

**Minutes of Meeting of Cavan Local Community Development Committee**

**Date: 24<sup>th</sup> July 2024**

**Time: 3pm**

**Location: Online via Microsoft Teams & Council Chamber, Cavan County Council Offices.**

**Present:**

**Statutory**

Cllr T.P. O'Reilly (Elected Member), Cllr Clifford Kelly (Elected Member), Ms Carmel Denning (Department of Social Protection), Cllr Val Smith (Elected Member), Mr Conor Craven (Local Enterprise Office), Mr Brendan Jennings (Cavan County Council), Ms Ruth Woods (HSE), , .

**Private Sector Interests**

Mr Jim Maguire (Cavan County Local Development Company) - Chairperson, Ms Beth McEntee (Community and Voluntary Interests), Ms Frances O'Neill (Disability Interests), Ms Gayathri Devi Soman (Social Inclusion Interests), Ms Connie Whelan (Cootehill Chamber), Mr Barry Kavanagh (Environmental Interests).

**Apologies:**

Dr Fiona McGrath (CMETB), Ms Maryam Temile (Women's Issues), Ms Aisling Traynor (Youth Issues)

**In attendance:**

Ms Deirdre Donnelly (Cavan County Council), Ms Siobhan Morgan (Cavan County Council), Ms Tara Bannon, (CCLD), Ms Maureen McIntyre (CMETB).

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The Chair (Mr Jim Maguire) opened the meeting and welcomed Ms Maureen McIntyre and Ms Tara Bannon to the meeting.

Apologies were noted.

**1. Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes were proposed by Ms Connie Whelan and seconded by Cllr TP O'Reilly.

## **2. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

## **3. Conflicts of Interest**

The Chair reminded members of their conflict of interest's responsibilities.

## **4. Presentation on 'Planet Youth' by Ms Maureen McIntyre, Youth Development and Wellbeing Officer, Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board**

Ms McIntyre gave an excellent informative presentation outlining the work that is done by Planet Youth. The programme mirrors a model which was first introduced in Iceland and commenced in Cavan and Monaghan in 2021. It is supported by 10 local partners across Cavan and Monaghan, including both County Councils, both Local Development Companies, Child and Children Services, CMETB, Northeastern Regional Drugs Task Force, Tusla and partners from the youth services. Ms McIntyre gave an overview of the project and played two videos showing some of the initiatives that are being developed and rolled out. Ms McIntyre then spoke about the experience of the programme in Iceland where young people are doing extremely well because of it. In conclusion Ms McIntyre stated that it must be proven that the programme works for it to get the national recognition.

The Chair, Mr Jim Maguire stated that it was a fantastic presentation. Cllr Clifford Kelly complimented Ms McIntyre and asked who the lead partners were on the project were, CMETB have ethical approval alongside RCPI and RCSI and all other partners are equally invested in surveys etc. Cllr Kelly also asked where in Cavan is the programme being rolled out, Ms McIntyre stated that the surveys were carried out with Transition Year students in second level schools in Cavan and Monaghan and with young people in Youthreach also. The second round of surveys took place in September/October 2023. Leisure time/after school programme is taking place in secondary and primary schools throughout both counties. Cllr TP O'Reilly asked if Planet Youth receive any direct funding and was told all funding comes from local agencies. Ms Ruth

Woods commended Ms McIntyre on the presentation. Ms Woods explained that in her role she sees the number of children that are suffering with social anxiety, needing additional services and she feels the benefits of programmes like this are underestimated. Ms Woods also asked if the programme was rolled out evenly throughout the county, Ms McIntyre said that it was an “open door policy” and open and available to everyone who wished to apply. Ms Frances O’Neill asked whether the programme was offered to schools with children that have a disability for example the Holy Family School and Ms McIntyre explained that it had been offered but no response has been received to date. She also appealed to the LCDC if any member had contacts within the schools to make them aware of the programme. Cllr Clifford Kelly suggested that this presentation should be given to the full County Council and it was agreed that the Cathaoirleach would bring this to the Chief Executive.

#### **5. SICAP Mid-Year Review**

Reports relating to the review were circulated to the LCDC members prior to the meeting. The SICAP Monitoring Committee met on 22<sup>nd</sup> July to review these reports in detail. The recommendation of the SICAP Monitoring Committee is that the SICAP Mid-Year review be approved by the LCDC.

The list of Service Providers and Subcontractors engaged by Cavan County Local Development Company for SICAP was circulated prior to the meeting by email. Approval of the LCDC is required.

Approval of the SICAP Mid-Year Review and the list of Service Providers and Subcontractors was Proposed by Cllr TP O’Reilly and seconded by Cllr Clifford Kelly.

#### **6. PEACEPLUS**

Mr Brendan Jennings updated members about the status of PEACEPLUS. He stated that no letter of offer has been received to date. He informed the LCDC that St Michaels Hall were awarded €300,000 for a PEACEPLUS project. They also applied for RRDF funding and were successful and have been awarded €6.1 million. As a result of this funding the €300,000 must re-allocated due to

double funding. The projects next in line in that MD area are the Bexcourt Baileborough Mens and Hens Shed and Cootehill Town Team upgrade of Bank of Ireland. It was agreed to split the €300,000, giving Bexcourt €150,000 for a prefab for a new men's and hens shed. It is proposed that the other €150,000 be allocated to Cootehill Town Teams for upgrade of Bank of Ireland building.

Proposed by Cllr Clifford Kelly and seconded by Cllr TP O'Reilly

## 7. AOB

Mr Conor Craven outlined to members the services available from the Local Enterprise Office. The Government has introduced a number of measures to support the small businesses sector. One of those measures is a pilot scheme, it is an energy efficiency grant. It was originally a €5,000 grant which has recently increased to €10,000. It is open to all local businesses including retail particularly the hospitality sector. Mr Craven also said that the "Digital for Business" programme is extended, this replaces the trading online voucher scheme. This programme has increased to €5,000. He then spoke about Micro Finance loans and how they have also increased from €25,000 to €50,000. Cllr TP O'Reilly enquired how the energy efficiency grant was assessed. Mr Craven explained that the process involves an expert consultant visiting the business and assessing their usage/carbon footprint. Mr Craven concluded by saying that support is available to all by contacting the Local Enterprise Office.

The next meeting of the LCDC is provisionally scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 3pm.

The meeting concluded.

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

Chairperson

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

2-10-24