

**Miontuairiscí ó Chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil na Gaillimhe a tionóladh ar 12ú Samhain 2019, ag 6.30 p.m.**

**Minutes of Galway County Local Community Development Committee held on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019, at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:**

Dan Dowling, PPN Community (Vice-Chairperson)	Community
Terry Keenan, FORUM Connemara Ltd	Community
Kathleen Aspel Mortimer, PPN Social Inclusion	Community
Enda Conneely, Comhar na nOileán Teo	Community
Delia Colahan, Galway Rural Development	Community
Antoinette Ryan, Dept. Social Protection	Public
Cllr. Noel Thomas, LA Member	Public
Cllr. Karey McHugh Farag, LA Member	Public
Cllr. Pdraig Mac An Iomaire, LA Member	Public
Ruairi O'Neill, Údarás na Gaeltachta	Public
Michael Keady, HSE West	Public

**Apologies:**

Tom Turley, IFA (Chairperson)	Community
Margaret Sheehan, PPN Environment	Community
Seán Ó Coistealbha, PPN Community	Community
Martin Ward, PPN Social Inclusion	Community
Donal Walsh, GRETB	Public
Kevin Kelly, Interim Chief Executive	Public
Breda Fox, Head of Local Enterprise	Public

**Also in Attendance:**

Kieran Coyne, Mary McGann, Rita Tansey, Galway County Council.

In the absence of T. Turley, Chairperson, the meeting was chaired by D. Dowling, Vice-Chairperson. At the outset, D. Dowling welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended a special welcome to new members Antoinette Ryan and Ruairi O'Neill who were attending their first LCDC meeting.

**1. Miontuairiscí ó chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil (LCDC) a tionóladh an 11ú Meán Fómhair 2019**

Minutes of Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

D. Dowling asked if there were any items arising from the Minutes and none were declared.

On the **PROPOSAL** of D. Colahan, **SECONDED** by E. Conneely, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September were **APPROVED**.

## **2. Ballraíocht – Eolas nuashonraithe** LCDC Membership Review – Update

M. McGann confirmed that the Chair of the LCDC had met the Chief Officer and reviewed the membership in the context of statutory and non-statutory members. A report was subsequently submitted to the Corporate Policy Group who approved the recommendations to retain the breakdown of membership as it currently stands, in addition to asking all nominating bodies to have regard to gender equality when making nominations for vacant posts. It was noted that the Chamber of Commerce position on the LCDC is vacant and it was agreed to send a request to Chambers Ireland to fill this position and request that a County representative be nominated to the vacant post if possible.

## **3. SICAP – Pobal cuairt ar an láithreán** SICAP – Pobal Site Visit

M. McGann outlined that the annual Verification visit by Pobal took place on 27<sup>th</sup> September and the Sub-Committee Members were in attendance. It was noted that KPI 1 was already being exceeded with 99 Local Community Groups being supported, against the annual target of 92. KPI 2 had a target of 1,300 individuals to receive support, and 650 had been supported to date which equated to 54% of the target. The combination of jobless household and transport barrier was the most frequently reported combination of barriers at both national level and in Galway County. The Pobal representative confirmed that targeting of disadvantaged individuals and communities was good throughout the Galway County programme and the Programme Implementer was meeting all required targets. It was also agreed that it may be beneficial to amend some Job Titles to better reflect the purpose of the job and make it clearer to individuals. The Sub-Committee agreed to retain the emerging need group as Socially Isolated Rural Dwellers and retain the KPI's at their existing levels for 2020.

M. McGann also referenced a letter from the Department of Rural and Community Development which outlined a new approach to aspects of SICAP from 2020 onwards, i.e. allowing carryover of underspend to the following year up to a maximum 5% of the approved annual budget, and confirming that it was intended to seek a 3% increase in the 2020 allocation for SICAP in national budget allocations. The Sub-Committee agreed that some priorities for this additional funding would be capacity building training for Community Groups, for example to assist them in putting together applications for funding. M. McGann stated that this training is needed to apply for funding and it would also be beneficial to focus on more intensive support for people within the ethnic minority, unemployed, and people with multiple barriers such as transport, lack of skills etc.

D. Colahan welcomed the report and outlined the need for increased interventions for individuals with multiple barriers and the need to focus on individuals who were harder to reach due to near full employment in the economy.

## **4. Plean Corparáideach 2019 - 2024** Corporate Plan 2019 – 2024

K. Coyne discussed the review of the Corporate Plan under the 7 goals that the Council hope to deliver namely Economic & Enterprise Development, Social Inclusion & Community participation, Infrastructural Capacity, Protection of Environment & Heritage, Quality Customer Service, Organisational Capacity and Enhance Democracy. K. Coyne stated that the Corporate Plan is still at draft stage and there have been consultations with different sectors as part of this process. K. McHugh Farag informed the meeting that

they have had intensive discussions on the Plan and are awaiting feedback which they should have by the end of December. Cllr. N. Thomas stressed that the goals of the Plan need to be carried out fully when the Plan is completed.

**5. Ag tabhairt eolas ar LCDC obair líonraithe**

Update on LCDC Networking Event

M. McGann circulated to the members details on the LCDC networking evening which took place in Tullamore on 9<sup>th</sup> November and which had focused on the areas of Place-based leadership and Collaboration and Leadership in Climate Action. LCDC's are designated a key body in the Climate Action Plan to engage with citizens and communities to take local action, i.e. by taking a more co-ordinated and structured approach locally rather than looking at projects in isolation, and by focusing on areas in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) in which Ireland is under-performing, i.e. recycling, high waste generation, renewable energy, infrastructure. A general discussion took place regarding positive case studies in the County such as Plastic-Free Kinvara, Aran Island Co-Operative waste management, and the difficulties assessing issues such as future flood risk in the assessment of applications. K. Coyne stated that more guidance was required from the Department on the issue of flood risk assessment of grant applications and this was generally agreed.

**6. An t-eolas is déanaí faoi Scéimeanna Forbairt Tuaithe**

Update on Rural Development Schemes

K. Coyne outlined the currently approved capital schemes under Rural Regeneration and Development Fund and Town & Village Renewal and the status of the projects. He also informed the members of the additional staff resources approved and assigned to manage rural development schemes.

In response to a query from T. Keenan, K. Coyne outlined the drawdowns to date under the Rural Development Scheme. T. Keenan enquired about delay in some projects and K. Coyne explained that some works take longer than others to start but once the process is commenced the projects can generally progress quickly. He advised that a Category 2 announcement under RRDF is expected in the coming weeks which will require a lot of preparatory work in collating suitable collaborative multi-dimensional projects for selected areas.

**7. Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile**

Date of next meeting

List of dates and times for meetings scheduled for 2020 were circulated and M. McGann requested that members revert to her if there were any issues with same. The date for the next meeting has yet to be set having regard to SICAP deadlines and it was agreed to notify the agreed date to Members as soon as possible.

**8. Aon ghnó eile**

Any other business

No other business was raised.

  
T. Turley, Chairperson

Date: 22-1-20

  
A. Farrell, Chief Officer

Date: 22/1/2020