

Minutes of the Meeting of
Carlow Local Community Development Committee
Local Action Group (LAG)
Held on Wednesday 6th July
in
Council Chamber, County Buildings, Athy Road, Carlow

PRESENT

Statutory Interests:

Cllr. Michael Doran

Cllr Arthur McDonald

Cllr Willie Quinn

Cllr Charlie Murphy

Head of Enterprise: Kieran Comerford

Kilkenny/Carlow Education & Training Board: Cynthia Deane

Non -Statutory Interests:

Community & Voluntary Sector: Thomas Kelly

Community & Voluntary Sector: Mary Doyle

Social Inclusion: Josephine Tierney

Agricultural /Farming: John Nolan

Environmental Pillar: Eamonn Moore

Civic Society: Brian Hand

Carlow Tourism: Eileen O'Rourke

Business/Employer: John Brophy

Chief Officer: Michael Brennan

Administrative Officer: Margaret Nolan

In Attendance: Karl Duffy, Co-ordinator of Carlow County Development Partnership

Apologies:

Statutory Interests: Kathleen Holohan, Anna-Marie Lanigan and Noel Barry

Non Statutory Interests: Andrea Dalton, Mary Walsh

ITEM 1 Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising – 13th April 2016

Proposed: Josephine Tierney

Seconded: Thomas Kelly

AND RESOLVED

“That the Minutes of the LCDC Meeting held on 13th April 2016 are hereby approved.”

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

The Chair, Eamonn Moore welcomed Ms Eileen O'Rourke, Mr Brian Hand and Cllr Arthur McDonald to the meeting.

ITEM 2 Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) Mid Term Review January - June 2016

The Chief Officer, Michael Brennan introduced Karl Duffy Social Inclusion Manager Carlow County Development Partnership (CCDP) who gave a presentation on the Mid-Term Review of the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme for the period January to June 2016. The full report was distributed to members prior to the meeting. The Chief Officer advised that the draft Mid Term Review data had been technically reviewed by Pobal prior to presentation to the LCDC and that feedback received had been discussed with the Programme Implementer and that he was satisfied that all key issues raised had been addressed. Mr Duffy informed the meeting that he met the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee on two occasions to review and discuss key data, budgets, targets and milestones in respect of the programme. Mr Duffy highlighted that the SICAP work programme and evaluation needs to be balanced between quantitative and qualitative data.

Members welcomed the presentation and queries raised were answered by Mr Duffy. Following consideration of the SICAP Mid Term Review

It was Proposed by: Mary Doyle

Seconded by: Josephine Tierney

AND RESOLVED

“That we the members of Carlow LCDC hereby approve the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme Mid-Term Review for the period January – June 2016”

Mr K Duffy advised the meeting that a Social Enterprise Grant of €4,000 was paid to St Clare's Hospitality Food Kitchen which exceeded the limits of €2,500 allowed, and the rationale for same. Following consideration of same

It was Proposed by: Cllr Michel Doran

Seconded by: Cllr William Quinn

AND RESOLVED

“That we the Members of Carlow LCDC hereby approve the additional Social Enterprise Grant payment of €1,500 to Saint Clare’s Hospitality Food Kitchen during 2015 under the SICAP Programme.

ITEM 3 Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021 - Implementation Plan 2016-2018

The Chief Officer, Michael Brennan advised of draft Local Economic and Community Implementation Plan which was circulated to members and stated that the plan will be implemented in 3 cycles of 2 years over the timeline of the plan. Lead Agencies will present a written and verbal progress report during the 2 year cycle period. The implementation of the Plan will be monitored by the LCDC, Members of Carlow County Council, Strategic Policy Committee for Economic Development, Enterprise Support and Planning, LECP Advisory Steering Group and the National Oversight Audit Committee. The Implementation Plan will be presented to Members of Carlow County Council in September and a further updated plan will also be presented to the LCDC at their meeting in September if required. Mr Kieran Comerford stated that the economic section methodology was different as it encompassed a range of plans with overarching policies including the Regional Action Plan for Jobs. Members agreed to the draft plan and welcomed the Implementation Plan and encouraged all parties to be active in progressing actions outlined in the document.

ITEM 4 LEADER Programme

The Chief Officer informed the members that the Carlow LEADER Local Development Strategy was approved by the LEADER Independent Selection Committee in June 2016. The Leader Programme is to be launched in Virginia, Cavan on July 8th by the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs where the LEADER Funding Agreement (Contract) will be signed which is worth €6.4m to County Carlow over the lifetime of the Programme. He stated that a Service Level Agreement will be signed later by Carlow LCDC (LAG), Carlow County Council (Lead Financial Partner) and Carlow County Development Partnership CLG. A Rural Development Programme IT system will be put in place shortly to oversee the administration of the programme funding. Article 48 checks will be carried out by Pobal for the first 12 month period of the programme. This work may be outsourced following this period. Mr Brennan stated that there will need to be separate meetings of the LAG and the LCDC, however he proposed to schedule both meetings on the same day to facilitate members.

The Chief Officer suggested that the LCDC meet in late August or very early September to approve Calls for Proposals prior to advertising of same and to be fully briefed on the LEADER Programme which was agreed. The Chief Officer also advised members in detail in relation to the LEADER Funding Agreement (Contract) which was circulated and sought a resolution from members that the Chairperson be authorised to sign the necessary documentation. Following consideration and discussion on the matter

**It was Proposed by: Cynthia Deane
Seconded by: Cllr Michael Doran
AND RESOLVED**

“That we, the Members of Carlow Local Community Development Committee (Local Action Group) hereby approve that the Chairperson of the Carlow Local Community Development Committee (Local Action Group) be authorised to sign the LEADER Funding Agreement Contract”

ITEM 5 Approval of Amendments to Carlow LCDC/LAG Standing Orders

The Chief Officer outlined in detail the proposed amendments to the Standing Orders as circulated to members prior to the meeting.

**Proposed: John Brophy
Seconded: Thomas Kelly
AND RESOLVED**

“That the amendments to the Carlow LCDC/LAG Standing Orders as circulated are hereby approved as outlined”.

ITEM 6 Report on Terms of Reference for establishment of Forum on Social Inclusion

A report on establishing A Social Inclusion Forum was circulated to members with details on research conducted by the Community Section Staff. There was a 63% response rate (12 out of 19 agencies) and there was a unanimous agreement amongst these responders for the need to establish this Forum. A meeting with the Social Inclusion LCDC representatives was called. After consideration of the results of the survey it was agreed that the Terms of Reference including objectives for this Social Inclusion Forum will be developed and agreed with the member agencies of the Forum in order to ensure collective ownership of both the objectives and the actions of the Forum. The terms of reference when agreed, will be presented to the LCDC. Members considered and noted report.

ITEM 7 Conflict of Interest Declarations -Local Government Act 2001

The Chief Officer requested that members who had not completed and returned the Annual Conflict of Interest Declaration do so without delay.

ITEM 8 AOB

The Chief Officer advised that Training, Learning and Development in terms of capacity building for LCDC members will be arranged during the period October to December, which will be facilitated by external trainers.

Next meeting of the LCDC is scheduled for September 21st at 2:30 pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting