

Minutes of Local Community and Development Committee Meeting held 17th May, 2021 at 10.00 a.m. Via teleconferencing and Zoom

Present:

Public Sector: Cllr John Carroll (Chair), Adrian Cunneen (DEASP), Donal Mullane (Teagasc), Cllr Joe Hannigan, Colin Cummins (TETB) **(5)**

Private Sector: Michael Murray (NTDC), Eoin Wolahan (PPN), Martin Quinn (PPN), Charles Stanley Smith (PPN), Sean O'Farrell (PPN), Imelda Walsh (IFA), John Lupton (PPN) **(7)**

Apologies: Isabel Cambie (STDC), Karl Cashen (TCC), Derval Howley (HSE), Cllr Declan Burgess

In Attendance: Pat Slattery (Chief Officer), Margo Hayes (TCC), Shane O'Dwyer (TCC), Eddie Meegan (TCC), Fiona Crotty (TCC), Cliona Tobin (TCC)

Also in Attendance:- Phil Shanahan SICAP Manager, Ruth Smith, Community Development Coordinator Knockanrawley Resource Centre

<p>1.</p>	<p><u>To Note Adherence to Meeting Procedure Requirements</u> Cllr John Carroll opened the meeting and welcomed all present.</p> <p>1.1 Quorum Margo confirmed that a quorum had been achieved with the balance in favour of the Private Sector membership.</p> <p>1.2 Conflict of Interest Cllr John Carroll (Chair) advised members that they may declare a conflict of interest as the meeting proceeded.</p> <p>1.3 Decision-Making Requirements to include LEADER written decision Would be dealt with as the meeting progressed.</p> <p>A Screen Shot was taken of meeting attendance.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p><u>Approval of Draft Agenda</u></p> <p>The Draft Agenda was agreed.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Confirmation of Minutes of Tipperary LCDC Meeting dated the 19th April, 2021 & Matters Arising (Decision)</u></p> <p>The minutes of the Tipperary LCDC meeting held on the 19th April, 2021 were agreed on the proposal of John Lupton and seconded by Imelda Walsh.</p>
<p>4.</p>	<p><u>SICAP –Work Programme Update</u></p>

Phil Shanahan SICAP Manager South Tipperary Development Company and Ruth Smith Knockanrawley Resource Centre gave a comprehensive presentation on SICAP work programme. They highlighted the challenges reaching out to disadvantaged individuals, families and children and the impact of Covid-19 and also the success stories giving examples of three individuals journeys to employment and education.
(Presentation attached)

5.

5.1 LEADER

5.1 NTDC CEO Report (Decision) – There were no CEO Reports to present as in transitional period.

5.2 STCD CEO Report (Decision) - There were no CEO Reports to present as in transitional period.

5.3 Leader Extensions (Decision)

LEADER project extension requests granted as per Section 8.4 of the Operating Rules:-

May-21					
Extensions over 6-months - LCDC Approval					
Project ID	Project Name	Contract Completion Date	1st Contract Extension Expiry Date	Requested Extension	Reason
30LDRNTP111585	Loughmore Tidy Tourism	31/12/2020	30/06/2021	31/12/2021	Due to Covid- 19 restrictions progress on the project has been delayed
30LDRNTP112304	Roscrea Rugby Football Club - Feasibility Study	31/12/2020	30/06/2021	31/12/2021	Due to Covid- 19 restrictions progress on the project has been delayed

The above extension requests were granted on the proposal of John Lupton seconded by Eoin Wolohan.

May -21

Extensions over 12-months - Department Approval

Project ID	Project Name	Contract Completion Date	1st Year Contract Extension Expired	Derogation Extension Request	Reason	Department approval
30LDRNTP1 10518	Birdhill Community Sports Field 2	25/07/2020	30/06/2021	30/06/2022	Due to Covid- 19 restrictio ns progress on the project has been delayed	26/04/2021

The above project extension request received Departmental approval subject to LCDC approval. This request was approved on the proposal of Martin Quinn and seconded by Imelda Walsh.

The following decommital was presented to the Committee for approval:-

Project 30LDRntp103020 - Arts Programme for Children with Dyspraxia – Tipperary Dyspraxia Support Group had a grant awarded of €23,125. Due to a mixture of Covid-19 and the passing of one of the key personnel in Jan 2021 who was Tipperary Dyspraxia Support Group coordinator, the promoter has decided to stop the programme and will reapply to run it once Covid-19 is under fully control. The promoter has a first and final claim being processed (currently undergoing a DAFM Inspection) for the initial training programmes held in Thurles and Clonmel for €5,525 and wishes to decommit the balance of €17,600.

