

**Minutes of Clare Local Community Development Committee meeting (CLDC) on Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2014 at 12 noon in the Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare**

**In Attendance:**

Cllr. Bill Chambers  
Ms. Esther Connellan  
Ms. Sheila Considine  
Mr. Tom Coughlan  
Ms. Helen Downes  
Cllr. Johnny Flynn  
Mr. Gerard Dollard  
Mr. Andrew Dundas  
Mr. Pat Gaughran  
Mr. Gerry Kelly  
Ms. Dóirín Graham  
Mr. Maurice Harvey  
Ms. Aobhan Haverty  
Mr. Michael Hogan  
Mr. Jim Lynch  
Cllr. Mike McKee  
Ms. Ailish McMahan  
Cllr. Richard Nagle  
Ms. Annamarie O'Doherty  
Ms. Margaret Slattery

**Organisation:**

Elected Member  
Health Service  
Social Inclusion Interests  
Chief Executive  
Employers/Business  
Elected Member  
Chief Officer  
Agricultural Farmers Sector  
Community & Voluntary Interests  
Age Friendly Alliance Board  
Clare Local Development Company  
Environment Interests  
Education & Training Board  
Community & Voluntary Interests  
Department of Social Protection  
Elected Members  
Tourism & Community  
Elected Member  
Social Inclusion Interests  
Youth Sector

**Apologies**

A. Haverty, Education & Training Board.

**New Members**

Cllr. B. Chambers welcomed Cllr. Richard Nagle and Mr. Gerry Kelly, Age Friendly Alliance Board to the meeting.

**1. Minutes of meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 and matters arising. (attached) –**

Minutes of meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 were proposed by M. Slattery and seconded by D. Graham and agreed.

**2. Briefing on the current Local Community Development Programme.**

G. Dollard gave a background on the current Local Community Development Programme, which is run by the Clare Local Development Company. He stated that there will be a tender process for the new Local and Community Development Programme (LCDP) now called Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)

D. Graham gave a comprehensive presentation on the Local Community Development Programme.

In her presentation she outlined the following:

- The LCDCP Goals
- Target Groups in Clare
- Actions for the unemployed
- Actions for Older People
- Actions for Disadvantaged Young People
- Other Actions

D. Graham outlined that the LCDP aims to tackle poverty and social exclusion through partnership and constructive engagement between Government and its agencies and people in disadvantaged communities. The programme is also designed to assist disadvantaged older people and youth. The programme also supports training, small enterprise grants, mentoring.

The members thanked D. Graham for her comprehensive presentation. A questions and answers session ensued.

### **3. Update on tendering process for Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP).**

Due to conflict of interest, D. Graham, CLDC stepped out from the meeting for this agenda item.

G. Dollard updated the meeting in relation to the SCIAP timeframes. In relation to the tender, he stated that the closing date for queries from tenderers is the 9<sup>th</sup> December, 2014. He outlined that the closing date for receipt of the actual tenders is the 19<sup>th</sup> December, 2014.

When the tenders are submitted the Evaluation sub-committee members (as elected at the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 and as per guidelines from the Department of the

Environment, Community and Local Government) will evaluate the tender documents. It will be the first week of February in 2015 that the contract will be awarded. On the 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2015 the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme commences.

#### **4. Rural Development Programme (LEADER) 2014-2020 – Circular AL 05/2014 (attached).**

Circular Letter AL 05/2014 circulated to all members. G. Dollard outlined that national discussions have taken place with the Local Government Section. The Department have come up with a draft framework but no consensus at national level. He stated that discussions have commenced with the Clare Local Development Company. This is to see if agreement can be reached on an integrated approach to LEADER implementation under the umbrella of the Local Community Development Committee.

D. Graham stated that Clare County Council and Clare Local Development Company have a good working relationship. An initial meeting between both has taken place. CLDC presently runs the Leader Programme locally – national issues are ongoing which is drawing to a close. CLDC are currently seeing out the current Leader programme.

T. Coughlan asked that the dialogue continue between CLDC and Clare County Council and that discussions and consultation continue. He stated that there are problems at national level that need to be concluded.

#### **5. Local Community and Economic Plan – present status.**

G. Dollard stated that the LCDC will have the responsibility to prepare the community element of a 6 year Local Economic and Community Plan. He stated that the Plan will include two elements:

- a local economic element (prepared by the Enterprise Office of Clare County Council) and
- a community development element (prepared by the LCDC)

He outlined to the meeting that a final circular is awaited from the Department. In the meantime the Local Enterprise Office and the SPC will be doing the background work in relation to the plan.

## **6. Public Participation Network. (Circular attached)**

Circular CVSP2/2014 issued on the 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2014 regarding Public Participation Networks (PPNs) was circulated. G. Dollard informed the meeting that the PPN is a new complex structure. He stated that a briefing that held recently in Clonmel in relation to same. He outlined that the Clare Community Forum matters needs to be further addressed.

G. Dollard stated that the PPN guidelines do not allow the existing Community and Voluntary Forum to become the PPN. He stated that a public/countywide meeting will be held in Glór and all the community, voluntary, social inclusion and environmental organisations will be invited to attend for a briefing on the PPN and registration. Fr. Sean Healy will be invited to attend this meeting to explain the process, as he set up the Working Group on Citizen Engagement with local government.

All groups must be registered in order to have voting rights within the PPN. G. Dollard stated that if people do not attend the information briefing in Glór, an advert will be placed in the local media. Even if people have registered with the CCF previously, they will need to register again.

After the information evening in Glór, a County PPN will be established along with a PPN in each of the four Municipal Districts, Ennis, Shannon, Killaloe and West Clare. PPN members will be able to nominate representatives to the Strategic Policy Committee (SPC)

Groups that were previously registered with the Community and Voluntary Forum must register with the PPN and self select the Electoral College that is appropriate for their organisation. Community and Voluntary, Social Inclusion and Environmental Sector representation on the LCDC will be elected through the "electoral college" system. G. Dollard emphasised that groups that do not register with the PPN will not be eligible to participate at PPN meetings, or be involved in the nomination process to be elected to the various groups within Clare County Council.

**7. Date of next meeting.**

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting would be the **4<sup>th</sup> February, 2015 at 12 noon.**

**8. AOB.**

With no other business the meeting concluded.

**Signed:**

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**Chair**

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**Chief Officer**