

**Minutes of Clare Local Community Development Committee meeting (LCDC) on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017 at 11.00 a.m. in Room 316, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

**In Attendance:**

Cllr. Bill Chambers  
Cllr. Johnny Flynn  
Cllr. Mike McKee  
Cllr. Richard Nagle  
Ms. Aobhan Haverty  
Mr. Jim Lynch  
Mr. Andrew Dundas  
Ms. Margaret Slattery  
Mr. Dermot Hayes  
Ms. Dóirín Graham  
Mr. Christy Leyden  
Ms. Mary O'Donoghue

**Organisation:**

Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Education & Training Board  
Department of Social Protection  
Agricultural Farmers Sector  
Youth Sector  
Social Inclusion  
Clare Local Development Company  
Community & Voluntary Interests  
Social Inclusion Interests

Ms. Monica Meehan  
Mr. Michael Neylon

Chief Officer  
Rural Development

**Apologies**

Mr. Pat Dowling  
Mr. Martin McKeown  
Ms. Esther Connellan  
Ms. Helen Downes  
Mr. Padraic McElwee  
Mr. Cillian Murphy

Chief Executive  
Environment Interests  
HSE  
Employers/Business  
Head of Enterprise  
Community & Voluntary Interests

**1. Minutes of LCDC meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017 and matters arising.**

The minutes of the LCDC meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> February 2017 were proposed by Cllr R. Nagle and seconded by A. Dundas.

Apologies noted.

**2. Declarations re Conflict of Interest**

As there were no items on the agenda where a conflict of interest might arise, none were declared.

**3. Communities Facilities Scheme**

M. Meehan referred to the information that was circulated by email regarding the new Communities Facilities Scheme. She confirmed that the total fund available is €64,500. The focus of the scheme is to provide small scale capital grants for community projects.

She advised that the maximum grant is €1,000 per project but that the LCDC can use its discretion to recommend a higher grant rate if a project requires the additional funding in order to be delivered. The types of eligible costs include office equipment, project resources, research facilities, energy efficiency equipment, etc. for voluntary groups. Match-funding from other sources is not a requirement for application approval. Examples of eligible projects include:

- Development/renovation of community centres
- Community amenities
- Youth clubs
- Sports/recreation facilities
- Improvements to town parks and common areas and spaces
- Creative Ireland Programme 2017-2022 projects

The following expenditure is not eligible for funding:

- Any project not in keeping with the ethos of the Scheme or which does not address at least one of the target groups and thematic areas
- Any current funding projects or elements of projects
- Employment costs
- Routine maintenance, minor repairs or other ongoing costs
- Legal fees
- Project management fees
- Purchase of lands or buildings
- Feasibility studies
- Private or commercial operations

Applications will be checked initially by the LCDC to ensure eligibility under the ethos of the Scheme and complementarity with the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) for the area.

The LCDC will make a recommendation and submit the application to the Municipal District. The Municipal District will review the application taking into consideration the LCDC recommendation and make the final decision.

The deadline for receipt of applications is the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 (set nationally) and members were requested to promote the scheme.

#### **4. CLÁR Scheme**

M. Meehan referred to the CLÁR 2017 Scheme which was announced by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and as circulated previously.

The LCDC has responsibility for approving projects under Measure 3 of the Scheme i.e. Targeted Community Infrastructure Needs for submission to the Department.

A report was circulated at the meeting which detailed four applications received under Measure 3. The projects include the Michael Cusack Centre, Carron for the provision of an astro-turf playing facility at a cost of €25,000; Connolly Tidy Village for completion works to a 6km walking trail at a cost of €16,000; Miltown Malbay Development Company for the re-development of the community centre at a cost of €750,000 and the North West Clare Family Resource Centre for the fit out and renovation of a premises to accommodate the 'Little Deers' Community Childcare service at a cost of €78,500.

Each project was discussed in detail and the members were requested to number the projects in order of priority. The following order was agreed:

1. North West Clare Family Resource Centre
2. Miltown Malbay Development Company
3. Michael Cusack Centre, Carron
4. Connolly Tidy Village

M. Meehan confirmed that a submission will be made to the Department by the deadline of the 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

#### **5. Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme – List of sub-contractors for noting**

M. Meehan advised the meeting that this matter was before the last meeting of the LCDC and that the members had requested clarification on their role regarding retrospective approval of sub-contractors.

M. Meehan confirmed that she sought clarity from Pobal who has confirmed that retrospective approval of subcontractors for 2015/2016 is not required and that the list be presented to the LCDC for information purposes.

She confirmed that the procurement of sub-contractors is not a matter for the LCDC. The Programme Implementer is responsible for managing this process and adhering to the Programme Requirements.

The 2017 list of sub-contractors (as at February 2017) was presented to the February meeting and was noted also.

**6. Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme – Presentation on Disadvantaged Areas and Target Groups**

M. Neylon gave a presentation on the deprivation scores and areas of disadvantage and how they relate to the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme and County Clare. He outlined the criteria which influence deprivation and affluence and these include indicators on age dependency, population change, education level (primary/3<sup>rd</sup> level), lone parents, persons per room, professional class, semi-unskilled classes, unemployment (male/female).

He advised that the population of 'deprived' electoral divisions in Clare totals 5,617. At small area level, the population of deprived small areas totals 10,230 while the population of very deprived small areas totals 1,643.

Current SICAP targets for deprived and very deprived areas is 14%.



**7. AOB**

The next meeting of the LCDC will take place in early July – to be confirmed.

With no other business, the meeting concluded.

**ACTION ITEMS FROM MEETING**

Action	Responsibility of	By date
Promote the Communities Facilities Scheme to eligible community groups	All	30 <sup>th</sup> June 2017
Circulate the Presentation on Disadvantaged Areas/Target groups	M. Neylon	Before next meeting

Signed:    
**Chair** **Chief Officer**