

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

***Local Community Development Committee
Meeting – 26th June, 2020 at 10.36am***

Held by phone conference as a result of Covid-19. Attendance was verified by roll call.

Presiding:

Mr John Higgins (JH) Community Sector

Present:

Ms Jackie Maguire (JM)	Chief Executive Meath County Council
Cllr Yemi Adenuga (YA)	Councillor Meath County Council
Cllr Mike Bray (MB)	Councillor Meath County Council
Cllr Elaine McGinty (EMcG)	Councillor Meath County Council
Mr Joe English (JE)	Local Enterprise Office
Ms Sadie Ward McDermott (SWMcD)	Louth Meath Education Training Board
Ms Dorothy Kerrigan (DK)	Health Service Executive
Mr Michael Ludlow (ML)	Meath Partnership
Mr Garrett O’Brien (GoB)	Community Sector
Ms Susuana Komolafe (SK)	Social Inclusion
Ms Anna Melnik (AM)	Social Inclusion
Ms Suzanne Brady (SBr)	Environmental Sector
Mr Seamus McGee (SMcG)	Farming Sector
Mr Noel Maguire (NM)	Trade Union Sector

Officials:

Ms Fiona Fallon (FF)	Chief Officer, Senior Executive Officer, Community
Ms Áine Bird (AB)	Administrative Officer, Community Department MCC
Ms Joan Carroll (JC)	Senior Staff Officer, Community Department MCC
Ms Karen Dalton (KD)	Staff Officer, Community Department MCC

Apologies/Absent

Ms Ita McGuigan (IMcG)	Údarás na Gaeltachta
Mr Paul Carroll (PC)	Dept of Employment Affairs & Social Protection
Ms Donna Farrell (DF)	Chambers of Commerce
Ms Geraldine Hogarty (GH)	Youth Work Ireland Meath

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Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p>To agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 29th May, 2020</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of the 29th May, 2020 were proposed by Mr Michael Ludlow and seconded by Cllr Mike Bray.</p>
2.	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>No matters arising.</p>
3.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>FF briefed the Committee on a number of items of correspondence which had circulated to the LCDC prior to the meeting and provided a brief outline of their contents. The correspondence items were as follows;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Community Finance Ireland: Supporting the Grassroots beyond Covid-19 taking place on 2nd July II. Community Integration Fund announced by the Department of Justice and Equality III. Correspondence from the Department of Children and Youth Affairs regarding a Memorandum to Government in relation to the Commission of Investigation (Mother and Baby Homes and certain related matters IV. LMETB Community Education New Free Online Courses for June V. Correspondence from the HSE - Covid-19 Health Communications Stakeholder Support VI. Social Inclusion and Communities Unit in the Department of Rural and Community Development regarding the publication of <i>Celebrating Diversity</i>
4.	<p>SICAP mid-year review update</p> <p>FF notified the committee that the Department had issued correspondence advising that certain flexibility will be permitted with the operation of the SICAP programme in 2020 due to the COVID-19 health emergency.</p> <p>She noted that usually the Mid-Year Review examined the first 5 months of the year of the programme however for 2020 the first 6 months will form the review period. FF informed the committee that the Mid-Year reports must be uploaded to the IRIS system by mid July and that the sub-group are scheduled to meet on the 22nd July.</p>

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	<p>She also advised that as part of the flexibility permitted the Chief Officer could approve the Mid-Year Review, however FF proposed that the approval stays with the LCDC.</p> <p>FF notified the committee that the 2020 quarter 3 payment will not be linked to the Mid-Year review this year. She advised that the Mid-Year Review report will be brought to the LCDC at the July meeting and that perhaps ML would give an update on progress then.</p> <p>SWMcD joined the meeting at 10.40am.</p> <p>ML noted that Meath Partnership have continued to progress the actions under SICAP as much as possible. He advised that there are elements of strain particularly for some families and youths where face to face meetings are essential. Face to face meetings are expected to resume in July and work has commenced to prepare meeting spaces and work is also taking place with other organisations to avail of safe meeting places. He advised that they expect to have guidelines for face to face meetings finalised next Thursday with full delivery the following week.</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>To receive an update on the PPN</p> <p>NM joined the meeting at 10.43am. SB joined the meeting at 10.45am</p> <p>The following update was provided to the committee by FF;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meath PPN staff team are continuing to support the community call groups. The majority of the groups are still in operation and are able to continue to support the most vulnerable in our community. • All 1000 PPN member groups will be asked to complete a survey this month to carry out an assessment of their needs in order to become operational. Following this, Meath PPN will provide the necessary training and supports. • A free Financial Webinar for community groups with RBK Accountants will take place on June 30th. • A Free Climate Action Workshop facilitated by Gavin Harte will take place on July 16th. Both webinars were due to take place in March and were cancelled due to health crisis and have moved online.

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<p>6.</p>	<p>AOB</p> <p>JH welcomed EMcG, newly appointed Meath County Council Councillor to the LCDC and LAG.</p> <p>i. Community Enhancement Programme</p> <p>FF advised the committee that the Department have announced the Community Enhancement Programme, Meath have been allocated €62,883. The scheme will be advertised early next week with a closing date late August, the proposed allocations will be brought to the LCDC for their consideration at the September LCDC meeting.</p> <p>FF noted that in previous years the Department asked that LCDC to ring fence a portion of the funding for smaller projects but this will be reviewed following the receipt of the applications to assess the demand. There will be flexibility to use funding on Covid-19 related capital expenditure but this will be at the discretion of the LCDC. EMcG enquired what capital costs would be associated with COVID-19, FF gave the example of a community centre that needed hand sanitizer pumps; the pumps would be eligible however the gel solution would not. FF also noted that as part of the assessment process the Pobal deprivation maps will be used to help assess the need in each area.</p> <p>ii. Mental Wellbeing Hub</p> <p>ML advised that the recruitment for the Mental Wellbeing Hub will commence next week and subject to a satisfactory recruitment process it is expected to have the Hub up and running by 11th August.</p>
	<p>JH thanked everyone for their participation in the meeting.</p> <p>Meeting concluded at 10.48am</p>

Signed: 
Chairperson

Date: 31st July 2020