** **

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee**

**County House, Lifford, 3.00 pm on 29th January 2019**

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| **Members** | Clr Martin McDermott (Chair), Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, Clr Niamh Kennedy, Martin McBride, Paul Hannigan, Anne McHugh, Aengus Kennedy, Siobhan McLaughlin, James O Donnell, Susan McCauley, Anne McAteer, Andrew Ward and David Alcorn |
| **Apologies** | Seamus Neely, Padraig Fingleton, Michael Tunney, Susan McLaughlin, Liam McElhinney and Michael MacGiolla Easbuig |
| **Chief Officer** | Paddy Doherty |
| **Attending** | Liam Ward, Seamus Canning, Loretta McNicholas, Mary McBride, Adrienne Kelly & Kathleen Browne |

**Welcome**

Clr Martin McDermott, Chairperson, welcomed everyone and thanked the members present for attending the meeting.

Clr McDermott welcomed the two new LCDC Members to the meeting – Anne McAteer, HSE Representative and Andrew Ward, Inishowen Development Representative.

1. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Draft minutes of the LCDC meeting of 18th December 2018 were considered. The minutes were proposed by Martin McBride and seconded by Siobhan McLaughlin, with no matters arising.

1. **LECP Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee Update**

Loretta McNicholas updated members on the work of the LECP Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Group in 2018. A report outlining the percentage Project Activity. Members were completed by year end, the projects by Impact Indicator and the Project Spend by Goal for 2018 was circulated to members. This information was extracted from a Monitoring and Evaluation Programme developed by the Research and Policy Unit in conjunction with Inforamtion Systems. Loretta requested that a commitment was required from the LCDC to move it forward and from groups to feed their information into the system.

Loretta then set out the next steps for the Montoring and Evaluation Sub Committee as follows:-

* To produce Bi Annual reports to LCDC
* Identification of projects not already included
* Further Development of the Monitoring & Evaluation System
* Continue to hold meetings of the Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Committee.

Members congratulated Loretta and her team for the work carried out to date and discussed a number of queries arising from the reports.

1. **Membership of Sub Committees of LCDC**

Seamus Canning advised members that owing to the resignation of Peter Walker, HSE Representative and Fionan Bradley, IDP Rep, vacancies had arisen on a number of the Sub Committes of the LCDC.

Seamus confirmed that there was one vacancy on the following Sub Committees:-

SICAP Sub Committee

Healthy Ireland Sub Committee

LECP Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Committee

There were two vacancies on the Community Enhancement Programme Evaluation Sub Committee.

Members to propose and approve replacement members for these committees. He reminded members that anyone with a conflict of interest should not take a position on the Community Enhancement Programme Evaluation Sub Committee.

On the proposal of Martin McBride seconded by Clr Martin McDermott, Ms Anne McAteer was nominated and appointed a member of the SICAP Sub Committee, Healthy Ireland Sub Committee, LECP Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Committee and Community Enhancement Programme Evaluation Sub Committee.

On the proposal of Aengus Kennedy seconded by James O Donnell, Liam McElhinney was nominated and appointed a member of the Community Enhancement Programme Evaluation Sub Committee.

1. **Rural Decline**

David Alcorn raised the issue of the impact of the closure of post offices on rural areas. He called for the LCDC to make representations to An Post and to the full membership of Donegal County Council in relation to post office closures. Susan McCauley, James O Donnell, Clr Niamh Kennedy and Clr Martin McDermott spoke in support of the issues raised by David and on the impact of rural decline in areas.

1. **Declaration of Interest and Code of Conduct**

Paddy Doherty reminded members of the LCDC of their obligation to complete and return a Declaration of Interest and Code of Conduct Compliance form by 28th February. He advised members that hard copies of the forms were available at the meeting.

1. **Next Meeting**

Members were reminded that the next meeting of the LCDC was scheduled for 10am on 19th March. Liam Ward advised that it would be necessary to change the date of the April meeting. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting