

**Minutes of Clare Local Community Development Committee
(LCDC) meeting held on Wednesday 20th November 2024 at 11.00am
(Hybrid)**

Ennis Digi Hub Quin Road Business Park

In Attendance:

Mr. Joe Killeen
Mr. Paul Patton
Cllr. Donna McGettigan
Cllr. Rachel Hartigan
Mr. Maurice Harvey
Mr. Brian McManus
Ms. Bernie O Gorman
Mr. Stephen Walsh
Ms. Sheila Lynch
Ms. Doírin Graham
Ms. Bedelia Collins
Sgt. Catriona Holohan
Ms. Bridgie Casey
Ms. Emma Karren

LCDC Support Staff

Ms. Bernadette Haugh
Ms. Catherine O Hara
Mr. Frank Cullinan
Ms. Anita O'Loughlin

Apologies Received

Cllr. Bill Slattery
Ms. Tracey Lynch
Mr. Dermot Hayes
Mr. Pdraic McElwee

Organisation:

Elected Member (Chair)
Education & Training Board (Vice Chairperson)
Elected Member (Online)
Elected Member (Online)
Age Friendly Alliance Board
Youth Service (Online)
Community and Voluntary Rep Clare PPN
Agriculture Sector (IFA)
Business Sector
Clare Local Development Company (Online)
HSE (Online)
Garda Siochana
Social Inclusion Clare PPN
Environmental PPN Rep (Online)

Chief Officer LCDC
Rural Development
Rural Development
Rural Development

Elected Member
Community and Voluntary Rep Clare PPN
Social Inclusion Clare PPN
Head of Enterprise

TOPIC 1: MINUTES & MATTERS ARISING

Issue: The minutes from the meeting held on 04th October 2024 are considered for approval.
No issues arising.

Action: Proposer by Sheila Lynch
Seconded by Stephen Walsh

TOPIC 2: MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Issue: There are several items that require decisions from the members.

- **Nominations & Appointment of New LCDC Chairperson**

Following on from the Chief Officer request for nominations in relation to the appointment of a new Chair and Vice Chair for the LCDC, one nomination was received-Cllr Joe Killeen. It was confirmed with Cllr Killeen that he consented to being nominated for the role of Chair of the LCDC. Following the nomination of Cllr. Joe Killeen by Cllr Donna Mc Gettigan a seconder was sought for his nomination. Maurice Harvey seconded Cllr. Killeen's nomination.

Outgoing Chair Mr. Paul Patton congratulated Cllr. Killeen on his new role and officially handed over the meeting to him.

Cllr. Killeen thanked Paul Patton for his commitment to the LCDC and LECP process and advised that he was looking forward to working with and progressing the work of the Committee.

Actions: Proposed: Donna Mc Gettigan
Seconded: Maurice Harvey

- **Nominations & Appointment of New LCDC Vice Chair**

At the October meeting members were requested to submit nominations for the role of LCDC Vice Chair. No new nominations were received. Following discussions with Paul Patton, he agreed to continue in the role of Vice Chair and he will also remain as Chair of the LECP Advisory Steering Committee.

Actions: Proposed: Stephen Walsh
Seconded: Maurice Harvey

- **Clare PPN new LCDC Rep.**

Chair Cllr. Killeen welcomed Clare PPN's Environmental representative, to the Clare LCDC, Emma Karran replaces Teresa O Donnoghue. Emma's nomination was approved at the November meeting of Clare Co Council. The Chair welcomed Emma Karren to the committee and was invited to introduce herself to the members.

- **Confirmation of LCDC Sub-Committee Membership**

At the October meeting a proposed LCDC Sub-Committee membership and structure was presented. Members of the LCDC were asked to submit changes or preferences for working on a different committee other than what was being proposed. Details were circulated to the LCDC members after the meeting. No submissions for changes etc were received so it was proposed to confirm the Sub Committee membership and structure as presented in October.

Any proposed or subsequent changes in relation to the Sub Committee's should be sent in writing to the Chief officer for her attention.

Actions: Proposed: Sheila Lynch
Seconded: Bernie O'Gorman

TOPIC 3: Agency/LCDC Programme Presentation:

Issue: Presentation by Bridgie Casey – Pilot Traveller CDP Project

Bridgie along with her team Martin and Maya gave a very informative presentation. They outlined their achievements over the initial 3 years of the pilot project. Bridgie confirmed that the project will continue for another year albeit at the same level of funding as previously provided by the Department.

Their project is the 1st Traveller organisation in Clare to focus on Traveller Accommodation issues.

Martin outlined his involvement in helping a group of 30 men to address mental health issues including bereavement, suicide, illness through various organized activities like cooking, handball, talks and key programmes through the LCETB apprenticeships.

