



**Comhairle Contae
Dhún na nGall**
Donegal County Council

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee
County House, Lifford, 11am, 25th April 2016**

Members	Seamus Neely (Chair), Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Cllr Martin McDermott, Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher, Paul Hannigan, Martin McBride, Maire O'Leary, James O'Donnell, Michael MacGiolla Easbuig, Emmett Johnston, Susan McCauley, PJ Hannon, Liam Ward, Anthony Doogan, Jim Slevin
Apologies	Anne McHugh, Susan McLoughlin, Jan Feenstra, Michael Tunney
Chief Officer	Paddy Doherty
Attending	Paul Christie, Sinead Harkin, Jane Toland, Loretta McNicholas

Welcome

Seamus Neely chaired the meeting, welcomed everyone. Apologies were noted. Seamus Neely welcomed Paul Christie to the meeting who will now take the place of Denis Kelly.

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting held 22nd February 2016

Draft minutes of the LCDC meeting of 22nd February 2016 were proposed by James O'Donnell and seconded by Paul Hannigan.

2. Matters Arising

Martin McBride asked if Cllr. Niamh Kennedy had met with James O'Donnell with regard concerns in relation to rural crime and lack of security in rural Ireland. She confirmed that she had.

3. Conflict of Interest Declarations

Paddy Doherty reminded members of the need for completed Declarations of Interest to be returned and stated that a reminder email would go out to all who have yet to return their forms.

4. Update on the Donegal Local Economic Community Plan (LECP)

Sinead Harkin advised that the LECP was published and available online. Hard copies are available at Council area offices and that the Irish version would be available by the end of May.

Loretta McNicholas advised that the Council was proposing the development of a Monitoring Framework to capture the outputs and outcomes of LECP. It was hoped that this system could assimilate information from partner funds (SICAP, LEADER, Peace etc.) and how these impacted on the delivery of the LECP. Maire O'Leary asked if existing templates could be used. Loretta advised that they were working with Information Systems to incorporate systems such as IRIS and were keen to avoid any possible duplication. Martin McBride sought clarification on who is going to implement the various actions of the LECP. Seamus Neely stated that the LCDC was the oversight body and Loretta was giving the LCDC tools to assist with the task.

Anthony Doogan added that it would be useful if the system could capture expenditure on specific measures. Loretta stated that the system should allow this to be achieved.

Loretta added that further in-house work was required in advance of proceeding and advised that the next step would be to bring a proposed outline of the process to the LCDC. Seamus Neely added that work needed to be done by this group.

Emmett Johnston agreed with this structured approach and suggested the identification of contact points to provide assistance.

There was general consensus to proceed with this proposal.

Seamus Neely stated that a date for the National launch of LECP is awaited and the LCDC will be kept informed in this regard. A local launch will take place following the national launch and that an Irish version of the plan would be available for the launches.

5. Update on the Donegal Local Development Strategy 2014-2020

Paddy Doherty advised the meeting of correspondence dated 12th April 2016 received from the Department advising that the Local Development Strategy (LDS) was approved in principal with a few clarifications required. Paddy Doherty advised that LDS outlines membership of the Evaluation Committee to include expertise and experience in the following areas:

- rural development,
- environment,
- rural tourism,
- social inclusion,
- rural communities,
- business & enterprise development
- economic development & job creation.

It was proposed that 2 representatives from each sector listed above should sit on each Evaluation Committee. A discussion took place regarding the workload this would involve. Members suggested a structure comprising a global committee supported by 4 geographical committees and that this should be explored in greater detail and a report brought back to the LCDC for their consideration. This approach was proposed by Martin McBride and seconded by Anthony Doogan.

6. PEACE IV

Paddy Doherty referred to the establishment of the Peace IV Partnership as approved at the previous meeting comprising 19 members. He stated that having regard to the specific objectives of PEACE IV, particularly Children & Young People, and as suggested at the earlier meeting, it was proposed to invite TUSLA to be represented on the Peace Partnership thus increasing the membership to 20. Paddy Doherty further proposed that the LCDC would seek representation from the PPN in relation to the following target groups, Young People, Ethnic Minorities, Older People, Traveller Community, Political Ex-Prisoners. Following a brief discussion and in order to ensure complimentarity it was agreed that Susan McLoughlin would act as the LCDC's representative on the Peace IV Partnership under the Community and Voluntary sector. This was proposed by Paul Hannigan and seconded by Susan McCauley.

Paddy Doherty referred to an e-mail from Susan McLoughlin regarding the former Peace programme and in particular the delivery mechanisms associated with same. These concerns were noted and Paddy Doherty advised there was an opportunity for groups to access funding other than through the partner delivery mechanism. Paddy Doherty further advised that the Council will now proceed to invite the nominated organisations onto the Peace Partnership to enable the progression of the Donegal PEACE IV Action Plan.

7. Date of next meeting

The next meeting was confirmed for Tuesday 21st June at 11.00am.

Seamus thanked all for attending the meeting. This concluded the business of the meeting.