Approval was granted on the proposal of Sean O'Farrell, seconded by Eoin Wolohan.

John Lupton commented that it was disappointing to see the funding not being used for such an important programme.

Shane presented the following two extension requests on behalf of STDC for noting only:-

File Reference	Promoter	Original Closing Date / Extension	Extension Time	Rationale for Extension
30LDRSTP112630	Linguan Valley Tourism CLG	17/05/21	6 months (up to 17/11/2021)	Delayed due to COVID-19
30LDRSTP11589	Blanco Nino Quad Oven Project	21/06/21	6 months (up to 21/12/2021)	Delayed due to COVID-19

The next extension request is a second extension and thus requires LCDC Approval

File Reference	Promoter	Original Closing Date / Extension	Extension Time	Rationale for Extension
30LDRSTP106974	Patrick Fitzgerald - Fitzgeralds Open Farm	30/06/21	6 months (up to 30/12/2021)	Capital works delayed due to national COVID-19 restrictions on construction

This extension request were approved on the proposal of Martin Quinn, seconded by Imelda Walsh.

The following is a retrospective extension request for noting only as it was approved by the Chief Officer, the Chief Officer approved the request upon receipt of guidance from the Department that it was within his remit and that any interim expenditure would not be considered outside the scope of the operating rules:-

File Reference	Promoter	Original Closing Date / Extension	Extension Time	Rationale for Extension
30LDRSTP108510	South Tipperary Development CLG (STDC) - Preparatory Technical Support for the "Nore Vision" Cooperative Interterritorial Project.	31.01.2020	6 months (retrospective extension to 31.07.2020)	This project was completed in April 2019 and the supplier was paid the full amount (€17,700) directly by the lead Partner Kilkenny LEADER Partnership (KLP) in April 2019. A retrospective extension is requested to cover the date of the invoice for the STDC share which was issued by KLP on 02/06/2020

5.4 To approve Monthly Income and Expenditure Report (Decision)

Nothing to present as transitional funding period and no projects have been considered to date.

5.7. AOB

None.

6. Healthy Ireland Update

Fiona Crotty gave a comprehensive update on Healthy Ireland to the committee including the financial position in relation to Strand 3 Actions to date. Strand 3 funding had 41% expenditure to date and actions were impacted in delivery by Covid restrictions. The Healthy Ireland sub group will review if required with additional or amended actions to ensure budget is fully utilised by December 2021. It is anticipated that an addendum will be received before the end of May 2021 to confirm the extension of Strand 3 to December 2021 and also confirmation of additional funding for the Healthy Ireland Coordinator from June to December 2021.

The presentation included an overview of the Healthy Ireland Strategic Plan 2021 to 2025 which was launched on the 12th May 2021 setting out key areas of focus and thematic framework for the plan.

The presentation will be emailed to the committee as well as a copy of the Department of Health Sláintecare Implementation Strategy & Action Plan 2021-2023 and Healthy Ireland Strategic Action Plan 2021-2025.

7. CEP and Covid-19 Emergency Fund Round 2

Eddie Meegan updated the committee on the Community Enhancement Programme - a copy of which will be circulated after the meeting. He sought approval from the committee to ring fence €50,000 of the €149,690 fund received from the Department of Rural and Community Development to target specific initiatives in the county. He stated we are currently consulting with our partners identifying the needs in the above areas. The remaining €99,690 will be advertised through Tipperary County Council and PPN asking community groups to apply for grants. The grants will range from a few hundred euro up to €1,000, however, exceptions will be made depending on the application.

Migrants and inclusion in our communities, supporting development of Tipperary Migrant and Integration Strategy	€5000
Training and Post Covid-19 Restart supports for communities in partnership with PPN, STDC & NTDC	€5000
Support to the 5 Garda Youth Diversion and 2 Youth and Family Support Services in Tipperary (staff led youth projects not eligible for TETB Capital funding supports)	€5000
Greener Communities and implementation of Action Plans complimenting workshops and supporting awareness of the SDG's	€5000
Age Friendly thematic project supporting age friendly groups reengage post covid	€5000
Support to the 4 Family Resource and 3 Community Resource Centers to address Food Poverty and provision of play therapy support equipment	€15,000
Dementia Awareness Supported Projects supporting community awareness of dementia within Tipperary	€5000
Keep Well – Staying Connected supported projects	€5000
Total	€50,000

