



## Minutes of Meeting of Sligo Local Community Development Committee

Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 9.30a.m., City Hall, Sligo

### PRESENT

Cllr. Seán MacManus	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Cllr. Séamus Kilgannon	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Mr. Ciarán Hayes	Local Government /CE	Sligo County Council
Mr. Chris Gonley	Local Development Sector	Sligo LEADER Partnership Co. Ltd
Mr. Des Faul	Business Interests	Sligo Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Hugh MacConville	Trade Union Interests	Irish Congress of Trade Unions
Mr. Seán Tempany	Farming / Agriculture Interests	Farming / Agriculture Pillar
Mr. Gerard O'Connor	Community & Voluntary	PPN
Ms. Sharon Boles	Social Inclusion	PPN

### APOLOGIES

Cllr. Sinéad Maguire	Local Government Member	Sligo County Council
Mr. John Reilly	Local Government / LEO	Sligo County Council
Mr. Kieran O'Dwyer	State Agency	Dept. Of Social Protection
Mr. Frank Morrison	State Agency	Sligo/Leitrim/West Cavan HSE
Ms. Mary Brodie	State Agency	Mayo, Sligo, Leitrim ETB
Ms. Jackie Sweeney	Community & Voluntary	PPN
Mr. Michael Kirby	Environmental Interests	Environment Pillar (PPN)
Ms. Bernadette Maughan	Social Inclusion	PPN

### IN ATTENDANCE

Ms. Dorothy Clarke	Chief Officer LCDC	Sligo County Council
Ms. Margaret McConnell	Senior Executive Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Aisling Smyth	Administrative Officer	Sligo County Council
Mr. Jimmy O'Brien	Administrative Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Maria Collery	A/ Assistant Staff Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. Geraldine Timlin	Assistant Staff Officer	Sligo County Council
Ms. June Murphy		Sligo LEADER Partnership Co. Ltd (SICAP item)

The Chair welcomed Mr. Des Faul to the meeting, as the replacement for Mr. Paul Keyes as the Business Interests Representative, Sligo Chamber of Commerce.

### 1. PHOTO CALL FOR COUNCIL'S WEBSITE & OTHER PROMOTIONAL EVENTS AS REQUIRED

The photo call did not take place due to the number of apologies received for the meeting. Members were advised that the matter would be reviewed again with a view to considering an approach to obtaining the images required for promotion of the LCDC.

### 2. DECLARATIONS RE: CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Mr. Chris Gonley (Sligo LEADER Partnership Co Ltd.) declared an interest in SICAP and the Rural Development Programme.

### 3. MINUTES

Minutes of last meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2016 were proposed by Mr. Hugh MacConville, seconded by Cllr. Séamus Kilgannon and agreed by all.

### 4. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

### 5. TIMING / SCHEDULING OF FUTURE LAG MEETINGS

It was noted that the business of the LCDC and the LAG was onerous in terms of an increasing agenda and managing meetings of the LCDC and LAG was important going forward. As the LAG work develops there will be a more onerous responsibility on members when projects come to the LAG for approval. The Chair asked for views as to how this should be best progressed. It was agreed that meetings be held as efficiently as possible with general meeting of the LCDC held first, followed by meeting of the LAG as is currently the situation.

### 6. SICAP UPDATE

#### *Consideration / approval of 2017 Annual Plan*

SICAP update report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Members were advised that a meeting of the SICAP Monitoring Committee took place on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016. A budget of €585,514 has been allocated for 2017. The targets for two of the Headline Indicators have been reduced as follows:

SICAP Headline Indicator		2017 Target (indicative)	2017 Target (proposed)
4	Number of individuals (15 years upwards) in receipt of a Goal 2 educational support	396	356
11	Number of individuals (15 years upwards) progressing to self-employment up to 6 months after receiving a Goal 3 employment support	102	92

This reduction is consistent with what is also happening at a national level. The SICAP Monitoring Committee have recommended that the SICAP 2017 Annual Plan be approved in principal by the LCDC, it will then be forwarded to Pobal for consideration and then back to the LCDC for final approval.

This was proposed by Ms. Sharon Boles and seconded by Mr. Hugh MacConville.

## **7. LOCAL ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE**

Update report circulated to members. An overview of the LECP was given by the Chief Officer, Ms. Dorothy Clarke. 38 agencies are now reporting back on a quarterly basis on work undertaken in the context of the LECP. The reporting template will be up uploaded as a link to the Sligo County Council website and members will have access to this link in order to keep up to date with progress on LECP actions. A guidance document is to be developed in 2017 which will provide uniformity of feedback and will also be used for comparison purposes. Ms. Margaret McConnell noted that the HSE quarterly report / feedback had been received after information had been circulated to members.

