

**Minutes of the Meeting of
Carlow Local Community Development Committee
Local Action Group (LAG)
Held on Wednesday 13th April
in
Council Chamber, County Buildings, Athy Road, Carlow**

PRESENT

Statutory Interests:

Cllr. Michael Doran
Carlow County Council: Kathleen Holohan
Head of Enterprise: Kieran Comerford
Department of Social Protection: Noel Barry

Non -Statutory Interests:

Community & Voluntary Sector: Thomas Kelly
Social Inclusion: Andrea Dalton
Social Inclusion: Josephine Tierney
Carlow County Development Partnership: Mary Walsh
Agricultural /Farming: John Nolan
Environmental Pillar: Eamonn Moore

Chief Officer: Michael Brennan

Administrative Officer: Margaret Moore

In Attendance: Gráinne O'Neill, Co-ordinator of Carlow PPN

Apologies:

Statutory Interests: Cllr's. Willie Quinn and Charlie Murphy
Kilkenny/Carlow Education & Training Board: Cynthia Deane
Community & Voluntary Sector: Mary Doyle

ITEM 1 Carlow Public Participation Network Presentation, Gráinne O'Neill

It was agreed by members present that while waiting for a quorum Item 3, the presentation on the Carlow Public Participation Network on the agenda would be brought forward. Ms Gráinne O'Neill Carlow PPN Co-ordinator made a presentation to the members outlining the purpose, vision and the structure of Carlow PPN and presented what has been achieved since the PPN was established and what they are planning in the near future. Members complemented and thanked Ms O' Neill for her informative presentation.

ITEM 2 Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising – 27th January 2016 and 23rd October 2015

27th January 2016 minutes:

Proposed: Andrea Dalton
Seconded: Kieran Comerford
AND RESOLVED

“That the Minutes of the LCDC Meeting held on 27th January 2016 are hereby approved.”

There are no matters arising that were not on the Agenda.

23rd October 2015 minutes:

Proposed: Thomas Kelly
Seconded: Cllr Michael Doran
AND RESOLVED

“That the Minutes of the LCDC Meeting held on 23rd October 2015 are hereby approved.”

The Chair, Eamonn Moore welcomed Ms Josephine Tierney, the newly elected PPN Social Inclusion representative onto the Committee, replacing Ms Ann Shortall.

ITEM 3 Correspondence

The Chief Officer, Michael Brennan informed the members that he received correspondence from the HSE seeking a nomination from the LCDC to become a member of the Carlow Suicide Prevention Planning Group. Ms Josephine Tierney was proposed as the representative for the LCDC.

Proposed: Andrea Dalton
Seconded: Cllr Michael Doran

AND RESOLVED

That Ms Josephine Tierney represent Carlow LCDC on the Carlow Suicide Preventative Planning Group

ITEM 4 Local Economic and Community Plan

The Chief Officer, Michael Brennan updated the members on the progress of the LECP. It was adopted by Council Members on 8th February 2016. At present a 2 year implementation plan is being prepared in consultation with the Lead Agencies which will be presented to the LCDC at their next meeting in June. Priority actions were agreed for the action that the LCDC is the Lead Agency for which is *“To create a forum to support community/ voluntary and statutory agencies to maximise their resources and to work collaboratively in responding to the needs of communities on the margins”*. The first priority action agreed was that research would be carried out and facilitated by the Community Section in how it should be established and presented at the next LCDC meeting in June. From this Terms of Reference will be drawn up.

The Chief Officer also informed the members that the Plan was at present being designed for printing. It is hoped that it will be launched locally in May and nationally in June.

ITEM 5 LEADER

The Chief Officer informed the members that correspondence had been received from the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government – LEADER Independent Selection Committee which advised that the Local Development Strategy had met the requisite standard and was approved subject to a number of areas being addressed in advance of the contracting process. Ms Mary Walsh informed the members that there is a delay in the roll out of the programme from the Department as outlined following;

- Operating rules have not yet been finalised
- The IT system is not complete
- The Service Level Agreements are still in draft stage.

It is anticipated the LEADER Programme will be launched nationally in June.

ITEM 6 Review of South Carlow REDZ Project

Mr Kieran Comerford presented to the members a review of the pilot South Carlow REDZ project which outlined how it was delivered and its positive impact

for the area. Members welcomed the presentation and queries raised were answered by Mr Comerford.

ITEM 7 AOB

The Chief Officer informed the members that the Corporate Policy Group of the Council met on the 11th April 2016 and agreed to increase the membership of the LCDC from 17 to 19 in accordance with guidelines issued for the establishment and operation of Local Community Development Committees by the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in July 2014. The HSE and Carlow Tourism will be invited to become members of the committee. The replacement for Fr. Caomhín O'Neill who represented Civic Society will come from the Arts/Cultural area of the County was also agreed by the Corporate Policy Group. A report will be presented to the members of Carlow County Council at the May meeting of Council for approval.

This concluded the business of the meeting