

**Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee
Meeting held on Friday 8th December, 2023, in the Council Chamber,
County Hall at 10.30a.m.**

In attendance: Mary Mescal, PPN (Chair)
Lar Power, Chief Executive
John Hurley, Chamber of Commerce
Michael A Fitzgerald, Teagasc
Olive Maher – FRC
Cllr. Martin Brett
Martin Rochford – PPN Environment Pillar
Toluwani Akaehomen , PPN Social Inclusion
Denis Drennan, KLP
Cllr. Mick McCarthy
Michael Walshe, PPN Community Pillar
Paul O’ Rahilly, PPN Social Inclusion

Online: Cllr. Ger Frisby
Derval Howley, HSE

Also present: Anne Marie Shortall Chief Officer, Katherine Peacock and Cora Nolan, Kilkenny County Council.

1. Administrative

Mary welcomed everyone to the meeting, including new members Lar Power, Chief Executive, Kilkenny County Council, Michael Walsh representative for PPN and Oliver Maher, representative from the FRC.

Apologies: Angela Hayes -Teac Tom
Aileen McGrath, Local Enterprise Office
Cllr. Joe Lyons, KCC
Eileen Curtis, KCETB
Julianne Power, DEASP

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of LCDC meeting held on Friday 15th September , 2023

Proposed by Cllr. Mick McCarthy, Seconded by John Hurley.

2.Matters Arising

None.

Any Conflicts of Interest

Denis Drennan KLP will leave the meeting when discussing the SICAP tender.

3. Oversight and Implementation of the Local and Economic Community Plan.

Anne Marie Shortall gave an update on the proposed evaluation and monitoring of the LECP Implementation plan. The methodology proposed was agreed by the LCDC members.

4. Citizen Engagement and promotion of Social Inclusion

Update of CDP Pilot Programme

The Kilkenny Traveller Community Movement KTCM is one of 8 pilot Community Development Projects in Ireland and the LCDC has responsibility for the monitoring of the project at mid-way and end of year intervals.

Stephen Plunkett joined the meeting to give a presentation on the project for 2023 and developments in Kilkenny.

A number of queries were raised in relation to the following:- difficulty in getting traveller men to engage, mental health, employment opportunities and supports available to children.

Stephen explained how Traveller Pride events create good engagement. Stephen also informed the meeting that a men's mental health worker has now been appointed to Kilkenny to work with traveller men.

Stephen also explained how issues with the afterschool programme have now been resolved.

Mary thanked Stephen for his presentation.

Derval also thanked Stephen and advised that the HSE launched its 5 -year implementation of the National Traveller Health Action Plan, the SECH Traveller Health Unit Strategic Plan 2023 to 2028 and the SECH Traveller Culture Awareness Training Facilitator's Manual. Reports will be emailed to committee members.

Mary commended the RTE documentary Patrick a young traveller lost and requested that the link to this programme be sent to all LCDC members.

PPN Report

Martin Rochford gave the PPN Report.

5. Items for Information and Information Sharing

SICAP Tender Process

Katherine Peacock gave update to the members on SICAP tender process as follows: -

The new SICAP programme for 2024-2028 tender process is on-going. The tender was published on 17th July with a closing date of the 8th September 2023.

SICAP subgroup within the local Authority was formed in accordance with the recommendations and guidance documents from Pobal. This subgroup consists of Anne Marie Shortall as Chief Officer, LCDC, Aileen Mc Grath LEO representing the wider LCDC, Katherine Peacock as the LCDC administrative support and Adrian Waldron from the procurement unit as chairperson without voting rights to oversee the procurement process. Kilkenny LCDC received one tender. On the 18th September the subgroup met and evaluated the tender. If a tender failed to score 70% in each section of the tender then the evaluation team were afforded an opportunity to ask the tenderer to submit an improved bid and engage in a negotiation meeting around the bid. The negotiation meeting with the tenderer took place on the 2nd October, 2023.

The company were then given a 3-week period to resubmit the tender. This tender was re-evaluated on the 24th October, 2023 and the tenderer was formally advised that they were being awarded the tender; this was followed by a 2 week stand still period. The next stage is the awarding of a contract which must take place before the end of December, 2023. Pobal have yet to issue the contracts.

Items for discussion and decision

Denis Drennan left the meeting for this discussion.

Anne Marie Shortall updated the LCDC members as follows:-

One tender was received and the evaluation team met on the 18th of September to review the tender and again on the 24th of October, KLP were the successful tender and formal approval is now required from the LCDC before the tender can be formally offered.

Approval was proposed by Lar Power and seconded by Cllr. Mick McCarthy to formally offer KLP the SICAP tender.

Anne Marie Shortall informed the members that a press release had issued on the Community Enhancement Grant 2024., The budget announced for 2024 is significantly lower in the amount of €151,822.82.

Further information on the grant scheme will be issued in due course.

Healthy Ireland Update

Janette Boran Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator gave a presentation on the Healthy Ireland Programme 2023-2025 which highlighted the following: -

- Healthy Ireland goals – a framework for improved health and well being to 2025.
- Locally a contract issued to Kilkenny County Council in June 2023.
- Operational manual finalised in July 2023
- Local Funding agreements issued in August and September 2023
- Outcome 1 physical activity, LECP objective, outcome indicator, project outcomes and target groups
- Janette listed the physical activity implementing partners including Foroige and Ossory youth
- Outcome 2 Self Perceived Health – LECP objectives, outcome indicator, project outcome and target groups, including Newpark FRC and KTCM as some of the implementing partners.
- Janette outlined the reporting requirements and the budget

Healthy Kilkenny are also involved in other projects including, GAA Mental Health Campaign, Domestic abuse leaflet, Period Dignity project 2023 and dementia training and awareness sessions.

Janette finished with an update on what the UcanACT project is about and UcanAct Kilkenny in 2024.

Mary thanked Janette for the very informative presentation and Derval Howely complimented Janette on the great work and acknowledged the Slainte Care Programme. It was noted that Anne Marie Lawlor is the new Senior Health Promotion Officer for cancer prevention and could link in on the Ucanact Project.

Janette and the implementing partners then left the meeting. It was proposed by Cllr. Mick McCarthy and seconded by Derval Howley that the agreed budget for Healthy Ireland be approved.

6. Date for Next Meeting

Proposed Schedule of Dates for meetings

Friday 26th January

Friday 22nd March

Friday 24th May

Friday 26th July

Friday 27th September

Friday 22nd November

AOB

Mary as Chair advised that AOB will only be placed one on the agenda with prior approval of the Chair going forward. If any committee member would like an item to be included on the agenda under AOB, they should email Cora before the Agenda issues at cora.nolan@kilkennycoco.ie

Martin Rochford requested that the minutes of previous meetings be issued earlier. It was agreed that draft minutes can be circulated to members as soon as possible after the meeting takes place and will be circulated again with the agenda before the meeting as usual. The minutes will have to be agreed at the meeting.

Michael A. Fitzgerald raised the issue of attendance. Katherine advised that any member absent for more than 3 meetings are contacted by letter. This will be reviewed in January. It was suggested as well as membership could attendance be included in annual report each year.

Mary thanked everyone and wished all a happy and peaceful Christmas.