

**Minutes of Local Community and Development Committee Meeting held
Monday 19th January 2026 at 10.00 a.m. via teams**

Present:

Public Sector: Cllr. John Carroll, Chair (TCC), Sinéad Carr (Chief Executive TCC), Stephanie O'Callaghan (CYPSC), Cllr. Marie Murphy (TCC), Cllr. Annemarie Ryan (Shiner) (TCC), Damien Ginty (TCC), Derval Howley (HSE), Colin Cummins (ETB)

Private Sector: Michael Murray (NTDC), Elaine Baker (PPN), Isabel Cambie (STDC), Mike Geary (TUS), Mike Edwards, Vice Chair (PPN), Pat Carroll (Agricultural Pillar), Derry O'Donnell (PPN)

Apologies: Morne Gouws (PPN), Katie Frazer (Teagasc), Maeadh Gordon (PPN)

In Attendance: Sheevaun Thompson (TCC), Cora Morrissey (TCC), Mairead Ryan (TCC), Áine Roche (TCC), Elaine O'Driscoll (TCC), Willie Morgan (TCC) Eoin Kaar (TCC), Catriona Crowe (TCC), Mary McLoughney (TCC)

<u>Pre-Meeting Requirements and Conflict of Interest</u>	
(a) Quorum	The Quorum was reached.
(b) Conflict of Interest	None
(c) Decision-Making Requirements to include LEADER Written Decisions	None
(d) Ethics Documents	All ethics documents are to be completed and returned.
(e) House Keeping	Sheevaun Thompson presented attendance rates by members at LCDC meetings during 2025. She emphasised the importance of attending meetings and the expectation to attend or send apologies.

1.	<p><u>Approval of Draft Agenda</u> The Draft Agenda was agreed.</p>						
2.	<p><u>Confirmation of Minutes of Tipperary LCDC Meeting dated the 15th of December 2025 & Matters Arising (Decision)</u> The minutes of the Tipperary LCDC meeting held on the 15th of December 2025 were agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Annemarie Ryan Shiner and seconded by Mike Edwards.</p>						
3.	<p><u>Presentations</u></p> <p>3.1 Presentation on Men’s Mental Health Programme Ann Binchy, Men’s Health and Wellbeing Programme Coordinator gave a detailed presentation on the ‘Place 4U’ Men’s Health Programme.</p> <p>Catriona Crowe, Derry O Donnell & Colin Cummins all acknowledged the hard work and commitment of Ann. Both Catriona and Colin said they will continue to support ‘Place 4U’ where they can.</p> <p>3.2 Update from TEA on LECP actions Lisa Vaughan, Tipperary Energy Agency gave an update from TEA on Tipperary Local Economic and Community Plan actions.</p> <p>TEA is working with communities across Tipperary providing advice and training resources to establish Renewable Energy Communities, funded by the EU project Power E Com. TEA hopes, subject to funding, to provide training on green public procurement in 2026.</p>						
4.	<p><u>LEADER 2023-2027</u></p> <p>4.1 NTDC CEO Report (Decision) North Tipperary Development Company Income and Expenditure Report was noted.</p> <p>Michael Murray outlined the details of the following NTDC project to the members for approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four (4) NTDC projects were approved for LEADER funding: <p>Fuchsia Lane Farm Retreats – Phase 1 Agricultural Diversification</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="338 1626 1485 2038"> <tr> <td data-bbox="338 1626 710 1671">Project Code:</td> <td data-bbox="710 1626 1485 1671">IE30NTP103911</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="338 1671 710 1715">Promoters Name:</td> <td data-bbox="710 1671 1485 1715">Niall & Inez Heenan - Fuchsia Lane Farm</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="338 1715 710 2038">Description:</td> <td data-bbox="710 1715 1485 2038">To upgrade the existing hardcourt, play area to make a safe, inclusive and attractive space to encourage all ages to participate in activity. Adaptation of one cottage to be more neuro-diverse - friendly with mood lighting, integrated speakers and security features to add to their product and show their diversification journey has depended based on customer feedback and their</td> </tr> </table>	Project Code:	IE30NTP103911	Promoters Name:	Niall & Inez Heenan - Fuchsia Lane Farm	Description:	To upgrade the existing hardcourt, play area to make a safe, inclusive and attractive space to encourage all ages to participate in activity. Adaptation of one cottage to be more neuro-diverse - friendly with mood lighting, integrated speakers and security features to add to their product and show their diversification journey has depended based on customer feedback and their
Project Code:	IE30NTP103911						
Promoters Name:	Niall & Inez Heenan - Fuchsia Lane Farm						
Description:	To upgrade the existing hardcourt, play area to make a safe, inclusive and attractive space to encourage all ages to participate in activity. Adaptation of one cottage to be more neuro-diverse - friendly with mood lighting, integrated speakers and security features to add to their product and show their diversification journey has depended based on customer feedback and their						

