

Minutes of Meeting: Louth Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Louth Local Action Group (LAG)

Date: 20th June, 2022 at 4.00pm

Location: Via Video Conference

- In attendance:** Ms. Joan Martin Chairperson, C.E. of LCC
Cllr. Liam Reilly
Cllr. Kevin Meenan
Cllr. Dolores Minogue
Ms. Sadie Ward-McDermott, LMETB
Mr. Thomas McEvoy, LEO
Ms. Anne Keeley DEASP
Ms. Bridie Pepper, HSE
Ms. Bernardine Quinn, PPN
Ms. Carol Murphy, PPN
Ms. Joanne Finnegan, PPN
Ms. Alison Quail, PPN
Ms. Kayleigh Mulligan, Louth Volunteer Centre
Mr. Ciaran Reid, LLP
- Officials:** Mr. Paddy Donnelly, Chief Officer
Mr. John Lawrence, Senior Executive Officer LCC
Mr. Finbar Gethins, Senior Executive Officer LCC
Ms. Sinead McVerry, Administrative Officer LCC
Ms. Miriam Roe, Senior Staff Officer LCC
Mr. Eamonn Redmond, Staff Officer LCC
- Apologies** Cllr. Eileen Tully
Mr. Sean Farrell, Chamber of Commerce Dundalk
Ms. Lisa Doyle, PPN
Mr. Steven Rice, Chamber of Commerce Drogheda
Mr. John Carroll, IFA
- Guests:** Ms. Mary O' Neill, LLP
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LCDC MATTERS

LCDC Minute No. 24/2022

1. Minutes of LCDC meeting held on the 25th April 2022:

On the proposal of Ms. Kayleigh Mulligan, seconded by Ms. Anne Keeley and unanimously agreed by the members the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th April 2022, were adopted.

LCDC Minute No. 25/2022

2. Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

LCDC Minute No. 26/2022

3. Social Inclusion and Community Development:

SICAP Qtr. 3 – July and August Payments 2022

Members were advised that the SICAP payments for July and August 2022 were now due for payment in the amount of €250,306.33. The September payment will be issued after satisfactory Mid Year Review.

Recommendation: To approve the SICAP payments for July and August 2022 in the amount of €250,306.33.

Decision: On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Reilly, seconded by Ms. Anne Keeley, the SICAP payments for July and August, 2022 in the amount of €250,306.33 were approved.

LCDC Minute No. 27/2022

4. PEACE IV

Ms. Joan Martin, Chairperson, advised the meeting that PEACE IV was nearly finished. The PEACE PLUS membership was almost complete. The first meeting would happen soon. There has been no official call out yet.

LCDC Minute No. 28/2022

5. AOB

Ms. Joan Martin, Chairperson, informed members the next meeting of the LCDC will take place on Monday 18th July, 2022 at 4.00pm.

The business of the LCDC meeting concluded.

LAG MATTERS

LAG Minute No. 56/2022

1. Minutes of LAG meeting held on the 25th April 2022:

On the proposal of Mr. Thomas McEvoy, seconded by Ms. Alison Quail and unanimously agreed by the members, the minutes of the meeting held on the 25th, April 2022, were adopted.

LAG Minute No. 57/2022

2. Matters Arising:

There were no LAG matters arising.

LAG Minute No. 58/2022

3. LEADER Monthly Financial Reports:

Mr. John Lawrence advised that the two number financial reports, circulated to members detailed financial information up to 14th June, 2022.

Mr. John Lawrence referred to financial reports numbers 1 and 2, both reports were raised on the LCC accounting system detailing payments issued under the administration job code and the projects job code.

Recommendation: Approval of financial reports numbers 1 and 2

Decision: On the proposal of Ms. Anne Keeley, seconded by Cllr. Liam Reilly, financial reports 1 and 2 were approved.

LAG Minute No. 59/2022

4. Administration Report:

a) Mr. John Lawrence referred members to financial report number 3 which provides details of the named administration costs incurred by LLP for the month of April, 2022 in the amount of €29,373.30 and for the month of May, 2022 in the amount of €26,684.96.

Recommendation: Approval of financial report number 3 with an expenditure of €29,373.30 for the month of April, 2022 and expenditure in the amount of €26,684.96 for the month of May, 2022.

