



Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee Meeting held on Friday 20th of May, 2022 in the Council Chamber, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny.

In attendance: Declan Gibbons, PPN Community Pillar- Chair
Colette Byrne, Chief Executive Officer
Fiona Deegan, Local Enterprise Office
Cllr. Joe Lyons, Elected Representative,
Cllr. Ger Frisby, Elected Representative
Michael A Fitzgerald, Teagasc
Sheila Donnelly - FRC
Cllr. Mick McCarthy Elected Representative
Martin Rochford- PPN Environment Pillar
Toluwani Akaehomen -PPN Social Inclusion
Paul O 'Rahilly – PPN Social Inclusion

Also present: Ronan Ryan and Cora Nolan, Kilkenny County Council.

Administrative

Apologies: Margaret Clancy, Chamber of Commerce, Julieanne Power, DEASP, Derval Howley/Kate Cassidy HSE, Eileen Curtis Education Training Board, Angela Hayes Teac Tom and Annette Fitzpatrick Kilkenny County Council.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed by Cllr. Mick McCarthy, Seconded by Cllr. Joe Lyons

Matters Arising

Colette Byrne gave an update on the Town Centre Officer position.

Conflicts of interest

None.

Membership

Derval Howley HSE is on leave Kate Cassidy is replacement for 3 months. Kate was unable to attend today's meeting.

1. Items for discussion and decision

None

2. Oversight and Implementation of the community element of the Local Economic and Community Plan including Local and Community Development Coordination and oversight

Update on LECP

Fiona Deegan gave the up to date position on the LECP. The letter of offer has issued to the consultants who will meet with the advisory group of Declan Gibbons as Chair of LCDC, Chief Officer Annette Fitzpatrick, Sean McKeown Director of Economic SPC, Fiona Deegan Head of LEO and representative from Economic SPC.

Martin Rochford queried the Environment element of the LECP. There will be a public consultation phase for contributions, climate action features very strongly in the national guidelines.

Sheila Donnelly advised community development is very important in the new LECP Plan to engage disadvantaged communities.

3. Citizen Engagement and Promotion of Social Inclusion

PPN Report and Update

Martin Rochford gave the PPN report- see attached

Paul O' Rahilly updated on Kilkenny Access group who held a meeting last week, with 28 stakeholders attending, and this group will be contributing to the LECP during the public consultation stage. Paul to contact Meeting Administrator to see if a presentation from the Access Group could be included on Agenda for a future Council Meeting.

Declan advised that he has just received the report on Social Enterprise and will give more information at the next meeting. This report was funded through the National Enterprise Town Awards.

4. Items for Information and Information Sharing

Colette Byrne gave an update on the Abbey Quarter following a very successful open evening.

The Tea Houses in Bateman Quay are renovated and out to tender for someone to operate, an open evening will be held soon.

Launch of the first Age Friendly Train Station in July.

Community forum meeting regularly on Ukrainian Crisis, approx. 400 Ukrainians in Kilkenny and Colette wanted to acknowledge the community work in Kilkenny.

Ronan Ryan updated on the Pride of Place Awards that were held recently in Killarney, Windgap Community, the OPC and KCAT were nominated, KCAT won an award on the night.

3 groups have been nominated for 2022 – Mullinavat, Graignamanagh and Thomastown outdoor recreation area.

The grants booklet is available every year on line for all groups and committees to access.

A number of projects are being developed around the County under Town & Village and RRDF, old courthouse in Thomastown being converted for the school of jewellery, the Council purchased the Bank of Ireland building. Old Garda station in Piltown purchased to convert into a community facility and remote working hub.

Fiona updated on the connected hubs project in 5 towns around the county, which was launched in Galmoy.

Kilkenny was successful in the Student Enterprise Programme, the finals took place on Wednesday and Kilkenny won 3 National awards.

Declan as chair complimented all the agencies working together on the Ukrainian crisis, and for the quality of work on the Abbey Quarter and the very successful open evening.

5. AOB

The Chair asked the committee their opinion on meetings in person or online. A hybrid facility is not yet available in the Council Chamber. A suggestion was made to have 2 physical meetings a year. It was agreed that the next meeting on the 24th of June will be held via Microsoft Teams.

LCDC induction training took place in person on Wednesday the 11th of May it was very worthwhile.

Minister Joe O' Brien may be visiting on the 17th of June.

Declan gave an update on Healthy Ireland and will give a full report next month. Minister Frank Feighan had a successful recent visit to Kilkenny which included a visit to Newpark FRC. It was noted that capital funding is required for community facilities.

Declan on behalf of the LCDC Members extended their sincere condolences to Chief Executive Collette Byrne on the bereavement of her brother Larry Whelan.

As this was Colette's last meeting a number of contributions were made and a presentation to mark Colette's retirement was made on behalf of the LCDC Committee.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dates of Meetings for 2022

24th June

23rd September

25th November all Fridays at 10.30a.m