

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Local Community Development Committee

Meeting –22nd March 2024 at 10.30 a.m.

Held by phone conference/in person. Attendance was verified by roll call.

Presiding:

Mr Seamus McGee (SMcG) Farming Sector

Present:

Mr Martin Murray (MM)	Director of Service, Meath County Council
Cllr Yemi Adenuga (YA)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Cllr Elaine McGinty (EMG)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Mr Joe English (JE)	Local Enterprise Office
Mr Sean O’Coisdealbha (SO’C)	Udaras na Gaeltachta
Ms Johann McKeever (JMCK)	Health Service Executive
Mr Garret O’Brien (GO’B)	Community & Voluntary Sector
Ms Nicky Bowman (NB)	Community & Voluntary Sector
Ms Susuana Komolafe (SK)	Social Inclusion Sector
Mr Colin Ludlow (CL)	Meath Partnership
Ms Ciara Burke (CB)	Chamber of Commerce
Mr Noel Maguire (NM)	Trade Union Sector

Guest:

Aisling O’Donnell (AOD) Healthy Ireland Co-Ordinator, Meath County Council

Officials:

Ms Fiona Fallon (FF)	Chief Officer, A/Director of Services, Community Dept, MCC
Mr Brian Hora (BH)	Senior Executive Officer, Community Dept, MCC
Ms Valerie McHugh (VMH)	Administrative Officer, Community Dept, MCC
Ms Anne O’Brien (AOB)	Senior Staff Officer, Community Dept, MCC

Apologies/Absent

Cllr Mike Bray (MB)	Councillor, Meath County Council
Ms Sharon Curran (SC)	Department of Social Protection
Ms Sadie Ward McDermott (SWMCD)	Louth Meath Education Training Board
Ms Shola Yahya (SY)	Social Inclusion Sector
Ms Geraldine Hogarty (GH)	Youth Work Ireland Meath

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

Item	Discussion / Action
1.	<p>To elect a new chair of the LCDC</p> <p>The meeting commenced at 10.30am and FF welcomed all to the meeting.</p> <p>FF opened the floor to request nominations for the new LCDC Chairperson and outlined the time period involved.</p> <p>SMcG was nominated by CL and seconded by NM.</p> <p>FF asked if there were any other nominations and there were none.</p> <p>FF declared SMcG the new LCDC Chairperson.</p> <p>SMcG thanked Suzanne Brady for her work and dedication as the previous Chairperson of the LCDC.</p> <p>SMcG invited all attendees to introduce themselves for the benefit of new members of the LCDC.</p> <p>SMcG requested that all committee members to attend the meetings on an on-going basis to achieve a quorum.</p>
2.	<p>To agree the minutes of the meeting held on the 23rd February, 2024</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2024 were confirmed on the proposal of CL and seconded by JE.</p>
3.	<p>Matters arising</p> <p>FF advised that there were no matters arising.</p>
4.	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>FF confirmed that there were no items of correspondence received.</p>

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

5.	<p>To receive a presentation on the Healthy Meath programme</p> <p>AOD gave an update of the Healthy Meath programme.</p> <p><i>The Healthy Ireland Fund R4 2023 Overview:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Most projects were completed on time, with a minority continuing into 2024 and 1 project being paused. - Pobal progress and financial reporting for 2024 were submitted on February 16th - Planning for 2024 is completed; the high-level work plan and budget breakdown were submitted to Pobal for approval. - Some projects for 2024 have commenced. - Allocation of €75,000 for 2024 + 2023 underspend. <p><i>Outcome areas & target groups selected for County Meath:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outcome Indicator One is Positive Mental Health. The target audience will be the general population, adolescents & young people, and the Traveller Community. The aim is to increase individual's level of positive mental health as per Energy and Vitality Index. - Under Outcome Indicator One there were 14 initiatives ran in 2023 with 220 individual participating in at least 1 initiative. - The key partners were Meath Travellers Workshop, Foroige, Prosper Meath, and Youth Work Ireland Meath. - The key challenges were that the 'Mindful Connect Project was paused in order to be re-planned, engagement with partner groups, resources and evaluation - EVI index. - Outcome Indicator Two is Premature NCD Mortality. The target audience will be the general population, adolescents & young people and people living in disadvantaged communities. The aim is to achieve a decrease in unconditional probability of dying (30-70 year) from CVD, cancer, diabetes or respiratory diseases. - Under Outcome Indicator Two there were 12 initiatives ran in 2023 with 691 individuals participating in at least 1 initiative. - The key partners were Meath Travellers Workshop & Sports Partnership, Foroige, IHF, IPU & community pharmacies, Family Resource centres and Meath GAA. - The key challenges were resources, promotion of programmes and evaluation.
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Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

