



Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee Meeting held on Friday 21st May, 2021 via Microsoft Teams.

Attendance: Declan Gibbons PPN Community Pillar – Chair
Cllr. Mick McCarty, Elected Representative
Sheila Donnelly, Family Resource Centre
Fiona Deegan, Local Enterprise Office,
Cllr. Ger Frisby, Elected Representative
Angela Hayes, Teac Tom
Colette Byrne- Kilkenny County Council
Niall McManus PPN Rep
Denis Drennan, County Kilkenny Leader Partnership
Cllr. Joe Lyons, Elected Representative
Cllr. Martin Brett, Elected Representative
Julianne Power, DEASP
Bill O’Keeffe, IFA
Eileen Curtis, KCETB

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

Apologies: Derval Howley, HSE, Paul Clifford, PPN Rep, Patricia Brennan, PPN Rep,
Margaret Clancy, Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed by: Cllr. Ger Frisby Seconded by: Cllr Mick McCarthy

There were no Matters Arising and there were no conflicts of interest.

1. Oversight and implementation of the community element of the Local Economic and Community Plan including Local and Community Development Co-ordination and oversight.

1a) Update LECP Guidelines

Annette Fitzpatrick gave an update in relation to draft LECP guidelines received from the DRCD. It appears that that the DRCD are prepared to commence with the review and development of the LECPs and will not delay for updated CSO figures and stats. The 2016 figures will be used in the LECP development and then reviewed once new CSO figures are released.

Upward monitoring was questioned for this iteration of the LECP. It appears that this will be addressed for the LECP.

1b) Community Enhancement Programme Scheme 2021

Annette outlined the allocation for Kilkenny for this year's scheme is €136,319. It is planned to advertise from Monday 24th May with a closing date of Friday 18th June. As with other years the DRCD has outlined that 30% of the funding be reserved for Small Propose to ringfence 30% of €136,319 rounded to €41,000 for grants up to €3,000, with the remaining €95,319 for medium grants up to €10,000. This was generally agreed by the LCDC. The CEP Subgroup will meet Friday 25th of June with a proposed change to the current 25th June LCDC meeting to be changed to Friday 2nd of July.

Angela Hayes, Sheila Donnelly and Declan Gibbons all asked that provision be made to cover insurance costs as part of the utility bill inclusion for 2021. Annette Fitzpatrick agreed that this could be included under the scheme as the scheme is broad and does not mention this as an exclusionary item.

1c) Update SICAP Mid -Year Review timeframes

Lindsey provided an update for the timeframe of the SICAP Midyear Review process. All data for IRIS to be uploaded by CKLP by the 15th June at which point reports can be downloaded for review. The SICAP sub-group will meet on the 29th June to undertake the review and meet with CKLP to agree case Studies for 2021. The MYR must be complete by the 16th July. The SICAP sub-group will bring recommendations to the July 2nd LCDC meeting for final sign off.

The SICAP subgroup will meet with CKLP on the 28th September to agree KPIs for the 2022 SICAP Plan, identify any emerging needs groups for 2022 as well as be presented with the 2022 cast study. The case study must go to Pobal before the end of October.

2. Citizen Engagement and promotion of social inclusion

2a) PPN Report.

Angela Hayes went through the PPN Report outlining the main highlights as follows: -

- The Age Friendly Tablets project which aims to tackle social isolation and teach older people how to use a tablet as a communication device to connect with family and friends, is progressing steadily. *(If members wish to attain more information pertaining to the Tablets, please feel free to contact Mags in the PPN).*

