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

**Date: 16th June 2017**

**Time: 2.30pm**

**Location: Council Chamber**

**Present:**

**Statutory**

Tommy Ryan (Chief Executive), Cllr Paddy McDonald (Elected Member), Carmel Denning (DSP), John Kearney (CMETB) Marcella Rudden (LEO).

**Private Sector Interests**

Jim Reilly (Community & Voluntary Interests), Olive Hannigan (Social Inclusion Interests), Fintan McCabe (Environmental Interests), Gerry McDonagh (Cootehill Chamber of Commerce), Jim Maguire (Breffni Integrated Ltd.), Seamus McGrath, (Disability Interests), Catherine McCollum (Agricultural and Farming Interests), Ada Vance (Women’s interests).

**Apologies**

**Statutory:** Cllr Paddy O’Reilly (Elected Member), Cllr Clifford Kelly (Elected Member), Mary Rose Smith (HSE)

**Private:** Ashling Tobin (Youth Issues)

**In attendance:** Eoin Doyle (Cavan County Council), John Donohoe (Chief Officer), Sinéad Tormey (Cavan County Council), Theresa Tierney (Cavan County Council), Brendan Reilly (Implementing Partner), Emer Coveney (Cavan County Council).

The Chair (Mr Tommy Ryan) opened the meeting and read out the apologies.

1. **Minutes of previous meeting**

Minutes of previous meeting were proposed by Cllr Paddy McDonald and seconded by Seamus McGrath.

1. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

John Kearney noted his reservations about the amount of negative press in the headlines of local media recently, which is not reflective of the work that goes on. He commented that this publicity is damaging to the county’s reputation and image nationally. Tommy Ryan said he was not sure what role the LCDC could have in responding to negative press but he agreed we need to promote the a positive image for the county. He said he would have a meeting with the press in terms of their role, however freedom of press is paramount.

1. **Conflicts of Interest**

The Chair reminded people of their responsibilities under conflict of interests.

1. **Community Facilities Report**

Dr Emer Coveney gave a presentation on the County Cavan Community and Sports Facilities Report which was compiled by Grainne Boyle in the Social Inclusion Unit. This research corresponded to action 9.1a in the LECP. The report provides good baseline data on 125 facilities in Cavan but it is not a fully comprehensive database as some groups chose not to respond. Findings showed that the majority of facilities are in good condition but there is a deficit of sporting facilities in West Cavan. One recommendation from the research is to collect data on an ongoing basis through a facilities registration form. There are numerous sporting organisations in Cavan town but limited facilities. This finding demonstrates the need for the LECP action on developing a multipurpose sports facility for the town.

Jim Reilly asked if we could use the information from sports capital grant applicants for this database. Emer said we would have to ask groups to register their details in the database.

Gerry McDonagh mentioned how delighted he was to see the story in the Anglo Celt for a potential new Sports Facility in Cavan. He suggested it could be located on the Tesco site just outside the town.

Cllr Paddy McDonald commented that a facility mirroring the Peace Link in Clones would be fantastic. He also informed the group that he would like to see other sports facilities developed alongside GAA facilities, eg handball and boxing who represent Cavan at county level and national.

The Chair mentioned that he had discussions with the Chief Officer Mr John Donohoe on the governance around how to support such a facility. He also mentioned that it would be accessible to all and everyone would feel welcome to use it. He said it is an objective on our plan and we will continue to work towards it.

Gerry McDonagh pointed out to the group that there is a two year waiting list for swimming lessons in the town. The Chair said that there would be no immediate plan for another pool but as funding comes down the line one may be put on the plans. He explained that a suitable site needs to be sought which would have potential to expand as more funds become available.

Brendan O’Reilly welcomed the Communities and Sports Facilities Report and thanked both Emer and Grainne for their work. He commented that it is important to cover groups who did not respond so as to provide supports for facilities with weaker structures.

The Chair thanked Emer for her presentation.

**Peace IV Update:**

Jane Crudden gave an update on the Peace IV Programme.

Children and Young People (C&YP) and Building Positive Relations (BPR) themes are now fully approved and we are just waiting on written confirmation. The Pre-commencement conditions requested an additional proposal be submitted to SEUPB outlining the specific project for the Traveller community demonstrating a clear need/rationale for the project linked to the legacy of the conflict. This was submitted and approved and will be going on eTenders for €100,000.

The Shared Spaces element was not approved with the C&YP and BPR elements; however Cavan County Council has been verbally informed by SEUPB that the Shared Spaces & Services projects have been approved by the SEUPB steering committee. We now wait for written confirmation and will then learn of any conditions attached.

In summary the PEACE IV allocation for Cavan will be drawn down in full. The PEACE IV Co-ordinator intends to advertise the small grants over the summer and hopefully project activity will start in autumn.

Jim Maguire noted that groups often finish up for summer and that can leave a narrow window for grant applications. Jane Crudden said that we would probably keep a rolling programme until the money is allocated.

1. **AOB**

The Chief Officer raised the following issues under AOB:

**Review of LCDC membership:**

The Chief Officer alerted the committee to the fact that LCDC membership is required to be reviewed every three years. Since the Cavan LCDC was established in July 2014, the membership is due to be renewed in July 2017. This review will examine:

1) Membership makeup

That all members are relevant and represent the community and local agencies

2) Terms of members

Standing orders state that each member has 3 year term (apart from elected members and public officials). They cannot serve for more than 2 consecutive terms. (Non Statutory members)

Seamus McGrath asked if the issue of rotating membership would be examined. John Donohoe said it would be considered and that rotation of members could be a question for the PPN as nominating body. Fintan McCabe asked if we are constrained by national rules regarding extending the committee and John Donohoe replied that there are some constraints.

**Communities and Facilities Scheme Grant 2017**

* €64,500 available under this scheme
* Closing date 30th June 2017

**Update on LECP Actions**

* Age Friendly Strategy was launched on 18th May 2017
* Joint Policing Committee Strategy was launched on 31st May
* CCTV funding Scheme: will be administered by the Dept. of Justice and then has to go through the JPC locally. There is no closing date; it is a rolling call.
* CYPSC and CMETB are holding joint consultations with young people. A stakeholders day was held on 24th May and a youth consultation will be held on 19th June to collect information for their new strategies for young people (the CYPSC Plan and CMETB Youth Work Plan respectively).

**Healthy Cities and Counties**

The new sub group for the ‘Healthy Cavan’ Initiative met for their first meeting on 15th June. The plan is for a collaboration of agencies to take ownership of the county’s health as a whole and to put the LCDC to the front of the initiative with common actions in place.

**Disability Conference**

There is a two day disability conference being held in Castlesaunderson on 22nd and 23rd June 2017. Minister Heather Humphries will be in attendance. Finian McGrath TD came to meet with the Disability Network members at Breffni Integrated offices on 20th June 2017.

Gerry McDonagh asked if there was funding now available for WiFi in the town.

The Chair replied that there is WiFi in Cavan but the funding he referred to is at EU level and nothing has been announced nationally. If this EU funding becomes available it will probably be through the Dept. of Communications

Fintan McCabe questioned if there was a need to revisit our own plan at the moment. The Chief Officer said a mid term review is planned. The Chair commented that it is a six year plan and it was adopted by Cavan County Council in February 2016, but that we also have an annual work plan which can be looked at each year in line with the 6 year plan.

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

The next meeting will be on Thursday 27th July 2017.

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

Chairman