



Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee Meeting held on Friday 26th January 2024, via Microsoft Teams at 10.30a.m.

In attendance: Mary Mescal, PPN (Chair)
Lar Power, Chief Executive
John Hurley, Chamber of Commerce
Angela Hayes -Teac Tom
Aileen McGrath, Local Enterprise Office
Cllr. Joe Lyons, KCC
Cllr. Martin Brett, KCC
Martin Rochford – PPN Environment Pillar
Cllr. Mick McCarthy
Michael Walshe, PPN Community Pillar
Paul O’ Rahilly, PPN Social Inclusion
Cllr. Ger Frisby
Derval Howley, HSE

Also present: Anne Marie Shortall Chief Officer, Katherine Peacock and Cora Nolan, Kilkenny County Council.

1. Administrative

Mary welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies: Julieanne Power, DEASP
Michael A Fitzgerald, Teagasc
Olive Maher – FRC
Eileen Curtis, KCETB

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Minutes of LCDC meeting held on Friday 8th December , 2023

Proposed by Michael Walshe, Seconded by Martin Rochford.

Matters Arising

None.

Any Conflicts of Interest

None

2. Oversight and Implementation of the Local and Economic Community Plan.

Monitoring of LECP Implementation Plan

Anne Marie advised that further to the launch of the LECP in early 2023, evaluation and monitoring of agreed associated Implementation Plan has now commenced. Anne Marie thanked Aileen and her staff for the preparatory work done.

An email was sent to stakeholders last week with a deadline of Wednesday 31st January for the spreadsheet to be completed and returned. A reminder email will be sent next week. Feedback will be collated into a monitoring report and presented to the LCDC in March.

3. Citizen Engagement and promotion of Social Inclusion

PPN Report

Michael Walshe gave the PPN Report.

4. Items for Information and Information Sharing

Local Enhancement Programme 2024

Anne Marie updated the LCDC members on the Local Enhancement programme for 2024. The total allocation comprises of €151,822 made up of €126,519.02 capital funding with 30% ring-fenced for grants of €1,000 or less and €25,303 capital funding ring-fenced for Women's groups.

Small scale project applications accepted for grants of up to €1,000, medium scale applications for grants between €1,000-€5,000. There will be a limited number of larger grants considered for larger projects if they satisfy the eligibility criteria and the scheme

Application form and guidelines are available for download from Kilkenny County Council website www.kilkennycoco.ie or contact any member of the Community Department. Closing date is Friday 16th of February, with final approval at the March LCDC meeting.

Items for discussion and decision

CDP Subgroup Members

Katherine Peacock provided a report to the members from the CDP subgroup. The Community Development Programme is a pilot programme offering funding support to KTCM (Kilkenny Traveller Community Movement). The project is currently experiencing a high turnover of staff and this may lead to changes in the project.

The subgroup has lost 3 of its members, Sean McKeown, Sheila Donnelly and Declan Gibbons, and we now wish to replace these members. Current members on the subgroup include Katherine Peacock, Anne Marie Shortall and Paul O' Rahilly. There are usually 3-4 meetings a year but possibly additional meetings this year due to current circumstances.

The following volunteered to put their name forward for the subgroup: - Mary Mescal, Angela Hayes and Michael Walshe. Derval is unable to sit on the subgroup but could nominate a representative from the HSE if that was appropriate. Katherine to follow up.

Katherine thanked Mary, Angela and Michael for volunteering to be members.

Annual Report 2023

Katherine gave a summary of the Annual Report for 2023 which had been circulated to members in advance of the meeting.

The Annual Report was proposed by Lar Power, seconded by Derval Howley.

AOB

Night Time Economy

Aileen advised in 2023 Kilkenny was selected as one of 9 pilot areas for funding from the Department to deliver an action plan on the Night Time Economy for Kilkenny City.

Conor Sweeney now appointed as the Night Time Economy Advisor. There are 2 surveys live on consultkilkenny.ie until mid-February. Aileen will circulate link to the committee and Conor is available for one to one consultation or if any organisation would like to get in touch to meet with Conor.

Paul O' Rahilly noted Kilkenny Access Group had a very positive meeting with Conor which they brought some of their issues to the meeting, and Kilkenny Chamber have also been in touch with Conor they are linking in. Ossory youth will also contact Conor.

Derval noted that the HSE have linked in with Conor and Derval will also circulate the survey link to Kilkenny based HSE staff.

Careers Kilkenny 2024

Aileen updated the meeting on Careers Kilkenny 2024 which is due to take place in Kilkenny on Saturday 3rd of February, in St. Canices Cathedral commencing at 10: 00a.m. There will be over 30 stands in place with a large range of employers, all promoting Kilkenny as a great place to live and work.

Derval said that she will contact HR to liaise with Aileen about a stand for the careers fair

Next Meeting is in person on Friday 22nd March, 2024 at 10.30a.m.

This concluded the business of the meeting.