

**Minutes of Clare Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) meeting  
on Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 03.00pm. in the Training Room, Level 0,  
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

**In Attendance:**

Mr. Andrew Dundas  
Cllr. Bill Chambers  
Cllr. Johnny Flynn  
Cllr. Gerard Flynn  
Ms. Ann Marie Flanagan  
Mr. Padraic McElwee  
Ms. Margaret Slattery  
Ms. Mary O'Donoghue  
Mr. Paul Patton  
Mr. Jim Lynch  
Ms. Kasia Kowalska  
Ms. Niamh O'Callaghan  
Ms. Theresa O'Donohoe

**Organisation:**

Agricultural Farmers Sector (Chairperson)  
Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Elected Member  
Social Inclusion Interests  
Head of Enterprise  
Youth Sector  
Social Inclusion Interests  
Education & Training Board  
Department of Employment Affairs & Social Protection  
Community & Voluntary Interests  
Community & Voluntary Interests  
Environmental Interests

Ms. Monica Meehan  
Ms. Deirdre Power

Chief Officer  
Rural Development

**Apologies**

Cllr. Cillian Murphy  
Mr. Pat Dowling  
Ms. Dóirin Graham  
Ms. Esther Connellan  
Ms. Helen Downes

Elected Member  
Chief Executive  
Clare Local Development Company  
HSE  
Employers/Business

A. Dundas welcomed all to the meeting and introduced the three new PPN representatives, K. Kowalska, N. O'Callaghan and T. O'Donohoe. He also thanked M. McKeown for his attendance and commitment to the LCDC during his time as a member.

**1. Minutes of LCDC meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> June 2019 and matters arising**

A. Dundas asked if the minutes had been read and if there were any matter arising from same. As there were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting the minutes were proposed by P. Patton and seconded by J. Lynch.

**2. SICAP 2019 Mid-Year Review**

M. Meehan told the new members that this was the second programme of SICAP. She explained to them that the LCDC is the programme manager while CLDC is the programme implementer. Each year there is an annual plan process between the LCDC and CLDC and the actions for 2019 were agreed upon at the beginning of the year. The SICAP sub-committee made up of P. Patton, J. Lynch, M. O'Donoghue & M. Slattery has an oversight role and monitors the implementation of the annual plans and reports to the LCDC.

There are two goals within the programme –Goal one, Support of Community Groups has six actions and Goal two, Support of Individuals has eight actions. The Budget for 2019 is €872,448. There is then a mid-year review and end of year review process which monitors the programme delivery and achievement of targets that are set annually.

A. Dundas invited D. Power to update the meeting regarding the mid-year review of SICAP.

D. Power told the meeting that there is a technical check carried out on the IRIS system. This is a CRM system used by CLDC to input all information regarding SICAP, which then in turn allows reports to be drawn down. There are two reports which are checked - the non-financial report which shows the total number of local community groups and individuals that CLDC have had interventions with. To date, CLDC are on target with 22 out of 32 groups assisted and 58% of individuals having received one or more interventions. The annual budget is also in line with costs allocated at this point of the programme. Amendments have been made to the Clare County Council and Clare Local Development Company websites to comply with ESF publicity guidelines. As Chairperson of the SICAP sub committee]. Lynch said that the sub-committee were happy to recommend the review for approval as they were satisfied with progress CLDC have made in dealing with groups and individuals from the more disadvantaged areas of the county which they had been tasked with.

AM. Flanagan asked if a focus group of beneficiaries of the programme could be asked to tell the committee their experiences of the SICAP programme, how they have benefited from it and other feedback regarding progression and needs going forward. M. Meehan replied that in 2019 a consultation workshop was held with the LCDC and CLDC and that people who had benefited from the programme presented to the committee. These presentations were taken into consideration during the planning of the 2019 annual plan. Both parties found this workshop to be very beneficial. It was then agreed to approve the Mid-year review for SICAP and this was proposed by Cllr. B. Chambers and seconded by M. Slattery.

### **3. Community Enhancement Programme – Men’s Shed Fund**

D. Power related the list of proposed funding for the Men’s Shed Community Enhancement Programme 2019. €11,780.00 has been allocated to sheds in Clare and 10 sheds are eligible for funding in total. All Men’s Sheds must be affiliated with the National Men’s Shed organisation. The funding was broken down as evenly as possible to each of the groups. Funding was requested for tools, equipment, some small building repair works and hard landscaping. The committee was happy to approve the funding and this was proposed by Cllr G. Flynn and seconded by Cllr B. Chambers.

