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Meeting: Louth Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Louth Local Action Group (LAG)

Date: 21st May 2018 at 3.00pm

Location: Cooley Room, County Hall, Dundalk

- In attendance:** Cllr. Liam Reilly, Chairperson
Cllr. Colm Markey
Cllr. Pearse McGeough
Cllr. Dolores Minogue
Ms. Joan Martin, CE, LCC
Mr. Thomas McEvoy, LEO
Ms. Sadie Ward-McDermott, LMETB
Ms. Annette McDonnell, HSE
- Mr. Ciaran Reid, CEO, LLP
Mr. Larry Magnier, PPN
Mr. Kevin Moran, PPN
Mr. Geordie McAteer, PPN
Mr. Michael Gaynor, Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Breandán Casey, Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Matthew McGreehan, IFA
- Officials:** Mr. Joe McGuinness
Mr. John Lawrence
Ms. Clare O'Hagan
- Apologies:** Ms. Anne Keeley, DSP
Ms. Joanne Finnegan, PPN
Ms. Grainne Berrill, Louth Volunteer Centre
Mr. Brefni Martin, PPN
- Guests:** Ms. Mary O'Neill (LLP)
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LCDC MATTERS:

LCDC Minute No. 29/2018

1. Minutes of LCDC meeting held on the 16th April 2018

Decision: On the proposal of Mr. Geordie McAteer, seconded by Ms. Annette McDonnell and unanimously agreed by the members the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th April 2018 were adopted.

LCDC Minute No. 30/2018

2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

LCDC Minute No. 31/2018

3. LECP Progress Report

Mr. John Lawrence provided the members with an update on the LECP in respect of the delivery of actions for the end of June 2017 and December 2017. He advised that good progress had been achieved on a number of actions with some actions yet to start and reminded the members that the first composite report was based on updates for the end of December 2016. He advised that there were 20 identifiable actions due for completion by end of 2017 out of the 189 community actions identified in the Plan with 16 complete/commenced with varying degrees of success and 3 or 4 currently at red status. He advised that some of the indicators/outputs do not reflect what was set out to be achieved in the delivery of some of the actions. Members were asked to get in touch with any issues/concerns or questions they may have on the Report. The members were also advised that the Department of Community Environment & Local Government had not yet advised on how reviews / progress reporting on the LECP's nationally was to be carried out due to the disparate and varied nature of LECP's but that any LECP review needs to be consistent with the Regional Economic and Spatial Strategy.

Mr. Larry Magnier queried as to whether there was any concerns with regard to the red actions. Mr. John Lawrence advised that in some cases it was funding requirements that were of concern in the delivery of some of the actions, and that with funding schemes such as the Town and Village Renewal Scheme, Healthy Ireland Fund, SICAP and CFS etc. would have a positive impact on delivery of actions. He also queried how the LCDC, as the lead body in the delivery of actions, worked. Mr. John Lawrence advised that it was mainly the community office who dealt with LCDC actions but that the LCDC could discuss how to move actions forward or to identify a member of the LCDC who could deliver on a particular action, in certain circumstances.

Mr. Joe McGuinness referred to one of the goals marked amber regarding the establishment of a Traveller Interagency Group and stated that it was very broad in nature, as it crossed over several themes but that it was currently being worked on and that it would affect a lot of statutory agencies in its delivery in 2018.

Mr. Liam Reilly asked that any further queries be sent in to the Community Section in advance of the next meeting to allow for answering of same.

LCDC Minute No. 32/2018

4. PEACE IV

Ms. Joan Martin advised that the first tranche of the programme, €2.2m had been launched on 8th May with all projects approved. Currently preparing to go to tender on the first letter of offer, with all tender documents requiring approval by SEUPB. An indication was given that there would be no issues around the 2nd phase of

money. A meeting of the Evaluation Approvals Body is due to take place in June at which it is hoped that the remainder of the projects will be brought for approval. It is hoped that approval will have been granted by end of the summer.

LCDC Minute No. 33/2018

5. Healthy Ireland

Mr. John Lawrence advised the members of Healthy Ireland - Strand 1 Round 2 funding for which €75,000 from the Dept. of Health had been allocated for projects but the overall management of the programme rests with POBAL. Consultations were held with LCDC, HSE and LSP and from that 10 projects were submitted for consideration. Members were provided of the list of applicants and projects, only 8 of which are eligible to progress to application stage (also due this week). If agreed by the LCDC, promoters will be informed of the reduced budget allocation.