	own learnings. Provision of a small garden storage space to support the cottages and play area, to hold sports, play and garden equipment. Upgrade the existing self-catering cottages and haybarn hub.
Theme:	Economic Development & Job Creation
Sub Theme:	Agricultural Diversification
Outline the LAG's consideration on each of the following:	
• Deadweight	No, this project phase will not proceed without funding.
• Displacement:	There is no displacement, this is a farm tourism business established over 27 years ago and has been an award-winning pioneer in the sector and the only farm tourism offering in the area.
• Innovation	Fuchsia Lane Farms proposal offers a replicable mode for agricultural diversification. With funding under LDS Objective 2, they will enhance.
• Reasonableness of costs:	Yes - The procurement rules as per 2327 LEADER OR 16.3 were followed with lowest priced quote received being selected.
In house projects: are there other providers that can deliver the project more cost effectively?	This is not an In-House Project.
Recommendation of Evaluation Committee	Grant aid of €57,312.99.
Rationale of Evaluation Committee if recommendation is rejected:	N/A
Where rejecting an Evaluation Committee recommendation to reject a proposal, insert the revised score	N/A
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	The Promoters have successfully operated a farm tourism business for nearly 3 decades, constantly winning national awards for their pioneering and innovative approach to tourism. The funding sought is to upgrade their offering with a view to further enhance the works they have completed in becoming an even more climate friendly inclusive and safe destination on their organic

	farm where the environment will contribute to the tourism experience. Enterprise supported, on-farm capital project, 1.25 FTEs created and sustained.
Added value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	Enhanced results and impacts of programs/strategy implementation.
% level of aid & ceiling:	75%
Proposed by:	Derry O’ Donnell
Seconded by:	Mike Edwards
Absenters: Agreed by Board Has Quorum requirements been met:	No Yes Yes

Approval of the project was agreed on the proposal of Derry O’Donnell and seconded by Mike Edwards.

Fuchsia Lane Farm Retreats – Phase 2 Adapting to Climate Change

Project Code:	IE30NTP103913
Promoters Name:	Niall & Inez Heenan – Fuchsia Lane Farm
Description:	Enhancements to existing farm and woodland walks will ensure year-round, inclusive access for all visitors, including those with limited mobility. These improvements-resurfacing paths, improving safety, and accessibility-enable engagement with nature through forest bathing, mindfulness, and tranquillity, thereby promoting low-impact, wellness-oriented options. These nature-based experiences foster climate awareness and reconnect people with biodiversity, directly supporting the National Biodiversity Plan's public engagement goals.
Theme:	Sustainable Development of Rural Environment and Climate Change
Sub Theme:	Adapting to Climate Change
Outline the LAG’s consideration on each of the following:	
• Deadweight	No, as they have high maintenance and on-going costs incurred in the running of the

	business, it is very difficult to develop projects such as this. If they were to do it, it would take many more years to complete.
• Displacement:	There is no displacement, this is a farm tourism business established over 27 years ago and has been an award-winning pioneer in the sector and the only farm tourism offering in the area.
• Innovation	To create a sustainable, destination space comprising accommodation and group space, on a family farm, featuring a landscape that protects, maintains and encourages biodiversity, strives towards being carbon neutral and adopting regenerative practices.
• Reasonableness of costs:	Yes, the procurement rules as per 2327 LEADER OR 16.3 were followed with lowest priced quote received being selected.
In house projects: are there other providers that can deliver the project more cost effectively?	This is not an In-House Project.
Recommendation of Evaluation Committee	Grant aid of €44,209.87.
Rationale of Evaluation Committee if recommendation is rejected:	N/A
Where rejecting an Evaluation Committee recommendation to reject a proposal, insert the revised score	N/A
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	The Promoters have successfully operated a farm tourism business for nearly 3 decades, constantly winning national awards for their pioneering and innovative approach to tourism. The funding sought is to upgrade their offering with a view to further enhance the works they have completed in becoming an even more climate friendly inclusive and safe destination on their organic farm where the environment will contribute to the tourism experience. Enterprise supported, capital project supported.

