

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee  
County House, Lifford, 2pm on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

<b>Members</b>	Seamus Neely (Chair), Martin McBride, Micheal MacGiolla Easbuig, Jim Slevin, James O Donnell, Susan McLoughlin, Susan McCauley, Paul Hannigan, Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher, Cllr Martin McDermot, Anne McHugh, Peter Walker, Nóirín Uí Mhaoldomhnaigh, Michael Tunney
<b>Apologies</b>	Mr P J Hannon, Mr Jan Feenstra
<b>Chief Officer</b>	Paddy Doherty
<b>Attending</b>	Liam Ward, Eimear McDermott, Adrienne Kelly, Kathleen Browne, Eamon Boyle, Loretta McNicholas, Sinead McLaughlin, DLDC & Gearoid O' Smolain, Udaras na Gaeltachta

**Welcome**

Seamus Neely chaired the meeting and welcomed everyone and thanked the members present for attending. Mr Neely introduced Mr Peter Walker to the meeting as the new HSE Representative on the LCDC and welcomed him to the Committee.

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Draft minutes of the LCDC meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were considered. It was noted that James O Donnell had been omitted from the attendance record in error and it was agreed that this would be amended. The minutes were proposed by Martin McBride and seconded by James O Donnell.

**2. Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct**

Members attention was drawn to the correspondence in relation to their obligation to complete and return a Conflict of Interest form, which had been previously circulated to them, by 28<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Members also noted receipt of copy of Code of Conduct.

**3. SICAP End of Year Report - Lot 33-1 - Inishowen**

Mr Paddy Doherty, Chief Officer, reported to the members on the End of Year Report submitted by Inishowen Development Company for Lot 33-1 for 2016 which had been circulated to members previously.

Members were informed that the End of Year Report 2016 for Lot 33-1 (Inishowen) had been brought before the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee for consideration on 24<sup>th</sup> January. Following consideration of the submission on the report by Shauna McClenaghan, IDP, and the Pobal Parallel review by Pauline Perry, The SICAP Sub Committee were satisfied to recommend approval of the End of Year Report 2016 for Lot 33-1 Inishowen.

He confirmed that IDP had submitted the End of Year narrative report and that all sections of the report were satisfactorily completed. He further confirmed that IDP had achieved their

KPI 1 and 2 targets and the majority of the Headline Indicator Targets for 2016. Members were also advised that they had adhered to all the necessary Financial Requirements and additional programme delivery considerations set down for 2016.

Mr Martin McBride acknowledged the good work carried out by the IDP and expressed his congratulations to Shauna and the Staff on their achievements and progress in 2016.

Mr Seamus Neely noted that based on the report submitted it was clear that the SICAP Sub Committee had given the End of Year report a lot of attention. Mr Peter Walker requested that specific note be taken of element of the End of Year Report which indicated that more than two interventions were required for marginalised people.

On the proposal of Cllr Martin McDermott, seconded by Mr Michael MacGiolla Easbuig, members approved the End of Year Report 2016 for Lot 33-1 and recommended that Programme Funding in the amount of €49,765.00 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 be released to Inishowen Development Partnership.

Members also noted that the approval of the End of Year Report also results in Final Approval for the Lot 33-1 Annual Plan 2017 which was approved in principle by the LCDC at their meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **4. SICAP End of Year Report - Lot 33-2 – Donegal Gaeltacht**

Mr Paddy Doherty, Chief Officer, reported to the members on the End of Year Report submitted by Donegal Local Development Company for Lot 33-2 for 2016 which had been circulated to members previously.

Members were informed that the End of Year Report 2016 for Lot 33-2 (Donegal Gaeltacht) had been brought before the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee for consideration on 24<sup>th</sup> January. Following consideration of the submission on the report by Padraic Fingleton, DLDC, and the Pobal Parallel review by Pauline Perry, The SICAP Sub Committee were satisfied to recommend approval of the End of Year Report 2016 for Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht.