Ineligible Projects

Mr. John Lawrence advised that two projects were ineligible as follows:

Project No. 4 – Office Equipment

Mr. John Lawrence advised that large scale capital projects were not eligible, however smaller projects in the area of physical activity would be eligible. Ms. Joan Martin queried if the project was pertaining to the Good Morning Louth Project and stated the importance of the project with regard to mental health for older people. Mr. John Lawrence advised that the Community Facilities Scheme or Recast Rapid might be a more appropriate funding stream for such a project. Mr. Ciaran Reid also advised that such a project would be eligible for funding through Louth Leader Partnership.

Conflicts of Interest: Ms Joan Martin expressed a conflict of interest

Decision: on the proposal of Geordie McAteer and seconded by Annette McDonnell and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 4 was deemed ineligible.

Project No. 10 – Drugs & Alcohol Research Project

Mr. John Lawrence advised the members that there was a requirement of a minimum spend of €5000 per project, but that only €2500 had been sought in this case.

Conflicts of Interest: there were no conflicts of interest declared

Decision: on the proposal of Geordie McAteer and seconded by Annette McDonnell and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 10 was deemed ineligible.

Eligible Projects

There were 8 eligible projects as follows:

Project No. 1 – Cycle Project

Conflicts of Interest: Ms. Joan Martin expressed a conflict of interest.

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Jordie McAteer and seconded by Ms. Annette McDonnell and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 1 was deemed eligible.

Project No. 2 – Playground Project

Conflicts of Interest: Ms. Joan Martin expressed a conflict of interest.

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Kevin Moran and seconded by Mr. Geordie McAteer and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 2 was deemed eligible.

Project No. 3 – ‘Cook It’ Programme

Conflicts of Interest: Mr. Kevin Moran expressed a conflict of interest.

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Geordie McAteer and seconded by Ms. Dora Minogue and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 3 was deemed eligible.

Project No. 5 – Traveller Women’s Health Programme

Conflicts of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest declared

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Kevin Moran and seconded by Mr. Michael Gaynor and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 5 was deemed eligible.

Project No. 6 – Support Programme

Conflicts of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest declared

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Geordie McAteer and seconded by Mr. Thomas McEvoy and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 6 was deemed eligible.

Project No. 7 – Scout Healthy Menu Training

Conflicts of Interest: there were no conflicts of interest declared

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Liam Reilly and seconded by Mr. Kevin Moran and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 7 was deemed eligible.

Project No. 8 – Outdoor Obstacle Course

Conflicts of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest declared.

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Thomas McEvoy and seconded by Mr. Michael Gaynor and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 8 was deemed eligible.

Project No. 9 – Social Farming Model in Co. Louth

Conflicts of Interest: Mr. Ciaran Reid and Mr. Matthew McGrehan both expressed a conflict of interest.

Decision: on the proposal of Kevin Moran and seconded by Mr. Geordie McAteer and unanimously agreed by the members Project No. 9 was deemed eligible.

LCDC Minute No. 34/2018

6. Dates for next Meetings

Cllr. Liam Reilly advised that the next meeting would take place on 18th June 2018.

The business of the LCDC meeting concluded.

LAG MATTERS:

LAG Minute No. 36/2018

1. Minutes of LAG meeting held on the 16th April 2018

Decision: On the proposal of Mr. Geordie McAteer, seconded by Mr. Colm Markey and unanimously agreed by the members the minutes of the meeting held on the 16th April 2018 were adopted.

LAG Minute No. 37/2018

2. Matters arising

There were no matter arising.

LAG Minute No. 38/2018

3. Financial Reports

There were three number financial reports circulated to members up to the 14th May 2018.

Mr. John Lawrence referred members to the two financial reports numbers 1 and 2, both reports were raised on the LCC accounting system. Report 1 shows the financial transactions carried out under a job code for the administration budget, with report 2 showing the financial payments to promoters for projects. Report no. 3 shows the Named Administration Costs as submitted by LLP for April was €24,623.86

Recommendation: Approval of financial reports numbers 1, 2 and 3.

Decision: On the proposal of Mr. Thomas McEvoy, seconded by Mr. Larry Magnier and unanimously agreed by the members financial reports 1 and 2 were approved. The administration expenditure for April, in the amount of €24,623.86, as outlined in financial report 3 was also approved.

