

Minutes of Local Community and Development Committee Meeting held on 17th September, 2018 at Littleton and Moycarkey Community and Sports Centre, Thurles

Present:

Public Sector: Councillor John Carroll (Chair), Councillor Mary Hanna Hourigan, Councillor Joe Hannigan, Adrian Cunneen, Maria Bridgeman, Eileen Condon & Rita Guinan (7)

Private Sector: Charles Stanley-Smith, Isabel Cambie, Michael Murray, John Lupton, Imelda Walsh, John O'Shaughnessy, Martin Quinn, Sean O'Farrell & Eoin Wolahan (9)

Apologies:

Public Sector: Joe MacGrath

Private Sector: Clare Cashman

In Attendance: Pat Slattery (Chief Officer), Michael Moroney, Margo Hayes, Teresa Kiely & Fiona Hughes

1.	<p><u>To Note Adherence to Meeting Procedure Requirements</u></p> <p>1.1 Quorum Margo Hayes confirmed that a quorum had been achieved to proceed with the meeting.</p> <p>1.2 Conflict of Interest & Decision Making - LEADER Michael Moroney confirmed that the LCDC had been notified of the requirements to indicate COI and any issues arising could be discussed prior to formal discussion of the projects.</p> <p>1.3 Decision-Making Requirements to include written decision None were received in relation to the LEADER projects for decision at the meeting.</p>
2.	<p><u>Approval of Draft Agenda</u></p> <p>Councillor John Carroll declared the meeting open and apologies were noted.</p> <p>Draft Agenda was approved on the proposal of John Lupton and seconded by Isabel Cambie.</p>
3.	<p><u>Confirmation of Minutes</u></p> <p>The minutes of Tipperary LCDC meeting held on 16th July, 2018 were agreed on the proposal of Charles Stanley-Smith and seconded by John Lupton.</p> <p><u>Matters Arising</u></p> <p>Charles Stanley-Smith asked if a Circular had been received from the Department with regard to the ongoing matter of slow take-up under Leader bio-diversity theme. Pat Slattery advised that no Circular had yet been received and indicated that he will be trying to bring relevant parties together to examine issue locally.</p>

4.	<p>SICAP</p> <p>4.1 Mid-Year Review</p> <p>Margo presented this item and stated that the entire Q3 payment had been released to STDC following the resolution of some issues.</p> <p>4.2 Quarter 4 Drawdown</p> <p>Q4 drawdown has been submitted to the Department with €134,825.75 for North Tipperary and €158,520.75 for South Tipperary.</p> <p>4.3 Case Studies</p> <p>Pobal now require the case studies to be submitted by early October and guidelines will be provided in due course. The subject of the case studies must be agreed by the Local Development Companies and the LCDC according to Pobal Guidelines. The focus for North Tipperary will be on social enterprise, in particular the Lorrha area and the focus in South Tipperary will be the RAPID areas, particularly Elm Park.</p> <p>4.4 Local Level Support Network</p> <p>A workshop on IRIS and the programme requirement will be held on the 4th October in the Civic Offices, Clonmel. Sub-group members have registered to attend as have staff of the Local Development Companies.</p> <p>4.5 Annual Plan 2019</p> <p>The Annual Plan 2019 must be uploaded to IRIS by November. It was agreed at the tender process to hold a workshop/meeting to ensure that the plan involves collaboration between the local development companies and the LCDC Social Inclusion Sub-Committee.</p> <p>4.6 Social Inclusion Sub-Group meeting</p> <p>Aileen Gilchrist, Support Officer with Pobal, will meet with the Social Inclusion Sub-group of the LCDC on the afternoon of the 17th September to consider issues, the mid-year review and the annual planning process.</p> <p>4.7 Update by South Tipperary Development Company</p> <p>Isabel provided an update to the LCDC on staffing changes within STDC. She had previously informed the group that the Co-ordinator in Carrick-On-Suir had left STDC. Following a review of this vacancy, it was decided that the replacement role should be that of a Development Officer. They had an existing staff member, Anita Holloway, working 19 hours per week in a development role who successfully applied for the new role of Development Officer, working 35 hours per week. Therefore, the vacancy of 19 hours per week had to be filled and they were able to increase the number of staffing hours to 28 hours while keeping within budget and expect the post to be filled on</p>
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the 1st October, 2018.

4.8 Update by North Tipperary Leader Partnership

Michael Murray stated that a Project Manager, Deirdre Cahir, had recently started in her new role.

5. LEADER

5.1.2 To Decide on STDC Rolling Call Applications

In relation to the STDC Projects, the members were taken through these by Isabel Cambie. She advised the members that the projects coming before them were already provisionally approved and therefore only ratification was required at today's meeting. This, she said, explained the slight change in format of the CEO report to accommodate provisional approval and final approval.

