

**Minutes of Local Community and Development Committee Meeting held  
Monday 24<sup>th</sup> March, 2025 at 2.30 p.m. at Cabragh, Holycross, Thurles**

**Present:**

**Public Sector:** Sinead Carr (Chief Executive)(TCC), Cllr. John Carroll, Chair (TCC), Cllr. Marie Murphy (TCC), Anthony Fitzgerald (TCC), Derval Howley (HSE), Colin Cummins (TETB), Stephanie O'Callaghan (CYPSC), Katie Frazer (Teagasc), Sarah Fogarty (County Chamber)

**Private Sector:** Michael Murray (NTDC), Mike Edwards, Vice Chair (PPN), Pat Carroll (Agricultural Pillar), Isabel Cambie (STDC)

**Apologies:** Cllr. Annemarie Ryan (Shiner)(TCC), Derry O Donnell (PPN), Meadhbh Gordon (PPN), Mike Geary (TUS), Elaine Baker (PPN), Fiona Crotty (TCC), Catriona Crowe (TCC)

**In Attendance:** Brian Beck (Director of Services) (TCC), Sheevaun Thompson (TCC), Valerie Kavanagh (TCC), Cora Morrissey Morrissey (TCC), Mairead Ryan (TCC), Mary McLoughney (TCC), Eoin Kaar (TCC), Cliona Tobin (TCC), Anna Ryan (TCC), Mary O'Mahoney (TCC)

	<p><b><u>Pre-Meeting Requirements and Conflict of Interest</u></b></p> <p><b>1. Quorum</b> The Quorum was reached.</p> <p><b>2. Conflict of Interest</b> Isabel Cambie declared a conflict of interest in the STDC Cooperation LEADER project. Michael Murray declared a conflict of interest in the NTDC Cooperation LEADER project.</p> <p><b>3. Decision-Making Requirements to include LEADER Written Decisions</b> As there was more Public membership at the meeting, four of the Public membership were asked to step away from the decision-making process to ensure balance as required in favour of the Private.</p> <p><b>Ethics Documents</b> Reminder to return the 2025 Ethics Documents.</p>
1.	<p><b><u>Approval of Draft Agenda</u></b> The Draft Agenda was agreed</p>
2.	<p><b><u>Confirmation of Minutes of Tipperary LCDC Meeting dated the 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 &amp; Matters Arising (Decision)</u></b> The minutes of the Tipperary LCDC meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2025 LCDC Meeting were agreed on the proposal of Mike Edwards and seconded by Pat Carroll.</p>

Mike Edwards highlighted the importance of the €2 million administration budget and the level of administration & engagement involved in bringing projects to fruition and the huge amount of work that is happening. Sinead Carr complimented the slide highlighting the spatial distribution of the two previous programmes. She also questioned what level of research had been undertaken to determine that some projects had a wider impact than just the area where they were located. She reiterated the Chair's reference to focus on areas that have not received Leader funding previously.

#### 4.1 NTDC CEO Report (Decision)

Michael Murray outlined the details of the following NTDC projects to the members:

Project Code:	IE30NTP101503
Project Promoter Code:	
Promoters Name:	The Wool Partnership
Description:	The Wool Partnership - The purpose of the project is to utilise a feasibility study to examine potential pathways to add value to the wool sector in Ireland. Currently most wool is identified as a waste product, and farmers incur costs of removing fleeces but do not receive any viable income from the wool. The wool partnership will bring together three respected researchers in the wool industry in Ireland to undertake research on the potential pathways to increasing wools worth and high-end economic potential. It is hoped that the feasibility study will have a positive impact economically, socially and environmental by identifying ways to increase the economic return for the wool and therefore utilise the national fleece in the future while positive impacting on the environment and the bio economy
Theme:	Theme #1: Economic Development & Job Creation
Sub Theme:	Sub-Theme #1a: The Green Economy Strategic Action 1.1: Developing Tipperary's Green Economy.
Outline the LAG's consideration on each of the following:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deadweight</li> </ul>	Due to the cooperation nature of the project and the financial layout per partner the

	change the product for a designated waste project. The pathways outlined by the study can ensure that value can be added from this project and follow up projects.
% level of aid & ceiling:	100%
Proposed by:	Pat Carroll
Seconded by:	Katie Frazer
Absenters:	Yes
Has Quorum requirements been met:	Yes

Michael Murray declared a conflict of interest in this project and removed himself from the decision-making process.

