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

**Date: 27th April 2017**

**Time: 3.30pm**

**Location: Council Chamber**

**Present:**

**Statutory**

Carmel Denning (DSP), Mary Rose Smith (HSE), Cllr Paddy McDonald.

**Private Sector Interests**

Jim Reilly (Community & Voluntary Interests), Olive Hannigan (Social Inclusion Interests), Fintan McCabe (Environmental Interests), Ashling Tobin (Youth Issues). Jim Maguire (Breffni Integrated Ltd.), Ada Vance (Women’s Issues), Seamus McGrath.

**Apologies:**

**Statutory**

Tommy Ryan (Chief Executive), Cllr Paddy O’Reilly (Elected Member), Cllr Clifford Kelly (Elected Member), Marcella Rudden (Local Enterprise Office), Cllr Paddy McDonald (Elected Member), John Kearney (Cavan Monaghan ETB),

**Private Sector Interests**

Catherine McCollum (Agricultural and Farming Interests), Gerry McDonagh (Chamber of Commerce)

**In attendance:** Eoin Doyle (Cavan County Council), John Donohoe (Chief Officer), Emer Coveney (Cavan County Council), Jane Crudden (Cavan County Council), Theresa Tierney (Cavan County Council), Brendan Reilly (Implementing Partner), Treasa Quigley (Cavan County Childcare Committee).

The Vice Chair (Mr Fintan McCabe) opened the meeting and read out the apologies and agreed to chair the meeting in the absence of Mr Tommy Ryan.

1. **Minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Ms Mary Rose Smith and seconded by Ms Olive Hannigan.

1. **Matters Arising**

No matters arising.

1. **Conflict of Interest**

The Vice Chair asked members to declare any conflict of interests and complete the relevant form if necessary.

1. **Community Implementation Plan for 2017**

The Chief Officer noted one change to the draft LECP Community Implementation Plan for 2017 that had been circulated at the March meeting. He said that Local Development Associations are now referenced in the action relating to Age Friendly Businesses and that we would work with these associations in towns that do not have a Chamber of Commerce.

The Community Implementation Plan was proposed by Cllr Paddy McDonald and seconded by Ms Mary Rose Smith.

The Chief Officer noted that the plan would be forwarded to the May Council meeting for noting.

1. **Presentation by Cavan County Childcare Committee**

Ms Treasa Quigley, Co-ordinator of Cavan County Childcare Committee, gave a presentation on issues and changes affecting the childcare sector. She described the Childcare Committee as a ‘one stop shop’ for the early years sector covering the 0-12 age range and up to age 15 in some cases. It is a local hub for national programmes such as the Early Childhood Care and Education Scheme. She spoke about local initiatives such as Chatterbox which increases access to speech and language therapy for children aged 0-6.

Issues affecting the sector at present include the expansion of the free preschool scheme, the introduction of the Affordable Childcare Scheme, a staffing crisis and general sustainability of the sector. There is a new model for children with disabilities in the free preschool scheme. School aged childcare capital grants are open.

She noted that the new Affordable Childcare Scheme has been postponed. This scheme will enable more parents to access reduced childcare costs.

Copies of her presentation will be circulated to LCDC members.

Ms Ashling Tobin queried if mental health is covered on the early years curriculum. Ms Quigley said that the Aistear curriculum covers well being and creating resilience.

Cllr Paddy McDonald commended the fact that there are facilities for children with disabilities and speech problems. Ms Quigley said that childcare facilities can avail of funding for children with physical disabilities, in cases where they would need a ramp, sensory room or other physical changes. Full funding up to €7k is available for capital grants. For children with speech delays, games, toys and other equipment would be required. There are 17 services in Cavan with supports for children with additional needs. The County Childcare Committee also works closely with Enable Ireland. She spoke about inclusive training programmes for the early years sector.

1. **CLÁR 2017**

Applications were reviewed under Measure 3 of the CLÁR Programme which closed on 24th April. CLAR is a programme of targeted investment for rural areas, primarily small infrastructure for areas of disadvantage.

The Chief Officer provided some background to the CLÁR programme and explained that there were three measures for which local authorities would apply to the Department.

Under Measure 3) Targeted community infrastructure needs, LCDC’s were asked to approve the applications selected for submission to the Department to ensure there were no conflicts with the LECP or other local plans and programmes.

The Chief Officer stated that following an in-house assessment, the applications that were selected for submission to the Department were as follows:

1. CMETB (on behalf of an interagency group): Youth Hub in Belturbet
2. Kingscourt Community Centre

Five other applications were noted but as these are eligible for alternative funding, they were deemed ineligible for this measure under CLÁR.

The Vice Chair invited questions and comments.

Mr Jim Reilly pointed out the somewhat contradictory fact that both LEADER and CLÁR are described as funding of last resort. The Chief Officer in response stated that decisions will be made on CLÁR applications fairly quickly and hopefully this will not delay applications under LEADER.

With regard to the Belturbet Youth Hub application, Ms Mary Rose Smith noted that the process of leasing the building has not formally commenced yet. She has made a recommendation within the HSE that a lease agreement is put in place for the building. The HSE owns the building and there is no other service using it at present. The Estates Office and the County Council will engage in a process.

The CLÁR applications were proposed by Ms Carmel Denning and seconded by Mr Jim Reilly.

1. **Healthy Cities and Counties**

The Chief Officer gave a presentation on the Healthy Cities and Counties initiative. Nationally there is a Healthy Cities and Counties Network. He proposed that Cavan County Council, through the LCDC, would apply to join this network. There are four steps in this process.

Step 1 is to register interest.

Step 2 is to convene a multi-stakeholder group and complete and application.

Step 3 is the review of the application, and

Step 4 is accreditation.

It is anticipated that funding will become available under the Healthy Ireland Initiative and being a member of the network would strengthen any funding application.

The Chief Officer put forward a proposed membership of an LCDC subgroup on Healthy Cities and Communities. This subgroup will look at targeted three or four key areas of focus initially and will report back to the LCDC on this.

Proposed membership of the group is: Cavan County Council, HSE, PPN, Cavan Sports Partnership, TUSLA, Older People’s Council, CMETB and CYPSC. It would be possible to expand membership depending on the actions being pursued. The secretariat would be provided by Cavan County Council.

1. **PEACE IV Update**

Jane Crudden, PEACE IV Co-ordinator, stated that LCDC members had previously received a copy of the action plan. She requested formal approval of the partnership delivery groups, which are Cavan Arts Office, CMETB (x2), Cavan County Museum and Cavan Library Service.

These groups must be formally approved by the LCDC for conflict of interest and audit purposes.

Mr Jim Maguire proposed and Cllr Paddy McDonald seconded the partnership delivery groups.

1. **AOB**

The Community Facilities report has been completed and will be circulated.

Cavan County Council is looking for nominations of groups to enter into the annual Pride of Place awards. The closing date is 5th May.

A workshop will be delivered by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Authority in relation to Public Sector Duty. This training will be of relevance to any public sector body or any group delivering a service with public sector funding. Groups will be required under legislation to identify and plan for how they promote equality and protect human rights. Dates of the workshop will be circulated.

1. **Date and time of next meeting**

The Vice Chair closed the meeting by emphasising the importance of full attendance. LCDC members should be reminded about meetings by text message as well as receiving the usual communication.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 25th May 2017 at 3.30pm

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

Chairman