Coiste Forbartha Pobail Áitiúil
Local Community
Development Committee

Minontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Local Community Development Committee
Date – 23rd October 2026 @ 10.54 a.m.
Held at THRIVE Centre of Business Excellence/Online via Teams

Presiding:

Mr Seamus McGee (SMcG)	Farming Sector

Present:

Barry Lynch (BL)	Director of Services, Meath County Council
Cllr Padraig Coffey (PC)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Cllr Maria Murphy (MM)	Councillor, Meath County Council
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
Garret O'Brien (GO'B)	Community & Voluntary Sector
Shola Yahya (SY)	Social Inclusion Sector
Michael Gunn (MG)	Environmental Sector
Marie Brennan (MB)	Social Inclusion Sector
Kieran Clince (KC)	Community & Voluntary Sector

Officials:

Brian Hora (BH)	Chief Officer/SEO, Community Dept, MCC
Angie Mitchell (AM)	Senior Staff Officer, Community Dept, MCC
Anne O'Brien (AO'B)	Senior Staff Officer, Community Dept, MCC

Apologies/Absent

Cllr Edward Fennessy (EF)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Seán Ó Coisdealbha (SO'C)	Údarás na Gaeltachta
Sadie Ward McDermott (SWMcD)	Louth Meath Education Training Board
Ciara Burke (CB)	Chamber of Commerce
Noel Maguire (NM)	Trade Union Sector
Ger Hogarty (GH)	Youth Work Ireland Meath

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Item	Discussion / Action
1.	**To agree the minutes of the meeting held on 25th September 2026** The minutes of the meeting held on 25th September 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 two items of correspondence circulated since the September meeting as follows: • An invitation to the LCDC to the Meath Community Greenspaces Development Guide Workshop on 19th October • An email advising the LCDC that the CommUnity Connect Louth & Meath website launch has been deferred to a later date, yet to be decided
4.	**To approve additional SICAP Subcontractors** **BH** advised that there were 3 additional subcontractors for approval by the LCDC, and their details had been circulated in advance of today's meeting. The 3 additional SICAP Subcontractors were approved on the proposal of **MM** and seconded by **MG**.
5.	**To receive an update on the Public Participation Network (PPN)** **BH** advised that the PPN update for October had been circulated to the Committee prior to today's meeting as follows: PPN Staff and four Secretariat members attended the National PPN Conference, hosted by Roscommon PPN, In the Athlone. With the theme of "Connect, Collaborate and Empower", delegates took part in round table discussions, excursions to community projects as well as workshops and presentations from President of the European Economic and Social Committee, Seamus Boland and Rossie to Aussie, Fergal Guihen. Minister Buttimer gave the keynote address at the gala dinner, emphasising the importance of the role of PPNs in participative democracy and expressing the Departments continued support of PPNs nationally. Meath PPN presented at the Health and Wellbeing event in Ashbourne. Looking at practical ways to encourage discussion around mental health and dealing with anxiety. Participants received a copy of the Louie and Frankie book, aimed at supporting young people experiencing difficulties in this area.

	Staff were present at Meath Cares About Older People event in City North Hotel, discussing opportunities and advantages for older people to become active in their communities. Along with Blackwater CFR, the launch of a Defibrillator Map for the Kells area took place in Headfort Arms Hotel, Kells. Working with Community First Response volunteers and a community artist, the maps provide information on where a nearest AED machine can be found as well as access codes. The project was an initial step for a county wide plan, to support and enable other volunteer led CFR groups to produce their own maps and better inform their communities. **Membership Update** Meath PPN membership currently stands at 890, an increase of 7 groups since September. • Community Pillar: 740 (+5) • Environment Pillar: 29 (+1) • Social Inclusion Pillar: 121 (+1)
8.	**A.O.B.** **SMcG** thanked all for their attendance today and thanked all who had come in person today for the launch of the SICAP Case Study Video. He advised that the next meeting will be held on 20th November. **The meeting concluded at 11 a.m.**

Signed: Seamus Mc Gee **Date:** 20th November 2026

Chairperson