A short discussion then took place regarding what resources were available to support the setting up of a Men’s Shed in a town/village. M. Meehan told the group that a Men’s Shed was recently set up in Cloughleigh with assistance from the Rural & Community Development Officer. She informed the meeting that the Rural & Community Development Officers are available to support voluntary groups. They are in the Municipal District offices one or two days a week and appointments can be made with them.

It was also planned to have clinics in the coming months where the Rural & Community Development Officers would be available to meet community groups. M. O'Donoghue asked could a specific evening be held for Men's Sheds showing how they are set up etc. M. Meehan advised that there is a local Co-ordinator through the National Organisation and that this would be the best option in terms of information sharing.

#### **4. Healthy Clare Working Group**

M. Meehan told the group that the Healthy Clare Strategy was launched in March and now a working group was being put in place to oversee the implementation of the Strategy. On the previous working group three members of the LCDC sat on it and they were M. McKeown, Cllr. B. Chambers and Cllr. J. Flynn. A new working group has now been set up and the following are the members; Denis Creedon (Independent Chair), John Sweeney (Clare Sports Partnership), Geri Quinn (HSE – Health Promotion), Michael Collins (HSE – Mental Health) and Tim Forde (Clare Co. Co. Sports & Recreation). There are four seats for members of the LCDC and this will consist of two Co. Councillors and two others. AM. Flanagan asked if she could sit on this working group as she has worked in the area of Mental Health & Wellbeing. Cllr. J. Flynn also asked if he could be part of this group as one of the key actions in the strategy is to have a pilot Healthy Ireland Town. Cllr. B. Chambers and K. Kowalska also said they would like to be part of this working group. They were approved by the committee. It was also agreed that AM. Flanagan and Cllr. B. Chambers would sit on the funding sub-committee for Healthy Ireland.

A discussion then took place with regard to Healthy Ireland Funding. M. Meehan told the committee that a public call for applications would be advertised in the Clare Champion, The Clare Echo and it would also be on Clare County Council's social media. The assessed applications must be submitted to Pobal by the 20<sup>th</sup> of September 2019. Pobal are happy for them to be approved retrospectively at the next meeting of the LCDC on the 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019.

N. O'Callaghan requested a timeline of capital funds be issued and requested that the Department and Pobal be asked for a schedule of when these grants would be made available.

#### **5. Any Other Business**

M. O'Donoghue asked would it be possible to set down a date for a meeting of the Community Implementation Team in order to discuss the LECP. She also asked would it be possible if a member of the LCDC could be put on the Economic Implementation Team as there needs to be a link between the community aspects and the economic aspects of the plan. M. O'Donoghue also asked if there was any progress with the vouchers for laundry services and hot meals for homeless families which are currently living in emergency accommodation. M. Meehan told the committee that she had referred the request to the Social Directorate at the time but she will follow up.

N.O'Callaghan requested that actions from the LCDC meeting minutes are defined and followed up on prior to the next meeting.

AM. Flanagan asked why an item which was discussed under 'Any Other Business' at a previous meeting was not a main item on the agenda for the next one.

She had requested the Universal Access Design would be on the agenda and it was not. AM. Flanagan enquired regarding the possibility of a presentation being made by an expert. A brief discussion took place and it was agreed there should be a 30 minute discussion on Universal Access Design as the group feel they need more information on same and how it impacts decisions made regarding funding. M Meehan then asked what exactly would the discussion cover. AM. Flanagan requested that a presentation would be made by a professional with expertise on the matter, and an outline of what the role of the Local Authority is and how it could relate to future LCDC funding.

With no other business the meeting concluded.

### **ACTION ITEMS FROM MEETING**

<b>Action</b>	<b>Lead</b>	<b>Timeline</b>
SICAP Worksop 2019 to include beneficiaries of the programme.	SICAP subcommittee	October 2019
Assign new members B. Chambers & AM. Flanagan to the Healthy Ireland funding sub-committee.	K. Fennessy – Healthy Clare Co-ordinator.	September 2019
Assign new members B. Chambers, J.Flynn, AM. Flanagan & K. Kowalska to the Healthy Ireland working group.	K. Fennessy – Healthy Clare Co-ordinator.	September 2019
Request a timeline of capital funding from the Dept. of Rural & Community Development	D. Power	October 9th
Set a date for the Community Implementation Team Meeting	D. Power	September 19th
Follow up request to re: Vouchers for Homeless	M. Meehan	October 9th
Universal Access Design Presentation to be arranged	M. Meehan	October 9th

**The next meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 11.00a.m., Training Room, Level 0, Aras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co Clare**

Signed:   
 Chairperson

  
 Chief Officer