

**Minutes of Donegal Local Community Development Committee  
Held by teleconference 10.00 am on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2020**

<b>Members</b>	Clr Martin McDermott (Chair), Seamus Neely, Clr Maire Therese Gallagher, Clr Niamh Kennedy, Michael MacGiolla Easbuig, Anne McHugh, Shauna McClenaghan, Padraic Fingleton, Charlene Logue, Siobhan McLaughlin and Aengus Kennedy
<b>Apologies</b>	Paul Hannigan & Kathleen Bonner
<b>Chief Officer</b>	Paddy Doherty
<b>Attending</b>	Liam Ward, Seamus Canning, Adrienne Kelly and Kathleen Browne

**Welcome**

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

**1. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Draft minutes of the LCDDC meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> February 2020 were considered. Shauna McCleanaghan requested that the minutes relating to the adoption of the Annual Progress Report for Lot 33-2 and 33-3 be amended to confirm the report was submitted by Donegal Local Development Company and not Inishowen Development Partnership.

On the proposal of Clr Marie Therese Gallagher, seconded by Charlene Logue, the amended minutes were adopted.

**2. LCDDC Annual Report 2019**

Paddy Doherty requested members to approve the LCDDC Annual Report 2019, which had been circulated with the Agenda, for submission to the March Meeting of Donegal County Council.

On the proposal of Clr Niamh Kennedy, seconded by Siobhan McLaughlin, Members approved the Donegal LCDDC Annual Report for 2019.

**3. Deferral of Agenda Items**

On the proposal of Clr Marie Therese Gallagher, seconded by Clr Niamh Kennedy, members agreed to defer the following agenda items:-

- SICAP LECP Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Committee Update
- Healthy Ireland Update

#### **4. Covid 19 – Community Response**

Liam Ward advised members that the Department of Rural and Community Development had issued an Action Plan for isolated Members of Communities in response to Covid 19 virus. This action plan included a pack for circulation to all community groups. Liam advised that the Management Team and Community Development Section of Donegal County Council and the PPN Network were working on an information leaflet, to be finalised today, which would be issued through the PPN Structures. This Leaflet would provide details, including contact information, of local groups who are available to provide support to people who are in need of support through the crisis.

Padraic Fingleton advised that DLDC were focussing on groups who provide support to vulnerable adults. DLDC are setting up a help-line to provide advice and assistance to groups on good volunteering and Garda Vetting.

Siobhan McLaughlin advised that Donegal Travellers Project have compiled a database of contact numbers for all members of the travelling community and Roma in the county to provide information to them. She added that the Intercultural Platform had issued a leaflet and social media post in ten different languages to provide support information to refugees and new communities in the county. She requested members to share this on their social media platforms. Siobhan also requested all organisations to be conscious of the language issues which may arise for new communities when issuing information leaflets so that all groups can fully understand the important information and advice on the Covid 19 emergency.

Siobhan also raised the issue of overcrowding in direct provision centres. Liam Ward agreed that the concerns of the LCDC in relation to the overcrowding in direct provisions centres would be conveyed to the Department of Justice and Equality.

#### **5. Date of Next Meeting**

Clr Martin McDermott advised members that the next meeting was scheduled for 21st<sup>d</sup> April 2020 at 10.00 am. Paddy Doherty confirmed that members would be contacted closer to the meeting date in relation to the format of the meeting in light of restrictions due to Covid 19 pandemic.

This concluded the business of the meeting.