs continue to rise. Mr. Kirby acknowledged the work of the PPN team in relation to this survey. Councillor Chris MacManus also acknowledged the role of the PPN in devising the survey.

In relation to Climate change, Mr. Kirby advised that the Environmental College is hosting a Climate Change awareness seminar on the 3rd October in the Radisson hotel with Professor John Sweeney as key note speaker. Mr. Ciarán Hayes will also present at this event. Mr. Kirby further advised of the upcoming National PPN conference which will take place in Carlow from the 9th – 11th October.

Members were informed that the Membership of Sligo PPN now stands at 330 member groups following re-registration with the Salesforce software system.

7. PEACE IV PROGRAMME UPDATE

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Martin McAndrew briefed Members on programme update with many projects now completed and others to be completed in September. Ms. Aisling Smyth advised Members of recent communications with the SEUPB in relation to two projects, the Cantilever space at Stephen Street car park where the tender price is over the budget available, an increase in the allocation of funding is sought for this project from SEUPB. The second project is 'Lest Sligo Forgets' which requires a time extension. The project involves the development of a WW1 Memorial Garden which involved Part 8 Planning. During the public consultation period a submission was received by Sligo County Council and subsequently lodged with An Bord Pleanála, seeking a screening determination. A decision by An Bord Pleanála is due on the 8th November 2019. A request is being made to the SEUPB to extend the contract period for the 'Lest Sligo Forgets' project

8. UPDATE ON BRANDING AND SLIGO.IE

A report was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Margaret McConnell briefed members on the update with regards to the new Sligo Branding project and web portal sligo.ie. In early 2018 Sligo County Council in consultation with Sligo Economic Forum (SEF) considered the benefits of a new brand identity for Sligo to reflect the strengths, vision, and potential collective collaborative opportunity which Sligo has to offer. There was an identified need for a single Call to Action for Sligo with a related supporting web portal to be known as sligo.ie. Ms. McConnell advised that this portal would act as the main destination for users to find out about what is happening in Sligo and act as a sign post to SEF partner websites and other key stakeholders. The overall project is to be delivered in two stages with Stage 1 centred on the brand design. Following a tender process, 'On the Dot' were the successful consultants appointed to design the brand in May 2018. A consultation period ensued with key stakeholders, and the

design was completed and approved by the SEF in September 2018. Mr. Daithí Gallagher then circulated brand templates to Members present.

Ms. McConnell advised that as the brand proposes to focus on 3 core areas of Live:Invest:Visit, Stage 2 of the project involved the putting in place a Communications, Marketing & Implementation Strategy to guide and manage use of Brand with Consultants DHR Communications appointed in February 2019. Planning, workshops and further consultation with key stakeholders and staff took place from March – June 2019. Following this process the Vision/Aim of the project was agreed as;

*The aim of Sligo: Live:Invest:Visit is **To support Sligo as a world-class location in which to live, invest and visit.***

Ms. McConnell further advised that it will not be necessary to align the brand to everything we do, it is more to be seen as a 'Q mark' for actions and activities that promote positive aspects of living, investing and visiting Sligo. Agencies and projects wishing to obtain use of the brand will have to go through an application process.

The official launch of the new Sligo brand and web portal Sligo.ie will take place in The Model on the 24th October 2019. Invitation to issue to Members shortly.

9. MEMBERSHIP TO BE NOMINATED TO THE LECP ADVISORY STEERING GROUP

Ms. Margaret McConnell advised that Mr. Finbarr Filan's position on the Advisory Steering Group (ASG) to the Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) is vacant.

It was proposed by Ms. Elizabeth King and seconded by Mr. Hugh MacConville that Mr. Michael Kirby replace Mr. Filan on the LECP Advisory Steering Group.

10. LCDC LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP – DRCD EMAIL 12.9.19

Email dated 12th September 2019 from the Department of Rural & Community Development was circulated to Members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Dorothy Clarke advised Members of the proposed Place Based Leadership pilot workshop to develop the leadership skills of all members of the LCDC. The DRCD advised that this workshop will run over 1.5 days and would involve as many of the LCDC members as possible with Workshop facilitator available on 21st and 22nd October.

Councillor Chris MacManus asked that the DRCD be contacted in relation to the content of this workshop and other potential dates. Members to be kept informed.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. **LCDC Review and C&V Strategy – DRCD email 30/8/19**
- b. **ICBAN-QUB Local Communities Survey on 'The Border into Brexit' – closing date 23/9/19**
- c. **Public Consultation on Rural Development Policy 2020+ (Survey closing 11/10/19)**
- d. **Culture Night Sligo 20 September 2019 – email 13/9/19 from the Arts Office**

Ms. Margaret McConnell outlined correspondence as above.

It was noted that the DRCD email 30/8/19 in relation to **LCDC Review and C&V Strategy** is linked to Item 10 above. Minister Michael Ring, T.D., announced the launch of *Sustainable, Inclusive and Empowered Communities: A five year strategy to support the community and voluntary sector in Ireland 2019-2024* on

the 28th August 2019. The Department will shortly begin work on the implementation of the recommendations of the LCDC review and the actions in the Strategy

ICBAN-QUB Local Communities Survey on 'The Border into Brexit' – closing date 23/9/19 and **Public Consultation on Rural Development Policy 2020+ (Survey closing 11/10/19)** had been forwarded to Members of the LCDC on the 10th September 2019.

Councillor Chris MacManus asked that both surveys be re-circulated to Members for completion.

All correspondence was noted by Members.

12. NEW DATE FOR NEXT LCDC/LAG MEETING – 31ST OCTOBER 2019

Members were advised of the need for an additional LAG meeting with suggested date of Thursday 31st October. As this date did not suit all present members agreed date of Wednesday 30th October 2019 at the later time of 10.30am. This date is to be circulated to all Members for noting.

13. AOB

There were no items for discussion.

Meeting concluded at 11.25a.m.

Signed: _____
Councillor Chris MacManus
Chairperson

Date: _____