

**Laois Local Community Development Committee  
Minutes of Meeting held on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2018  
at 3.30pm in Aras an Chontae, Portlaoise**

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**Members in attendance:**

**Public Sector representatives:**

1. Cllr. John King, Laois County Council
2. Cllr. Paschal McEvoy, Laois County Council
3. Cllr. Jerry Lodge, Laois County Council
4. John Mulholland, Chief Executive, Laois County Council
5. Evelyn Reddin, Laois Local Enterprise Office
6. Mary Delaney, Health Services Executive
7. Tony Dalton, Laois Offaly Education Training Board

**Private Sector representatives:**

1. Paddy Buggy, Laois Public Participation Network (Chairperson LCDC)
2. Mary White, Laois Public Participation Network
3. Robbie Quinn, Laois Public Participation Network
4. PJ Campbell, Laois Public Participation Network
5. Dave Fingleton, Laois Public Participation Network
6. Anne Goodwin, Laois Partnership Company
7. Michael Bergin, Farming Sector

**Apologies:**

Joe Thompson Youth Sector, Kieran Finane Business Sector

**In Attendance:**

Ms. Evelyn Brownrigg, A/Chief Officer, Ms. Pamela Tynan, A/Senior Staff Officer, Ms. Louise McEvoy, A/Senior Staff Officer, Mr. Brian O'Sullivan, Assistant Staff Officer.

Mr. Paddy Buggy opened the meeting by paying tribute to Mr. Michael Rainey former Chief Officer for all of his work on the LCDC for the past eighteen months and in particular his assistance to him in his role as Chairperson.

***Confirmation of Minutes of LCDC meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2017***

The minutes were adopted following a proposal from Cllr. John King which was seconded by Mr. Michael Bergin.

***Matters Arising***

None

***Correspondence***

A letter from the Department of Social Protection was received with the nomination of Mr. Colm Purcell to the LCDC to replace the vacancy left by the death of Mr. Dave Hackett, RIP. This nomination was proposed by Mr. John Mulholland and seconded by Cllr. Jerry Lodge. The nomination will go to the Council meeting in February for ratification

**SICAP**

**(a) SICAP 2017-End of Year (approval by LCDC of End of Year report)**

It was advised that the SICAP sub-committee had reviewed the end of year report for 2017. Copies of End of Year progress report had been submitted to Members & copies of End of Year Financial position were circulated at the meeting. The committee were advised that Pobal were carrying out a parallel review and the results were awaited and subject to minor amendment if required by Pobal.

John Mulholland proposed approval of the SICAP 2017 End of Year financial report seconded by Cllr Pascal McEvoy.

Ms. Ann Goodwin mentioned the difficulty with recording VAT on the iris system. Mr. Mulholland stated that as the dissatisfaction should be noted and the LCDC as financial partner should contact Pobal.

**(b) 2018 Annual Plan**

It was advised that the new SICAP programme commenced in January. Retrospective approval was sought for the advance payment to Laois Partnership Company in the amount of €146,656 for the implementation of the SICAP plan for January-March 2018. Approval to the payment was proposed by Cllr. John King and Seconded by Evelyn Reddin.

Anne Goodwin briefed the members on recent staff changes in the SICAP department. The members of the LCDC wished all of the new staff the best of luck in their new roles.

**Healthy Ireland Fund**

An update was provided to the members on the Healthy Ireland Fund. One tender was received for the preparation of the Healthy Ireland Strategy which was evaluated prior to the meeting by the Chairperson & Mary Delaney, H.S.E. & recommended acceptance of this tender. This was proposed by Cllr. Pascal McEvoy and approved by Cllr. John King.

The following agreed to form part of the Healthy Ireland sub-committee; Mary Delaney HSE, Paddy Buggy PPN, Evelyn Reddin LEO and Cllr. Pascal McEvoy

**LECP Monitoring 2018**

It is the role of the LCDC to monitor the LECP. Information is being gathered on all of the actions in the LECP for 2017 at present. An implementation plan for 2018 will be presented for consideration by the Members at the next meeting.

**Any Other Business**

- Laois County Council has advertised for a temporary Research Officer and one of the roles will be to work on the LECP in conjunction with the planning Department to work on a strategic plan.
- Tourism strategy will be launched on 1<sup>st</sup> February in Durrow Castle

**Time & Date of next Meeting**

Next meeting takes place on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 at 4.30 pm in County Hall.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

SIGNED:   
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CHAIRPERSON – LAOIS LCDC

DATE: 23-3-18