

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

***Local Community Development Committee
Meeting – 23rd September 2022 at 10.30 am***

Held by phone conference/in person. Attendance was verified by roll call.

Presiding:

Ms Suzanne Brady (SB) Environmental Sector

Present:

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| Ms Jackie Maguire (JM) | Chief Executive, Meath County Council |
| Cllr Yemi Adenuga (YA) | Councillor, Meath County Council |
| Cllr Elaine McGinty (EMcG) | Councillor, Meath County Council |
| Mr Michael Ludlow (ML) | Meath Partnership |
| Mr Joe English (JE) | Local Enterprise Office |
| Mr Garret O'Brien (GOB) | Community & Voluntary Sector |
| Mr Seamus McGee SMcG) | Farming Sector |
| Ms Donna Farrell (DF) | Chamber of Commerce |
| Ms Geraldine Hogarty (GH) | Youth Work Ireland Meath |
| Ms Susuana Komolafe (SK) | Social Inclusion Sector |
| Ms Shola Yahya (SY) | Social Inclusion Sector |

Guest:

Maria Hall (MH) Hub Planning

Officials:

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| Ms Fiona Fallon (FF) | Chief Officer, Senior Executive Officer, Community Dept, MCC |
| Ms Angie Mitchell (AM) | Senior Staff Officer, Community Department, MCC |
| Ms Alison Lynch (AL) | Senior Staff Officer, Community Department, MCC |

Apologies/Absent

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| Cllr Mike Bray (MB) | Councillor, Meath County Council |
| Ms Sharon Curran (SC) | Department of Social Protection |
| Ms Sadie Ward McDermott (SWMcD) | Louth Meath Education Training Board |
| Mr Noel Maguire (NM) | Trade Union Sector |
| Ms Johann McKeever (JMCK) | Health Service Executive |
| Vacant | Udaras na Gaeltachta |
| Vacant | Community Sector |

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| Item | Discussion / Action |
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| 1. | <p>To agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 29th July, 2022</p> <p>SB welcomed all in attendance to this meeting including guest speaker Maria Hall from Hub Planning who was invited to this meeting to give an update and details on the preparation of the Meath Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP).</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 29th July 2022 were confirmed on the proposal of JM and seconded by GH.</p> |
| 2. | <p>Matters arising</p> <p>FF advised that there were no matters arising.</p> |
| 3. | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>FF briefed the Committee on 7 items of correspondence, all of which had been circulated to the LCDC members in advance of the meeting and included the resignation of Cllr Noel French. FF thanked Cllr French for his time on this committee and welcome Cllr Yemi Adenuga back to the committee in place of Cllr French. She acknowledged the first annual Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) week taking place from 20th-26th September.</p> |
| 4. | <p>To receive an update and details of the preparation of the Meath Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)</p> <p>Maria Hall gave a brief summary of her experience in the field of developing community plans and of urban and rural planning. She gave a presentation on the overview of Hub Planning's proposed work programme and discussed the methodology in delivering the Meath LECP. She confirmed that the LECP is a 6-year plan and will build on the previous LECP and take learnings from it. It will be informed by community consultation and be outcomes lead. She stated that it needs to be achievable and realistic.</p> <p>She outlined four key phases in preparing the plan:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Preparation phase – current phase – publish high level goals for consultation phase by October 2) Consultation phase – carry out public consultations during 10-week period (October/December) 3) Development – collate information and key findings (January-April) 4) Finalisation – bringing document together and getting final sign off (April-June) <p>MH stated that high level goals will be formed by SWAT analysis gathered from the previous plan and will include recommendations that can be improved upon. They will be broad and adaptable and she confirmed that they will include sustainable development goals this time around.</p> |

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She outlined the plans for Consultation Phase and confirmed that Issues Paper and Socio-economic Strategy will be published soon. There will be less focus on traditional information evenings and more on targeting specific groups through in-person and online meetings and this will link in with the PPN & Meath Partnership.

Consultations & awareness will be done via;

- Social media campaign specifically for this project
- On street pop ups across the 6 Municipal Districts
- Stakeholder workshops & traditional information evenings
- Traditional submissions approach

She confirmed that a review of the UN Sustainable Development Principles had been undertaken since the last plan and will be included this time around in the high-level goals. She advised that branding for the project will directly align with all existing plans using the same colours.

She gave an update on the Draft of the 6 High-Level Goals and explained that the purpose of the first phase of this plan was to revise these goals and adjust them if necessary. She stated that the language in the new plan will be clear and the tone will be more accessible and focused on the community. The high-level goals will be more tailored & specific to Meath. There will be an outcome lead approach with broad goals so they can be adaptive.

MH then opened to the floor for any questions:

JM thanked **MH** for her presentation and stated that she looks forward to meeting and consulting with the Hub Planning team and confirmed that Local Authority Staff including **FF** will feed all the existing Local Authority plans into this plan to ensure there is no contradiction. **JM** also advised that the voice of youth of the County will be important to factor into this plan.

MH stated that the branding document will tie in with the current development plan and welcomes the interaction with the various departments within Meath County Council.

GOB commended **MH** on her presentation and agreed that the plan will take into account all of the information both formally and informally in relation to the County and will benefit all.

YA voiced one area of concern being that perhaps not all of the voices within the Community will be heard as she feels that it is generally the same groups of people that come to the table.

MH informed **YA** and the Committee that her team are very conscious of this situation and assured the Committee that they will spot any gaps in Community representations and will contact any such community groups if they see that there is no engagement from them. She advised that there would be a targeted consultation with SICAP groups. She confirmed that their online social media campaign will help those who don't want to come personally to a meeting and who want to express their opinions. She stated that the LCDC represents a good cross section of Society and she hopes that this committee will help and get involved in the preparation of this plan.

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| | <p>ML stated that the focus on SICAP Groups mentioned in this plan is very important particularly in relation to the integration of non-nationals such as Ukrainians who are featuring very strongly in their SICAP work programmes at present. He stated that the timing of this plan ties in well with the new 2023-2027 SICAP Programme and the development of the upcoming Local Development Strategy and it will be good for everyone to work in collaboration and share information.</p> <p>MH invited ML to link in with her in the preparation of the 2023-2027 SICAP Programme.</p> <p>FF encouraged all the LCDDC Committee members to promote this plan as it will be the plan of the people. She confirmed that updates and comparisons from the previous LECP had been discussed at prior meetings analyzing what had/hadn't worked and advised that any gaps would be filled in the preparation of the new plan.</p> <p>SB asked MH if all the Committee could receive a copy of this presentation and MH confirmed that this would be sent the Chief Officer for distribution to the Committee.</p> |
| 5. | <p>To receive an update on the Public Participation Network (PPN)</p> <p>FF confirmed that the nomination process for the Secretariat is completed with elections to follow over the next few weeks. An independent monitor will oversee same and there is a Facilitator in place to hold inductions for new Secretariat members.</p> <p>She stated that the new Meath PPN resource worker had met in September with the Environment and Social Inclusion pillar groups. He also provided an information stand in the Departments of Rural and Community Development tent at the National Ploughing Championship on September 22nd alongside other PPN Resource Workers.</p> |
| 6 | <p>AOB</p> <p>FF advised that the next LCDDC Meeting will be held on 21st October and not the last Friday of the month.</p> <p>Meeting concluded at 11.55 a.m.</p> |

Signed:

Suzanne Brady
Chairperson

Date:

25.10.2022