Added value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	Enhanced results and impacts of program/strategy implementation.
% level of aid & ceiling:	75%
Proposed by:	Mike Edwards
Seconded by:	Michael Geary
Absenters:	No
Agreed by Board	Yes
Has Quorum requirements been met:	Yes

Approval of the project was agreed on the proposal of Mike Edwards and seconded by Michael Geary.

Riverwalk Enhancement Project – Roscrea Tidy Towns

Project Code:	IE30NTP103556
Promoters Name:	Roscrea Tidy Towns
Description:	The project will deliver a series of enhancements along the riverside walk to improve safety, accessibility, and the overall experience for pedestrians. A new post and rail fence will be installed to clearly define the boundary, using durable and weather-resistant materials that are appropriate for a riverside environment. The design and construction will comply with all relevant safety standards and local regulations.
Theme:	Sustainable Development of Rural Environment and Climate Change
Sub Theme:	(3a). Enhancing Co. Tipperary's Environment
Outline the LAG's consideration on each of the following:	
• Deadweight	No, the project will not proceed without funding.
• Displacement	There is no displacement, this is the only riverside treelined walk in Roscrea and will benefit community awareness and interaction with biodiversity.
• Innovation	The opening up of the riverside walk will be a great asset to the community through enhancing biodiversity and natural water awareness in general. The addition of lighting will allow its use even after daylight hours. The nearby retirement home will

	benefit from access to this walk as it adjoins the works area. Currently, this asset is unavailable to them due to fallen trees and overgrown pathway. Community supported, community biodiversity and habitat project – water quality and conservation project.
• Reasonableness of costs	Yes - The procurement rules as per 2327 LEADER OR 16.3 were followed with lowest priced quote received being selected.
In house projects: are there other providers that can deliver the project more cost effectively?	This is not an In-House Project.
Recommendation of Evaluation Committee	Grant aid of €38,526.37
Rationale of Evaluation Committee if recommendation is rejected:	N/A
Where rejecting an Evaluation Committee recommendation to reject a proposal, insert the revised score	N/A
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS	Community Project.
Added value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	Enhanced results and impacts of program/strategy implementation leading to improved social capital.
% level of aid & ceiling:	75%
Proposed by:	Mike Edwards
Seconded by:	Cllr. Annemarie Ryan Shiner
Absenters:	No
Agreed by Board	Yes
Has Quorum requirements been met:	Yes

Approval of the project was agreed on the proposal of Mike Edwards and seconded by Cllr. AnneMarie Ryan Shinner.

Installation of External Wall Insulation to the Scouts Hall, Nenagh

Project Code:	IE30NTP103638
Promoters Name:	Nenagh Choral Society Limited
Description:	The fixing of an approved 100mm external wall thermal insulating composite system by an approved NASI/SEAI installer/Contractor to the external walls of the Scouts Hall building in Nenagh (approximate external area to be insulated is 680 sq. metres).
Theme:	Sustainable Development of Rural Environment and Climate Change.
Sub Theme:	(3a). Sustainable Development of Rural Environment.
Outline the LAG's consideration on each of the following:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadweight 	The project will not proceed without funding. The Promoter's finances would not be able to cover the cost of the project.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Displacement: 	There is no displacement, the Scouts Hall is an existing integral part of the community fabric in Nenagh. The installation of external wall insulation to the Scouts Hall building will not be in competition with similar local facility/enterprise/activity as the installation of external wall insulation is not an activity but an energy efficiency upgrading of a building. The works do not affect or compete with other buildings in the locality.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation 	The results of these works will greatly improve the thermal performance of the building. The improved thermal performance of the building will have the effect of greatly reducing energy consumption, therefore, lowering energy bills and improve the Architectural aesthetics of the building. The building will be transformed into a modern energy efficient functioning building.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reasonableness of costs: 	Yes, National Procurement Guidelines - 2327 LEADER Programme OR 16.3
In house projects: are there other providers that can deliver the project more cost effectively?	This is not an In-House Project.

Recommendation of Evaluation Committee	Grant aid of €105,589.00
Rationale of Evaluation Committee if recommendation is rejected:	N/A
Where rejecting an Evaluation Committee recommendation to reject a proposal, insert the revised score	N/A
Rationale for grant aid, having regard to the LDS:	Community project, but it does provide a base for local community activities.
Added value – How will the added value of LEADER funding be demonstrated in the delivery of this project?	Enhanced results and impacts of programme/strategy implantation leading to improved social capital.
% level of aid & ceiling:	75%
Proposed by:	Elaine Baker
Seconded by:	Michael Geary
Absenters: Agreed by Board Has Quorum requirements been met:	No Yes Yes

Approval of the project was agreed on the proposal of Elaine Baker and seconded by Michael Geary.

