

***Minutes of Strategic Policy Committee for Economic Development & Enterprise held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 11.00 a.m. in the Training Room, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.***

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**In Attendance:**

Cllr. Richard Nagle  
Mr. Gerard Dollard  
Cllr. P J Ryan  
Cllr. Pat McMahon  
Cllr. Gabriel Keating  
Cllr. Clare Colleran Molloy  
Cllr. Ian Lynch  
Cllr. Johnny Flynn  
Mr. Tom Floyd  
Mr. William Hanrahan  
Ms. Theresa O'Donohoe  
Mr. Brian McCarthy  
Ms. Philomena O'Connell  
Ms. Rose Hally

**Organisation:**

Chair  
Director of Services  
Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Trade Union  
Agriculture/Farming  
Environment/Conservation  
Senior Planner  
Economic Development  
Community Finance Ireland

**Apologies**

Mr. Pat Morris	Ennis Chamber of Commerce
Ms. Dympna O'Callaghan	Business/Commercial Sector
Mr. Michael Neylon	Tourism & Community Development
Mr. Padraic McElwee	Head of Enterprise

The Chair welcomed Ms Rose Hally, Community Finance Ireland, to the meeting.

**1) Minutes of meetings held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016:**

Minutes of meetings held on the 12<sup>th</sup> September were proposed by Cllr. Gabriel Keating, seconded by Cllr. Clare Colleran Molloy and agreed.

**2) Presentation by Ms. Rose Hally, Community Finance Ireland – Financing Community & Social Enterprise:**

Ms. Rose Hally gave a presentation on the loans provided to third sector organisations by Community Finance Ireland (formerly UCIT)

Community Finance Ireland, is a Charity which provides loans exclusively to other third sector organisations such as community groups, charities, sports clubs and social enterprises in the Republic of Ireland.

Community Finance (Ireland) was established in response to decreasing grant support from government and the difficulties experienced by community organisations in accessing commercial loan facilities. As a registered charity, all profits generated by Community Finance (Ireland) are retained and recycled for reinvestment into the third sector.

The members welcomed the presentation and raised a number of queries that were responded to by Ms. Hally.

### **3) Draft Development Contribution Scheme – Discussion document:**

Mr. Brian McCarthy, Senior Planner, updated the members on proposed changes to the Development Contribution Scheme. Agricultural development is currently exempt from development contributions levies. The draft document proposes to remove this exemption and charge for agricultural buildings. It was suggested to the Committee to apply contributions to Agricultural Buildings above 800 m<sup>2</sup> in size only.

Members expressed concern regarding additional changes i.e. proposed residential contributions for Rural Towns and Villages and the level of contributions for one off rural houses. It was agreed to consider all views expressed and revise the current document before going to public consultation.

### **4) Draft County Development Plan 2017 – 2023 – Economic Development**

Mr. Brian McCarthy, Senior Planner, updated the meeting on progress on the Draft County Development Plan 2017 – 2023.

Areas covered included:

- Shannon Airport
- UL – Clare Campus
- Shannon Estuary - SIFP
- Towns and Villages
- Renewable Energy

A copy of the Strategic Integrated Framework Plan for the Shannon Estuary (SIFP) was circulated to members.

## **5) Schedule of meetings 2017**

The following meeting dates for 2017 were agreed by members:-

- Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. Training Room, Áras Contae an Chláir.
- Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 at 11.00 a.m. Training Room, Áras Contae an Chláir.
- Monday, 11th September 2017 at 11.00 a.m. Training Room, Áras Contae an Chláir.
- Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> November 2017 at 11.00 a.m. Training Room, Áras Contae an Chláir.

## **6) Date of next meeting:**

Noted that date of next meeting is 9<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

## **7) AOB:**

With no other business the meeting concluded.

**Signed:**

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**Cathaoirleach**

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**Director, Economic Development  
& Enterprise**