**Laois Local Community Development Committee**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Held on Tuesday, 17th May, 2016 at 2.30pm in Mountmellick Development Association**

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

Cllr. Paschal McEvoy, Laois County Council

Ms. Evelyn Reddin, Laois LEO

Ms. Mary Delaney, HSE

Ms. Anne Goodwin, Laois Partnership

Mr. Joe Thompson, Youth Sector

Mr. PJ Campbell, Laois PPN

Mr. Robbie Quinn, Laois PPN

Mr. Dave Fingleton, Laois PPN

Mr. Michael Bergin, Farming Sector

**Apologies:** Mr. John Mulholland, Ms. Linda Tynan, Ms. Mary White, Cllr. John King,

Cllr. Jerry Lodge, Mr. David Hackett.

**In attendance:** Mr. Ian McCormack, Chief Officer, Ms. Georgina Ireland, Administrative Officer

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

**Confirmation of Minutes of LCDC meeting held on 7th April 2016**

Upon the proposal of Mr. Joe Thompson and seconded by Ms. Mary Delaney, the minutes of LCDC meeting held on Tuesday, 7 April 2016 were confirmed.

**Rural Development Programme / Local Development Strategy Update**

Ms. Anne Goodwin made a presentation in respect of the new RDP/LEADER programme and the role/responsibility of the LCDC in this regard. *(Copy presentation attached)*

A number of issues were discussed in relation to this item:

* Calls for proposals
* Examination of Expressions of Interest
* Importance of quorum / voting balance at LCDC meetings in approval process
* EU audits/Dept inspections

**Any Other Business**

Ms. Anne Goodwin flagged the issue of the arrival of *Jobspath* in Laois and non-referrals by the Dept of Social Protection to Laois Partnership under the SICAP programme as a result. She advised that this would put pressure on the SICAP programme to deliver on its targets in respect of the number of long term unemployed clients being assisted in seeking employment. It was agreed that Laois Partnership would put their concerns in writing to the Chief Officer and that this issue would be addressed with the Dept of Social Protection as to how it could be resolved.

**Time and Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on ***Friday, 17th June 2016 at 11.30am in Áras an Chontae, Portlaoise.***

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed: Date:**

**LCDC Chairperson**