

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

Date: 19th November 2024 at 4.00pm

Location: Cooley Room, County Hall, Dundalk and via Teams

- In attendance:** Ms. Alison Quail, Chairperson, PPN
Cllr. Kevin Meenan (via Teams)
Cllr. Dolores Minogue (via Teams)
Mr. Joe McGuinness, Temporary C.E. of LCC
Ms. Bridie Pepper, HSE
Ms. Carol Murphy, PPN
Mr. Hubert Murphy, Chamber of Commerce Drogheda (via Teams)
Ms. Bernadine Quinn, PPN (via Teams)
Mr. Niall Gallagher, LEO (via Teams)
Ms. Sadie Ward-McDermott, LMETB (via Teams)
Mr. Ciaran Reid, LLD (via Teams)
- Officials:** Mr. Finbar Gethins, Senior Executive Officer LCC/Chief Officer
Ms. Sinead McVerry, Administrative Officer LCC
Ms. Miriam Roe, Senior Staff Officer LCC
Ms. Ann Monahan, Staff Officer LCC
- Apologies:** Ms. Sharon Curran, DSP
Mr. Pat McCormick, Chamber of Commerce Dundalk
Cllr. Ejiro Stratton-O'Hare
Cllr. Shane McGuinness
Mr. Kevin Sweeney, IFA
Ms. Jasmine Mathew, PPN
Ms. Kayleigh Mulligan, Louth Volunteer Centre
- Guests:** Ms. Mary O'Neill, LLD
-

LCDC MATTERS

LCDC Minute No. 65/2024

1. Minutes of LCDC Meeting Monday 21st October 2024:

On the proposal of Ms. Carol Murphy and seconded by Mr. Joe McGuinness and unanimously agreed by the members, the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st October 2024 were adopted.

LCDC Minute No. 66/2024

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Members were reminded by Mr. Finbar Gethins to declare any conflict of interest based on the agenda and meeting documents.

LCDC Minute No. 67/2024

3. Matters Arising:

There were no LCDC matters arising.

LCDC Minute No. 68/2024

4. LCDC Correspondence:

Ms. Sinead McVerry informed the members that notification has been received from the Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) that funding of €11,636.42 has been allocated to Louth County Council/LCDC to support LGBTQI+ projects as part of delivery of the LGBTQI+ Strategy in 2025. This will include a suite of LGBTQI+ awareness/sensitivity training in healthcare settings/businesses, providing outreach support, extending drop-in clinic hours, developing guidance information and tools, community events and providing sporting/physical activity programmes to promote inclusion, community participation and wellbeing.

Outcomers will deliver the projects and supports in Co Louth.

LCDC Minute No. 69/2024

5. Healthy Louth:

Approval of Grant Agreement

Mr. Finbar Gethins referred the members to the Grant Agreement which was circulated in relation to the Grade VI Healthy County Coordinator under the Healthy Ireland Fund. Póbal require that the LCDC approve this agreement.

Recommendation: To approve the grant agreement for the Grade VI Healthy County Coordinator under the Healthy Ireland Fund.

Decision: On the proposal of Ms. Carol Murphy, seconded by Ms. Bridie Pepper, the grant agreement for the Grade VI Healthy County Coordinator under the Healthy Ireland Fund was approved.

LCDC Minute No. 70/2024

6. PEACEPLUS Update:

Mr. Finbar Gethins reminded the members about the PEACEPLUS Pre-Procurement meeting taking place on 21st November 2024, details of which were previously circulated.

He also advised that invitations to join the PEACEPLUS Tender Assessment Panel have been issued and there has been a good response to these invitations so far.

LCDC Minute No. 71/2024

7. Community Recognition Fund Update:

Mr. Gethins updated the members in relation to the Community Recognition Fund 2024. Applications under Call 2 have been submitted to the Department for consideration but no announcement has been made yet. Expressions of Interest will be invited this week under Call 3 and will be available on the Louth County Council website.

Members were also advised that the Capital Delivery Team in Louth County Council is now responsible for the Community Recognition Fund.

LCDC Minute No. 72/2024

8. Local Enhancement Programme 2024:

Reallocation of Funds Approval

Ms. Sinead McVerry advised the members that money from the Local Enhancement Programme 2024 was re-allocated as set out below, due to grant de-committals, and referred to the report which was circulated. It was noted that this funding remained within the Municipal Districts and re-allocated funding for ring-fenced groups was given to other ring-fenced groups.

| Ardee | Mainstream | Ring-Fenced |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| Ardee Community Centre | 1000 | |
| Ferdia Park | 1000 | |
| De La Salle Crescent and Mulladrillen Residents | 1000 | |

| | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Scoraiocht Lann Leire | 750.61 | |
| Westerns GFC | 187.14 | |
| Friends of Ardee Bog | 83.25 | |
| John Mitchells GFC | 1000 | |
| Naomh Fionnbarra & St Annes GFC | | 269.49 |
| TOTAL | 5021 | 269.49 |

| Drogheda | Mainstream | Ring-Fenced |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| Moneymore Football Club | 363.86 | |
| Lifestyle Development Group CLG | 620.71 | |
| The Red Door Project | 600 | |
| Drumshallon Forge Heritage Centre CLG | 259 | |
| O'Raghallaighs GFC LGFA Ladies Section | | 600 |
| St Fechins GAA Ladies Camogie & Football Club | | 500 |
| Naomh Martin GAA Club | | 500 |
| TOTAL | 1843.57 | 1600 |

| Dundalk | Mainstream | Ring-Fenced |
|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| Holy Family Parish Community Creche | 257.86 | |
| Cox's Demesne Youth & Community Project | 300 | |
| Womens Aid Dundalk CLG | | 342.10 |
| TOTAL | 557.86 | 342.10 |

Recommendation: To approve the re-allocation of Local Enhancement Programme 2024 grant aid totalling €9,634.02, as outlined above.

Decision: On the proposal of Ms. Bridie Pepper, seconded by Ms. Carol Murphy, the re-allocation of Local Enhancement Programme 2024 grant aid totalling €9,634.02 was approved.

LCDC Minute No. 73/2024

9. Local Enhancement Programme 2025:

Mr. Finbar Gethins provided the members with details of the new Local Enhancement Programme 2025 which was announced on 7th November. There is a total allocation of €239,207 to Louth LCDC which is made up of capital funding of €205,035 and current funding of €34,172. It is proposed to advertise the scheme from 13th January with a closing date of 23rd February. These dates align with the closing date for submission of approved allocations to the Department which is 28th March 2025, and it is intended that the Minister for Rural and Community Development will announce details of successful applicants in May 2025.

Whilst this funding is most welcome, the members did express their disappointment regarding the limited amount allocated to Current funding. Mr. Gethins advised the members that although this cannot be altered, it is within the remit of the LCDC to decide how to apportion funding within the parameters of the scheme.

The members were asked to consider what might be the most advantageous way to set out the terms of the scheme to benefit applicants who might not have applied before or who are unable to access funding under any other stream. It was also acknowledged that the scale of administration involved is significant.

Taking this into account, members discussed the possibility of setting maximum grant amounts, having two different funding bands and if an established organisation could apply for funding on behalf a smaller group to make the process easier. It was suggested that any application under Current Funding must be accompanied by relevant bills at the time of submission.

Mr. Gethins also advised that a maximum administration fee of €11,960 is available and suggested using a portion of this to organise workshops across the county which would target groups who do not normally apply for funding or do not have the capacity to do so. The LCDC members would also play a part in reaching out through their networks to these groups.

Taking into consideration the points raised, it was agreed that a proposal in relation to the Local Enhancement Programme 2025 will be brought before the December meeting of the LCDC for consideration and approval.

LCDC Minute No. 74/2024

10. Next Meeting of LCDC:

Ms. Alison Quail, Chairperson, informed the members that the date of the next LCDC meeting is Monday 16th December 2024. The meeting will be a hybrid meeting.

The business of the LCDC meeting concluded.

Minutes confirmed at meeting held on:

16/12/2024

Chairperson:

