

**Minutes of Clare Local Community Development Committee meeting (LCDC) on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2016 at 11.00 a.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. Dóirín Graham  
Ms. Aobhan Haverty  
Cllr. Richard Nagle  
Mr. Gerry Kelly  
Ms. Mary O'Donoghue  
Mr. Cillian Murphy  
Mr. Martin McKeown  
Ms. Margaret Slattery  
Ms. Helen Downes  
Ms. Esther Connellan

**Organisation:**

Elected Member  
Social Inclusion Interests  
Agricultural Farmers Sector  
Clare Local Development Company  
Education & Training Board  
Elected Member  
Age Friendly Alliance Board  
Social Inclusion Interests  
Community & Voluntary Interests  
Environment Interests  
Youth Sector  
Employers/Business  
HSE

**Also Present**

Mr. Gerard Dollard	Chief Officer
Ms. Monica Meehan	Tourism & Community
Mr. Michael Neylon	Tourism & Community
Ms. Ailish McMahan	Tourism & Community

**Apologies**

Mr. Tom Coughlan	Chief Executive
Mr. Jim Lynch	Department of Social Protection
Mr. Padraic McElwee	Head of Enterprise
Cllr. Mike McKee	Elected Member
Mr. Christy Leyden	Community & Voluntary Interests

**1. Minutes of LCDC meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015 and matters arising. (attached).**

Minutes of LCDC meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2015 were proposed by G. Kelly and seconded by C. Murphy.

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

G. Dollard requested any declaration from members regarding a Conflict of Interest for any item on the agenda to declare at the commencement of each meeting. No member present declared a conflict of interest.

### **3. Declaration of Interest and Code of Conduct.**

A Declaration of Interest and Code of Conduct was circulated to all members as per Circular LG 2/2015 issued from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government under Part 15 of the Local Government Act made by the Standards in Public Office Commission. G. Dollard requested that all members submitted the completed forms and return as soon as possible.

### **4. Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP).(attached)**

Programme Implementer (CLDC) to make presentation:-

- 2015 end of year review
- 2016 Annual Plan (Draft).

G. Dollard informed the meeting the Local Community Development Committee is required to review implementation of the 2015 Annual Plan and to sign off on this process and also to agree the 2016 Annual Plan.

With regard to the 2015 end of year review, G. Dollard informed the meeting that feedback had been received from Pobal and the Department yesterday and that there are a number of items/anomalies that need to be addressed with regard to the delivery of actions/targets.

G. Dollard outlined that SICAP is a national programme funded by the Department and they have an entitlement to set parameters. He outlined that Clare Local Development Company are the contractor and it is their responsibility to deliver the contract. With regard to the 2015 End of Year Review, G. Dollard also outlined that Pobal and the Department are not happy with the 2015 under spend and requested an assurance that this will not occur again in 2016.

G. Dollard outlined that the feedback from the Department and Pobal is that Clare is out of sync with compared to the other counties.

Goal 3 action "To Employment" has not been met.

With regard to the draft 2016 Annual Plan G. Dollard outlined that 10% of change to the proposed targets is allowed but not 37%. A reduction of 90% to Educational support for Young People is not allowable, only a change of 10% is allowable.

M. Meehan outlined that SICAP is a three goal programme, and it is not acceptable to ignore adult provision. She outlined that Pobal and the Department have reviewed the Goal Two actions in the 2016 Plan and have significant concerns on the content. She also outlined that selected sufficient indicators or targets against some of the actions to ensure that they will meet Headline Indicators by year end.

M. Meehan also outlined that there are no new actions and Goal 2 actions have a strong focus on children and young people, and do not appear to focus sufficiently on educational supports to individuals.

D. Graham expressed her concern and outlined that the targets as set out by Pobal are not achievable. She referred to a meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 in which a meeting was convened by the Department of Social Protection, the LCDC, LCETB, LEO and the CLDC and in particular the difficulty being experienced in trying to achieve the targets set for the provision of educational supports to disadvantaged individuals. She outlined that the meeting discussed at length, action 9 of the Programme Implementer's nine month action plan which required that 503 individuals would benefit from Lifelong Learning support. It was felt that the target was unrealistic and would not be reached.

