

**Minutes of
Clare Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
meeting held on
13th Sep 2023 at 11.30am
[Hybrid meeting online and The Hub, Quin Road Business Park Ennis]**

In Attendance

Mr. Paul Patton
Ms. Bernie Haugh
Ms. Dóirín Graham
Cllr. Gerry Flynn
Mr. Maurice Harvey
Ms. Hilary Tonge
Ms. Sheila Lynch
Brian Mc Manus
Cllr Cillian Murphy
Mr. Padraic McElwee
Mr. Dermot Hayes
Sgt. Triona Brooks
Theresa O' Donoghue

Organisation

Chairperson - LCETB
Chief Officer
Clare Local Development Company
Elected Member (Vice Chair)
Age Friendly Alliance Board
Community & Voluntary Clare PPN
Ennis Chamber
Clare Youth Service
Elected Member
Head of Enterprise
Social Inclusion Interests
An Garda Síochána
Environmental Interest Representation PPN

Attending (On-Line)

Cllr. Johnny Flynn Elected Member
Ms. Bedelia Collins HSE

Rural Staff Support

Mr. Brendan Boyce Rural Development
Ms. Anita O'Loughlin Rural Development

Apologies Received.

Mr. Thomas Lane Agricultural Farmers Sector
Ms. Bridgie Casey Social Inclusion Clare PPN
Mr. Jason Murphy Acting Director of Services Rural Development
Directorate
Eddie O'Gorman Community and Voluntary Representative P
Cllr. Bill Chambers Elected Member (On Leave)
Mr. Frank Cullinan Rural Development

Guests

Dr. Sean Ó'Riordáin Consultant (On-Line)

TOPIC 1: MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

Issue: Chairperson Paul Patton welcomed members to the meeting.

- Approval of Minutes from LCDC Meeting 24th May 2023
- No matters arising.

A minute silence was held to acknowledge the passing of Brian McManus mother Patty.

Proposed: Cllr.Gerry Flynn

Seconded: Brian Mc Manus

TOPIC 2: LCDC MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Issue: Chair Paul Patton welcomed on behalf of the LCDC members 3 new members to the LCDC.

- Eddie O Gorman Community and Voluntary Representative from Clare PPN
- Theresa O Donoghue Acting Environmental Interest Representation from Clare PPN
- Seargent Catherina Brooks (Crime Prevention Officer from An Garda Siochana) as State Agency Rep replacing Dept of Social Protection on the LCDC

Members are to return the following documents that were issued to them on Wednesday 06th Septembers 23 by Anita at their earliest convenience.

- Code of Conduct
- Declaration of Interest
- Standing Orders

TOPIC 3: Healthy Clare Micro Fund

Issue: Dena McGrath, Healthy Clare Coordinator wrote to the Chair in July regarding the fund, following a meeting with the Healthy Clare Working Group which took place on Wednesday, 19th July 2023 to assess the Healthy Clare Micro Fund call out applications.

The fund was heavily oversubscribed.

There were 50 applications for over 90K in projects:

25 of them were mental health promotion projects to the value of €49,845,

18 of them were healthy weight projects to the value of €34,435.

4 applications were received under Breast Feeding initiatives to the value of €3,000 – redirected to creative Ireland funding.

3 further projects were funded under Clare Autism Aware to the value of 6,450.

There was a time constraint on issuing the letters of offer to allow applicants to deliver the projects. The Healthy Clare Working Group as subcommittee of the LCDC had met and reviewed all applications against the grant criteria and recommended the list of successful applicants to Chair of the LCDC for sign-off. That list is before you now for noting.



Proposal Letter to the LCDC.docx

Feedback Dermot Hayes noted the volume of applications that applied for the funding.
Hillary Tonge stated that Dena was going a great job as Healthy Clare Coordinator.

TOPIC 4: Presentation by Clare PPN on Community Engagement Pilot Findings

Issue: Clare PPN gave a very informative presentation to the LECP Advisory Steering on Monday last on the Community Engagement Pilot which was funded by Pobal through Clare County Council and

led by the Clare PPN in conjunction with CLDC and LCETB. Sarah present to the LCDC to share those findings from the pilot which is intended will support the LCDC's to develop meaningful strategies to engage marginalised groups that reflected through the Local Economic and Community Plan, Planning, Implementation and Review.



LECP Project
Presentation Steerin

Feedback:

Cllr. Cillian Murphy stated that it was a good presentation with good clear information, he found the Tourism piece very interesting to see it highlighting the green issues and offshore wind issues, studies coming from America are showing the impact on wild sea life. How can we deliver without an impact on sea life. How can we councilors get this information, is it better for all councilors to get all the information or break it down to each group within the council.

Sarah Clancy advised that a lot of issues are interlinked, it shows the demographic issues with housing in Clare and also the net migration issues, the LECP can come in to include to interlink the issues within Clare.

Cillian Murphy -Action could come from SPC's.