	<p><i>Financial Reporting:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total HIF spend in 2023 of €53,760.03 out of a budget of €86,572.23. - The underspend of €32,992.20 was as a result of delayed funding approval which put projects behind schedule (these projects will be completed in 2024), the Mindful Connect project was not completed in 2023, and some project partners did not deliver projects as outlined. - The underspend will be carried into 2024 and has been allocated. <p><i>Workplan 2024 - Positive Mental Health & Reduction in NCD Mortality:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AOD provided an overview of the projects that will be carried out in 2024 under the Positive Mental Health and Reduction in NCD Mortality themes. <p><i>Healthy Meath Micro fund Scheme 2024:-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - AOD provided an overview of the Health Meath Micro fund Scheme 2024 - The fund supports community and voluntary groups wishing to undertake specific health and wellbeing projects under 2 outcome areas: <i>Promote & improve healthy lifestyle behaviours to reduce the risk of chronic disease</i> and <i>Promote & improve positive mental health in the community</i>. - A minimum grant of €500 and maximum grant of €2,000 (total fund €8,000) is available. - Applications will be assessed by members of the Meath LCDC Health and Wellbeing Subgroup. - Applications will launch next week and close on the 30th April 2024. - Projects must be completed by 30th November 2024.
6.	<p>To receive a report on the Local Enhancement Programme</p> <p>FF advised that the Local Enhancement Programme report was circulated by AOB on 21st March 2024 to the LCDC committee for their consideration.</p> <p>FF advised the following in respect of the fund:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The purpose of the fund is to enable community groups to carry out small scale improvement and repair works. - A total of 133 applications were received (121 applications under the main LEP application and 12 applications under the Women’s Groups funding). - 7 applications were not funded for the following reasons:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One application was deemed invalid as it is not an organisation that operates within Co. Meath. • One groups’ application could not be funded due to GDPR issues that would arise from the project. • One groups’ application could not be funded due to on-going insurance and storage

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

	<p>issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two groups' requested funding for a project that was deemed too high for the purpose of the LEP fund and therefore could not be considered further. • One group withdrew their application. • One club had submitted two applications for two different projects and were awarded funding for one of the projects and there was one duplicate application. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The allocation of funding for 2024 is €154,488.81 plus €30,897.50 for women's groups. - There was a small carry over from last year which can be applied to this year's fund. - The total breakdown is €163,632.52 for the capital funding for the LEP, €30,897.50 for women's groups and and administration fee of €1,242.81. - Following the LCDC approval, the report listing the recommended community groups for approval will be sent to the DRCD, who will advise MCC when the successful groups can be notified. <p>GOB proposed approval and JE seconded the proposal for approval.</p> <p>CL suggested that larger applications be referred to LEADER to see if more suitable funding streams could apply.</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>To discuss implementation of the LECP</p> <p>BH gave an overview of the implementation of the LECP including an update on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - establishing an independent monitoring group. The Terms of Reference for the independent monitoring group will be put on the agenda for the next LCDC meeting. - researching cloud-based solutions that would allow more streamlined monitoring of the implementation of the action leads in the LECP - focusing on the short-term actions for 2024 and reporting on them in respect of the annual implementation plan for year 1. Also to focus on identifying flagship projects and organising a schedule of updates to the LCDC.
<p>8.</p>	<p>To receive an update on the Public Participation Network (PPN)</p> <p>FF read out an update from Nicky McDonnell, PPN Coordinator as follows:</p>

Miontuairiscí / Meeting Minutes

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meath PPN attended the launch of the Meath Climate Action Strategy, with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Secretariat, Staff and 5 PPN groups. - PPN staff held a grants and funding workshop in Dunganny for 60 Meath GAA Healthy Club officers on 26th February and in Kentstown Hall for Women’s Sheds, Teach na Mná and ICA’s on 5th March. - The next two Linkage Groups were held on 12th & 13th March, around the themes of Community, Culture & Sport and Social Inclusion, Rural Development & Youth. Both evenings were well attended by 20 and 15 people respectively. An online session will be held on 11th April for those who could not make the in-person workshops. - Staff attended Slane and District Men’s Shed open morning on 15th March, promoting grants and training opportunities through the PPN. - National PPN staff retreat is being held in Trim on 25th & 26th April, with a focus on the celebration and promotion of PPN’s 10th anniversary and the monetary value of volunteers to their organisations and communities. - 625 groups are now registered with Meath PPN.
9.	<p>AOB</p> <p>FF advised that the next LCDC Meeting will be held on Friday 26th April 2024</p> <p>The meeting concluded at 11.10am.</p>

Signed: Seamus Mc Gee

Date: 24th May 2024

Chairperson