

**Minutes of Clare Local Community Development Committee  
meeting (LCDC) on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015 at 3.00 p.m. in  
the Training Room, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co.  
Clare**

**In Attendance:**

Cllr. Bill Chambers  
Mr. Dermot Hayes  
Mr. Andrew Dundas  
Ms. Dóirin Graham  
Ms. Aobhan Haverty  
Ms. Mary O'Donoghue  
Mr. Cillian Murphy  
Cllr. Johnny Flynn  
Mr. Christy Leyden  
Cllr. Richard Nagle  
Mr. Padraic McElwee  
Mr. Tom Coughlan  
Mr. Gerard Dollard  
Ms. Esther Connellan  
Cllr. Mike McKee  
Mr. Martin McKeown  
Mr. Jim Lynch  
Mr. Gerry Kelly  
Ms. Margaret Slattery

**Organisation:**

Elected Member  
Social Inclusion Interests  
Agricultural Farmers Sector  
Clare Local Development Company  
Education & Training Board  
Social Inclusion Interests  
Community & Voluntary Interests  
Elected Member  
Community & Voluntary Interests  
Elected Member  
Head of Enterprise  
Chief Executive  
Chief Officer  
HSE  
Elected Member  
Environment Interests  
Department of Social Protection  
Age Friendly Alliance Board  
Youth Sector

**Also Present**

Ms. Monica Meehan	Tourism & Community
Mr. Michael Neylon	Tourism & Community
Ms. Ailish McMahan	Tourism & Community

**Apologies**

Ms. Helen Downes, Employers/Business

**1. Minutes of LCDC meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 and matters arising. (attached).**

Minutes of LCDC meeting held on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2015 were proposed by D. Hayes and seconded by G. Kelly.

G. Dollard outlined that there would be an amendment to the minutes in relation to the Mid-term review of the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) which was outlined by A. Haverty.

In relation to targets and the need for targets being set there need to be "right sized". Most agencies including the DSP, Intreo, LCETB, and the SICAP programmes support labour market activation and were designed when the unemployment rate was 15 ½ %"

D. Graham also requested a clarification to the minutes of meeting on the 30<sup>th</sup> September. She stated that the contact address of the ROMA group was in Harmony Row which is not a disadvantaged area. However many of the ROMA group did live in disadvantaged areas and this needed to be captured on the IRIS system.

## **2. Declaration re Conflicts of Interest.**

G. Dollard requested any declaration from the members regarding a Conflict of Interest for any item on the agenda.

D. Graham advised the meeting that she has a Conflict of Interest in relation to Item No.4 on the agenda – Draft Local Development Strategy and would leave the meeting for this item.

## **3. Local Economic and Community Plan – Draft Objectives and Actions for agreement (documentation to follow).**

M. Neylon informed the meeting that the objectives are being developed in a SMART form which will require benchmarks ("where we are now") and targets ("where will we get to") and a sample of two SMART objectives were attached to the list of objectives.

## **4. Draft Local Development Strategy (Workshop outcomes).**

G. Dollard referred to the Local Development Strategy workshop and informed the meeting that the Draft Local Development Strategy (LDS) will be available at the LCDC meeting scheduled for the 18<sup>th</sup> November.

## **5. Update on the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP).**

G. Dollard referred to the Clare Local Development Company Headline Indicator Report which was circulated to all members. He also referred to the Mid Year Review which was circulated at the September meeting.

G. Dollard referred to the previous meeting at Clare Local Development Company indicated that the full budget would not be spent at year end and that the targets would not be achieved.

D. Graham indicated that Clare Local Development Company was low on income.

G. Dollard referred to a meeting that is scheduled next Tuesday with Pobal where further discussions and negotiations will take place.

D. Graham left the meeting for the discussion on the tender and contract.

G. Dollard informed the meeting that Clare Local Development Company have not met mid-term targets and that the full budget will be under spent at year end.

G. Dollard referred to meeting that took place in September in which a Pobal representative attended (Mr. D. McSorley). With regard to key indicators set out in the contract, D. McSorley outlined that the targets are set and could not be changed as a change would impact on the national targets which are set by the Department. G. Dollard referred to Pobal's statement that 'remedies' apply if targets were not met.

G. Dollard outlined that funding from the Department is public funding and it cannot be released to Clare Local Development Company until the issue regarding targets is resolved and conditions of the contract are adhered to.

**6. Consider report from Chief Officer on Training Programmes. (attached)**

A. Haverly updated the meeting as follows:-

LCETB is made up of the three VECs, City of Limerick VEC, County Limerick VEC and Co Clare VEC, the former FAS training Centres in Shannon and Raheen and the locally managed FAS external and community based provision.

The Further Education and Training (FET) Division within the Limerick and Clare Education and Training Board (LCETB) offers a range of full-time and part-time programmes to over 15,000 learners in over 300 locations across the region every year.

SOLAS is the National Further Education and Training Authority in Ireland. It is responsible for funding, planning and co-ordinating training and further education programme through setting the National SOLAS FET Strategy 2014-2019 and Annual Services Plan 2015. Planning and implementation of programmes funded by SOLAS locally is the role of the Education and Training Board. Training under the remit of the Education and Training Board includes all of the following – some of which are delivered by the LCETB, some of which are externally contracted and run by other organisations and community group”.

A copy of the LCETB FET programme guide 2015/ 2015 was circulated at the meeting.

J. Lynch outlined that he has met with D. Graham and A. Haverty in relation to SICAP.

**7. Note approval of Rural Economic Development Zone initiatives for Scariff/Ennis/Shannon.(report attached)**

G. Dollard referred to the funding allocation under the three Flagships REDZ projects. He informed the meeting that the Council has developed a CEDRA Working Group and that three submissions were made by Clare County Council.

G. Dollard informed the meeting that Clare County Council has welcomed the allocation of funding to Ennis (€94,000), Scariff (€50,000) and Shannon (€40,000). He provided an update to the members on the summary of the proposed initiatives as follows:-

Scarriff – The initiative focuses on the creation of a destination for activity based holidays and includes a scoping exercise to identify current tourism product, branding and moving towards the creation of a unique brand as a destination for activity based holidays.

Shannon – The proposed is around using the multi functional Community & Arts Centre project – ‘The Venue’. €80,000 was sought for this project but only part funded – received €40,000.

Ennis – The initiative includes a feasibility on the covering of Parnell Street and development of the “The Height Area”. Also there is an initiative to create a digital hub to provide space. The digital hub

element would not be proceeding in light of reduced financial allocation.

**8. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 at 11.00 a.m. in the Training Room, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.

**9. AOB/Correspondence.**

G. Dollard referred to a recent announcement by the Taoiseach at the National Ploughing Championships in which €30m for the Village & Town Renewal scheme, which will be administered through the LCDC. He stated that further details are awaited.

With no other business the meeting concluded.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chair** **Chief Officer**