- Michael Murray presented a fifth project to the members but following a lengthy discussion the project was deferred.

Project promoter	Project title	Grant
Development Association Newport Community Centre	IE30NTP103980 - Generator	€17,066.25

- Cllr Annemarie Ryan Shiner asked if a generator would be supplied to this community by the Local authority through the community support centres?
- Sheevaun Thompson told Cllr. Ryan Shiner that those generators will be mobile and held by the Local Authority and delivered out to communities that are in greatest need during an emergency event.
- Damien Ginty said that generators need to be mobile and more remote areas should take priority as they could be without power for a longer period.

- Derval Howley & Damien Ginty had concerns that this may set a precedent.
- Derry O' Donnell acknowledged the community spirit in Newport.
- Elaine Baker suggested a sub-committee be set up to review back up energy sources for buildings. Damien Ginty told Elaine that a national review has already been done. Sheevaun Thompson also told Elaine that the Department are the ones taking the lead on the project and we must follow their lead.

4.2 STDC Projects & CEO Report (Decision)

Tipperary Tourism CLG

- South Tipperary Development Company Income and Expenditure Report was noted.
- Isabel Cambie informed members that STDC are down a full-time Development Officer and it will take up to 6 weeks to replace her.
- Isabel Cambie sought approval for a change request:
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Project promoter	Project title	Change request	Implications
Rosegreen Development Association	IE30STP102369 – Rosegreen Community Centre Sustainability Project	Extension of deadline/sunset clause for receipt of planning permission	No cost implications. Total project costs of €66,667 and the grant request of €50,000 remains the same.

This was proposed by Derval Howley and seconded by Cllr Marie Murphy.

4.3 Budget Report (Decision)

Cora Morrissey gave a high-level update on the budget report. Sinead Carr asked the two Local Development Committees if they had any additional projects in the pipeline targeting the lower allocated Sub-Themes. Isabel Cambie and Michael Murray both said they have projects in the pipeline with the majority of their budget allocated. Michael said they will carry out a mid-year review and will put firmer plans in place if needed. Isabel said that they may end up a few weeks behind where they should be due to one of their development officers leaving the post.

Approval of the Monthly Income and Expenditure Report was proposed by Mike Edwards and seconded by Michael Geary.

4.4 LEADER Targeted Call 2025 - Update

Michael Murray and Isabel Cambie updated the members on the LEADER Targeted Call 2025. Applications have been received by both NTDC and STDC and are being assessed.

4.5 EOI's Updates

Áine Roche informed the members that there was no new EOI's update from what was shared at the December meeting previous.

5.	<p>SICAP Sheevaun Thompson notified the members of a delay in timelines and end of year performance reviews are currently being carried out.</p>
6.	<p>Smart Villages Update</p> <p>Isabel Cambie gave an update on Smart Villages.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 1 near completion, (three (3) villages nearing the completion of their plans; Emily, Fethard & Glengoole). • Phase 2 is nearly ready to start (Elm Park residents association and 1 other community yet to be identified). <p>Cllr Annemarie Ryan Shiner asked Isabel how the community not yet identified will be selected. Isabel confirmed that she has a current list and hopes the community will be selected from that list.</p>
7.	<p>Quality of Life</p> <p>7.1 Healthy Ireland Fund (HIF) 2023-2025</p> <p>Eoin Kaar updated the members on the Healthy Ireland Fund 2023-2025:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparing the HIF 2026 Annual Activities workplan due to Pobal on 30th January 2026. • HIF 2025 Finance Report due to Pobal on the 20th February 2026. • HIF Progress Report due to Pobal on the 20th February 2026. • Healthy Ireland / Sláintecare Healthy Communities / SPC sub working group visiting Cork on 16th January to meet counterparts in relation to community grow garden projects/governance/promotion of local food production to take learnings/successes/challenges back to Tipperary. Maria Young – Green Spaces for Health coordinator & Denise Cahill - Cork Healthy Cities Coordinator hosting visit. <p>7.2 Healthy Communities Clonmel (Substance Use Action Plan)</p> <p>Catriona Crowe updated the members on Sláintecare initiatives:</p> <p>Clonmel Community Conversations about Substance MisUse</p> <p>Parents Cohort The Parents Cohort has been working closely with Elm Park to identify local needs and opportunities for family engagement. Activities are being co-designed to appeal to both parents and young people, fostering stronger community connections. A meeting with the Elm Park Residents’ Group is scheduled for January 2026 to further develop collaborative initiatives.</p> <p>Schools The next Schools Cohort meeting will take place on 20 January 2026 to finalise the Drugs Education Programme for schools in Q1 and Q2, ensuring alignment with Planet Youth survey outcomes.</p>

