

Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee Meeting held on Friday 26th February, 2021 via Microsoft Teams.

Attendance: Declan Gibbons PPN Community Pillar – Chair
Colette Byrne CE, Kilkenny County Council
Cllr. Mick McCarty, Elected Representative
Sheila Donnelly, Family Resource Centre
Niall McManus, PPN Environment Pillar
Margaret Clancy. , Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce
Fiona Deegan, Local Enterprise Office,
Cllr. Ger Frisby, Elected Representative
Angela Hayes, Teac Tom
Denis Drennan, County Kilkenny Leader Partnership
Derval Howley, HSE
Cllr. Joe Lyons, Elected Representative
Eileen Curtis, ETB
Cllr. Martin Brett, Elected Representative

In attendance: Lindsey Butler, Annette Fitzpatrick and Cora Nolan, Kilkenny County Council.

Administrative

As Chair Declan welcomed Margaret Clancy to the LCDC Committee, Margaret is replacing John Hurley and is representing the Chamber of Commerce

Apologies Patricia Brennan, Julianne Power, Paul Clifford

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Proposed by Sheila Donnelly and Seconded by Cllr. Ger Frisby.

Matters Arising

Murine O Connor to send follow up report to Colette Byrne CE, not received yet.

January Meeting postponed as CEP Covid Grants application open and required LCDC approval before end of February.

Any conflicts of Interest

Denis Drennan – SICAP and Angela Hayes CEP Grants.

- 1. Oversight and implementation of the community element of the Local Economic and Community Plan including Local and Community Development Co-ordination and oversight.**

2. Citizen Engagement and promotion of social inclusion

PPN Report.

Angela Hayes went through the PPN Report outlining the main highlights as follows: -

- Membership now at 378.
- The Age Friendly tablets project is progressing
- A series of Mindfulness Workshops were rolled out during the month of February facilitated by Mindful Ireland.
- Kilkenny PPN has been selected as part of a pilot programme by the Department of Environment, Climate and Communications to host a Climate Action Conversation. The conversation will take place on Monday 8th of March at 7.00p.m.
- An online workshop for members on the draft Kilkenny City and County Development Plan 2021-2027 will be held on Monday 1st of March at 7.00p.m.
- The Department of Community and Rural Development in conjunction with Social Justice Ireland and Waterford Institute of Technology are piloting an online course for PPN Members and stakeholders. 15 participants have been identified in each PPN, the course will last 6 weeks commencing on the 24th of February.

Declan Gibbons took part in the workshop and said it was very worthwhile. Colette Byrne noted that the County Council will be supporting the PPN on Climate Change.

Fiona Deegan queried the feasibility study as a result of the National Enterprise Town Awards – Declan advised that a survey had taken place of over 100 people and a report is to be ready mid-March and hoped to be presented at the next LCDC meeting.

Sheila said the mindfulness course organised by the PPN worked really well and got some very positive feedback.

3. Items for Information and Information Sharing

Update on LECP

Annette give an update and advised that the current LECP expires this year. We are still awaiting guidelines from the Department. All Local Authorities are the same position. An advisory group has been established and it is hoped to have new Draft Guidelines for their next meeting which will be held in March. Annette will keep the committee informed of any updates.

Covid 19- Feedback from Agencies

Angela gave an update on Teac Tom and advised they have extended hours for appointments online with over 20 Counsellors and are carrying out the services the best they can, the covid grant they received last year was a huge help

Eileen Curtis gave an update from the ETB; the first term went very well but unfortunately schools were not in a position to reopen after Christmas. Special needs schools reopened last week with junior classes returning next week. Greater supports are required, apprenticeships are an issue nationally.

Colette Byrne from Kilkenny County Council thanked Annette in Community and Janette Boran Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator for all their work on the Keep Well Campaign. The community call is continuing to operate. The Tourism task force is up and running. All services are open. Colette also thanked Katherine Peacock and the Civil Defence for all their work. Planning for car park on St. Francis Abbey has been granted by An Bord Pleanala. St. Patricks Day celebrations will be held online. Cora to send links to LCDC committee.

Annette gave an update on the Keep Well Campaign
The Tonic is a radio show on KCLR every Thursday evening also My Home Place.
Dial a story initiative has commenced, Reward and read creative writing
Extended the door to door initiative to over 65 all through the libraries
Signage around the county
24 Acorn tablets distributed to older people in nursing homes and rural areas.
Healthy Kilkenny and Healthy Carlow KCLR Broadcasts

FRC's – Sheila Donnelly working with 50 families instead of 120, had to bring back child therapy, working under very difficult circumstances.

Derval Howley HSE

January brought wave 3 of Covid 19, and put a huge strain on all health services, Kilkenny has now stabilised with a decrease in the demand for testing. The roll out of the vaccination programme has now commenced. A vaccination clinic will open at Cilin Hill in Kilkenny over the next week or two. The signs going forward are encouraging and thanked all the agencies for their help and support.

Presentation Lianne McSweeney- Social Prescribing Co-ordinator (Pilot programme under the Community Mental Health Fund) under the Healthy Kilkenny Programme 2020-2021.

Lianne gave a very informative presentation on Social Prescribing, she commenced with the following:-

- What is Social Prescribing?
- Who is responsible
- The Approach
- The referral process
- The outcomes
- 41 referrals have been made to date to Kilkenny Social Prescribing
- The barriers to progression

A number of queries were raised: -

- Any advice on how to get someone who is reluctant to make contact and co-operate
- Needs to be rolled out across the County
- Needs to more resources put into this pilot programme, negotiations ongoing with Pobal, a report under Healthy Ireland will be given at the next meeting.

4. Items for discussion and decision – Conflicts of interest to be declared

Annette Fitzpatrick presented the CEP Covid 19 Grants.

Proposed by Cllr. Ger Frisby, Seconded by Cllr. Mick McCarthy. A copy of the report and recommendations will be sent by email after the meeting.

5. Sign off on recommendation from SICAP subgroup re EYR 2020.

Sheila Donnelly presented the SICAP report it will be circulated by email after the meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Mick McCarthy, Seconded by Cllr. Martin Brett.

Case Study- Social Prescribing

Leanne presented a case study for the committee which commenced with a Health & Wellbeing Assessment followed by a few suggestions as to what direction to take going forward, the outcomes achieved so far and finally a testimonial on the social prescribing service.

Declan thanked Leanne and wished her continued success.

Janette Boran Healthy Ireland Co-ordinator will be presenting at the March meeting.

AOB

Cllr. Joe Lyons queried is the quorum set too high for the LCDC meetings. The quorum is set in the standing orders which is 50% of the total membership rounded to nearest whole number. Attendance and quorum has been an issue over the last few years.

Annette Fitzpatrick

Department Rural Community Local Development 2021-2023. Circulate to LCDC Members and will be on agenda for next meeting.