Minontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Local Community Development Committee
Date – 27th July 2026 @ 12.14 p.m.
Held at THRIVE Centre of Business Excellence/Online via Teams

Presiding:

Mr Seamus McGee (SMcG)	Farming Sector

Present:

Cllr Padraig Coffey (PC)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Cllr Maria Murphy (MM)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Cllr Edward Fennessy (EF)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Sadie Ward McDermott (SWMcD)	Louth Meath Education Training Board
Johann McKeever (JMcK)	Health Service Executive
Lorraine O'Malley (LO'M)	Department of Social Protection
Michelle Goodwin (MCG)	Local Enterprise Office
Colin Ludlow (CL)	Meath Partnership
Ger Hogarty (GH)	Youth Work Ireland Meath
Ciara Burke (CB)	Chamber of Commerce
Garret O'Brien (GO'B)	Community & Voluntary Sector
Michael Gunn (MG)	Environmental Sector
Marie Brennan (MB)	Social Inclusion Sector

Guest:

Caoimhe Donnellan (CD)	Social Inclusion Programme Manager, Meath Partnership

Officials:

Brian Hora (BH)	Chief Officer
Francis Regan (FR)	Administrative Officer, Community Dept, MCC
Angie Mitchell (AM)	Senior Staff Officer, Community Dept, MCC
Anne O'Brien (AOB)	Senior Staff Officer, Community Dept, MCC

Apologies/Absent

Barry Lynch (BL)	Director of Services, Meath County Council
Seán Ó Coisdealbha (SO'C)	Údarás na Gaeltachta
Shola Yahya (SY)	Social Inclusion Sector
Noel Maguire (NM)	Trade Union Sector
Vacant	Community & Voluntary Sector

LCDC
Coiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil na Mí
Meath Local Community Development Committee

Minontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	**To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2026** The minutes of the meeting held on 26th June were confirmed on the proposal of **MM** and seconded by **CL.**
2.	**Matters arising** There were no matters arising from the minutes.
3.	**Correspondence** **BH** confirmed that there were no items of correspondence circulated since the June meeting.
4.	**To receive a presentation from the Northeastern Regional Drugs and Alcohol Task Force (NERDATF)** **SMcG** advised that this presentation has been deferred to a LCDC meeting later in the year and no date has been confirmed yet.
5.	**To approve the SICAP Mid-Year Review 2026 and Additional Subcontractors** **CD** advised that she had given a detailed presentation on the mid-year review to the SICAP subcommittee earlier this week and this had been approved by the Committee. She advised that KPI1 was at 96% achieved and KP12 was at 72% achieved and that they are fully on target to meet the KPI's. She gave a brief overview of the achievements and interventions under KPI1 (which supports groups, networks and social enterprises) and KPI2 (which supports individuals). The target under Goal 1 was to support 48 groups and at mid-year, 46 groups have been supported under the 7 Actions in Goal 1. The 7 Actions are Pobail Le Chéile, Teach Mná, Legacy 4 Meath, Resilient Roots, Connecting Cultures, Meath Befriending Network and New Arrivals Connect Groups. There were 10 new registrations under KPI1 and the median number of interventions was 5. Interventions were categorised as follows: • Planning/review • Supports to develop and improve governance capacity • Supports to develop and improve organisational capacity • Supports to expand services **GH** left the meeting at 12.19 p.m. **CD** gave a full breakdown of all the work carried out to date under Goal 1 under the following headings: • Community Learning • Community Capacity Building • Environmental Awareness • Reducing Isolation and Senior Support

- Integration and Personal Development
- Targeted Supports

She advised that Goal 2, provides supports to individuals, children and families to progress their formal education, participate in lifelong learning and to progress into employment/self-employment and to improve their soft skills and wellbeing. The target under Goal 2 was to support 290 individuals and at mid-year, 209 individuals had been supported under the 5 Actions in Goal 2 which are, Youth Progression Initiative, Folláine, Cultivating Careers, Cultural Crossroads and New Arrivals Response Initiative. Under Goal 2, the median number of interventions was 4 and interventions were categorised as follows:

- One to one meetings
- Labour market related course
- Group workshop/meetings
- Soft skills and wellbeing courses

She added that 8 grants were awarded to 8 individuals and she gave a breakdown of outputs under the following categories:

- Successfully completed a course (33 Individuals)
- Referred to other services (29 individuals)
- Progressed into volunteer/work placements (0 individuals)
- Progressed into self-employment (28 Individuals)
- Progressed into employment (23 individuals)

She discussed the engagement with the 11 individual target groups which includes the 3 Local Priority Target Groups that were selected for Meath which are:

- People living in disadvantaged communities
- People impacted by educational disadvantage
- People living in jobless households or households where the primary income source is low-paid and/or precarious

She gave a full breakdown of all the work carried out to date under Goal 2 under the following headings:

- Accredited & Sectoral Training
- Employment & Enterprise Supports
- Targeted Skills Training
- Training Grants and Scholarships
- New Arrivals Supports
- Wellness and Resilience

JMcK left the meeting at 12.29 p.m.

