

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee  
County House, Lifford, 2pm on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

<b>Members</b>	Clr Martin McDermott (Chair), Martin McBride, Susan McLoughlin, Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher, Susan McCauley, Paul Hannigan, Anne McHugh, Nóirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh, Michael Tunney and Fionan Bradley
<b>Apologies</b>	Mr Seamus Neely, Jan Feenstra, Micheal MacGiolla Easbuig, Jim Slevin, James O Donnell, Peter Walker, Aengus Kennedy and P J Hannon
<b>Chief Officer</b>	Paddy Doherty
<b>Attending</b>	Liam Ward, Eimear McDermott, Kathleen Browne, Eamon Boyle, Loretta McNicholas, Eileen Burgess

**Welcome**

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

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Draft minutes of the LCDC meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017 were considered. The minutes were proposed by Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher and seconded by Cllr Niamh Kennedy.

**2. Votes of Sympathy**

Mr Martin McBride requested that a vote of sympathy on behalf of the LCDC be passed on the death of Ryan McBride, Captain, Derry City and Cllr Sean McEniff.

**3. SICAP – Request to amend Mid Year Target – Lot 33-3 Annual Plan**

Mr Paddy Doherty advised the members that Donegal Local Development Company had indicated that there was an error in the submission of the plan of action for SICAP Lot 33-3. The mid-year target for Goal 2.2 Participation (Lifelong Learning) had been submitted as 286 instead of 186. DLDC requested permission to amend this error. Paddy confirmed to the members that the amendment of this figure did not affect the Annual Target figure of 573 for this Goal. He also confirmed that the amendment did not affect the 10% threshold for amendment of indicative targets.

On the proposal of Martin McBride, seconded by Anne McHugh, members recommended that the Mid Year Target for Goal 2.2 Participation for Lot 33-3 be amended to 186 people.

**Items 4, 5, 7, 8 and 9 redacted as they relate to decisions/discussions of the LAG re LEADER, which are not made publicly available.**

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**6. Donegal LEADER – LAG Meetings**

Paddy Doherty advised members that going forward it would be necessary to hold a separate LAG Meeting on the same day as the LCDC Meetings. These meetings were necessary to make the statutory decisions required under the programme, and may most likely be monthly if the LEADER programme ramps up. He confirmed that the minutes of the LAG Meetings would not be public whilst the minutes of the LCDC Meeting would continue to be published.

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**10. LCDC – Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee – Presentation**

Ms Loretta McNicholas advised the members of the background to the work of the Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee in relation to the proposed approach to the Monitoring, Evaluation and Implementation of the Donegal Local Economic and Community Plan 2016-2022. Susan McCauley and Anne McHugh made a presentation to the members on same (Appendix 1)

On behalf of the members present, Clr Marie Therese Gallagher paid tribute to Loretta McNicholas and the members of the sub-committee for the work they had done and for their detailed presentation. She welcomed the Community needs assessment. Clr Gallagher also raised her concerns in relation to the decline of the Irish Language in the County and requested that it be included in all policy and protocol.

A prolonged discussion in relation to the presentation took place with members raising and discussing their concerns in relation to Rural Decline and the decline of the Irish Language.

Mr Liam Ward acknowledged the work involved in the presentation and the ongoing work of the Sub Committee. He advised that a report template was being set up nationally and that there was an opportunity for Donegal to influence that.

Liam also advised that himself and Ann McHugh were members of the Children and Young Peoples Services Committee. It had been agreed that a formal arrangement between CYPSE and the LCDC be created and a draft protocol for this was being developed. It was hoped that a similar approach could be taken with other action groups.

Loretta McNicholas advised members that the statistics gathered would give an idea of the position in relation to the various issues raised and could generate a discussion as to the type of County we are and what we want to be. She confirmed that the LCDC can set the targets for action.

On the proposal of Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher, seconded by Martin McBride, members approved the approach outlined going forward and agreed to work with the Department in relation to policy.

## **11. Public Sector Equality and Human Rights**

A report on Public Sector Equality and Human Rights by Martin McBride was circulated to the members for their consideration. It was agreed that this matter would be considered at the next meeting.