Clonmel Centralised Directory of Substance misuse support services

The Clonmel Centralised Directory of Services is currently being finalised by graphic designers for widespread circulation throughout all communities in Clonmel. It will include a QR code for easy access, supported by media coverage to ensure visibility. This directory will feature an online substance support services section, listing services by category and highlighting those available after normal business hours.

Old Bridge Community Group (OBCG)

At the January meeting of TCC, a Section 183 (Disposal of Council Lands) was approved, enabling OBCG to access Sláintecare Healthy Communities seed funding and begin work on the community house.

7.3 Tipperary Age Friendly

Eoin Kaar updated the members on Tipperary Age Friendly:

- Tipperary Age Friendly Plan 2024-2025 will be reviewed in line with the LECP timeline with a view to developing an updated Action Plan for 2026-2027 and the Alliance will meet in February 2026.
- The partnership with Understand Together and Tidy Towns was included in the December National Tidy Towns newsletter
<https://www.tidytowns.ie/app/uploads/2025/12/Christmas-SuperValu-TidyTowns-Newsletter-Issue-2-December-2025.pdf>

7.4 Planet Youth

Catriona Crowe updated the members on Planet Youth:

- Communication and Action Plan will be agreed at the January meeting.
- Further reports will be published and promoted on <https://tipperary.planetyouth.ie/>
- Focus is going to be given to the NEETS (not in Employment, Education or Training Cohort) for survey engagement in 2026 and a dedicated survey window is being developed to encourage this cohort to participate so that we will have an evidence base for their lived experience.
- National conversations continue in relation to the National Survey and Ethical approval will be sought in May through RCSI to support the Tipperary and Wicklow survey for 2026.

7.5– Local Area Child Poverty Plan Engage in Energy

Eoin Kaar updated the members on Local Area Child Poverty Plan Engage in Energy:

- Department of Children Disability and Equality will host a workshop with all 4 national pilots on 20th January 2026, together with UL who will

	<p>conduct research on the processes engaged by all the 4 pilots and establish learnings across same.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tipperary household engagement will be completed by end of January 2026. • Strong focus on Roscrea and Carrick-on-Suir engagement in the coming weeks to ensure that we conduct household surveys to meet our targets as proposed in our application. • Tipperary LCDC & Tipperary CYPSC continue to submit bi-monthly reports to Department of Children on project status and financial status in relation to the Child Poverty Plan project.
<p>8.</p> <p>9.</p> <p>10.</p> <p>11.</p>	<p>Children and Young Persons Services Committee Update Stephanie O Callaghan updated the members on the Children and Young Persons Services Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following Stephanie’s update, Cllr. John Carroll (chair) said he would be interested in more information around child safeguarding • Stephanie suggested to Cllr. Carroll that he comes directly to her, and she could support getting the right information for him. Stephanie also suggested that she could provide some slides on the Tusla reform at the next meeting if members wanted (<i>No members confirmed they wanted these slides</i>). <p>Funding Updates</p> <p>9.1 Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mary McLoughney gave an update on the Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2025. <p>9.2 Local Enhancement Programme 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sheevaun Thompson gave an update on the Local Enhancement Programme 2026. <p>9.3 Creative Ireland Program 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tara power gave an update on the Creative Ireland Program 2026. <p>Correspondence, Submissions and Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr John Carroll (Chair) noted correspondence on Vacant & Derelict Properties. <p>A.O.B None</p>

12.

Date of Next Meeting
Monday 16th February 2026 – Via Teams

Signed:

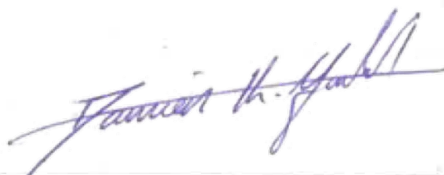


Cllr. John Carroll
Chair,
Tipperary Local Community Development Committee

Date:

16/02/2026

Signed:



Damien Ginty
Chief Officer,
Tipperary Local Community Development Committee

Date:

25/02/2026