



**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee
 County House, Lifford, 12 noon on 4th April 2019**

Members	Clr Martin McDermott (Chair), Padraic Fingleton, Paul Hannigan, Michael Tunney, Anne McHugh, Liam McElhinney, Michael MacGiolla Easbuig, James O'Donnell, Anne McAteer, David Alcorn, Susan McCauley and Andrew Ward
Apologies	Seamus Neely, Susan McLoughlin, James O'Donnell, Siobhan McLaughlin, Aengus Kennedy and Cllr. Marie Theresa Gallagher
Chief Officer	Paddy Doherty
Attending	Liam Ward, Seamus Canning, Adrienne Kelly & Kathleen Browne

Welcome

Clr Martin McDermott, Chairperson, welcomed everyone and thanked the members present for attending the meeting.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Draft minutes of the LCDC meeting of 25th February 2019 were considered. The minutes were proposed by Anne McAteer and seconded by Padraic Fingleton, with no matters arising.

2. 'Big Hello' National Community Weekend – 4-6th May 2019

Kathleen Browne reminded members of the details of the National Community Event. The Closing Date for applications was not set when members approved the Application Form and Guidelines for this Grant Fund at their meeting on 25th February 2019. Kathleen Browne advised members that the Closing Date was 8th April 2019 at 5.00 pm. On the proposal of Paul Hannigan, seconded by David Alcorn, members retrospectively approved the closing date. Kathleen confirmed to members that the details of the fund had been widely circulated on all of the Council's social media platforms.

3. Donegal Intercultural Platform – Presentation on Building Intercultural Communities Project

Francine Blanche Breen & Hugh Friel from the Donegal Intercultural Platform joined the meeting and made a presentation to members on their Building Intercultural Communities Project which had the following strategic goals:-

- To establish a baseline document to map out diversity in the county and the range of issues for Black & Minority Ethnic Communities.

- To design and deliver programmes with Black & Minority Ethnic Communities to promote engagement with the project, community activation, social inclusion, social justice and equality
- To create a space for dialogue between minorities including Syrian refugees, statutory agencies and others
- To provide supports to remove barriers and facilitate inclusion.

Members were informed of the proposed actions of the BIC Project, with focus on supporting inclusion in local structures.

Members thanked them for the presentation and a discussion took place on the content of same – particularly the actions that could be undertaken to insure that minority ethnic groups are represented in the County.

4. Rural Funding Opportunity & Helping Hand Roadshow

Liam Ward advised members that the Department of Rural and Community Development were holding a regional Rural Funding Opportunity Roadshow on Friday, 12th April in Bluestack Centre, Drimarone. This event provided an opportunity for Community Groups and Agencies to hear from groups who had benefitted from funding and to find out information on funding opportunities.

Paddy Doherty advised members that a 'Helping Hand' event for community groups would be held on 9th May in the Finn Valley Centre, Stranorlar to provide advice and assistance for community groups in completing application forms for funding.

5. Community Enhancement Programme 2019

Members were advised that Donegal LCDC had been allocated €159,000 for the Community Enhancement Programme 2019. Members would be advised of further details on the scheme when they became available.

6. Glyphosate ban and Pollinator plan

Clr Martin McDermott read a letter to members from Aengus Kennedy on behalf of the Environmental PPN Linkage Group welcoming the recent motion passed by Donegal County Council to eliminate the use of glyphosate in parks and public places and commending the commitment of Donegal County Council in implementing the All Ireland Pollinator Plan.

7. Date of next meeting

Members were reminded that the next meeting will be held on 2nd May 2019 at 10am