Documents circulated for consideration by the members were the Project Evaluation Assessment Report and completed IEC Scoring Sheet for each application together with IEC meeting minutes. In addition, an Implementing Partner CEO Report to LCDC Chief Officer with details of each project including deadweight, displacement, rationale for grant aid, consistency with the Local Development Strategy and Operating Rules, IEC score and recommendation, and A48 Checking process undertaken was circulated for the consideration of members.

Approval of each project, on the basis of the recommendation of the Independent Evaluation Committee, was as follows:

- **STDC107522 [The Butcher's Daughter]** – John O'Shaughnessy left the room as he expressed a Conflict of Interest with this project. Isabel Cambie indicated that provisional approval had been previously received for grant aid of €195,550 based on estimated costs. The recommendation and revised figure of grant aid before them was now €200,000 (this was at the grant ceiling, and meant a 39.49% grant rate on project expenditure of €506,389.46). On the proposal of Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan and seconded by Martin Quinn, this project was approved, as recommended.

There was a lengthy debate at this point about the issue of accessing the national Food Call funds and diverting projects of this scale to try and maximise available resources at the local level in the future. It was agreed that a working group comprising the IP's, LEO, Teagasc, ETB and Chair should meet to formulate a policy on how to deal with future food projects (in excess of €50,000) and accessing the various funds available.

John O'Shaughnessy returned to the room.

- **STDC107082 [Newcastle Community Hall Car Park Extension & Upgrade]** – Isabel Cambie indicated that provisional approval had been previously received for grant aid of €67,711.56 based on estimated costs. The recommendation and revised figure of grant aid before them was now €59,204.63 (a 59.07% grant rate on project expenditure of €100,233.82). Voluntary labour costs of €1,008 are included in the costs for the project. On the proposal of John O'Shaughnessy and seconded by Imelda Walsh, this project was approved, as recommended.

- **STDC107521 [Canon Hayes Community Recreational Centre]** – Martin Quinn left the room due to Conflict of Interest. Isabel Cambie indicated that provisional approval had been previously granted for grant aid of €140,000.00 based on estimated costs. The recommendation and revised figure of grant aid before them was now €112,500.00 (a 66.15% grant rate on project expenditure of €170,058.38). This represented a reduction in the provisional grant figure approved and was explained by Isabel as being due to an additional grant of €27,500 received which is considered De Minimis resulting in combined De Minimis aid of €87,500 for this group. Isabel informed the members that when the STDC Board reviewed this project, they recommended that a condition be inserted into the grant award that the Centre “would continue to accommodate and support the hockey club at the recreation centre”. On the proposal of Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan and seconded by Cllr. Joe Hannigan, this project was approved, as recommended.

This project also involved a debate on the importance of social inclusion and how to promote social inclusiveness. Maria Bridgeman expressed the hope that the Healthy Tipperary strategy would contribute to the expansion of social inclusiveness which was endorsed by other members.

Martin Quinn returned to the room.

5.1.1 To Decide on NTLP Rolling Call Applications

Michael Murray presented one of the three projects that were circulated because the other two projects had not yet reached Stage 10 on the RDP IT System.

Documents circulated for consideration by the members were the Project Evaluation Assessment Report and completed IEC Scoring Sheet for each application together with IEC meeting minutes. In addition, an Implementing Partner CEO Report to LCDC Chief Officer with details of each project including deadweight, displacement, rationale for grant aid, consistency with the Local Development Strategy and Operating Rules, IEC score and recommendation, and A48 Checking process undertaken was circulated for the consideration of members.

Approval of the project, on the basis of the recommendation of the Independent Evaluation Committee, was as follows:

- **NTP103006 – Templemore Approach Wall** – Michael Murray reminded the members of previous discussions regarding this application and that they had requested the Evaluation Committee to re-evaluate this application. Grant of €31,758.52 (75% of total expenditure of €42,344.70) was sought to restore the stone walls. On the proposal of John Lupton and seconded by Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan, this project was approved, as recommended.

5.2 Update on Basic Services 2018 Targeted Call

This was a joint presentation by NTLP and STDC.

23 applications had been received which had a combined value of €1.284 million. The Evaluation Committee will meet in Cashel on the 23rd October to consider the applications and this is the first occasion that the process is over-subscribed. Discussion ensued regarding the scoring and ranking of projects. The Chair queried whether guidance was needed for the IEC but it was agreed that none was required and that they should evaluate the projects as per existing parameters/scoring sheet and rank projects according to the result. It was requested by members that feedback be provided to unsuccessful projects, once the full evaluation and decision process is completed.

