**Laois Local Community Development Committee**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Held on Friday, 21st October 2016 at 11.30am in County Hall, Portlaoise**

**Present:** Mr. Paddy Buggy, Laois PPN (In the Chair)

Cllr. Jerry Lodge, Laois County Council

Cllr. John King, Laois County Council

Cllr. Paschal McEvoy, Laois County Council

Ms. Evelyn Reddin, Laois LEO,

Mr. David Hackett, Dept of Social Protection

Ms. Anne Goodwin, Laois Partnership

Mr. Michael Bergin, Farming Sector

Mr. Dave Fingleton, Laois PPN

Mr. Robbie Quinn, Laois PPN

Mr. PJ Campbell, Laois PPN

Mr. Kieran Finane, Business Sector

**Apologies:** Mr. John Mulholland, Mr. Joe Ruane, Ms. Linda Tynan, Ms. Mary White, Mr. Joe Thompson.

**In attendance:** Mr. Michael Rainey, Chief Officer, Ms. Georgina Ireland, Administrative Officer, Ms. Theresa Bergin, Clerical Officer

*Mr. Paddy Buggy opened the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.*

**Confirmation of Minutes of LCDC meeting held on 16th September 2016**

Upon the proposal of Cllr. Paschal McEvoy and seconded by Cllr. John King, the minutes of LCDC meeting held on Friday, 16th September 2016 were confirmed.

**Correspondence**

Mr. Michael Rainey presented correspondence from the Dept of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government in respect of a change of date of their event entitled *“Our Communities – A National Forum”* in Dublin, which was to be held on 2nd November but would now be held on 23rd November 2016. He advised as to which Committee members would be in attendance and asked any remaining attendees to contact Ms. Georgina Ireland before 28th October, in order to register for the event.

**SICAP – Annual Planning Process 2017**

Mr. Michael Rainey outlined the planning process in respect of the SICAP 2017 Annual Plan; related workflow chart and copy notification to the Programme Implementer was circulated to members.   
Mr. Rainey advised that Laois Partnership had been requested to submit the details of the Annual Plan via the online IRIS system by 7th November (national deadline). He referred to the SICAP Subcommittee, advising as to its current membership *(Mr. Paddy Buggy – ex officio, Mr. Joe Thompson, Ms. Evelyn Reddin, Ms. Fionnuala Daly)* and extended an invitation to any other LCDC member who wished to participate. The members noted that this subcommittee would meet following the 7th November deadline and would make a recommendation to the larger Committee at its November meeting.

Ms. Anne Goodwin commented on behalf of the Programme Implementer that the request by the Dept for an Annual Plan came two months earlier than in 2016, resulting in considerable pressure on the Programme Implementer from an administrative perspective. She also reiterated an issue previously raised by the PI in respect of the amount of administrative time staff must give to the Programme, entering data on the IRIS system, lessening their time to meet clients and capacity build communities as per SICAP requirements.

Ms. Goodwin also advised that although there would be some changes to target figures within the prescribed parameters, the objectives of the SICAP Plan would be mostly a continuation of 2016 work, thus fulfilling the original overall 3-year plan.

It was agreed that in order to accommodate the discussion around the SICAP 2017 Annual Plan, the November LCDC meeting date would change to Wednesday, 30th November 2016 at 4.30pm.

**Laois Local Economic & Community Plan – Review of Actions**

Mr. Michael Rainey circulated a document containing up-to-date information on LCDC oversight actions in Goals 1-6 of the LECP. Members were also advised that an update would be given in respect of remaining actions at a further meeting. It was agreed that members could examine the update and revert to the Chief Officer with any queries they may have either before or at the next meeting.

**Upcoming Events/Meetings**

The members noted notice of an upcoming SICAP Networking event for LCDC members/staff in Mullingar on 24th November 2016. It was agreed that notice would be circulated to the SICAP subcommittee for their information and attendance if possible.

**Any Other Business**

None

**Time & Date of next Meeting**

It was agreed that this Committee would convene on 30th November 2016 at 4.30pm in County Hall, Portlaoise.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed: Date:**

**LCDC Chairperson**