	<p>Approval was granted on the proposal of John Lupton, seconded by Sean O'Farrell.</p> <p>Eddie added once he receives guidelines regarding same he will circulate to the committee.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p><u>Social Enterprise Webinar</u></p> <p>Eddie informed the committee that Tipperary County Council intend to hold two webinars on the growth and development of the social enterprise sector in Tipperary on the 27th of May 2021 and the 3rd of June 2021 at 4pm. The aim of the webinars is to provide information and awareness around the sector with a view to supporting social enterprises already in place and developing new social enterprises in the county.</p> <p>A copy of these webinars will be sent to the committee after the meeting for advertising and promotion.</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p><u>Migrant Integration Strategy Update</u></p> <p>Margo informed the meeting that funding has been sought to reach out to those living in Tipperary. Postcards have been drafted up and 60 approx replies have been received from survey from a good cross sector of respondents. 24th May is deadline for survey. Once there is analysis of data she will commence presentation to LDCDC. Sue Anne O'Donnell has been appointed as facilitator for delivery of this Strategy and has interviewed over 50 people</p> <p>25th May is African Day – Borriskane Direct Provision Centre and Bridgewater House Carrick on Suir have posters advertising events.</p> <p>Other migrant projects ongoing that we are supporting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Tipperary GAA International Scor called Realtai na Thuaidh or 'Stars of the North' • Clonmel Applefest – Out Sense of place – partnering 14 local writers with non-EU immigrants • Recruit Refugee – Matching employers with non-Irish people with skills
<p>10.</p>	<p><u>Correspondence, Submissions & Consultations</u></p> <p>Shane updated the committee on the various Town and Village Community Schemes. Under CLAR the following community projects were successful through shortlisting and have been submitted to the DRCD for consideration Clogheen disabled access public toilets and improvements to the playground, Goatenbridge for a barbeque area and enhancement to riverside park, Burncourt for outdoor recreation area, Donohill for an outdoor recreational area in the community field and Clonakenny for a Community Garden.</p> <p>Open for Expression of Interest Town and villages max 8 applications– 2 from town or village that were not successful previously. Funding with less than 5,000 population. Greater focus on Remote Working Hubs.</p> <p>Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme: Only the Council and Development Companies can apply</p>

He will make a presentation on same at the June meeting.

11. Any Other Business

The Chief Officer then raised the anonymous letter of complaint received by him and others on the 24th of March. A copy of this letter subsequently issued to all LCDC members. He informed the group that the contents had been reviewed and that the LAG's role was oversight and thus in reviewing the complaint he considered whether any of the matters raised within came under the protected disclosure legislation. He clarified that matters that would come under the remit of this legislation would be

-Criminal Matters

-Financial Matters such as fraud

-Very significant Health and Safety mismanagement.

He confirmed that having reviewed the contents of the letter in this context, and following responses received from STDC to two letters of enquiry, the outstanding area that may come under the protected disclosure legislation would be Health & Safety. He explained that as a result of his engagement with South Tipperary Development Company that he was satisfied that they have a Health & Safety system in place with safety statements, safety reps and an external audit had taken place.

He did outline that there were some matters in the letter that are not trivial but are under the remit of the Development Company (the CEO and the Board) to determine how to respond to those matters.

Motion

Regarding Matters raised in an anonymous letter of complaint regarding South Tipperary Development Company.

Tipperary LCDC having considered;

1. The complaints raised in the anonymous letter dated the 22nd March 2021 regarding South Tipperary Development Company
And
2. The Chief Officers Report dated 6th May 2021.

Is satisfied in its role as the Tipperary LAG is satisfied that the complaints raised in the letter do not come under the scope of The Protected Disclosures Act 2014.

The LAG therefore consider that the matters raised in this letter are matters internal to South Tipperary Development Company to consider and address in line with their internal policies and procedures.

The above motion was agreed on the proposal of John Lupton seconded by Cllr Joe Hannigan.

A discussion ensued regarding whether Tipperary County Councillors should be on the Board of the Development Companies. The Chief Officer stated that before he took up the role he was aware of a review that took place as the

	<p>LCDC were being formed and that at this point it was considered there was a potential conflict of interest in that there should be a segregation of duties given that the Council and LCDC had signed up to the role of oversight and LAG Financial Partner they could not also have a role as Implementing Partner in the interest of good Governance.</p> <p>Cllr. Hannigan asked the Chief Officer if he was aware of any place where Councilor were on the Board of the Development Companies.</p> <p>The Chief Officer stated he was not aware of the existence of such an arrangement but could not be sure.</p>
<p>12.</p>	<p><u>Date and form of next meetings</u></p> <p>Monday 21st June, 2021 at 10.00 a.m. via zoom</p>

Signed: 
 Cllr. John Carroll,
 Chair,
 Tipperary Local Community Development Committee

Date: 23/6/2021

Signed: 
 Pat Slattery,
 Chief Officer,
 Tipperary Local Community Development Committee

Date: 28/6/2021