Derval Howley commented that the six development companies collaborating in a joint project is a great initiative.

Mike Edwards added that the project is a very worthwhile project – from a climate perspective.

Project Code:	IE30NTP102129
Project Promoter Code:	
Promoters Name:	Roscrea Biodiversity Park
Description:	<p>Roscrea Biodiversity Park - The project encompasses the designs of a Biodiversity Park for Roscrea which will support Phase 1 of the development of a Biodiversity Park within Roscrea Town that will enhance not only its ecosystem but will support the participation of the community through active well-being through the proposed biodiversity Park promotion of education surrounding heritage and sustainability. The project involves the compilation of a multidisciplinary design team in order to provide the following aspects of design for the proposed Roscrea Biodiversity Park, the following services shall be included in this aspect of the project:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Preparation of preliminary Concept Design</li> <li>2. Assume role of Project Supervisor Design Process [PSDP]</li> <li>3. Compile all documents and submit a Part 8 Planning Permission Process to Tipperary County Council</li> </ol> <p>A steering group has set up through the</p>

Proposed by:	Mike Edwards
Seconded by:	Pat Carroll
Absenters:	Yes
Has Quorum requirements been met:	Yes

Mike Edwards commented that the use of the derelict site is a brilliant idea. Brian enquired about sensory space - Michael Murray replied that the education biodiversity & Roscrea Autism are involved.

#### 4.2 STDC CEO Report (Decision)

Isabel Cambie outlined the details of the following STDC projects to the members:

##### Killenaule Community Park Development Feasibility Study

Project Code:	IESTP102187
Project Promoter Code:	
Promoters Name:	Killenaule Community Enhancement CLG
Description:	Killenaule Community Park Development Feasibility Study: Design and drawings to develop the "parish field" in Killenaule as a community park, with both sports and community facilities, including a near zero energy design and biodiversity areas.
Theme:	2. Rural Infrastructure and Social Inclusion.
Sub Theme:	2.1 Supporting the sustainable regeneration of Co. Tipperary's Towns and Villages
Outline the LAG's consideration on each of the following:	
• Deadweight	Considered and not identified
• Displacement:	Considered and not identified
• Innovation	The combination of meeting community needs and environmental sustainability in a future focused design for an integrated, multi-purpose community, recreational and social facility in this deprived rural area is innovative
• Reasonableness of costs:	The promoter sought 3 quotations and received two quotations. This met the selection criteria, and the amount involved

Absenters:	Yes
Has Quorum requirements been met:	Yes

Stephanie O'Callaghan asked if there were plans for the existing playground as part of the project. Isabel Cambie stated that she will check and revert.

Sinead Carr highlighted the need for a management plan to be included as part of the proposal, detailing the community responsibility for ongoing maintenance, insurance etc. once the community park is up and running.

Clonmel Junction Arts Festival request for funding towards website redesign, Market research services and reusable flags and bunting.

Project Code:	IESTP102219
Project Promoter Code:	
Promoters Name:	Clonmel Junction Arts Festival CLG
Description:	Festival Marketing and PR for this 10-day arts and culture festival every July. Promoter is seeking website redesign, Market research services and reusable flags and bunting.
Theme:	1. Economic Development and Job Creation.
Sub Theme:	1.3 Rural Tourism and recreation
Outline the LAG's consideration on each of the following:	
• Deadweight	Considered and not identified
• Displacement:	Considered and not identified
• Innovation	This project is innovative in that it is supporting the development of an Arts Festival which brings new and cutting-edge culture to Clonmel, and also carries out innovate outreach to the community
• Reasonableness of costs:	Yes – the procurement rules as per the RDP OR 16.3 were followed with the lowest price selected.
In house projects: are there other providers that can deliver the project more cost effectively?	
Recommendation of Evaluation Committee	€12,114.40