Decision: On the proposal of Cllr. Dolores Minogue, seconded by Ms. Alison Quail, financial report no. 3 with an expenditure of €29,373.30 for the month of April 2022 and expenditure in the amount of €26,684.96 for the month of May, 2022 was approved.

b) Mr. John Lawrence referred members to financial report number 4 which provides details of the Quarter 3 payment (July-September 2022) in the amount of €104,600.00.

Recommendation: Approval of financial report number 4 with an expenditure of €104,600.00 for Quarter 3 (July-September 2022).

Decision: On the proposal of Cllr. Dolores Minogue, seconded by Ms. Bernardine Quinn, financial report number 4 with an expenditure of €104,600.00 for Quarter 3 (July-September 2022) was approved.

LAG Minute No. 60/2022

5. RDP Sub Group – Proposed Re-Allocation of Funding:

The RDP Sub Group met on 14th June, to discuss two recommendations which are now being brought before the LAG. At present there are 3 Funding Streams for LEADER Projects, with budgets remaining in all:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| • LEADER 2014-2020 Programme | €112,573.83 (now closed) |
| • Transitional LEADER Programme | €264,324.62 |
| • EURI Funding | €203,784.69 |

Although the LEADER 2014-2020 Programme is now closed, it is important to note that as per Circular 15/2020, any funding that was de-committed from the 2014-2020 LEADER Programme can be 'rolled over' into the current Transitional Programme. It was also noted by the group that €175,389.00 has already been transferred from the 2014-2020 Programme at the start of April 2021.

a) The transfer of funding remaining from the LEADER 2014-2020 Programme.

Bearing this in mind, and to facilitate the funding of potential projects coming on stream, the group makes the following recommendation to the LAG.

Recommendation to the LAG:

It is recommended to the LAG that funding, in the amount of €112,573.83, be transferred from the 2014-2020 LEADER Programme to the Transitional LEADER Programme, as permitted by Circular 15/2020.

- b) The re-allocation of funding within the Local Objectives in the Transitional LEADER Programme.

As the final date for the allocation of the Transitional Programme budget is 31st December, 2022, the group considered it timely to review the funding remaining across all 10 Local Objectives. Having discussed the spend progression to date, and the possible projects coming on stream, the group considered where funding could be re-allocated to maximize the number of projects that can be progressed at this time.

Recommendation to the LAG:

Although it is difficult to estimate just how many Expressions of Interest (EOI's) will actually progress to project, it is clear that the balance of funding which remains in some of the Local Objectives is not sufficient to cover potential projects. Therefore, it was considered that a portion of the budget, totalling €120,000.00, would be better utilised if moved as follows:

- Move **€30,000** from L01: Activity, Adventure, Heritage & Cultural Rural Tourism to LO3: Developing & Strengthening of Rural Enterprise.
- Move **€30,000** from L02: Support for Visitor Services and Infrastructure to LO4: Improvement of Rural Towns & Villages.
- Move **€ 20,000** from LO7: Improving the Capacity of Young People to L06: Support for the Promotion of Social Inclusion.
- Move **€40,000** from LO10: Rural Renewable Energy to L06: Support for the Promotion of Social Inclusion.

Decision: On the proposal of Cllr. Liam Reilly, seconded by Ms. Bernardine Quinn, the movement of funding, as outlined above was approved.

LAG Minute No. 61/2022

6. LEADER Monthly Project Updates:

Ms. Mary O'Neill informed members present that Financial Reports no. 5 is generated by Louth Leader Partnership.

a) Report 5 provides a breakdown of progress under each of the Local Objectives of the LDS as at 13th June, 2022. This report details the Transitional LEADER Programme allocations plus any de-commitments and the balance of grant aid as per each Local Objective.

Report number 5 is for information purposes only.

LAG Minute No. 62/2022

7. EOI's Rolling and Targeted:

Members were advised that of two reports listing EOI's received during the months of April and May, 2022. Ms. Mary O'Neill informed members that the list of 9 EOI's were for noting only. There were no EOI's deemed ineligible, as all EOI's were considered eligible in principle.

