

**Minutes of Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Meeting held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup>  
November, 2020 via Microsoft Teams.**

**Attendance:** Declan Gibbons PPN Community Pillar – Chair  
Colette Byrne CE, Kilkenny County Council  
Cllr. Mick McCarthy, Elected Representative  
Sheila Donnelly, Family Resource Centre  
Niall McManus, PPN Environment Pillar  
John Hurley, Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce  
Fiona Deegan, Local Enterprise Office  
Cllr. Ger Frisby, Elected Representative  
Patricia Brennan, PPN Community Pillar  
Julieanne Power, DEASP  
Paul Clifford, PPN Social Inclusion Pillar  
Angela Hayes, Teac Tom  
Denis Drennan, County Kilkenny Leader Partnership  
Bill O’ Keefee, IFA

**In attendance:** Lindsey Butler, Annette Fitzpatrick and Cora Nolan, Kilkenny County Council.

**Administrative**

**Apologies:** Cllr. Joe Lyons and Siobhan Kavanagh, Teagasc.

The Chair, Declan Gibbons asked if everyone could turn on their cameras.

**Membership**

Declan Gibbons welcomed Guy Jones to the meeting and noted that this is John Hurley’s last meeting representing the Chamber of Commerce.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of meeting held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September proposed by Cllr. Ger Frisby, seconded by Cllr. John Hurley and agreed.

**Matters Arising**

Declan congratulated all the participants who took part in the Pride of Place Awards and the successful winners and also to Kilkenny County Council on receiving the Community Engagement Award.

Lindsey advised that Healthy Ireland Round 3 funding has been extended to December 2021 and a new extended contract will be sent to all Healthy Ireland Co-ordinators, further information on additional funding will be circulated once received. Round 4 is due to start immediately after Round 3 in 2022. A full report will be circulated at the next meeting.

**Any Conflicts of Interest**

None.

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

### **Integration Strategy Presentation – Hannah Greene.**

- Hannah explained how the Integration Action Plan was developed, what was learned and the principles adopted in implementing this plan.
- Outcomes of the thematic focus group determined the actions under the following headings: -
  - Initial and general actions
  - Access to public services
  - Combating Racism and Xenophobia
  - Education, young people and families
  - Employment and pathways to work
  - Active civic and cultural engagement
- The next step is to agree implementation, monitoring, engagement and buy in.
- It is hoped to present to other agencies for sign off and launch in January.
- Looking for LCDC support and engagement and prioritise it as an element of the next Local Economic and Community Plan.
- Once signed off by agencies and LCDC it will be brought to the full Council for adoption and support.
- Expand Steering Group and put in place monitoring mechanisms
- Establish Kilkenny Intercultural Network.

Hannah thanked everyone for their time, the support of the LCDC was proposed by Derval Howley and seconded by Sheila Donnelly.

### **Healthy Ireland Update – Community Engagement Project – Muirne O’ Connor**

#### **One Parent Families**

- The need to establish and strengthen connections between key stakeholders in the communities to support wider scoping opportunities.
- Explore opportunities to engage with groups, information community presence and engagement in existing community networks to highlight opportunities to collaborate in process, opportunities for access.
- Initial training has commenced
- Peer training currently in development to commence in January

Website and report launched yesterday, Lindsey showed a short video. Facebook page [www.facebook.com/KilkennyOneParentCommunity](https://www.facebook.com/KilkennyOneParentCommunity)

#### **Domestic Abuse**

- Working group with Community Development and family support representation
- Scoping identified need for the development of service providers network
- Create collaborative community network to deliver supports and foster holistic service responses.

## **Disability Sector – Individuals with additional needs**

- Scoping to gather a picture of the lived experiences for individuals with additional needs during covid, identify potential community engagement opportunities: -
- Scoping started in May, identifying 4 residential services and 2-day services, spoke to staff and members of the services.
- The following potential actions were highlighted: -
  - For a community wide campaign to support individuals with additional needs to navigate the changes in our community.
  - The need to support individuals in Kilkenny with IT literacy skills to develop social and engagement opportunities.
  - Platform for voices to be heard
  - The need for a Mental Health Support in Kilkenny.

Declan thanked Muirne for her comprehensive presentation, contribution were made from Derval Howley HSE, Sheila Donnelly FRC, Colette Byrne KCC and Eileen Curtis ETB

Could be linked in the Keep Well Campaign, Muirne was advised to contact agencies for support and to send a report in writing to Colette Byrne outlining the main bullet points of her findings.

## **2. Citizen Engagement and Promotion of Social Inclusion**

### **PPN Report**

Paul Clifford went through the PPN report outlining the following; -

- The annual Plenary of the PPN took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> of November online.
- Kilkenny PPN chairs the board of the new Volunteer Centre for Kilkenny and is playing an active role in developing the new centre for the city and county.
- There has been significant interest in the Age Friendly Tablets, training commenced on the 19<sup>th</sup> of October.
- A series of practical seminars and workshops to assist community groups ran throughout the month of November.
- The PPN handbook was formally launched on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> of November by the Department for Rural and Community Development and can be accessed on the gov.ie website.

### **Presentation on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) – Niall McManus.**

In his presentation Niall outlined the following: -

- What are the SDG's?
  - There are 17 sustainable development goals with 5 core principles
- Why are they relevant to both public and private sector?
- How to identify the SDG's that effect your organisation.
- How to identify a pathway to act on these SDG's.
- How the circular economy provides mechanisms to deliver these pathways.
- Where the SDG's sit within the EU's Green Deal.

Niall gave a very comprehensive presentation on Sustainable Development Goals and their importance to Communities and Local Authorities.

Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce have adopted 5 of these goals: - decent work and economic rate, sustainable cities and communities, industry innovation and infrastructure, climate action and life on land.

The broadcasting authority also have a sustainability network across broadcasting.

### **One Parent Family Research Plan – Launched 26<sup>th</sup> of November**

Details of the launch were sent by email to LCDC member and Elected Representatives, a short video was shown to the committee. This is a very successful element of the LCDC. The Chair thanked Lindsey.

### **Keep Well Campaign**

On Thursday October 29<sup>th</sup> the “Keep Well” campaign was launched which aims to support people and communities to mind their physical and mental health over the coming months. Working groups supported by other agencies have been set up under each theme, which will be supported by other agencies. A dedicated webpage will also be set up linking up with Communications Department in Kilkenny County Council. The themes are as follows: -

- **Keeping active**
- **Staying connected and minding your mood**
- **Switching off and being creative**
- **Eating well**

An action plan has to be submitted by Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December.

Angela Hayes, Derval Howley and Sheila Donnelly welcomed this initiative.

The Community Forum are still holding regular meetings and CEO Colette Byrne thanked all the work with the community groups and agencies and thanked Annette for all her work on the Keep Well Campaign.

### **AOB**

Derval Howley updated the committee on the Covid cases in Kilkenny and the particularly high numbers at the moment, spikes are on a county by county basis, we all need to work together again, stay strong, wear our masks, wash our hands and continue social distancing.

Yulefest will be held virtually this year with markets on the parade at the weekends. Funding under Town & Village for trees and lights in the scheduled towns around the County.

The Shop local campaign was encouraged by Fiona Deegan, being promoted on radio, social media and newspaper, 300 business in Kilkenny online since March.

Grant money available under the Covid 19 Emergency Fund contact Michael Leahy in Finance.

Paul Clifford noted the community groups in the city who are falling behind and need support. Paul to contact Annette in Community on the various funding streams available.

John Hurley also encouraged shop and support local and complimented the businesses and agencies on the great collaboration and working together. Kilkenny Business Awards Programme supplement in last week's Kilkenny People.

John advised that this is his last meeting with Kilkenny LCDC and a new representative will be appointed shortly. He thanked everyone on the committee for the great concepts and the valuable importance of the committee.

On behalf of the committee Declan as Chair thanked John for his time, dedication and commitment to the LCDC Committee since 2014.

Date for Next Meeting: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2021.