

Local Community Development Committee (L.C.D.C)

**1. Approved Minutes of the Meeting of
Westmeath Local Community Development Committee, (LCDC)
on Friday 4th December 2015 at 10.00am in Aras an Chontae.**

Present: Pat Gallagher, WCC – (Chairman)
Cllr Tom Farrell, WCC
Cllr Aengus O'Rourke WCC
Joe Whelan, HSE
Des Sheridan, PPN
Bob Morrison, PPN
Joyce Furlong, PPN
Frank Murtagh, WCDL
Christine Charlton, WCC – LEO
Christy Duffy, LWETB
Des Henry, DSP
Dave Raftis, PPN
Hugh McGuire, PPN

Apologies: Cllr Avril Whitney WCC
Denis Rohan, Impact
Paddy Donnelly IFA
Denis Hogan, COC

In Attendance: David Hogan, DOS, WCC
Hugh O'Reilly, Chief Officer LCDC
Annette Barr Jordan, A.O Community Development, WCC
Anne Galvin, A.O Community Development, WCC

Welcome

Chairman, Pat Gallagher welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.

1. Approval of Draft Minutes of LCDC Meeting of Friday 6th November 2015.

On the proposal of Bob Morrison and seconded by Joe Whelan the minutes of the previous LCDC meeting held on Friday 6th November 2015 were approved.

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising.

3. Consideration of Draft Westmeath Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2021

Hugh O'Reilly gave a summary of the process by which this plan was developed and the work of the Steering Group. It was proposed that the plan would be submitted for the consideration of the full Council in December 2015.

Anne Galvin gave a outline of the content of the plan outlining the economic and community goals, objectives, and actions. This action plan element of the plan was critical as it set out the

proposed actions by a range of agencies to secure economic and community development in Westmeath.

In response to Des Henry, the Chair advised that an executive recommendation could go to the Local Authority regarding any changes put forward by the DSP and Cllr. O'Rourke agreed that this should happen.

The Chair expressed an opinion on the LECP was a very important document as regards the future development of the county.

On the proposal of Cllr. Tom Farrell and seconded by Cllr. Aengus O'Rourke the Local Economic and Community Plan was approved.

4. Establish Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme Sub-Committee

Hugh O Reilly informed the committee that the establishment of a SICAP subcommittee would be advantageous in order to review the implementation of the 2015 Annual Plan and to review the proposed 2016 Annual Plan.

Nominations took place and the following members of the LCDC were approved to make up this subcommittee i.e. Bob Morrison, Dave Raftis and Cllr. Tom Farrell.

5. To receive presentation on the Westmeath Public Participation Network

Annette Barr Jordan gave a presentation on the Public Participation Network to the committee.

A good discussion took place around the members of the PPN and the interaction of same with the Local authority. The annual PPN report to the Municipal Districts was an area of concern and the chair informed the committee that this structure was being reviewed and the system for engaging the community with local government would be reviewed. Joe Whelan put forward the Athlone Community Health Forum as an example of good practice. The Chair thanked Annette for her presentation.

6. AOB

Frank Murtagh WCD gave a brief update on implementation of the SICAP programme to date. The target for employment was set at 117 and WCD have successfully reached the figure of 105 to date. Of this group 21 are from the most disadvantaged geographical areas.

7. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the LCDC:

- Friday 12th February 2016 at 10.00am in the Executive Lounge, Áras an Chontae, Mullingar, Co Westmeath.

Chairman Pat Gallagher thanked the members for their attendance and called the meeting to a close.

Approved


Chairman

12/2/16
Date