He confirmed that DLDC had submitted the End of Year narrative report and that all sections of the report were satisfactorily completed. He further confirmed that DLDC had achieved their KPI 1 and 2 targets and the majority of the Headline Indicator Targets for 2016. Members were also advised that they had adhered to all the necessary Financial Requirements and additional programme delivery considerations set down for 2016

Mr Seamus Neely advised that the summary of the report presented and the Sub Committee's recommendation to accept the report reflects a strong performance by the Programme Implementers this year. Cllr Niamh Kennedy advised those present that it was noted at the Sub Committee Meeting that a number of youth groups were not aware of the available funding as the advertisements for same had been published in Irish only. It was confirmed that the PI had taken this on board and that a bilingual policy would be pursued in future. Cllr Kennedy and Susan McCauley both confirmed that there was a difficulty across the board targeting NEETs. Susan McCauley advised that queries had been raised in relation to the value of targeting self employment rather than return to education for this sector.

Mr Michael Tunney noted the ongoing difficulty reported in providing services to islanders and suggested that the new SICAP programme should include a different model for this.

Mr Michael MacGiolla Easbuig congratulated DLDC on the work they had carried out and acknowledged that they faced specific challenges in achieving the targets set down for them. He expressed the wish that future reports would be more positive and provide a less negative view of the Gaeltacht area. Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher felt that the report identified the needs and difficulties experienced in the Gaeltacht area such as geographical isolation and the lack of transport. She called for progressive policy development to address these needs.

On the proposal of Mr Michael Tunney, seconded by Cllr Niamh Kennedy, members approved the End of Year Report 2016 for Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht and recommended that Programme Funding in the amount of €28,284.59 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 be released to Donegal Local Development Company.

Members also noted that the approval of the End of Year Report also results in Final Approval for the Lot 33-2 Donegal Gaeltacht Annual Plan 2017 which was approved in principle by the LCDC at their meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> November.

## **5. SICAP End of Year Report - Lot 33-3 – Donegal**

Mr Paddy Doherty, Chief Officer, reported to the members on the End of Year Report submitted by Donegal Local Development Company for Lot 33-3 for 2016 which had been circulated to members previously.

Members were informed that the End of Year Report 2016 for Lot 33-3 (Donegal) had been brought before the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee for consideration on 24<sup>th</sup> January. Following consideration of the submission on the report by Padraic Fingleton, DLDC, and the Pobal Parallel review by Pauline Perry, The SICAP Sub Committee were satisfied to recommend approval of the End of Year Report 2016 for Lot 33-3 Donegal.

He confirmed that DLDC had submitted the End of Year narrative report and that all sections of the report were satisfactorily completed. He further confirmed that DLDC had narrowly failed to achieve their KPI 1 target but had achieved KPI2 targets and the majority of the Headline Indicator Targets for 2016. Members were also advised that they had adhered to all the necessary Financial Requirements and additional programme delivery considerations set down for 2016

Susan McCauley stated that it was notable how many new groups the PI had engaged with in 2016 and commended them for this.

Seamus Neely noted the recommendation from the Sub Committee.

On the proposal of Mr Jim Slevin, seconded by Mr Michael Tunney, members approved the End of Year Report 2016 for Lot 33-3 Donegal and recommended that Programme Funding in the amount of €86,498.75 for the period 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 be released to Donegal Local Development Company.

Members also noted that the approval of the End of Year Report also results in Final Approval for the Lot 33-3 Donegal Annual Plan 2017 which was approved in principle by the LCDC at their meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> November.

Paddy Doherty thanked the members of the SICAP Sub Committee for their work throughout the year. He advised members that the Programme Implementers for Lots 33-1, 33-2 and 33-3 would attend the LCDC Meeting in April to make a presentation to Members of the LCDC on the plans and programmes for 2017.

## 6. SICAP Donegal LCDC End of Year Report 2016

Members considered the draft Donegal LCDC SICAP End of Year Report 2016 which was previously circulated and discussed content of same. Clr Niamh Kennedy raised the issue of qualitative reporting and advised that this was needed. Mr Martin McBride stated that he felt that the members of the SICAP Sub Committee had developed a good understanding of the programme which gave them a good understanding of the qualitative nature of programmes and courses. He felt that it was difficult to get this into a format that could be captured by the Department.