- Kilkenny PPN commenced administration of the **Transport Mobilisation Hub** on the 19th of April. This is in line with the Local Authority Community Response Forum to support the roll out of the Vaccination Programme here in Kilkenny.
- As part of a national initiative, the PPN has been tasked by Government with the development of a **Vision for Community Wellbeing at a Municipal District and County level**. This work will help identify actions that can be undertaken by communities to increase the quality of life in Kilkenny.
- In progressing this initiative, the PPN is hosting a number of virtual workshops during the months of May and June to continue this important conversation. You are invited to attend the workshop for your area and you may invite other groups and organisations in your area to attend. They do not have to be registered members of the PPN. The dates of the 1st two meetings are as follows:
 - ☐ Thursday 27 May at 7pm: Groups in the Kilkenny City Municipal District
 - ☐ Tuesday 01 June at 7pm: Groups in the Callan/Thomastown Municipal District
- Kilkenny PPN is hosting its first Plenary of the year on Tuesday 15th of June from 7pm. All member organisations will be invited as well as all Local Authority Representatives. Invitations will issue Friday 21st of May.
- Angela Hayes also outlined that there is an agreement that an audit of community groups be undertaken to identify the state to which community groups are in. Capacity of many groups has been diminishing over the years and under COVID 19 restrictions many groups have limited capacity to operate. It is felt that this look at active participation will feed into the LECP process.
- Sheila Donnelly supported the undertaking of an audit of community groups across the county and outlined that the old RAPID city groups are undertaking a piece of work to identify active groups in the RAPID areas to further develop an approach to supporting those communities going forward into the next LECP.

3. Items for Information and Information Sharing

Declan Gibbons gave an update in relation to the Healthy Kilkenny Digital Launch which has been postponed until June due to the Cyber-attack on the HSE. Declan gave a quick update with regards the Health Kilkenny Programme as follows- A new Operational Manual has been received as well as our new addendum which outlines work to be undertaken as part of HIF round 3 as well as the resources available for the programme of

work from July to December 2021. The funding for the Healthy Streets Programme that could not go ahead has been reallocated to KRSP.

Pre-planning has commenced for Round 4 HIF. The HI subgroup met to look at the 7 strategic areas outlined in the healthy Kilkenny Community plan and start looking at gaps and priorities to bring forward into round 4 programming.

Declan also informed the group that Kilkenny County Council under the healthy Ireland programme has agreed to become a partner in the UCANACT Erasmus Programme. The programme is based around Urban ACTION for cancer prevention: adult and senior citizens practice physical activity within urban open public spaces to prevent cancer diseases. It is an exciting project to be a part of and further information will follow if the application is successful.

Declan welcomed the opening of the New Kilkenny Volunteer Centre as did Colette Byrne who outlined there are delays in the Garda Clearance process for recruiting volunteers as an outcome of Covid19 Government restrictions and this has been raised nationally.

4. AOB

Annette Fitzpatrick gave an update on Grant Schemes that the Community section in KCC are administering at present. The new 2021 Town and Village Scheme, which is significantly changed for this year, is now being advertised for expressions of Interest from communities. KCC can submit 8 applications under this scheme. 4 applications for projects between €20,000-€100,00; 2 applications for projects between €20,00-€200,000; 1 application for a project up to €500,000 and a €50,000 project under a project development measure. Vacant buildings to be utilised as working hubs and Village Town centres are being prioritised under the 2021 scheme with public realm and community centre projects being a lesser priority

EOI's to be into the Community Section by the 18th June; with a deadline for applications to the DRCD by the 16th July.

CLÁR (based on depopulation of rural areas) applications have gone in for remote working/connected hubs in 4 CLÁR areas of the county.

Colette Byrne gave an update on activity that has commenced since the restrictions have been downgraded with builders etc back on site in the Abbey Quarter. The Skate Park opened at the May bank holiday and it is expected that the park along the river will open in June. The brewhouse building is also set to open in September. The Tea House is set to commence with work is in September with other Abbey Quarter design work also commencing. There should be significant development in the Abbey Quarter by 2023.

There are also large-scale projects commencing in Callan, Thomastown, Graguenamanagh and Castlecomer – with the new bridge being commenced soon.

Outdoor dining and an outdoor performance area are also commencing in the Market Yard and beside the Watergate Theatre in the City.

Fiona Deegan outlined some of the LEO projects they are supporting – with a **#shopkilkenny** Campaign to support local retailers, a restaurant and food tourism tour of the county, and the outdoor dining scheme for local cafes owners and restaurateurs to develop outdoor eating areas.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Date for next meeting is Friday the 2nd July 2021 which replaces the 25th June meeting.