CD noted the key considerations going forward and gave an update on the plans for delivery of the programme from July to December 2026. She advised that the feedback from Pobal in relation to Mid-Year Progress was

	positive and demonstrated ongoing delivery across a range of SICAP target groups and thematic focus areas and that there was no action to be taken. **SMcG** thanked CD and the SICAP team for their continued hard work. He opened to the Committee for questions. **BH** advised that the SICAP Subcommittee had met this week to consider the mid-year review and they recommended it be approved by the LCDC. **EF** and **SWMcD** commended the SICAP Team for their progress in delivery of the SICAP programme at mid-year and their engagement in reaching those most disadvantaged people in the County of Meath. **JMcK** returned to the meeting at 12.33 a.m. The SICAP Mid-Year Review 2026 was approved on the proposal of **EF** and seconded by **PC.** **CD** also noted that there are 8 additional SICAP subcontractors required for the Programme requiring approval by the LCDC and this list had been circulated prior to the meeting. **MG** queried if the subcontractors undergo a procurement process. **CL** advised that all procurement rules follow public guidelines administered by Pobal. He noted that any amount under €5,000 requires 1 quote, however the SICAP Team always requests two quotes. He added that some subcontractors are local and others are national depending on the service being provided. The list of additional subcontractors was approved on the proposal of **EF** and seconded by **CB.**
6.	**To note the Meath Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) 2023-2029 Implementation Report No. 1** **BH** gave an overview of the first Implementation report which was extracted from the new VLECP Reporting System. He noted that this system is new and was designed to provide reporting on the LECP and that reports are manually extracted from that system. He will have further reports available later in the year but he advised that overall, there are 181 Actions in the Local Economic & Community Plan which have been assigned to various action leads who must provide their updates. When updates are being provided by Action Leads, other supporting documentation can also be uploaded such as spreadsheets, videos, photographs, reports etc. **EF** left the meeting at 12.41 p.m. **BH** added that when updates are being provided by Action Leads, they are classified as follows and he noted that we are waiting for updates to be provided by Action Leads for 72 Actions up to 31/12/2025. • Update to be completed by Action Lead (72) • On target for completion (53) • Completed (40) • Partially delayed (10) • Not progressing (5) • Major delays or issues (1)

	The next steps will now be to focus on following up with Action Leads who have not provided their updates for that period and on convening an implementation monitoring group for reporting on the LECP. Further updates will be required to end of Q2 2026. The report was noted.
7.	**To receive an update on the Public Participation Network (PPN)** BH advised that the PPN update for July had been circulated to the Committee prior to today's meeting as follows: PPN Staff and a number of community groups attended a special meeting in the Central Bank, following on from last September's visit of the Deputy Governor to various Meath groups. The day consisted of looking at community banking as a concept and further delved into the issues around community groups being able to set up accounts. Representatives from 2 pillar banks as well as Revolut were in attendance. PPN staff continued promotion of the Civic Dollar app with information sessions held in Navan Hospital and Kilmainham GFC sports day. Similar promotional events will happen over the summer. PPN Staff will be meeting representatives from RYSE chocolates and Emerald Park with a view to using them as potential community reward partners. PPN staff and Secretariat attended the regional meeting of PPNs hosted by Longford PPN. At that event, a presentation was given by the Longford Community Safety Partnership Coordinator as well as discussion on Budget 27 submission from National Secretariat. Meath PPN will host the next meeting in October 2026. Meath PPN staff had a site visit with DRCDG and Roscommon PPN who are hosting this year's National Conference. Planning around venue layout, logistics of excursions, workshops and audio-visual elements were discussed. DRCDG requested Meath and Roscommon PPNs to develop a blueprint for future conference hosts. **<u>Membership Update</u>** Meath PPN membership currently stands at 873, representing an increase of 12 groups since June. • Community Pillar: 726 (up 9 groups since June) • Environment Pillar: 27 (Up 1 group since June) • Social Inclusion Pillar: 120 (up 2 groups since June) There was a general discussion in relation to the challenges for community groups in securing signatories for community group bank accounts and in finding new community group committee members.

8.	**A.O.B.** **BH** advised of one item for approval relating to a proposal for the Dormant Account Fund for 2026 which was circulated prior to the meeting. BH proposes to make an application to the Dormant Accounts fund in relation to Action 37 of the National LCGTIQ+ inclusion Strategy 11 on behalf of Meath LCDC. The project proposal title is "*Pride in Community Meath 2027 – Building Inclusive Communities Through Celebration, Education and Participation"* and the delivery partners are Outcomer's and Youth Work Ireland Meath. He gave an overview of the project and explained that the project strongly supports the objectives as set out in the Meath Local Economic and Community Plan. He explained the need for the project and advised that the proposal aligns with the following approved measures under Action 37 and includes: • Holding additional community events. • Delivering LGBTIQ+ awareness and sensitivity training. • Providing outreach support. • Providing sporting and physical activity programmes that promote inclusion, community participation, health and wellbeing He advised of the expected project outcomes, the governance arrangements for the project and gave a breakdown of the budget as per the funding sought and the budget rationale. **SMcG** thanked **BH** for the project proposal overview and opened to the Committee for comments. **MCG** advised **BH** to link in with the Tourism office of Meath County Council in relation to the above project as the Mid-Summer festival runs alongside the Pride festival. The Committee endorsed the application for funding under the Dormant Accounts fund for this project on the proposal of **CL** and seconded by **MG**. **SMcG** thanked all for their attendance today and noted that there will be no meeting in August and the next meeting will be held on 25th September. **The meeting concluded at 13.02 p.m.**

Signed: Seamus Mc Gee **Date:** 25th September 2026

Chairperson