

Minutes of Meeting of Cavan Local Community Development Committee

Date: 28th March 2024

Time: 3.00 pm

Location: Online via Microsoft Teams & Cavan County Local Development Offices, Corlurgan Business Park.

Present:

Statutory

Cllr T.P. O'Reilly (Elected Member), Cllr Clifford Kelly (Elected Member), Ms Carmel Denning (Department of Social Protection), Dr Fiona McGrath (CMETB), Cllr Aiden Fitzpatrick (Elected Member), Mr Conor Craven (Local Enterprise Office),

Private Sector Interests

Mr Jim Maguire (Cavan County Local Development Company), Chairperson, Mr Barry Kavanagh (Environmental Interests), Ms Beth McEntee (Community and Voluntary Interests), Ms Aisling Traynor (Youth Issues), Ms Frances O'Neill (Disability Interests)

Apologies:

Mr Brendan Jennings (Cavan County Council), Ms Ruth Woods (HSE), Ms Connie Whelan (Cootehill Chamber), Ms Gayathri Devi Soman (Social Inclusion Interests),

In attendance:

Mr John Donohoe (Chief Officer), Mr Terry Hyland (CEO, Cavan County Local Development), Ms Deirdre Donnelly (Cavan County Council), Ms Jane Crudden (Cavan County Council), Ms Siobhan Morgan (Cavan County Council), Ms Grainne Boyle, Cavan Age Friendly Healthy Homes Co-Ordinator, Ms Eimear McCormack, Regional Manager Age Friendly Healthy Homes Programme.

The Chair (Mr Jim Maguire) opened the meeting and welcomed Ms Eimear McCormack and Ms Grainne Boyle from the Age Friendly Healthy Homes Programme.

Apologies were read out.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were proposed by Cllr Clifford Kelly and seconded by Mr Barry Kavanagh.

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 Age Friendly Healthy Homes Programme.

Ms Eimear McCormack, Regional Manager Age Friendly Healthy Homes delivered a presentation on this new programme which is being rolled out in County Cavan. Ms Gráinne Boyle is the local coordinator for County Cavan. The programme is funded by the Department of Health. The programme is being delivered through the Age Friendly Shared Service in Meath County Council. Ms McCormack explained that the programme is aimed at those aged 65 and over. Its main objectives are to enable people to remain in their own home for as long as possible, for them to have a sense of independence and to avoid/delay the need for residential care or premature hospitalisation. Each client is visited by the Co-ordinator and a needs assessment is carried out and an action plan is created. People can self-refer or referrals can come from family, GP's, community groups, elected members etc but it is important that referrals are consented to.

When Ms McCormack completed her presentation the Chair thanked her and stated that it was a very interesting presentation he then asked the members if they had any questions. Mr Barry Kavanagh asked about the referrals process and how it works. Ms McCormack stated that around 43% of referrals are self-referral. A lot also come through neighbours and friends, hospitals, public health nurses, GP's etc. Ms Boyle also stated that she is actively speaking to community groups/hen's sheds, day care centres and raising awareness about the service. Cllr TP O'Reilly asked where referrals are made, and Ms Boyle explained that referrals have to be made to the shared service in Meath County Council and she distributed a leaflet with contact information. Cllr O'Reilly asked if there was more staff coming to work in Cavan as it is quite an onerous task for one person. Ms McCormack said that there is a plan for phase 3 but it is some time away yet. Cllr O'Reilly spoke about carers coming to

houses, he said that when someone is allocated hours, it can be very hard to get those hours fulfilled. Ms McCormack said that unfortunately this new service would not have the budget to assist with this and this is a national issue.

Ms Frances O'Neill asked if there was a buddying system as part of the programme as a lot of people are lonely and in need of company. Ms McCormack said that they didn't have the staff to provide this service however the local coordinator would signpost people to existing services for example "Good Morning Cavan" and social prescribing. Ms O'Neill asked how this programme started and was told that the "Housing for All" report flagged that there was a need for a more co-ordinated approach and Phase 1 of the programme which was a pilot in 9 counties arose from this.

5. SICAP – Annual Plan 2024

This item has been deferred to the April meeting of the LCDC. There is a new SICAP Programme in place since January and Pobal have changed their deadlines for submission of and approval for Annual Plans due to unforeseen issues which have arisen.

6. New LECP Update

The Chief Officer informed the meeting that the LECP was adopted and approved at the March Council Meeting. A copy of the LECP was distributed to those present. The Chief Officer stated that the implementation of it is now very important. He also stated that there will be a launch event for the plan and details on this would be circulated when available.

7. PEACEPLUS

Ms Jane Crudden, PEACE Programme Manager informed the LCDC that the full amount of €4.3 million contained in the local authority action plan has been approved by SEUPB. The next meeting of the PEACEPLUS Partnership is taking place on 18th April. Cllr Clifford Kelly acknowledged the huge amount of work done by Ms Crudden, he stated that Cavan are very fortunate to have her.

Ms Crudden informed the LCDC that there are four pillars on the PEACEPLUS partnership and one of the pillars is a social partner pillar and Mr Thomas Maughan was the representative from Cavan Traveller Movement. Mr Maughan is not in position to continue with his role. Ms Crudden contacted the PPN to find a replacement and Ms Chrissie O'Sullivan from Cavan Traveller Movement is happy to be co-opted onto the partnership in Mr Maughan's place. Cavan Traveller Movement have an application in the action plan so Ms O'Sullivan will remove herself from any conversations regarding the application to avoid any conflict of interest.

Ms O'Sullivan's co-option was approved by Cllr Clifford Kelly and seconded by Cllr TP O'Reilly.

8. AOB

The Chief Officer stated that the Community Recognition Fund 2024 was recently announced. Similar to 2023, Cavan has been allocated just over €1 million. Funding is for capital projects and is targeted towards areas in the county that have had the greatest number of Ukrainian people accommodated. It is expected that the advertisement for expressions of interest will be published in the next two weeks. The department have stated that the minimum grant to be awarded under the scheme will be €50,000. Mr Barry Kavanagh asked for examples of projects funded previously under the Community Recognition Fund. The Chief Officer spoke about the project in O'Raghallaigh Park which is now used as a childcare facility during the day and community building in the evening. Another example is the playground in Cootehill.

The second item that the Chief Officer spoke about is the outdoor recreation scheme and he informed the members that 7 projects were approved by the Department as follows:

Dun an Ri Forest Entrance Enhancement	€ 30,000
Killeshandra Town Lake Amenity Upgrade	€ 24,000

Bicycle Repair Station Network for Cavan	€ 28,000
Burren Park Upgrade	€ 30,000
Geopark Recreational Maintenance	€ 26,000
Angling Jetty at Lough Sillian	€ 26,000
Lough An Leagh	€ 23,000

The next meeting of the LCDC will take place on Wednesday 24th April 2024.

The meeting concluded.

Signed:  Date: 24/4/24
Chairperson