LAG Minute No. 39/2018

4. LEADER Monthly Project Update Reports

Ms. Mary O'Neill informed members present that Financial Reports no.'s 4 and 5 are generated by Louth Leader Partnership

- a) Report 4 provides a Project Summary report listing all of the projects that had received Letters of Offer to date showing a total of what had been committed to date with the budget remaining. The contract value as at 14th May 2018 was €274,156.13.

- b) Report 5 provides a further breakdown per local objective. Programme Report indicated that the total available spend was €2.67m under the six funding areas.

Mr. Larry Magnier queried if the 9.33% of the budget remaining was committed and as to whether there was cause for concern at this stage of the programme. Ms. Mary O'Neill advised that Louth Leader Partnership were confident that the money will be spent and that there were several projects which were being worked on, along with expressions of interest received over the last 6 months which have yet to be brought to the table, which have not progressed to application stage as yet. Ms. O'Neill advised that a Work in Progress document would be available for the next meeting to show where LLP are in terms of spend.

LAG Minute No. 40/2018

5. Conflicts of Interest

All members were reminded by Mr. John Lawrence to declare any conflict of interest based on the agenda and meeting documents.

LAG Minute No. 41/2018

6. EOI's

Members were referred to the EOI's received during the month of April of which there were 9 projects, with grant aid totalling €791,000. Ms. Mary O'Neill advised members that the list of EOI's were for noting only.

Conflicts of interest: Mr. Ciaran Reid expressed a conflict of interest with regard to Project ref. 107305

a) Ineligible Projects

Project ref. 107180 was deemed ineligible based on the operating rules. Ms. O'Neill advised that the promoter was going to be advised accordingly.

Decision: On the proposal of Mr. Michael Gaynor, seconded by Ms. Annette McDonnell and unanimously agreed by the members Project ref. 107180 was deemed ineligible.

LAG Minute No. 42/2018

7. Targeted Call EOI's

Mr. John Lawrence informed members that the closing date had passed and that the amount being sought for the Targeted Call exceeded the available budget, but that the projects needed to be approved in order for them to proceed to application stage.

Project No. 107315

Conflict of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest declared

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Geordie McAteer, seconded by Mr. Colm Markey and unanimously agreed by the members Project no. 107315 was approved for progression to full application stage.

Project No. 107412

Conflict of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest declared

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Thomas McEvoy, seconded by Mr. Michael Gaynor and unanimously agreed by the members Project no. 107412 was approved for progression to full application stage.

Project No. 107428

Mr. Larry Magnier queried if the project was a renewable energy project. Ms. Mary O'Neill advised that she would be going through the details of the project with the promoter on Tuesday as it was only at EOI stage currently.

Conflict of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest declared

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Geordie McAteer, seconded by Ms. Joan Martin and unanimously agreed by the members Project no. 107428 was approved for progression to full application stage.

Project No. 107429

Conflict of Interest: Mr. Colm Markey expressed a conflict of interest

Decision: on the proposal of Ms. Dolores Minogue, seconded by Mr. Matthew McGreehan and unanimously agreed by the members Project no. 107429 was approved for progression to full application stage.

Project No. 107432

Conflict of Interest: There were no conflicts of interest declared

Decision: on the proposal of Ms. Dolores Minogue, seconded by Mr. Liam Reilly and unanimously agreed by the members Project no. 107432 was approved for progression to full application stage.

Project No. 107434

Conflict of Interest: Mr. Larry Magnier, Ms. Joan Martin and Mr. Thomas McEvoy expressed a conflict of interest.

Decision: on the proposal of Mr. Michael Gaynor, seconded by Mr. Geordie McAteer and unanimously agreed by the members Project no. 107434 was approved for progression to full application stage.

Project No. 107435

Conflict of Interest: Ms. Joan Martin and Mr. Thomas McEvoy both expressed a conflict of interest.

Decision: on the proposal of Ms. Annette McDonnell, seconded by Mr. Michael Gaynor and unanimously agreed by the members Project no. 107435 was approved for progression to full application stage.

