

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

**1. Approved Minutes of the Meeting of
Westmeath Local Community Development Committee, (LCDC)
on Friday 6th November 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
Joe Potter, WCDL
Christine Charlton, WCC – LEO
Paddy Donnelly IFA

Apologies: Cllr Avril Whitney WCC
Des Henry, DSP
Denis Rohan, Impact
Denis Hogan, COC
Dave Raftis, PPN
Christy Duffy, LWETB
Hugh McGuire, PPN

In Attendance: David Hogan, DOS, WCC
Hugh O'Reilly, Chief Officer LCDC
Anne Galvin, A.O Community Development, WCC.
Maria Kearney, C.O Community Development, WCC.

Welcome & Introduction

Chairman, Pat Gallagher welcomed everyone to the meeting and a number of apologies were noted. The Chairman introduced David Hogan to the LCDC meeting as the new Director of Service with responsibility for Community Development in Westmeath County Council.

1. Approval of Draft Minutes of LCDC Meeting of Friday 2nd October 2015.

On the proposal of Bob Morrison and seconded by Des Sheridan the minutes of the previous LCDC meeting held on Friday 2nd October 2015 were approved.

2. Matters Arising

Hugh O'Reilly advised that the draft Westmeath Local Economic and Community Plan which was considered at the last LCDC meeting was currently advertised for public consultation and would come back before the December meeting on the LCDC.

3. Regional SICAP Support Event

Hugh O'Reilly advised the Members of upcoming SICAP regional information event in Mullingar on 16th Nov regarding the annual review of implementation of 2015 action plan and preparation of 2016 plan. Bob Morrison and Joyce Furlong agreed to attend this event on behalf of the LCDC in addition to 2 No staff members.

4. To Approve the Westmeath Local Development Strategy 2014-2020

Joe Potter CEO of Westmeath Community Development gave a presentation of the Draft Westmeath Local Development Strategy, as circulated. This Strategy represented an application by the Westmeath LCDC for the LEADER/Rural Development Programme 2014 -2020. The LCDC will be the LAG for Westmeath with the Council as lead financial partner and Westmeath Community Development as lead implementation partner. A comprehensive consultation process had been undertaken in relation to proposed Themes and Sub themes of the programme and an Action Plan developed. The new programme had a greater Social Inclusion emphasis than previous programmes.

A discussion followed on a number of aspects of the draft plan including impact on Travellers, inclusion of all areas of county, need for greater awareness raising among the community, etc. On the proposal of: Cllr. Tom Farrell and seconded by: Cllr. Aengus O'Rourke, the Draft Westmeath Local Development Strategy 2014-2020 was approved. This strategy would be submitted to the DECLG for their evaluation and approval.

5. To Receive a presentation on the newly launched Healthy Ireland Strategy

Joe Whelan gave the LCDC members a presentation on the Healthy Ireland Strategy and highlighted the importance of the relationship between the HSE and the Local Authority in the successful roll out of this plan. Joe highlighted the importance of the Healthy Framework plan being on the LCDC agenda to create awareness. The LCDC membership welcomed this initiative and through the LECP hope to achieve the outcomes within the strategy.

6. AOB

Cllr. Tom Farrell enquired about the Village and Town Renewal Scheme and Pat Gallagher confirmed that it is envisaged that the Council will receive further details of the scheme in early 2016.


7. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting of the LCDC:

- Friday 4th December 2015 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


Date