### ***Presentation from Mr. Ciarán Hayes, CE, on the proposed Economic Forum for Sligo.***

Action 1.1.1 of the LECP is to establish an Economic Forum for Sligo with Sligo County Council identified as the Lead Agency. In his presentation Mr. Hayes addressed the following:

- Role and membership of the proposed Forum
- Proposed structure – it is envisaged that the Forum will operate various strands i.e. Tourism, Regional Skills Forum, Industry & Commerce and Other Fora.
- The CE noted that while the Forum has not been established certain aspects have been progressed (work is progressing on the Tourism element).
- Local Authorities have a history of leading and promoting Economic Development and Sligo continues to work collaboratively with Enterprise Agencies,
- The establishment of an Economic Forum in Sligo must be done in a way that it doesn't conflict/overlap with other structures established either regionally or nationally.
- In summary, the CE acknowledged that there were challenges to be addressed. He noted that Local Government has a critical role in underpinning Economic Development and that it should not be restricted by the financial position of the Local Authority.

The Presentation was followed by an indepth discussion. Mr. Hugh Mac Conville commented with some concern that that while the LCDC was successful in the implementation of the Social Inclusion agenda of the LECP progress on the Economic element was disappointing. The work of the LCDC is now at a critical point and resources are urgently required to address the Economic Agenda he suggested. He commented that the National Action Plan for Rural Ireland and Brexit also need to be taken into consideration in terms of influencing the work of the local Economic Forum.

Cllr. Seamus Kilgannon noted that Sligo is the 12<sup>th</sup> wealthiest county in Ireland wondering if this is a possible disadvantage in terms of matters such as attendance at IT Sligo where most of those attending being from outside Sligo.

Mr. Des Faul commented that Sligo needs to work at Regional Level with neighbouring counties and focus on developing its access roads network.

All agreed that the infrastructural deficits affected the economic development of Sligo.

The Chief Officer, Dorothy Clarke advised members that it was always the intention to have an economic structure in place as this had been highlighted during the Public Consultation phase and by members and agreed that maintaining and growing a regional emphasis for Sligo is vital.

The CE acknowledged all contributions and concerns offering that they were a strong endorsement for moving ahead with the establishment of an Economic Forum which was endorsed in conclusion by the Chair.

## **8. EUROPEAN VOLUNTEERING CAPITAL 2017**

Report of Margaret McConnell was circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The launch of Sligo EVC 2017 will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2017. This is the first time this award has come to a peripheral area of Europe. A Calendar of Events is being developed and all national organisations with Sligo branches / groups are being asked to host national / regional events in Sligo during 2017. A Steering Committee has been established to direct the programme and to also work with sponsors as the designation does not come with a budget. Funding has been received from the Dept of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government to support Marketing and Promotion of Sligo EVC 2017. It was also suggested that funding could be sought from the Northern and Western Regional Assembly.

## **9. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION NETWORK.**

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Geraldine Timlin gave an overview of the work of the PPN during 2016. The Chair expressed disappointment at attendance of some PPN representatives at meetings of the LCDC. It is important in terms of LCDC engagement with the Community & Voluntary sector and when decisions on the RDP need to be made by the LAG that PPN representatives are in attendance.

## **10. PEACE IV PROGRAMME UPDATE.**

Report circulated to members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Aisling Smyth advised members that since the submission of the PEACE Plan to the SEUPB there has been a substantial amount of further information sought in relation to value for money, project development and project design clarifications.

The Chair thanked Ms. Aisling Smyth for the Report and also thanked the Advisory Committee and all those who worked on the Plan. Revised submission noted and agreed by all members.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE.**

- **Letter 21/10/16 to LCDCs from Social Inclusion and Communities Unit of Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government regarding SICAP priorities for the remainder of 2016**
- **SICAP Programme Requirements - V1.7 and 2016 EOY Report Template**
- **abi Anti Bullying Programme information, letter 29/9/16 from Monica Monahan**
- **Business Pillar representative to Sligo LCDC (Mr. Des Faul)**

Ms. Margaret McConnell briefed members on correspondence as above.

**12. SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS 2017.**

Schedule circulated to members - noted and agreed.

**Proposed by:** Hugh MacConville

**Seconded by:** Sean Tempany

**13. AOB.**

There were no items for discussion.

Next meeting of LCDC scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 9.30 am

Meeting concluded at 11.45 a.m.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Chairperson**