

**Minutes of
Clare Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
In -Person meeting held on
21st February 2024 at 11.00am
[Quin Road Business Park Ennis]**

In Attendance

Ms. Anne Haugh
Ms. Bernie Haugh
Mr. Paul Patton
Mr. Maurice Harvey
Cllr. Rita McInerney
Mr. Brian Mc Manus
Cllr. Cillian Murphy
Mr. Padraic McElwee
Mr. Dermot Hayes
Serg. Catriona Holohan
Ms. Bridgie Casey
Mr. Thomas Lane
Ms. Theresa O'Donoghue

Organisation

Director of Services
Chief Officer
LCETB (Vice Chair) Joined On-Line
Age Friendly Alliance Board
Elected Member
Clare Youth Service
Elected Member
Head of Enterprise
Social Inclusion Interests
Garda Siochana
Social Inclusion Clare PPN
Agricultural Farmers Sector
Environmental Interest Representation PPN

Rural Staff Support

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

Apologies Received

Cllr. Johnny Flynn	Elected Member
Ms. Bedelia Collins	HSE
Mr. Eddie O'Gorman	Community and Voluntary Representative PPN
Cllr. Gerry Flynn	Elected Member (Chair)
Ms. Sheila Lynch	Ennis Chamber
Ms. Doírín Graham	Clare Local Development Company

Guests

Dr. Sean Ó'Riordáin	Consultant
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TOPIC 1: MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

Issue: Vice Chairperson Paul Patton welcomed members to the meeting and guest speakers.

- Approval of Minutes from LCDC Meeting 24th January 2024
- No matters arising.

Proposed: Cllr.Cillian Murphy

Seconded: Dermot Hayes

TOPIC 2: LOCAL PRESENTATION

Issue: Local Link staff Anne Gaughan and Cillian Griffey gave LCDC members a presentation on TFI Local Link Limerick and Clare

A presentation detailed how Local Link has been strengthening transport connectivity across the County. The Clare Survey 2023 had highlighted transport as the second highest priority in Clare that required improvement and investment and the LCDC welcomes any developments in this area. Transport was also identified as a High-Level goal in the LECP, so this presentation is timely as the LCDC move to sign off on the LECP framework and are working as Agencies on the development of the first of three 2-year implementation plans.

Feedback: Dermot Hayes praised the service which has been echoed back to him from members of the public, he asked if there were plans to make the Mountshannon route wheelchair accessible.

Anne advised Dermot that they are currently awaiting busses with a lower level, she also outlined that there is currently a shortage of drivers both locally and nationally, so she advised to book a bus with accessibility where possible.

Maurice Harvey also welcomed the service but asked if the free travel pass was valid on this service ?

Anne Gaughan advised Maurice that yes, they are valid.

Cllr Cillian Murphy felt the TFI Go app is very difficult to use, and you need to know the route number to use it.

Theresa O 'Donoghue thanked Anne and Cillian for their presentation and highlighted the issue of updated timetables.

Cllr. Rita McInerney also thanked Cillian and Anne for their presentation ,she herself is an Agent for AN POST and feels it is important that people know that agents may not necessary be the post office. She requested updated information for a community campaign. She feels there needs to be a linkage between the LCETB and the youth from loop head. She also asked if there was any consideration for a nighttime service especially for people attending events.

Anne informed Cllr McInerney that they are currently enhancing the Kilrush route and looking into a direct service. In relation to night-time services the issue is a lack of drivers.

Paul Patton will connect with Anne and Cillian and have a separate conversation around increasing training for drivers through courses and will also invite the DSP and Local Link.

Brian Mc Manus would like to work with them re youth initiative's especially a later bus from Lahinch to Ennis and an extra bus leaving Lahinch in the summer.

Chief Officer Bernadette Haugh stated that Transport is a key action under the LECP and needs to be signposted by all the agencies in Clare, that we could do something around the social media element and promote connectivity.



TFI Local Link Clare
LCDC 2024.pptx

TOPIC 3: MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Issue:

LCDC Membership update

The Chief Officer advised the members that PPN membership on the LCDC is awaiting new nominations. She has engaged with Clare PPN on current PPN vacancies on the LCDC and have been advised that a meeting has been scheduled for March 05th 2024 for sufficient interest to be ascertained to roll out PPN elections on the current vacant positions on the LCDC.

TOPIC 4: Funding Update

Issue:

- SICAP and New Arrival Drawdown
- LEP Funding
- Dormant Account Funds – LGBTI+ Funding Requests

SICAP:

- The Department of Rural and Community Development together with Pobal held a series of workshops in February to support the implementation of the new work programme for 2024 -2028. Additional training for the users of this platform will be rolled out for LCDC'S and PI's from March 5th to 5th June 2024. The aim of the workshops was to advise programme implementors and LCDC's of the changes to the new programme and update on the new application system to be used by programme implementors and LCDC's in running the programme.

