****

**Minutes of Donegal Local and Community Development Committee in County House, Lifford at 10am on 2nd September 2014**

**Attendance:**

**Members -** Seamus Neely, Michael Tunney, Cllr Niamh Kennedy, Cllr Martin McDermott, Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher, Micheal Mac Giolla Easbuig, Shaun Purcell, Paul Hannigan, Jim Slevin, Paula Leonard, Susan McCauley, James Trearty, Ethna Diver, PJ Hannon, James O’Donnell,

**Apologies:** Maire O’Leary,Noreen Ní Mhaoldomhnigh, Jan Feenstra, Anthony Doogan,

**Chief Officer –** Micheál Ó hÉanaigh

**Secretariat** - Charles Sweeney, Christina O’Donnell

**Welcome and Introductions** –

Seamus Neely, Chief Executive, Donegal County Council acted as chair for the meeting and welcomed all to LCDC meeting. Everyone introduced themselves and apologies were noted.

1. **Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes were proposed by Jim Slevin and seconded by Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher.

1. **Matters Arising form the minutes**

None

1. **Selection of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson**

Seamus Neely, Chief Executive was proposed as Chairperson by Michael Mac Giolla Easbuig and seconded by Cllr Niamh Kennedy. There were no further nominations and Seamus Neely accepted the position of Chairperson.

Seamus Neely said he would look forward to working with you all and the development of the County.

Cllr Martin McDermott was proposed as Vice Chairperson by Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher and seconded by Cllr Niamh Kennedy. Cllr Martin McDermott accepted the position of Vice Chairperson

1. **Adoption of Standing Orders – Donegal LCDC**

Charles Sweeney, Administrative Officer, Donegal County Council gave an overview of the Standing orders followed by a general discussion.

Jim Slevin proposed that meetings should start at specified time and it was seconded by PJ Hannon. As long as quorum was present.

The adoption of the Donegal LCDC standing orders was proposed by Cllr. Martin McDermott and seconded by James Trearty and will be reviewed in one year.

1. **Update on Preparation of Local Economic and Community Plan**

Denis Kelly, Central Planning Unit, Donegal County Council gave an overview of the process to date. Denis asked the LCDC members to spread the word that the Community Plan is open for submissions and try encouraging people to get their networks to contribute to the Plan. Micheál Ó hÉanaigh spoke about the time scale being very much time bound and how we needed to go to Public Consultation to move the process forward.

1. **Update on SICAP Programme**

Charles Sweeney, Administrative Officer, Donegal County Council gave an update on SICAP process and spoke about the funding to come on stream in early 2015 replacing the LECDP.

Seamus Neely, Chairperson said the subcommittee for assessing the tenders will be selected based on the guidelines set down by Pobal.

Micheál Ó hÉanaigh told the meeting that we submitted three Lots (Inishowen, Gealtacht and rest of Donegal) to the department on deadline of 1st August however a complicating factor arose yesterday when Pobal came back saying we can not have an ED in two Lots, and this is the case with some of the Gealtacht. The ED has to be in one Lot or another, this did not arise before and we thought it was recognised as a region. We are going to look at how small areas may fit into the Gealtacht.

Cllr Marie Therese Gallagher asked that we add into the Gaeltacht rather than take out.

Seamus Neely said we would be pushing every stop to make it work and not looking at alternatives now.

Paula Leonard asked if we know if some of the other Counties are submitting sectoral Lots such as Travellers or Womens.

Micheál Ó hÉanaigh we have sent the letter to department and we will be dealing with those groups here if not nationally. Pobal are only advisor and Donegal County Council will be dealing with the department directly.

Seamus Neely said The Council is responsible but delivery is through the Committee, important roles by the members of this committee. Using the corporate structure of Donegal County Council and empowering the members of LCDC with decisions. We are developing as we go and we took the decision in July for three Lots we are staying with this and will convene another meeting if we need to go alternative.

Micheal Mac Giolla Easbuig added that the preferred option would be a Lot for Gealtacht.

1. **AOB**

* **PPN**

Charles Sweeney, Administrative Officer, Donegal County Council gave an update on the PPN registration. The registration deadline has been extended to Friday and there are currently 250 groups registered.

Ethna Diver queried regarding County wide groups. Charles Sweeney informed the meeting that a question was added to ask groups are they County Wide.

* It was agreed that a list of dates would be agreed at the next meeting.

**DONM**: 1st October 2014 10 O’clock in the Chamber, Lifford.