		accommodation for activity and wellness tourism.	
	Theme:	1. Economic Development and Job Creation.	
	Sub Theme:	1.2 Supporting agricultural diversification in Co. Tipperary.	
	Outline the LAG's consideration on each of the following:		
	• Deadweight	Considered and not identified	
	• Displacement:	Considered and not identified	
	• Innovation	This project is innovative in that it is developing a high-quality glamping site in an area where no such amenity currently exists.	
	• Reasonableness of costs:	Yes – the procurement rules as per the RDP OR 16.3 were followed with the lowest price selected.	
	In house projects: are there other providers that can deliver the project more cost effectively?		
	Recommendation of Evaluation Committee	€130,237.52	
	Rationale of Evaluation Committee recommendation is rejected:	N/A	
	Where rejecting an Evaluation Committee recommendation to reject a proposal, insert the revised score	N/A	
	Rational for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	This investment will make the provision of a high-quality glamping site near Newcastle possible. The project has the potential to sustain this family farm and to add value to the local area including employment creation. This is compatible with the LDS Economic theme and both Agricultural diversification and Tourism subthemes	
	Added Value- How will the added value of the LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project	This project could not take place without LEADER Funding. The promoter has already invested significantly into the development of this project and could not fund the remainder from their own resources.	

• Reasonableness of costs:	Yes – the procurement rules as per the RDP OR 16.3 were followed with the lowest price selected.
In house projects: are there other providers that can deliver the project more cost effectively?	No. This cooperation project brings together the expertise of Kilkenny Leader Partnership and STDC who have been working in the area for many years.
Recommendation of Evaluation Committee	€6,000
Rationale of Evaluation Committee recommendation is rejected:	N/A
Where rejecting an Evaluation Committee recommendation to reject a proposal, insert the revised score	N/A
Rational for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	The project will develop a much-needed strategic plan for this area of high tourist value in both Kilkenny and Tipperary. It is compatible with the Tourism subtheme of the LDS
Added Value- How will the added value of the LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	Develop a strategic pathway for a LEADER Cooperation Project focused on the sustainable development of the sustainable tourism potential of the Lingaun Valley and its management for the period of 2025-2030
% level of aid & ceiling:	€6,000 i.e. 100% of €6,000. Note this is half of the total project cost of €12,000 with the remainder from cooperation partner
Proposed by:	Mike Edwards
Seconded by:	Pat Carroll
Absenters:	Yes
Has Quorum requirements been met:	Yes
<p>Isabel Cambie declared a Conflict of Interest for the above project and removed herself from the decision-making process.</p> <p><b>4.3 Budget Report (Decision)</b>  Val Kavanagh presented the Budget Report.</p>	

and organizations, parents and schools, and individuals with lived experience of substance use. Updates were given on what is happening in relation to the implementation of the Substance Misuse Action Plan detailing collaborative efforts among agencies to address identified issues. It was agreed that a joined-up services and community led approach to address substance misuse issue in Clonmel is needed. Attendees were given the opportunity to sign up to preferred subgroups enabling them to stay engaged in the work on the eight priority areas for action on Substance misuse in Clonmel. The agencies, via the sub groups are providing the structures but the actions remain ones for the community to engage in and own. The community can do this by joining the relevant subgroups in Clonmel to create relevant actions for response. Plans are underway for additional conversations and initiatives aimed at sustaining momentum and ensuring Clonmel remains a safe, vibrant, and enjoyable place to live.

Sinead Carr noted that she would like to see an update on the substance misuse action plan itself in terms of what is currently working well and what is not (community approach, gardai resourcing, etc.) It was agreed to provide details of this at the next meeting.

**Bianconi Drive Slaintecare seed fund project** – Slaintecare Healthy Communities funded the first phase of a garden project in Bianconi Drive Clonmel. The aim of the project was to create a community space such as an allotment, etc. where people can meet and enjoy an outdoor space that is near their homes. The men in the estate have expressed an interest in creating this community space. This is also an opportunity for people in the estate to work together. The project supported the opportunity for the LA to work with community in the development of their area and realise community members can support the towns development and support the work of the LA through active citizenship.

