**Laois Local Community Development Committee**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Held on Wednesday, 30th November 2016 at 4.30pm 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

Mr. David Hackett, Dept of Social Protection

Ms. Anne Goodwin, Laois Partnership

Mr. Michael Bergin, Farming Sector

Mr. Dave Fingleton, Laois PPN

Mr. Joe Thompson, Youth Sector

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,

Ms. Evelyn Reddin

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

Paddy Buggy opened the meeting, outlined the agenda and thanked everyone for their attendance.

**Confirmation of Minutes of LCDC meeting held on 21st October 2016**

Upon the proposal of Mr. Kieran Finane and seconded by Cllr. Pascal McEvoy, the minutes of LCDC meeting held on Friday, 21st October 2016 were confirmed.

**Correspondence**

The members noted a press release outlining the role of Local Authorities and Local Community and Development Committees in respect of co-ordinating activities which aim to improve local areas, following the national launch of 31 Local Economic & Community Plans. He indicated that there is some useful information in the document and its contents should be noted.

**SICAP – Annual Planning 2017**

Mr. Michael Rainey outlined the deliberations of the SICAP Subcommittee in the preparation of the SICAP Annual Plan for 2017. He advised that the subcommittee had raised a number of questions regarding the plan and had met with Ms. Anne Goodwin, CEO of the Programme Implementer, for clarification on same. He advised that the subcommittee were now concluded and that they were recommending approval in principal by the Committee of the SICAP Annual Plan 2017.

In discussion about SICAP Annual Plan actions, Mr. Joe Thompson outlined the process of preparing the plan and stated that the subcommittee were satisfied with the process. He complimented the good work that had heretofore been achieved on a relatively small budget. Anne Goodwin commented on the programme as being primarily about job activation.

Cllr. John King asked whether the current plan could be used going forward as a template for future plans. Michael Rainey advised that it was likely that new templates would be developed for 2018, when a new process would commence with different priorities. Some members stated their hope that any future programme would highlight the needs of other sectors in the community, especially those groups not well supported in the current programme.

Upon the proposal of Mr. Joe Thompson and seconded by Cllr. John King, the SICAP Annual Plan 2017 was approved in principal by the Committee, subject to a successful 2016 End of Year Review.

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

A document was circulated containing information on the LCDC oversight actions in respect of Goals 1-6 of the LECP. Mr. Michael Rainey clarified for the committee that this update was for the committee’s noting for monitoring purposes. The members also noted that actions pertaining to LEADER not yet commenced in 2016 would continue into the 2017 Implementation Plan.

**Any Other Business**

None

**Time & Date of next Meeting**

Michael Rainey advised the group that a December meeting for the LCDC would not be required and that its next meeting should take place in January 2017.

The next meeting was scheduled for Friday, 27 January 2017 @ 11.30am in County Hall.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**CHAIRPERSON – LAOIS LCDC**