Ms Susan McCauley stated that LCDC Members did not have an understanding of SICAP. She felt that they needed to more as a group about what was going on in the programmes – to see who and what was being funded. Mr Seamus Neely confirmed that a new programme was coming down the line and that achievements will be revised and reviewed in the development of this programme. It was suggested that Co-ordinators should be invited to attend the next meeting with the representatives of the PIs to make a presentation

Following consideration of the report, on the proposal of Mr Martin McBride, seconded by Mr Michael MacGiolla Easpuig members approved the LCDC SICAP End of Year Report 2016.

## 7. SICAP Sub Committee – Filling of Vacancy

Members were advised that a vacancy had arisen on the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee as a result of the retirement of Ms Maire O Leary. On the proposal of Mr Martin McBride, seconded by Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, Mr Peter Walker was nominated and appointed to the LCDC SICAP Sub Committee.

Items 8, 9, 10, 11 & 12 redacted as they relate to decisions/discussions of the LAG re LEADER which are not made publicly available.

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### 13. PEACE IV

Mr Paddy Doherty advised the members that the Peace IV Partnership met on the 15<sup>th</sup> September 2016 to consider the approval of the stage 1 application and agreed to proceed to stage 2 and submit a stage 2 action plan in the amount of €5,552,691 by 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2016

The stage 2 action plan was submitted under the following 3 themes:

- Children and Young People
- Shared Spaces & Services
- Building Positive Relations

The SEUPB Steering Committee met on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2016 to consider the stage 2 action plan submitted by the Peace IV secretariat on behalf of the Peace IV partnership.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017, Donegal County Council was informed that funding in the amount of €4,034,725.68 million had been offered to Donegal County Council under the European Union's PEACE IV Programme.

<b>Theme</b>	<b>Budget</b>
Children and Young People	€690,062
Shared Spaces & Services	€1,927,001.19
Building Positive Relations	€1,417,661.57

Members were advised that a further €1.5 million of funding was available and that the Peace Partnership were meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> February to put together an application for this balance of funding. Paddy Doherty confirmed that the Peace Partnership could submit applications for this funding until April. He also confirmed that no formal letter of offer had issued yet but advised this letter was expected in the next month.



#### **14. Local Economic and Community Plan & Protocol between LCDC and Children & Young People's Services Committee**

Ms Loretta McNicholas circulated an update to the members setting out an overview of the monitoring, evaluation and review framework for the LECP 2016-2022. Ms McNicholas also updated members on the current position in relation to the Plan and what future actions were intended.

Ms McNicholas advised members that it was proposed to establish a Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee drawn from members of the LCDC comprising of representatives of two agencies and one community representative.

Mr Liam Ward suggested that the matter of the protocol between LCDC and Children and Young People's Services Committee be dealt with in conjunction with the LECP update. Mr Ward advised that the document received sets out how the relationship between the bodies will work. He suggested that the Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee could also take on the role of the working group who could co-ordinate with the Research and Policy Unit to develop the framework to develop the protocol between LCDC and Children and Young People's Services Committee.

On the proposal of Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher, seconded by Cllr Niamh Kennedy Mr Peter Walker, HSE Rep, was proposed and appointed as a member of the Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee

On the proposal of Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher, seconded by Martin McBride, Ms Anne McHugh, ETB, was proposed and appointed as a member of the Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee.

On the proposal of Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher, seconded by Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Ms Susan McCauley, PPN, was proposed and appointed as a member of the Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee.

#### **15. Town and Village Renewal & REDZ Programme**

Mr Eamon Boyle made a presentation to the members updating them on the progress of the Town and Village Renewal Programme. He confirmed to members that the projects agreed for Ramelton, Ballybofey/Stranorlar, Dungloe, Ballyshannon and Carndonagh had been approved by Department of Arts, Heritage, Rural, Regional & Gaeltacht Affairs on 11<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

Mr Boyle advised members of the projects to be undertaken in the various towns and updated members on the progress of same.

##### **Ramelton**

- Enhancement of footpath/viewing area along Shore Road and The Quay, including kerbing, paving, street furniture, information panels, signage, etc.
- Provision of Ramelton Town Renewal Plan.