5.3 LEADER Updates

- Food Bus (Tour) Project - Isabel Cambie provided the LCDC with an update regarding this project which had been approved at the May meeting to receive a 100% grant of €40,000 and had been moved from Economic Development to Youth. This was subsequently not allowed by the Department. They expressed concerns that this was a branding and marketing project and believed that the beneficiaries are the members of the food network. After numerous communications, the Department recommended that funding be granted at the reduced rate of 50% of the initial figure sought, i.e. a €20,000 grant. Michael Murray indicated that this amount would be split between the two development companies at €10,000 each. However, Michael indicated that the Enterprise budget for NTLP in 2018 was already committed and requested permission to access the 2019 budget for this project. Pat Slattery indicated that advice he has received from the Department is that this type of limited flexibility is permitted and therefore he considered the request could be allowed by the LCDC. On the proposal of Rita Guinan and seconded by Eileen Condon, a grant of 50% (€20,000 on expenditure of €40,000) and NTLP accessing their 2019 Enterprise budget, were agreed by the members.
- Christmas Lights – Following a discussion including costs and the selection criteria, it was agreed that this policy requires further development before being finalised. Both IP's, specifically STDC, were instructed not to accept applications for 2018.

5.4 Department Update in relation to Annual Plan

There was no update available for the meeting.

5.5. To Approve Monthly Income & Expenditure Report

Michael Moroney outlined the LDS Administration & Animation financial expenditure and income report to September 2018 inclusive which was circulated at the meeting. The report sets out the monthly IP Administration & Animation expenditure claims, payments to promoters and details of income received from DRCD. On the proposal of Martin Quinn and seconded by John O'Shaughnessy, the report was approved by the members.

6.	<p><u>Healthy Ireland</u></p> <p>Maria Bridgeman was delighted to mention the launch of the Healthy Tipperary strategy which was a massive achievement for all the contributors. Councillor John Carroll extended his compliments to everybody for all their work, particularly Fiona Crotty.</p> <p>6.1 Healthy Ireland 2017 Fund Actions Update</p> <p>Teresa Kiely presented this item and stated that a claim went to Pobal on the 27th July for Strand 1, Round 1 amounting to €159,000.00 for a total of 20 actions, all of which were successfully completed.</p> <p>A joint application on behalf of Tipperary LCDC and Tipperary CYPSC was submitted on the 25th May, 2018 for 12 Actions under Strand 1, Round 2. Pobal subsequently approved 11 Actions amounting to €111,292.00. Tipperary County Council is awaiting contracts from Pobal for Round 2.</p>
7.	<p><u>Community Enhancement Programme 2018 (Men's Shed Fund)</u></p> <p>Under this Scheme, Tipperary was awarded €20,290 for affiliated sheds. 11 applications were received, with 10 being deemed successful and 1 was ruled ineligible. On the proposal of Isabel Cambie, seconded by Eoin Wolahan, the list of grantees was approved, as recommended.</p>
8.	<p><u>LCDC Sub-groups PPN Membership</u></p> <p>Arising from a recent meeting of the PPN Reps, Charles Stanley-Smith provided details of the PPN nominations to the LCDC sub-groups as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Inclusion Sub-Committee: John Lupton joining Clare Cashman. • Sustainable Communities Sub-Committee: Eoin Wolahan & Martin Quinn joining Sean O'Farrell. • Audit Sub-Committee: Charles Stanley-Smith. • LECP Advisory: John Lupton joining Charles Stanley-Smith
9.	<p><u>Correspondence, Submissions & Consultations</u></p> <p>Correspondence – Margo referred to a letter received from the Chairperson of the South-East Drugs & Alcohol Task Force who requested closer collaboration between SICAP and the National Drugs Strategy. However, Margo informed the LCDC that both IP's interact with people who engage in substance abuse with the NTLF committing to work for an LTI (Learning Training Initiative) and that the emerging needs would be discussed as part of the SICAP 2019 Planning process.</p> <p>An e-mail was circulated by Sean O'Farrell to the LCDC in August concerning Project 2040 funds. Following a discussion, Pat agreed to get a representative from the council project team to address the next meeting regarding the rural regeneration fund and current projects.</p>

10.	AOB Isabel provided the group with a sample of the plaque acknowledging LEADER funding, which is a requirement of any projects in excess of €50,000. The supplier is based in Cahir and charges €100. Eileen Condon referenced the EU co-funded project "Interface" concerning fragile communities and mentioned a workshop which will be held on the 24th September in Fethard dealing with "Fragile Communities".
11.	Next meeting to be held at 10.00 a.m. on Monday, 15 th October, 2018 in the Littleton and Moycarkey Community and Sports Centre.

Signed/



Councillor John Carroll,
Chair,
Tipperary Local Community Development Committee.

Date/

15/10/2018