## **12. Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2017**

Mr Eamon Boyle updated members in relation to the Town and Village Renewal Scheme, recently launched by the Minister. He confirmed that Expressions of Interest were now open and that the closing date for receipt of same was 26<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

The Scheme was divided into two categories:-

Category 1 – Towns & Villages with a population of less than 5,000

Category 2 – Towns & Villages with a population between 5,000 and 10,000

The 2017 Scheme required that the scheme be advertised and submissions invited from Community Groups. The Local Authority would then assess the applications and shortlist 15 proposals. These proposals would then be developed with the Community Group to include more detail and be submitted to the Department by 30<sup>th</sup> June. A decision in relation to funding would be issued by the Department by the end of July. Eamon confirmed that funding was up to 80% of the overall project cost with the balance broken down to 10% from the Community Group and a cash or voluntary contribution of 10%.

Liam Ward advised that the scheme was focused particularly on Economic Development Projects and entrepreneurship.

A discussion in relation to the scheme took place with members expressing their frustration at the short timelines for the application process again this year. Eamon Boyle advised that it was advisable that the various local groups worked together to submit one application per town.

### 13. Clár Scheme 2017

Mr Eamon Boyle updated members on the Clár Scheme 2017. He confirmed that the programme was launched in March with a National allocation of €4.25 million under the following measures:-

Measure 1 :- Support For Schools/ Community Safety Measures €2 million

Measure 2 :- Play Area's € 0.75 million

Measure 3 :- Targeted Community Infrastructure Needs €1.5 million

Donegal County Council circulated the information on the CLAR Scheme by email to all groups stored on the various community network databases maintained by Donegal County Council, all primary and post primary schools in the County. The information was also available on DCC social media links.

The closing date for receipt of completed applications was 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017. Eamon provided a summary of the applications received as follows:-

<b>Measure</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
Total Number Received by Closing Date	24	22	34
Applications Received and found to be outside CLAR Area	3	5	4
Incomplete Applications Rec'd	9	4	27
<b>Application deemed eligible for consideration by the Department</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>3</b>

He confirmed that all applications received were assessed in accordance with criteria set by the Department and the eligible projects to the Department for their consideration on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2017. A number of queries had been received from the Department and a decision on which projects would receive funding was awaited.

A short discussion took place between members in relation to the timeframe for funding and when works could commence. Eamon Boyle advised that the decisions on funding should issue in the summer months. Nóirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh queried whether groups whose application was deemed ineligible would be given feedback and Eamon confirmed they would be.

### 14. Any Other Business

#### Peace IV

Susan McLaughlin queried whether any feedback had been received from SEUPB in relation to the Peace IV application. Paddy Doherty advised that a meeting had been held last week where they were advised that the implementation of new monitoring system was causing delays. The additional funding application had not been dealt with yet and no projects had commenced yet. It was hoped to commence by end of June.

#### Terms of Reference – LEADER Evaluation Committee

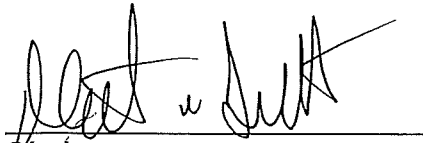
Nóirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh requested, on behalf of the Comhar na nOileán and Údarás na Gaeltachta Evaluation Committee, that an amendment be made to Rule no 8 under Roles & Membership. The current Order requires that if a member does not attend three consecutive meetings their membership is revoked. The Committee requested that this be amended to "if a member does not attend three consecutive meetings without a valid reason" their membership is revoked.

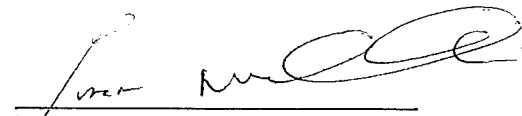
Paddy Doherty confirmed that this would be taken on board and brought back to the June meeting for formal consideration.

**Resignation of Jan Feenstra, IBEC Representative**

Paddy Doherty advised that correspondence had been received from IBEC advising that Jan Feenstra was resigning from the LCDC. A new IBEC representative would be nominated in due course.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

  
Chairperson

  
Board Member

Date: 18/7/17