

**Minutes of Clare Local Community Development Committee  
meeting (CLDC) on Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2014 at 3 p.m. in  
the Training Room, 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  
Mr. Gerard Dollard  
Mr. Andrew Dundas  
Mr. Pat Gaughran  
Ms. Dóirin Graham  
Mr. Maurice Harvey  
Ms. Aobhan Haverty  
Mr. Michael Hogan  
Mr. Jim Lynch  
Cllr. Mike McKee  
Ms. Ailish McMahon  
Ms. Annamarie O'Doherty  
Ms. Margaret Slattery

**Organisation:**

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

**Apologies:**

**Cllr. J. Flynn, Elected Member.**

1. **Introductions**

G. Dollard welcomed all members to the first formal meeting of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC). Short introductions followed.

G. Dollard outlined to the members the role of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) and emphasised three core responsibilities as follows:-

- **6-year Local Economic and Community Plan**

The LCDC will have the responsibility to prepare the community elements of a 6-year Local Economic and Community Plan.

- **Local Community Development Programme**

Oversight of the Local Community Development Programme run by the Clare Local Development Company. There will be a tender process for the new Local and Community Development Programme (LCDP) now called Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP).

- **LEADER Programme**

National discussions are currently going on.

2. **Composition and functions of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)**

Current membership of the Local Community Development Committee was circulated to all members.

G. Dollard stated that the July Council meeting, the Members agreed the membership of a 17 person Local Community Development Committee. The revised regulations provided for a 19 persons membership.

G. Dollard stated that the Corporate Policy Group has discussed the matter and has recommended that the Council would establish a 19 person Local Community Development Committee. There will be an increase in membership of 2 new members. This will result in an additional nominee from the public sector and an additional nominee from the private/community sector.

The following was being recommended to the full Council:-

- The additional nominee from the public sector should be the Chair of the Economic Development and Enterprise, Strategic Policy Committee of the Council;
- The additional nominee from the private/community sector should be from the Clare Age Friendly Alliance Board.

G. Dollard also emphasised the following to the members:-

- Attendance is important.
- Alternates for LCDC members are not permitted.
- Conflict of Interest – if anyone has a Conflict of Interest it has to be declared.
- There must be a majority of Private sector members in support of any decision being made by the LCDC. Public sector members may be required to step out in order to ensure a majority of those voting are private sector members.

3. **Election of Chair of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)**

Cllr. M. McKee proposed that Ms. D. Graham be Chair of the LCDC. Ms. Graham outlined that due to her role in Clare Local Development Company it would not be appropriate for her to be Chair. However, she stated that she would actively be involved as a member of the LCDC.

D. Graham proposed Cllr. B. Chambers as Chair of the LCDC. This was seconded by Cllr. M. McKee. There being no other nominations Cllr. B. Chambers was deemed elected.

4. **Election of Vice Chair of the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)**

Cllr. M. McKee proposed H. Downes as Vice Chair of the LCDC. This was seconded by A O'Doherty. There being no other nominations H. Downes was deemed elected.

5. **Adoption of Draft Standing Orders (attached)**

T. Coughlan proposed the adoption of the Draft Standing Orders. This was seconded by D. Graham.

6. **Update on tendering process for Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) (attached) –**

A briefing note on the current status on the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) had been circulated to all

members of the Committee. It has been compiled by a staff member who recently attended a briefing by Pobal in Dublin”

D. Graham updated the meeting on the Local Community Development Programme. Clare Local Development Company delivers the programme in County Clare. 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 with particular emphasis on RAPID in the Ennis area. The programme also supports training, small enterprise grants, mentoring.

Pobal manage the programme on behalf of the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government, the programme being delivered at a local level by the network of Local Development Companies, the Clare Youth Service and other bodies. Different groups are participating in education and employment and self employment. D. Graham also outlined the number of individuals supported as follows:-

689 young people, 32 community groups, 159 people in education, 300 in the labour force market etc.

With regard to the tendering process, the first phase began in May 2014, and assessed at national level by POBAL. The first phase of the tendering process has been dealt with nationally. The next stage would be the invitation to tender will be circulated to all the Local Authorities. G. Dollard asked the members did they wish to break up the County into different areas or leave as one contract, as up to now it ran as one contract. The Committee agreed to leave as one contract – (Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP)).

When the tenders are submitted an **Appraisal/Evaluation sub-committee** to be set up. The Committee agreed the three members as follows:-

- Cllr Bill Chambers
- Ms. Aobhan Haverty
- Mr. Maurice Harvey

This was seconded by A M O’Doherty and A. Dundas.

7. **Public Participation Network (PPN) (attached)**

G. Dollard informed the meeting that the Public Participation Network (PPN) structure arises from the Working Group report on Citizen Engagement with Local Government which was published by the Minister. He also stated that a meeting will be organised by POBAL later in September.

G. Dollard also informed the meeting that the Council, in conjunction with Clare Community Forum, are updating the register of community, voluntary, social inclusion and environmental organisations so that those wishing to participate in the electoral process for the PPN are on the register of such bodies.

It was noted that today approximately 681 groups in total are now registered with Clare Community Forum.

The members of the committee suggested extending the date for groups that have not yet registered to the 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2014. This was agreed.

8. **Economic and Community Plan**

In relation to the Economic and Community Plan, G Dollard stated that regulations and support documents will be circulated from the Department. In October the preparation of the plan will formally commence.

9. **Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting would be Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> October, 2014 at 3 p.m. in **Training Room, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

10. **AOB**

With no other business the meeting concluded.

Signed:

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**Chair**

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**Chief Officer**