LAG Minute No. 42/2018

8. LEADER Project - 21LDRLOU106015

Project Code:	21LDRLOU106015
Promoter Code:	2602
Agreed by Board:	To fully support the project at 75% or €24,000.00 of eligible costs, whichever is the lesser

a) **Conflict of Interest:** Both Mr. Larry Magnier and Ms Sadie Ward McDermott expressed a conflict of interest.

b) Members present for decision:

Public: 6 number

Cllr. Liam Reilly, Cllr. Colm Markey, Cllr. Pearse McGeough, Cllr. Dolores Minogue, Ms. Joan Martin, Ms. Annette McDonnell, HSE

Private: 6 number

Mr. Kevin Moran, PPN, Mr. Geordie McAteer, PPN, Mr. Michael Gaynor, Chamber of Commerce Dundalk, Mr. Breannán Casey, Chamber of Commerce Drogheda, Mr. Matthew McGreehan, IFA, Mr. Ciaran Reid, LLP

Absented for Quorum Requirements: Mr. Thomas McEvoy

Quorum present – Yes

Public/ Private split – Yes

Decision: On the proposal of Mr. Michael Gaynor, seconded by Mr. Liam Reilly, and unanimously agreed by the members present the above project was approved for support. The project can now proceed to Article 48 check and subject to satisfactory check will progress to letter of offer stage.

LAG Minute No. 42/2018

9. LEADER Project - 21LDRLOU106205

Project Code:	21LDRLOU106205
Promoter Code:	2995
Agreed by Board:	To fully support the project at 90% or €130,292.32 of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

a) **Conflict of Interest:** There were no conflicts of interest declared

b) Members present for decision:

Public: 7 number

Cllr. Liam Reilly, Cllr. Colm Markey, Cllr. Pearse McGeough, Cllr. Dolores Minogue, Ms. Joan Martin, Ms. Annette McDonnell, HSE, Ms. Sadie Ward McDermott, LMETB

Private: 7 number

Mr. Kevin Moran, PPN, Mr. Geordie McAteer, PPN, Mr. Larry Magnier, PPN, Mr. Michael Gaynor, Chamber of Commerce Dundalk, Mr. Breannán Casey, Chamber of Commerce Drogheda, Mr. Matthew McGreehan, IFA, Ciaran Reid, LLP

Absented for Quorum Requirements: Mr. Thomas McEvoy, LEO

Quorum present – Yes

Public/ Private split – Yes

Decision: On the proposal of Mr. Colm Markey, seconded by Ms. Dolores Minogue, and unanimously agreed by the members present the above project was approved for support. The project can now proceed to Article 48 check and subject to satisfactory check will progress to letter of offer stage.

LAG Minute No. 42/2018

10. LEADER Project - 21LDRLOU106343

Project Code:	21LDRLOU106343
Promoter Code:	4578
Agreed by Board:	To fully support the project at 50% or €48,428.41 of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

a) **Conflict of Interest:** There were no conflicts of interest declared

b) Members present for decision:

Public: 7 number

Cllr. Liam Reilly, Cllr. Colm Markey, Cllr. Pearse McGeough, Cllr. Dolores Minogue, Ms. Joan Martin, Ms. Annette McDonnell, HSE, Mr. Thomas McEvoy, LEO

Private: 7 number

Mr. Kevin Moran, PPN, Mr. Geordie McAteer, PPN, Mr. Larry Magnier, PPN, Mr. Michael Gaynor, Chamber of Commerce Dundalk, Mr. Breannán Casey, Chamber of Commerce Drogheda, Mr. Matthew McGreehan, IFA, Mr. Ciaran Reid, LLP

Absented for Quorum Requirements: Ms. Sadie Ward McDermott, LMETB

Quorum present – Yes

Public/ Private split – Yes

Decision: On the proposal of Mr. Thomas McEvoy, seconded by Ms. Annette McDonnell, and unanimously agreed by the members present the above project was approved for support. The project can now proceed to Article 48 check and subject to satisfactory check will progress to letter of offer stage.

LAG Minute No. 43/2018

11.LEADER Project - 21LDRLOU106657

Project Code:	21LDRLOU106657
Promoter Code:	5555
Agreed by Board:	To fully support the recommendations of the IEC and not support this project.

Ms. Mary O'Neill advised the members that the IEC had gone through the project in great detail and made a recommendation to the LAG not to fund the project. The project received a score of 64%. The reasons given for not supporting the project included viability and sustainability, promoter experience and an unrealistic business plan.