He confirmed that Meetings had taken place with Town & Village Renewal Committee with a view to finalising outputs for the procurement of a Planning Consultant to produce a Town Renewal Plan and to identifying the schedule of capital works to be undertaken. Members were advised that Capital Works would be tendered for in April and the procurement of Consultant to compile Town Renewal plan was due to commence in Quarter 2 of 2017

## **Ballybofey and Stranorlar**

- Ballybofey: Proposed provision of riverside walk along the River Finn from Finn Park to Stranorlar Bridge and continuing to Jackson's Hotel and linking on Drumboe Woods at Railway Road.
- Stranorlar: Enhancement of area around Playground with provision of additional equipment within the Park.

Mr Boyle confirmed that plans were being developed for the Ballybofey Walkway and Insurance requirements for Walking Trails Investigated. Regular meetings were being held with Town and Village Renewal Committee to agree extent & specification of works. It was envisaged that Quotations for the works would be sought in Quarter 2 of 2017.

In relation to Stranorlar Playground Enhancement members were advised that it was planned to seek quotations in Quarter 2 of this year for the installation of additional equipment within the Railway Road Park.

## **Dungloe**

- Dungloe Bay Walk: Construction of a Bay Walk/Cycle Lane along the Dungloe Shorefront from Cope car park to Quay Road.

Members were informed that meetings had taken place with Dungloe Community Network & Donegal County Council Area Roads Engineers to agree extent & standard of footpath. It was agreed that works would include:-

- Concrete 2.5m wide path
- Picnic area at midway point
- 6" ranch fencing
- Provision for public lighting

## **Ballyshannon**

- Bridgend Roundabout: Enhancement & upgrading of the Bridgend roundabout. This project is being carried out in co-operation with Roads Directorate:-
- Enhancement of footpaths adjacent to Roundabout
- Enhancement of central island
- Installation of street furniture/information panels
- Preparation works for future works
- Provision of Guidance document for Traditional Shopfronts and Colour Scheme for Ballyshannon Streets

Members were advised that in relation to the Bridgend Roundabout Enhancement and preliminary designs had been completed. Members were further advised that Terms of Reference were being developed for a Guidance Document for Traditional Shopfronts/Paint Scheme.

## **Carndonagh**

- Refurbishment of old historical steps on Bridge Street  
To include:-
  - Removal of concrete footpath
  - Repairs to stone wall and stone steps

- Refurbishment/Replacement of Railing
- Paving
- Ducting/Drainage/Surfacing/ Undergrounding of Services

Members were informed that Bridge Street was due to be surveyed shortly with a view to compiling tender documents by Quarter 2 – 2017.

Mr Boyle advised members that it was envisaged that all works would be completed by December 2017. He further confirmed that towns in each Municipal District had been selected at the Workshop in December 2016 for any additional funding that may become available as follows:-

MD Area	Tier 3	Tier 4
Inishowen	Newtowncunningham	Ballyliffin
Glenties	Falcarragh	Burtonport
Stranorlar	Convoy	St Johnston
Donegal	Mountcharles	Dunkineely
Letterkenny	Churchill	Kilmacrennan

Mr Eamon Boyle then made a presentation to the members on the Regional Economic Development Zone. He advised that this scheme was targeted at small scale projects with a maximum grant of €100,000 for each County. He confirmed that two small scale projects had been identified in the County.

1. Ballyshannon The Gables
2. Dunree Fort – Military Museum

Members were advised that the value of the Ballyshannon Project Value was €62,000 and the project would include the enhancement of the Gables Area which included the replacement of paving brick/ new kerbing, surfacing etc. and the regarding of the area to the correct levels involving having iron works adjusted and paving re-laid.

These works would be co-funded with €48,000 from the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and €12,000 from Donegal County Council. Members were informed that approval had been obtained from Department on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and a detailed design was currently being completed. It was intended to seek quotations in Quarter 2 2017.

Mr Boyle advised the members that there were two elements to the Fort Dunree Military Museum Project.