LAG Minute No. 63/2022

8. Notes requiring LAG approval:

Ms. Mary O'Neill referred to the notes requiring LAG approval, which listed 20 projects that required among other things proposed project extensions as per Operating Rules 8.4, de-commitment of funding.

a) Project Extensions:

Project Ref	Original Completion Date	Current Completion Date	Requested Completion Date
21LDRLOU111392	30/09/2020	30/06/2022	31/12/2022
21LDRLOU112487	30/12/2020	30/06/2022	30/09/2022
21LDRLOU109560	31/12/2020	31/05/2022	31/07/2022
21LDRLOU112657	31/12/2020	30/06/2022	31/12/2022
21LDRLOU110389	30/06/2021	30/06/2022	30/09/2022
21LDRLOU113352	30/06/2021	30/06/2022	31/12/2022
21LDRLOU113433	30/06/2021	30/06/2022	31/12/2022
21LDRLOU113729	30/06/2021	30/06/2022	30/09/2022
21LDRLOU113817	30/06/2021	30/06/2022	31/12/2022
21LDRLOU112417	30/06/2021	30/06/2022	31/12/2022
21LDRLOU114033	31/03/2021	30/06/2022	30/09/2022
21LDRLOU111099	30/06/2021	30/06/2022	31/12/2022
21LDRLOU114317	30/06/2021	31/05/2022	31/07/2022
21LDRLOU114031	31/12/2021	30/06/2021	31/12/2022
21LDRLOU114108	31/12/2021	30/06/2022	30/09/2022
21LDRLOU115004	30/06/2022	30/06/2022	30/09/2022
21LDRLOU116470	30/06/2022	30/06/2022	30/09/2022
21LDRLOU114316	31/12/2021	31/05/2022	30/09/2022

b) Project De-Commitments:

- 1) Project Ref: 111676 – as conference was delayed due to COVID the promoter did not require newspaper advertisements so funding was diverted to photography and videography resulting in a de-commitment in the amount of €406.68.
- 2) Project Ref: 115348 –as conference was held virtually, there was no requirement for sound/audio, IT support or newspaper advertisement resulting in a de-commitment in the amount of €1,996.16.

Mr. John Lawrence advised that whilst the Notes to the LAG required approval by the members that these projects must still undergo Article 48 checks.

Decision: On the proposal of Ms. Carol Murphy, seconded by Ms. Alison Quail, the LAG notes for these projects were approved.

c) Re issuing of Letter of Offer:

Ms Mary O'Neill advised the members that the letter of offer for project no: 21LDRLOU117066 - Louth Village Community Centre has not been accepted as a result of operational difficulties. As the offer has not been accepted, by the Project Promoter, within 15 working days from the date of offer, approval is now being sought from the LAG to re-issue the letter of offer following today's meeting.

Decision: It was unanimously agreed by the members to approve the re-issuing of the Letter of Offer for project no: 21LDRLOU117066 to Louth Village Community Centre.

LAG Minute No. 64/2022

9. Election of Vice Chair of LCDC-LAG:

Mr. John Lawrence informed members that subsequent to the stepping down of Ms. Gráinne Berrill from the LCDC – LAG committees that the position of Vice Chairperson was now vacant.

Ms. Joan Martin sought nominations for the position of Vice Chairperson of LCDC-LAG from the members.

One nomination for Ms. Alison Quail, was proposed. There was no further nominations forthcoming from the committee.

On the proposal of Mr. Thomas McEvoy, seconded by Cllr Liam Reilly and unanimously agreed by the members Ms. Alison Quail was selected as the new Vice Chairperson of LCDC- LAG.

LAG Minute No. 65/2022

10. Acknowledgement:

Tributes were paid to Mr. John Lawrence who is leaving his role in Community. Ms. Joan Martin thanked Mr. Lawrence for all his hard work and huge contribution during his time in the Community Office and also his support and expertise with regard to the LCDC and LAG. This sentiment was echoed by the members who wished him well.

LAG Minute No. 66/2022

11. Next Meeting:

Ms. Joan Martin, Chairperson, informed members the next meeting of the LAG will take place on Monday 18th July, 2022, following the LCDC meeting at 4.00pm.

The business of the LAG meeting concluded.

Minutes confirmed at meeting held on:

18/7/2022

Chairperson:

Joan Martin