Bridgie informed members that they are under resourced with only 4 staff to cover the high drop-in rate and to help with accommodation issues

Actions:

Cllr. D Mc Gettingan requested that Bridgie and her team present to Councilors on their pilot project. Chair Joe Killeen agreed that this should be brought to Council.

Vice Chair Paul Patton also recommended that that Bridgie talk to Aobhan Haverty who oversees the Active Inclusion Support Service in Limerick and Claire Education and Training

Board, and who may be able to help source funding for certain programmes that may be of interest to traveller groups.

Chief Officer, Bernadette Haugh congratulated Bridgie and her team on the Programme and suggested that they continue to engage with agencies on the LCDC as regards funding opportunities for collaborative projects/initiatives.

TOPIC 4: LCDC PROGRAMMES / FINANCE UPDATE

- **Issue: Grant Update Local Enhancement Programme (LEP)/ Dormant Account Fund – LGBTIQA+**

LCDC support staff member Frank Cullinan gave an overview of the 2024/2025 Local Enhancement Programme (LEP). He confirmed that under the 2025 LEP programme a total grant fund of €181k is available to groups / communities in Co Clare.

He also advised that the Clare Local Area Grant Scheme (CLAGS) is also due to be launched in January 2025 with a grant value of €690k.

The Chief officer asked members if there was merit in launching the two grant schemes together with information clinics being arranged in each MD in December prior to launch of both grant schemes.

Members agreed to launch the LEP in isolation of other funding streams on 20th December and supported by the Rural & Community Development Officer information clinics. They further noted the requirement to manage expectations with community groups as the LEP was significantly oversubscribed last year. The closing date for the LEP is 31st January and the Finance Committee will be convened to adjudicate on LEP applications thereafter.

Action: Proposed: Stephen Walsh
Seconded: Bridgie Casey

Responsibility: LCDC Support Staff

- **Dormant Account Fund – LGBTIQA+**

ISSUE: Frank Cullinan advised members that the Department of Rural and Community Affairs requested submissions for this fund. Closing date for submissions was 4th October. All-four submissions received on behalf of Clare Youth Service, Common Knowledge, Goshh and Quare Clare were forwarded to the department. The maximum amount of funding each LCDC could apply for was up to a maximum of €50,000.00.

On the 7th November correspondence was received from the department stating that the fund was oversubscribed. This year the department advised that only one project per Local Community Development Committee be part funded. The Department confirmed that the

proposal submitted by Common Knowledge will be part funded. Funding of €19,924.00 is allocated to this project.

The department has also advised that there will no further call out for submissions in 2025.

Brian McManus of Clare Youth Service expressed his disappointment as to why no funding allocation will be available for 2025. He queried whether the lack of information from the Department meant that the funding had been allocated elsewhere.

Chief Officer Bernadette Haugh advised that she had not been advised by the DRCD as to the reason for no commitment to funding in 2025 but agreed to follow up with the Department.

Responsibility: Chief Officer to issue letter to the Department and circulated to the members of the LCDC

TOPIC 5: LECP ADVISORY STEERING GROUP UPDATE

Issue: Update - Reporting platform LECP 2024-2030

LCDC Support staff member Catherine O' Hara advised members that the Advisory Steering Committee meeting of 13th November was deferred but that work is continuing in the development of the reporting platform for the Implementation Plan as recommended by the Advisory Steering Committee and agreed at the October 2024 Meeting.

Catherine has been working on this with the Clare Co Council I.T. Department and Lead Agencies and outlined how the system has looked so far.

She acknowledged the support and engagement of the Lead Agencies in relation to providing the Base Line data. As previously agreed, an MOU is to be signed by each lead agency confirming the Lead Agency's commitment to their respective actions in the

There will be a photo opportunity for both signing of MOU's and of full LCDC with new Chair in the New Year.

TOPIC 6: AOB

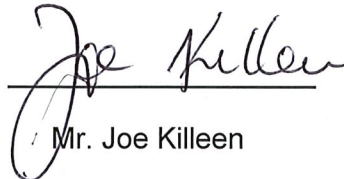
Issue: Schedule of meetings for 2025 has been circulated as agreed and Anita has also issued a meeting request for your diaries

Issue: Sgt. Cathriona Holohan extended an invitation to all LCDC members to the launch of the Violence against woman website launch that is scheduled for 06th December 2024. Cathriona to forward details for circulation to the Members

TOPIC 6: NEXT MEETING DATE

The next LCDC meeting will be held in person on 22nd January 2025 at 11am with an Advisory Steering Committee meeting to also be arranged for January.

Signed:


Mr. Joe Killeen

LCDC Chairman

Signed:



LCDC Chief Officer: Ms. Bernadett Haugh