- a) **Conflict of Interest:** There were no conflicts of interest declared
- b) Members present for decision:

Public: 7 number

Cllr. Liam Reilly, Cllr. Colm Markey, Cllr. Pearse McGeough, Cllr. Dolores Minogue, Ms. Joan Martin, Ms. Annette McDonnell, HSE, Ms. Sadie Ward McDermott, LMETB

Private: 7 number

Mr. Kevin Moran, PPN, Mr. Geordie McAteer, PPN, Mr. Larry Magnier, PPN, Mr. Michael Gaynor, Chamber of Commerce Dundalk, Mr. Breannán Casey, Chamber of Commerce Drogheda, Mr. Matthew McGreehan, IFA, Mr. Ciaran Reid, LLP

Absented for Quorum Requirements: Mr. Thomas McEvoy, LEO

Quorum present – Yes

Public/ Private split – Yes

Decision: On the proposal of Mr. Michael Gaynor, seconded by Ms. Joan Martin, and unanimously agreed by the members to fully support the recommendations of the IEC and not support the project.

LAG Minute No. 44/2018

12. LEADER Project - 21LDRLOU106703

Project Code:	21LDRLOU106703
Promoter Code:	5587
Agreed by Board:	To fully support the project at 90% or €2,438.04 of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

a) **Conflict of Interest:** There were no conflicts of interest

b) Members present for decision:

Public: 7 number

Cllr. Liam Reilly, Cllr. Colm Markey, Cllr. Pearse McGeough, Cllr. Dolores Minogue, Ms. Joan Martin, Ms. Annette McDonnell, HSE, Ms. Sadie Ward McDermott, LMETB

Private: 7 number

Mr. Kevin Moran, PPN, Mr. Geordie McAteer, PPN, Mr. Larry Magnier, PPN, Mr. Michael Gaynor, Chamber of Commerce Dundalk, Mr. Breannán Casey, Chamber of Commerce Drogheda, Mr. Matthew McGreehan, IFA, Mr. Ciaran Reid, LLP

Absented for Quorum Requirements: Mr. Thomas McEvoy, LEO

Quorum present – Yes

Public/ Private split – Yes

Decision: On the proposal of Ms. Annette McDonnell, seconded by Mr. Colm Markey, and unanimously agreed by the members present the above project was approved for support. The project can now proceed to Article 48 check and subject to satisfactory check will progress to letter of offer stage.

LAG Minute No. 45/2018

13. MOU Between LEO & LLP

Mr. Thomas McEvoy advised that members, for noting only, of the local agreement in place between the Council's LEO's and the LLP's and the group meet every quarter. As part of the application process they each have a consent box so that if applicants come to either body they consent that they can liaise with each other. It also allows for complementary advice to be given on different elements of a project, gives the best possible outcome to applicants' and streamlines the process.

LAG Minute No. 46/2018

14. LAG Correspondence

Mr. John Lawrence referred the members to the first three items of correspondence issued to all LAG's and Implementing Partners for noting:

- Circular No. 03/2018 – Projects involving different rates of Grant Aid
- Circular No. 04/2018 – Recording and Reimbursement of ineligible administration expenditure Leader 2014-2020
- Circular No. 05/2018 – Site visits conducted by LAG's/IP's

Mr. John Lawrence advised that Circular No. 06/2018 – Leader Food Initiative for which €5m was available in 2018, three tranches of funding support on a first come first served basis. Mary O'Neill informed the members that there was €15m available nationally for the food call from now until the end of the Leader Programme. €5m in 2018 was on a first come first served basis as issued by the Department on 8th May with the first call already opened on the 1st May to 29th June. Louth Leader Partnership are currently working with promoters towards the second call for 30th June to 28th September and have several projects on stream with 3 applications ready for evaluation in July which will be required to go through the LCDC process in July also, ready for the September call. A press release is to issue tomorrow regarding the funding available, details of areas supported was distributed to all in attendance. Ms. Mary O'Neill stated that it was a difficult situation in that they would not be aware as to what had been looked for under the first call, so if the €5m had already been allocated then there would be nothing left. Mr. John Lawrence advised the members that any successful projects would be brought before the LAG for decision. Mr. Ciaran Reid advised that the same operating rules apply.

Mr. John Lawrence advised the members that there was a Draft Circular with regard to the *de minimis* and conflict of interest, a copy of which circulated at the meeting. Mr. John Lawrence requested that any questions or queries in relation to Draft Circular should be submitted to Riona in the Community Office.

The business of the LAG meeting concluded.

Minutes confirmed at meeting held on

18/6/18

Chairperson