LEP Funding:

Reminder to members that the fund is open for applications. Applications can be submitted online via clarecoco.submit.com. To date we have received 73 applications. Closing date for receipt of applications is Friday 1st March at 4pm. Funding of €166,056.66 has been awarded to Clare.

Dormant Account Funding LBGTI + Funding

Details of the four applications were presented to the finance subcommittee on the 21st January 2024. The subcommittee has requested further information on how their proposals would proceed if funding was reduced, and would they be in a position to proceed. All applicants have responded with their revised proposals which will be presented to the finance subcommittee on the 27th February 2024.

TOPIC 5: LECF Framework Document

Issue:

- LECF framework Document for LCDC Sign off.
- Next Steps by Consultant Dr. Sean Ó'Riordáin



LCDC
PRESENTATION 21S1

Chief Officer Bernadette Haugh advised members that the document is almost at the completion stage with just a few minor graphical amendments to be made. The members were informed that the document will be brought to the members of the Economic SPC on Monday 26th February for sign off and for sign off today by the LCDC members.

The next stage will be presenting the document to the Municipal Districts and the Southern Regional Assembly for consideration regarding consistency with the County Development Plan, RSES and consistency between the economic and community elements of the LECP before adoption at full council in April.

Dr. Sean Ó'Riordáin advised that the socio-economic analysis is very important as it gives a detailed understanding of the county and a strong profile of each Municipal District.

Feedback:

Teresa O'Donoghue asked if the SEA is available and Dr. Sean O' Riordian advised it had been published and placed on public display during the public consultation process.

Paul Patton says that there are some tangible actions in the plan for example Drivers for buses where the LCETB can provide training for Drivers and machinery operators which will include Electric buses and F Gas training.

Cllr Cillian Murphy acknowledged the significant effort in engagement on the LECP between Clare County Council and the public.

Chief Officer Bernadette Haugh acknowledged the efforts of the LCDC and their approach in developing the LECP.

Chief Officer informed members that once the document has been adopted a copy will need to be submitted to the Minister and consideration given on a Launch date. Possible dates to look at are April 15th or 22nd 2024.

Paul Patton advised that it is important to remember that we have to develop three two-year implementation plan and will need to respond to changes and be flexible to any changes within the county.

Reference was made to an MOU of the Lead Agencies to drive delivery of the LECP, Pdraig McElwee referenced an existing written agreement between CLDC and the Local Enterprise Office.

Proposer: Teresa O'Donoghue

Secunder: Brian McManus

TOPIC 6: Draft LCDC Annual report 2023

Issue: Draft LCDC Annual Report 2023:

In 2023 much of the focus was on the development of the Local Economic Community Plan however the Draft LCDC Annual report as prepared by LCDC support staff highlights the various levels of engagement through different Funding opportunities and initiatives such as:

- Inclusive Community Engagement in Local planning and decision-making pilot.
- The community recognition Fund
- The traveller Community engagement Project
- Healthy Clare Action Plan and Micro Fund
- SICAP

Hard copies are available today for review and feedback to the LCDC support staff by Wednesday 06th March 2024 .

Brendan Boyce informed members this document is at Draft stage and is a requirement by the LCDC.

Paul Patton thanked the LCDC staff for all the work undertaken in the background in preparation for meetings and meeting our statutory obligations as an LCDC.

Action: Anita O'Loughlin to email a copy to all members.

TOPIC 7: AOB-

Chair Paul Patton formally congratulated the CLDC on their success in their Local Development Strategy for delivery of the LEADER Programme in Clare. He referred to the circulation of LEADER correspondence:

- Copy of correspondence issued to LCDC Members on Monday 19th February 2024 & Letter from DRCD
- Copy of Letter from CE Pat Dowling to CEO Doirín Graham.

The chair informed the members of the correspondence from the DRCD with the option to appeal the decision of the Independent Selection Committee remaining open to the LCDC. Members accepted the decision of the DRCD and noted their intention to move forward to work with CLDC in the spirit of collaboration recognizing that the LEADER Programme represents €6.8 million of funding into the County's economy irrespective of who's delivering the Programme.

Action:

Members invited the CLDC to present to the LCDC on the LEADER Programme to brief the members on the main Themes and action which in turn will inform the LECF.

Proposer: Theresa O'Donoghue

Seconder: Cllr.Cillian Murphy

TOPIC 8: Next LCDC Meeting

Next Meeting: 10th April 2024

Signed:



LCDC Vice
Chairman:

Mr. Paul Patton

Signed:



LCDC Chief
Officer:

Bernie Haugh