

**MINUTES OF MONAGHAN LOCAL COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**  
**(L.C.D.C.) MEETING HELD AT 4.30 p.m. on Tuesday, 16<sup>th</sup> February, 2016**  
**in M.Tek 1, Armagh Rd., Monaghan**

**Present**

**Statutory**

John Kearney	Cavan Monaghan Education and Training Board
Cllr. David Maxwell	Monaghan County Council
Cllr. Seamus Coyle	Monaghan County Council
Pat Dolan	Department of Social Protection
Paul Clifford	Director of Services, Monaghan County Council
John McEntegart	Monaghan Local Enterprise Office

**Non Statutory**

Gabriel O'Connell	Monaghan Integrated Development
Packie Kelly	Social Inclusion – Teach na nDaoine
Emer Brennan	Environment – County Monaghan Network of Tidy Towns Groups
Breege Lenihan	Community & Voluntary –County Monaghan Community Network
Brian Treanor	Farming/Agriculture – IFA
Noel Carney	Community & Voluntary - Heritage Network
Robert Wilson	Social Inclusion - County Monaghan Community Network

**Apologies:**

Michael Treanor	Business Community
Cllr. Brian McKenna	Monaghan County Council
Cathal Hand	Health Service Executive
Denis Sheridan	Trade Unions

**In Attendance**

Fintan McPhillips	L.C.D.C. Chief Officer, Monaghan County Council
Ann Murray	Administrative Officer, Monaghan County Council
Eamonn O'Sullivan	Chief Executive, Monaghan County Council.

**1. Welcome**

Emer Brennan, Chairperson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Confirmation of Minutes of meeting held on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2016**

On the proposal of John McEntegart seconded by Packie Kelly, the minutes of the LCDC meeting held on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2016, were confirmed.

**3. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **4. Approval of Draft Local Economic and Community Plan**

Copies of the Draft Local Economic and Community Plan were circulated to members, the Chief Officer Fintan McPhillips confirmed that the Draft Local Community Plan was adopted at the LCDC meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 2016. A copy of the Draft Local Economic and Community (LECP) had been forwarded to the Northern & Western Regional Assembly (NWRA). A presentation on the plan was delivered at the Monaghan and Clones/Ballybay Municipal District meetings on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February, and the Plan was adopted by both MDs. The final presentation will be delivered to the Carrickmacross Municipal District meeting on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February. The final Local Economic and Community Plan will be submitted to the full Council for adoption at their March meeting.

Packie Kelly asked about the monitoring arrangements for the LECP. Following a discussion on the matter Packie Kelly proposed that in addition to the actions contained in the LECP, the LCDC need link in with other groups i.e. Tusla, National Drugs Taskforce in order to fully monitor progress on actions.

Paul Clifford informed members that this had already started on a number of the LECP actions, and he suggested that for the next LCDC meeting that the item be included on the Agenda as follows:– establishment of a LECP Monitoring Sub Committee which will monitor progress of the Local Economic and Community Plan. It was also agreed that this committee provide regular progress reports to the LCDC.

## **5. SICAP Update:**

- **SICAP 2015 End of Year Review and 2016 Annual Plan**
- **Renewals of protocols for SICAP Programme 2016**

The Chief Officer informed members that the SICAP 2015 End of Year Review was considered and approved by the LCDC's SICAP Sub Committee and Pobal, both had confirmed that overall, the programme had been successfully delivered. The Chief Officer confirmed that the SICAP Annual Plan for 2016 had been approved at the previous LCDC meeting and the Programme was on-going. Gabriel O'Connell, MID, Programme Implementer informed members that the 2015 End of Year Review was a very detailed report and was reviewed extensively and approved by the SICAP Sub Committee and Pobal, and that it now required LCDC approval.

The meeting was informed, that as a result of feedback received by the Department, a communication had issued from the Department confirming that low income workers and households will henceforth be eligible for support under SICAP, effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2016. This was acknowledged and welcomed by members.

Monaghan LCDC and MID agreed protocols for SICAP Implementation 2015, a copy of which had been circulated to members. When approved by the LCDC in 2015 it was agreed that they be renewed year on year if required. MID were now requesting the renewal of these protocols for the 2016 SICAP Programme.

- Protocol 1 is in relation to Sub-Contracting
- Protocol 2 is in relation to SICAP Information and Publicity Material.

*On the proposal of Packie Kelly, seconded by Cllr. Seamus Coyle, members approved the SICAP 2015 End of Year Review and then the renewal of protocols for the SICAP Programme 2016.*

## **6. LEADER Programme 2014-2020 – Local Development Strategy update:-**

The Chief Officer confirmed that it is anticipated that the new LEADER programme (2014 – 2020) will commence in 2016 with €7.6 million funding for County Monaghan. The Draft Local Development Strategy (LDS) was adopted at the December LCDC meeting and MID had submitted it to Pobal/Department on behalf of the LCDC in December, 2015. The LDS will be reviewed by an evaluation committee established by the Department on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2016.

There are a number of outstanding tasks to be completed prior to commencement of the programme. A Service Level Agreement will need to be agreed between, MCC, MID, and the LCDC. The LCDC will need to establish a Leader Evaluation Committee. Final Operating Guidelines on the programme are awaited from the Department. Clarification on Article 48 checks have not yet been finalised, but it was stated that for 2016, these checks will be performed by Pobal at no cost to the programme.

The Department have also indicated that where required the lifetime of the previous Leader Programme will be extended by three months.

## **7. LCDC Work Programme 2016**

A copy of the LCDC Work Programme 2016 was circulated to members. The Chief Officer explained that this Work Programme sets out the proposed monthly list of actions for the LCDC to deliver on, it also included proposed dates for monthly meetings and a suggested programme of work to be completed over the course of the year.

Following a discussion on the matter it was agreed that in light of changing local government and the important role the LCDC played that there was lack of awareness of what the LCDC is and what it does. It was agreed that a regular Press Release will be produced on relevant developments. It was also agreed to consider the possibility of using Social Media as a tool to publicise the programmes being managed by the LCDC.

## **8. LCDC Annual Report 2015**

The Chief Officer informed members that it was a statutory requirement for the LCDC to prepare, adopt and submit an annual report to the local authority no later than 31<sup>st</sup> March each year in respect of the performance of its functions in the previous calendar year. A copy of the Draft LCDC Annual Report 2015 was circulated to members for their approval.

*On the proposal of John Kearney, seconded by Cllr. Seamus Coyle, the LCDC Annual Report 2015 was approved by members.*

Gabriel O'Connell suggested that additional statistics and budget for the SICAP Programme be included, he agreed to forward details to the Chief Officer.

## **9. Update on Funding Programmes**

- **Peace IV**
- **Redz**
- **Interreg**

The Chief Officer, Fintan McPhillips gave a presentation to members on the Peace IV, Redz and Interreg Funding Programmes

**8. A.O.B.**

Fintan McPhillips, Chief Officer informed members that the Department’s LCDC Information Session scheduled for Cavan on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2016, had been cancelled due to lack of uptake by members.

At this point in the meeting the Chairperson on behalf of all LCDC members extended a warm welcome to Mr. Eamonn O’Sullivan, new Chief Executive of Monaghan County Council.

Mr. O’Sullivan thanked the Chairperson and LCDC members for their warm welcome and introduced himself to the members by way of a synopsis of his own history and his hopes for County Monaghan.

**9. Date of next meeting**

The Chairperson confirmed that the next LCDC meeting will take place at 4.30pm on Tuesday 15th March, 2016, in M TEK I.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CHAIRPERSON**