Cllr. Gerry Flynn welcomed the presentation, the LECP to incorporate the information the Sarah has outlined, he stated that a lot of government policies are not working well, addressing housing issues into the actions. Hugh issue around just transition and Data centers.

Dermot Hayes – echoed the same as others on Sarah's presentation, while mentioning that it is important to become a multi-cultural society.

Maurice Harvey- complemented Sarah in her presentation, he feels that it is in line with what is happening on the ground and the next step would be to implement change.

Sarah Clancy – data is the Key for implementation it can provided a county breakdown and help improve schemes.

Bedelia Collins – Thanked Sarah for her presentation and said it is important to get the information to implement actions.

Theresa O Donoghue – Mentioned that there was a SAA funding for housing package in place for retro fitting in the country but states that our housing stock is different to other parts of the country and the council should revisit this.

Doírín Graham- This is an important piece of work and needed to inform the LECP along with more Data, we need to build on more information and that we are following through on these and that we also reference Sarahs report, and we base our LECP on this key basis.

TOPIC 5: Presentation of the Draft LECP by consultant Seán O' Riordáin for LCDC Membership.

Issue:

The Chair outlined that the Draft LECP is due to be presented to the Regional Assembly on the 11th October where they have requested a copy of the draft by the end of September. The chair advised the members that this may not be an unrealistic target as we needed as an LCDC to be signing off on the Draft LECP today, he states that while we have agreed our High-Level Goals and Objectives, we now need to focus on the Actions and Outcomes.

The chair suggests that the LCDC and Advisory Steering Group that the LCDC members make the decision to assign responsibility for the development of the LECP Actions to the Steering Group which is made up of Members from the Economic SPC and LCDC who can arrange a workshop similar to that which we had on Monday last to work on the Actions, he think it needs to be progressed with a more focused group so they can consider how the goals and objectives can be delivered through SMART actions.

We will circulate a document today and would welcome any feedback before Friday and we can use your submissions to formulate a discussion document for the LECP Advisory Steering Group. Then we can reconvene as an LCDC at a Special Meeting, One Item Agenda, to sign off on the draft LECP for public consultation.

It was proposed a Special Meeting of LCDC on 4th October and the Advisory Steering Group can convene in the interim.

Provisional Dates of 25th September and 2nd October

Agreed by all Members.

Action:

A draft copy of the LECP Goals and objectives, along with the socio-economic profile for Clare will be circulated to the LCDC members for their submissions on strategic action that align with your operational plans, it was proposed that members return their submission by Friday 15th September 2023.

Bernie Haugh – We are now looking at the Goals and Objectives, which we are largely in agreement with, she advised that we are not

at sign off stage, we need to look at the action further and see who is going to lead out on these and what can the LCDC deliver.

Paul Patton- we are trying to interweave feedback into concrete action. Point no 10 outlines the draft wording received from housing.

Cllr.Gerry Flynn – stated that Objective 1.6 is very important and under point 6 is happy that the objective is cover.

Bernie Haugh- Outlines that this is just a discussion document at the moment and is to be presented to steering group.

Cllr. Johnny Flynn – Last steering group meeting took 3 hours and advised that he is unavailable for the 25th September.

Consultant Sean O' Riordain- The key now is to sign off on the objectives, the LCDC is an oversight body when we are looking at the objectives we need actions, we need to hear back from agency bodies and identify the gaps. If we get one action under each objective, we need agencies to see how they can deliver on these. The Data we have for Clare is inaccurate and we need clearer data. If we could get a Living Lab up and running this is a objective under 6.3 it may be something the regional assemble would be interested in. We need to keep the objective's wide open to allow flexibility over the 6-year plan.

Cllr. Cillian Murphy – asked Sean if when new go out to public consultation and when submissions are received can we look at these against the draft and if 4.5 things are identified that we can match against our current objectives that this will identify the gaps, loop head together are in the middle of piolet piece in for a living lab just to make members aware for a climate action piece.

Paul Patton mentioned LCETB has been successful in Erasmus plus for green innovation.

Doirin Graham- Outside of CSO figures it difficult to get the Data. If there is additional information through the Local Authority or Simon also additional information for transport and look at the DSP for updated data on unemployment, SEAI for data around renewal energy and the Healthcare service for data.

TOPIC 8: AOB-

Bernie Haugh read out an email to the members of the LCDC that she received from the DRCD enterprise team.

Robert Nicholson, Principal Officer for Social Enterprise and Rural Strategy spoke at the recent LCDC Networking event in Athlone and indicated he would issue the current and official Irish definition of social enterprise along with some supporting material.

TOPIC 10: Next LCDC Meeting

- **Wednesday: 4th October 2023 (Special Meeting)**
- **Ordinary Meeting Date: 22nd November 2023**

Signed:



LCDC

Mr. Paul Patton

Chairman:

Signed:



LCDC Chief

Bernie Haugh

Officer: