

**Minutes of Local Community and Development Committee Meeting held on 15th October, 2018
at Littleton and Moycarkey Community and Sports Centre, Thurles**

Present:

Public Sector: Councillor John Carroll (Chair), Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan, Councillor Joe Hannigan, Adrian Cunneen, Eileen Condon & Rita Guinan (6)

Private Sector: Charles Stanley-Smith, Isabel Cambie, Michael Murray, John Lupton, Tim Sutton (Alternate), John O'Shaughnessy, Martin Quinn, Clare Cashman & Eoin Wolahan (9)

Apologies:

Public Sector: Joe MacGrath, Donal Mullane & Maria Bridegman

Private Sector: Sean O'Farrell

In Attendance: Pat Slattery (Chief Officer), Michael Moroney, Margo Hayes, Teresa Kiely & Fiona Hughes

1.	<p><u>To Note Adherence to Meeting Procedure Requirements</u></p> <p>1.1 Quorum It was confirmed that a quorum had been achieved to proceed with the meeting.</p> <p>1.2 Conflict of Interest & Decision Making - LEADER There was no COI declared relating to projects to be considered at the meeting.</p> <p>1.3 Decision-Making Requirements to include written decision None were required in relation to the LEADER projects for decision at the meeting.</p>
2.	<p><u>Approval of Draft Agenda</u></p> <p>Councillor John Carroll declared the meeting open and apologies were noted. He welcomed Tim Sutton who was representing the I.F.A. as alternate for Imelda Walsh.</p> <p>Draft Agenda was approved.</p>
3.	<p><u>Confirmation of Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of Tipperary LCDC meeting held on 17th September, 2018 were agreed on the proposal of John Lupton and seconded by Isabel Cambie.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Further to a query from Cllr. Joe Hannigan, Margo Hayes advised that the formation of a sub-group to clarify the policy concerning LEADER food projects was unnecessary. She said that the matter would be discussed further under the LEADER section today. Charles Stanley-Smith re-iterated his desire for the members to have a strategic assessment of the role of the LCDC. Cllr. Hannigan expressed his unease at what he considered the "rubber stamping" of approval of projects. Pat</p>

	<p>Slattery replied that a strategic workshop will be arranged. He said that beginning with today's meeting, presentations on strategic issues will be made to the members. Following these over the course of the next few meetings, the workshop could take place. Cllr. Carroll added that everybody will be invited to offer input into the workshop. Pat suggested that the workshop should be held in January 2019 and stated that the Council was currently considering the draft policy on Christmas lights presented by the IPs at the last meeting.</p>
4.	<p><u>SICAP</u></p> <p>4.1 Annual Plan 2019 Margo informed the LCDC that the Annual Plan 2019 must be uploaded to IRIS by the 16th November. Pobal will review and provide feedback on the Annual Plan by early December. Workshops will be held on the 18th October to include SICAP teams and the Social Inclusion sub-group to develop the 2019 Annual Plan. Clare had expressed frustration about the cultural differences between the two LDC's and requested that the Minutes should record, as Chair of the Social Inclusion sub-group, that she is keen that both implementers work together and is at a loss and needs to review her own position. It is an issue why the 2 IP's cannot meet together. Both Isabel and Michael expressed surprise to note two different agendas and were agreeable to meeting together on this issue.</p> <p>4.2 Budgets & Timeframes The indicative budgets and targets will both remain the same. Margo stated that the LCDC can adjust the budgets by \pm 15% but both local development companies are adhering to the targets.</p> <p>4.3 Case Studies The case studies were submitted to Pobal by the 5th October with the focus for North Tipperary on social enterprise, in the Lorrha area and the focus in South Tipperary are the RAPID areas, particularly Elm Park. Clare expressed dissatisfaction at lack of input into these case studies because the process is not supportive and Michael Murray suggested that the LCDC should have access to the studies at an earlier date in the future to make some contributions.</p> <p>4.4 STDC Staff Change Isabel mentioned a change in grade and working hours for an employee which will not impact negatively on his SICAP work. Margo confirmed that staffing sheets are a programme requirement and a condition of the contracts and Michael Murray will send revised staffing sheets to Clare and Margo. For future reference, there will be no need to name individuals and details that are provided in relation to staff changes will be noted by the LCDC.</p>
5.	<p><u>LEADER</u></p> <p>5.1.1 To Decide on NTLF Co-Operation Project Applications</p> <p>In relation to the NTLF projects, the members were taken through these by Michael Murray. Documents circulated for consideration by the members were the Project Evaluation Assessment Report and completed IEC Scoring Sheet for each application together with IEC meeting minutes. In addition, an Implementing Partner CEO Report to LCDC Chief Officer with details of each project</p>

including deadweight, displacement, rationale for grant aid, consistency with the Local Development Strategy and Operating Rules, IEC score and recommendation, and A48 Checking process undertaken was circulated for the consideration of members.

Rationale for projects, deadweight and displacement were discussed individually in respect of each application. Approval of each project, on the basis of the recommendation of the Independent Evaluation Committee, was as follows:

- **NTP107817 [Killaloe/Ballina Tennis Club]** –This co-operation project was awarded an overall score of 82.17% by the IEC and the total cost of the project is €375,434.00. A total grant of €199,657.00 was sought (53.18% of total cost), with €99,828.50 from NTLP and €99,828.50 provided by Clare LDC. On the proposal of Cllr. Joe Hannigan and seconded by Martin Quinn, this project was approved, as recommended.
- **NTP107816 [Clarisford Park – rugby & athletics facility]** – Michael Murray stated that this co-operation project was awarded an overall score of 90.5% by the IEC. The total cost of the project is €224,780.17 and €160,000 (71.18% of the total cost) grant aid was sought, with €80,000 from NTLP and €80,000 provided by Clare LDC. On the proposal of John O’Shaughnessy and seconded by Martin Quinn, this project was approved, as recommended.

These two projects resulted in considerable debate amongst the members regarding the social-inclusivity of the projects and the LCDC were informed that a Social Inclusion Plan was not specifically requested from the applicants as the applications are from a “national pot” (in contrast to applications locally which require such a Plan). Clare Cashman requested confirmation whether any cross-border/joint project that applies for national funding can circumvent the LCDC’s specific social-inclusion policy. Other members also requested clarity on the social-inclusion element of these projects. Michael Murray stated that both of these projects had received approval from the LCDC to progress their applications within the last 6 months and the issue was not raised at that time. Clare and John expressed concerns that these projects require substantial funds and are disappointed that social-inclusion plans were not requested from the clubs. Michael Murray stated that the LCDC does not have a social-inclusion policy for co-operation projects and that the LCDC had approved the Basic Services and criteria several months ago. Isabel confirmed that promoters must have a Social Inclusion Plan for any projects under Basic Services and this must be provided to the IP’s before funds are released. It was agreed by the members that a condition of approval is the requirement for the promoter to submit a Social Inclusion Plan which the Social Inclusion sub-group will vet before any grant payments are made. It was also agreed that a letter should be sent to the Department to make provision for Tipperary’s social inclusion policy in national projects.

5.2 Update on Basic Services 2018 Targeted Call

This was a joint presentation by NTLP and STDC.

Isabel advised that an IEC meeting will take place in Cashel on the 23rd October to consider twelve applications to the value of circa €1m grant aid. Some projects had been re-classified by IPs and this had reduced pressure on the budget.

5.3 & 5.4 To approve change of suppliers

Approval was granted to note a change of supplier for joint project: CRE8 – Youth Arts Training Programme (Project NTP102981 and STP 102842) from Sean Feery to Cher Quinlan. Michael Moroney indicated the reason for raising it at today's meeting was because this was the first occurrence of a change in supplier for a project. On the proposal of Clare Cashman and seconded by John Lupton, these changes were approved, as recommended

5.5. To Approve Monthly Income & Expenditure Report

Michael Moroney outlined the LDS Administration & Animation financial expenditure and income report to October 2018 inclusive which was circulated at the meeting. The report sets out the monthly IP Administration & Animation expenditure claims, payments to promoters and details of income received from DRCD. On the proposal of Clare Cashman and seconded by Martin Quinn, the report was approved by the members.