A Haverty also referred to the sub group meeting in which a very informative discussion took place in relation to the targets. She outlined that ETB are not blocking the actions of the programme but cannot achieve targets that are not achievable. She outlined that ETB are working with the same target groups but have much better delivery of the targets in Limerick. She outlined there are different level of deprivation in Limerick with compared to Clare i.e. the city areas and the metropolitan districts.

C. Murphy outlined that if the people are not there to deliver the targets, this will have to be explained.

M. O'Donogue outlined that the focused changed from adults to children and outlined that children are not counted as caseload in SICAP, the figures come down to numbers at the end of the day.

G. Dollard suggested a special meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> February to consider the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme as the Plan has to be submitted to Pobal and the Department by the 19<sup>th</sup> February. In the meantime, G. Dollard outlined that a meeting

would be held with the following sub-group CLDC, Department of Social Protection, LCETB, LEO and the LCDC.

The meeting agreed to a special meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 at 4 p.m.

#### **5. LCDC Annual Report 2015.**

G. Dollard informed the meeting that under the Local Government Reform Act 2014, the Local Community Development Committee is required to prepare, adopt and submit an annual report to the local authority no later than the 31<sup>st</sup> March each year in respect of the performance of its functions in the previous calendar year.

The adoption of the LCDC Annual Report 2015 was proposed by A. Haverty and seconded by M. Slattery.

#### **6. Update on the Local Development Strategy.**

G. Dollard informed the meeting that the Local Development Strategy has been sent to the Department and approval is awaited which is hoped to be received by the end of March. He outlined that two Local Development Strategies were submitted, one from the Clare Local Development Company (CLDC) and the other from the Clare Local Community Development Committee (LCDC). He informed the meeting that Limerick City Council had its local Development Strategy approved in early January.

#### **7. Update on the Local Economic and Community Plan.**

G. Dollard informed the meeting that a Socio Economic Statement including high level goals has been prepared and approved following a public consultation process and invitation for written submissions. It is now at the stage where draft objectives and actions have been formulated for inclusion in the plan. He informed the meeting that correspondence has issued to potential lead agencies to secure their involvement in the Local Economic and Community Plan.

G. Dollard outlined that an Advisory Steering Group meeting will take place on the 10<sup>th</sup> February to discuss Equality Proofing of the actions. The Final Draft of the Plan will be circulated to the Municipal Districts and Regional Assembly on the 12<sup>th</sup> February with a deadline for

feedback by the 26<sup>th</sup> February. Meetings of the Municipal District will take place in early March to adopt statements on the plan.

#### 8. **PPN Update.**

G. Dollard outlined that the PPN has recently appointed a Resource Worker. C. Murphy outlined that in the month of February the PPN will be holding plenary meetings in each of the Clare's four Municipal District. The meetings in West Clare and Killaloe Municipal District will be holding elections for vacant positions on the Clare PPN Secretariat. G. Dollard informed the meeting that the budget for 2016 is €80,000 in total, €50,000 from the Department and €30,000 from Clare County Council which will be transferred based on Service Level Agreement.

#### 9. **Date of next meeting –**

It was agreed that a special meeting of the LCDC to consider the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) would take place on **Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February at 4 p.m.** The following would be discussed.

- 2015 end of year review for approval.
- 2016 Annual Plan for approval.

#### 10. **AOB/Correspondence.**

G. Dollard informed the meeting in relation to the following correspondence:-

- LCDC information sessions will take place at the end of February. The training sessions are aimed at the community representatives on the Committees including Local Development Company representatives, PPN Representatives and other.
- Minister of State with Special Responsibility for Rural Economic Development, Ms. Ann Phelan, T.D., announced the publication of a **Framework Policy for Local and Community Development in Ireland**, which was approved recently by Government.
- Tourism Action Plan 2016-2018.
- Rural Charter

With no other business the meeting concluded.

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