Cllr Marie Murphy enquired about the level of funding for this particular project – Eoin Kaar noted that he would check with Catriona Crowe and revert back.

**Youth Prescriber Pilot Project** - The Youth Prescriber link worker, Jane Hayes commenced her role in February 2025. As this is a new role and pilot project her first couple of months will be meeting people and linking with parent's hub, schools and connecting with clubs. The Youth Prescriber Steering group will support the project. The project will be evaluated internally in Barnardos and supported by Dr Marie Walsh, Technological University of the Shannon (TUS).

Stephanie O'Callaghan asked to consider how this project could be aligned to the Rural Youth theme of the local development strategy.

**Drugs CE Scheme Clonmel** - South Tipperary Development Company (STDC) received conditional approval from the Department of Social Protection (DSP). They are still looking for premises and any help and support in this regard will be much appreciated as securing suitable premises is a vital part of the project.

### **6.3 Tipperary Age Friendly**

Cliona Tobin gave an update in Fiona Crottys absence -



<p>7.</p>	<p>extension to the pilot but we are awaiting a revised Service Level Agreement on same.</p> <p><b>Update on the Children and Young Persons Services Committee</b>  Stephanie O'Callaghan gave an update stating Tipperary CYPSC's funding call will close 26<sup>th</sup> March. Funding for 2025 is €59,000 for Healthy Ireland and €40,000 for CYPSC Programme Fund.  There are 5 priorities for 2025 these are: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outcome Subgroup 1 - Mental Health and Wellbeing</li> <li>• Outcome Subgroup 2 - Early School Leavers</li> <li>• Outcome Subgroup 3 - Parenting Support</li> <li>• Outcome Subgroup 4 - Not in Education, Employments, Training Supports (NEETS)</li> <li>• Outcome Subgroup 5 - Youth Spaces.</li> </ul>
<p>8.</p>	<p><b>Funding Updates</b>  <b>8.1 Approval of Local Enhancement Programme 2025</b>  <b>Local Enhancement 2025 Capital Fund Recommendations</b>  Val Kavanagh updated the meeting stating the closing date for the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 was at the end of February. She presented the list of recommended projects and asked the members to ensure the strictest of confidentiality until the Minister announces the grants nationally in May.</p> <p>The Chair complimented the work of staff in processing the 235 applications. Sinead Carr suggested simplifying the grant application process because of the low amount of funding available  Val Kavanagh stated the template issues from the Department but that she is compiling recommendations for simplifying the process for next year.</p> <p>The Local Enhancement Programme 2025 Capital Fund recommendations were approved on the proposal of Mike Edwards seconded by Sarah Fogarty.</p> <p><b>8.2 Local Enhancement 2025 Running Costs</b></p> <p>Val Kavanagh presented the list of recommended allocations to groups which were approximately in the range of €190 -500. Again, she asked the members for their confidentiality until the announcement from the Minister.</p> <p>The Local Enhancement Programme 2025 Running Costs recommendations were approved on the proposal of Derval Howley seconded by Sarah Fogarty.</p> <p><b>Local Economic Community Plan (LECP)</b>  <b>Update from Tipperary Educational Training Board</b>  Colin Cummins gave a presentation to the Committee under the strategic objective headings as set out in the LECP: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify barriers to training and educations in deprived communities.</li> <li>• Develop and disseminate protocols for NALA- proofing public-facing documentation across all organisations.</li> <li>• Establish a network to engage with non-Irish communities in lifelong learning needs.</li> </ul>
<p>9.</p>	

	<p><b>Signed:</b> <u>John Carroll</u> Cllr. John Carroll Chair, Tipperary Local Community Development Committee</p> <p><b>Date:</b> _____</p>
	<p><b>Signed:</b> <u>Brian Beck</u> Brian Beck Chief Officer, Tipperary Local Community Development Committee</p> <p><b>Date:</b> <u>1.5.2025</u></p>