5.6 LEADER Any Other Matters/Updates

Circular 14/2018

Michael Moroney referred to a Department Circular 14/2018 which outlined greater flexibility for the LAG to move budgets between themes and sub-themes. It was proposed that the Sustainable Communities sub-group will be convened in due course to review the Circular in more detail and provide proposals to the LCDC.

LEADER Food Initiative

Following on from a discussion at the last meeting, Margo had written to the IP's for clarification of the key considerations that they will use when directing promoters of food related projects to either the RDP 2014-2020 vis-a-vis the national LEADER food initiative. Michael Murray referred to Circular 06/18 - LEADER Food Initiative (for artisan, micro and small food producers). It was acknowledged that food projects meeting eligibility criteria and costs to be funded from the LEADER food initiative to maximise resources under the RDP for other projects. It was proposed that food projects should be referred to the LEADER food initiative and revert to the IPs where they are not eligible or suitable.

Christmas Lights Policy


It was decided at the previous meeting that Christmas lights application for 2018 would not be accepted. The policy has been referred to Tipperary County Council for input. An update to be provided at the next meeting by the LDCs.

Extract from article in Irish Examiner

Isabel Cambie circulated an article from the Irish Examiner which stated that Tipperary has the fourth highest spend to date on rural development projects.

6.	<p>Healthy Ireland</p> <p>6.1 Healthy Ireland Network Charter</p> <p>Teresa received approval for Tipperary Local Community Development Committee to join the Healthy Ireland Network Charter which was circulated to everybody at the meeting. The Charter was signed by the Chair after the meeting.</p>
7.	<p><u>Community Enhancement Programme 2018</u></p> <p>Teresa explained that almost 200 applications had been received for the additional funding under this scheme. There was some unease that groups could apply for multiple projects and a request was made that a future question to include on application forms should be "Have you applied for funding from other sources?" to avoid the possibility of duplicating grant payments. Teresa outlined that the form was devised at national level and the question is already included and any changes would need to be approved by the Department. A letter can issue to the Department addressing the concerns raised by the LCDC. The applications have to be assessed and recommendations will be circulated as soon as possible.</p> <p>Furthermore, all the July applicants who didn't receive the full amount requested (50) were offered a top-up to the original amount and 40 replied to accept the additional funds totaling €76,402.00. On the proposal of Clare Cashman and seconded by Eoin Wolahan, the report was approved by the members. Rita requested a review of one application with the economic team to ensure double funding didn't occur.</p>
8.	<p><u>Presentation on Project Ireland 2040</u></p> <p>Brian Beck, Planning Section, gave an overview of proposals submitted by Tipperary County Council to the Rural and Urban Regeneration funds. A cross-departmental Steering Group within the Council was established to oversee project preparation and make applications under this scheme within a short timeframe over the late summer period. The next Call will be in July 2019 followed by July 2020 and Brian emphasised the importance of having more projects ready. Several members expressed disappointment that the process for this round of applications did not facilitate input from the PPN or the LCDC and had a very short lead-in time for the submissions. It was requested that the membership of the Steering Group should include representation from the LCDC.</p>
9.	<p><u>Presentation by LAWCO (Local Authorities Water & Communities Office)</u></p> <p>Dr. Fran Igoe and Sheevaun Thompson delivered a presentation on how to get more communities involved in projects and to identify access to LEADER funding under the rural environment theme. Dr. Igoe also suggested using the PPN to disseminate information on behalf of LAWCO. The LCDC expressed their thanks for all efforts of LAWCO in engaging communities in water projects. Pat Slattery advised that he will be meeting with LAWCO in the near future.</p>

10.	<p><u>PPN Rep to be nominated to Tipperary Health & Wellbeing sub-group</u></p> <p>The PPN will meet to nominate a representative to this sub-group as part of the Age Friendly Strategy.</p>
11.	<p><u>Correspondence, Submissions & Consultations</u></p> <p>Submissions – Margo informed the LCDC of a submission to the Traveller Accommodation programme 2019-2024 which was circulated at the meeting. The submission was approved.</p>
12.	<p>Next meeting to be held at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 19th November, 2018 in the Littleton and Moycarkey Community and Sports Centre.</p>

Signed/ 
**Councillor John Carroll,
Chair,
Tipperary Local Community Development Committee.**

Date/ 19/11/018