- The refurbishment of the Coffee Shop to include
  - Refit interior of Café including electrics/plumbing
  - Extension to kitchen area
  - Extended seating capacity to exterior of current Café under a fixed canopy
- Repairs & Enhancement of Access to Pier including concreting and railing

Members were informed that the value of the project was €62,500 and that would also be co-funded with €50,000 from the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs and €12,500 from Donegal County Council.

Mr Boyle confirmed that approval for the project was obtained from Department on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and that tender documents were currently being prepared.

Mr Seamus Neely thanked Eamon Boyle for his presentation. He noted that planning was being undertaken for future funding and confirmed that any Town Plans or Town Renewal Plans would include ambitious projects to develop the huge potential of the areas.

Mr Martin McBride queried whether any of the schemes could be extended to the rural hinterland of these towns. Eamon Boyle advised that the criteria for the schemes was set down by the Department.

Members discussed the Scheme and they agreed with the decision to select towns for future funding applications in advance. They emphasised the need to retain local services and to bring vibrancy back to small towns and villages. Members acknowledged the tight deadlines associated with the Town and Village Scheme but felt that Donegal had managed the process well.

On behalf of the members Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher thanked Eamon Boyle for his presentations and congratulated Eamon and his team on the work they had done. She cautioned members that as the criteria for funding Schemes were set out at Department level and it was often difficult to find schemes to fit. She felt it was important not to deviate from the criteria or policy of a scheme and to ensure that we do everything we can to meet it.

Mr Michael Tunney advised the members that the C&E Centre in Glenties had also been allocated funding under the REDZ programme. Cllr Martin McDermot stated that the Rural Action Plan confirms that the Town and Village Renewal Programme will continue and that LEADER funding would be increased. Cllr McDermott queried whether any confirmation of this had been received. Mr Paddy Doherty advised that it had not.

## **16. AOB**

Mr Seamus Neely advised that he would be attending a briefing of the Chairperson and Chief Officers of LCDCs in Dublin. It was hoped that this briefing would set out ideas on how to improve the LCDC and he requested that the members submit suggestions to be carried forward to this briefing which could be fed into the review of LCDCs to be carried out this year. Cllr Martin McDermott advised that at the previous briefing the Department had committed to examining the structures of the LCDCs and stated that they would attend a meeting of all the LCDCs in the country which would give the members an opportunity to give feedback directly to the Department.

Cllr Maire Therese Gallagher discussed the intensive nature of the work of the LCDC and suggested that the introduction of two separate streams of work - procedural and policy & integration may be necessary for the agendas for the meetings. Mr Neely confirmed that he would bring this suggestion forward at the briefing and discuss this further at the next LCDC Meeting.

Ms Susan McCauley stated that there was a feeling in the community that there should be two Social Inclusion representatives on the LCDC. It was agreed that this matter would be examined and clarification of the representation on the LCDC would be discussed at the next meeting.

Mr Seamus Neely advised that the three year Review of the LCDC would be undertaken soon and that this would afford the Committee an opportunity to examine all the roles. He thanked all the members for their participation

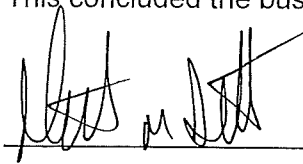
Clr Martin McDermott queried whether PPNs would be set up at Municipal District level and Paddy Doherty agreed to revert to members with an update on this matter.

### 17. Schedule of Meetings

Members examined the proposed Schedule of LCDC Meetings for 2017 and agreed them as follows:-

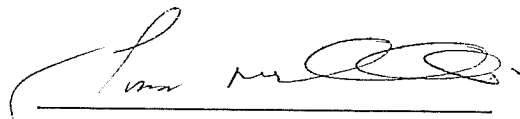
Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, 7 <sup>th</sup> February 2017	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> April 2017	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2017	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 18 <sup>th</sup> July 2017	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2017	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 17 <sup>th</sup> October 2017	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> November 2017*	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters
Tuesday, 19 <sup>th</sup> December 2017*	2pm	Donegal County Council Headquarters

This concluded the business of the meeting.



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Chairperson



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Board Member

Date:

18/7/17

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