

Minutes of Meeting of Cavan Local Community Development Committee

Date: 26th March 2025

Time: 3pm

Location: Online via Microsoft Teams & Council Chamber, Cavan County Council Offices

Present:

Statutory

Cllr Clifford Kelly (Elected Member), Cllr T.P. O'Reilly (Elected Member), Cllr Val Smith (Elected Member), Ms Carmel Denning (Department of Social Protection), Mr Brendan Jennings (Cavan County Council), Mr Conor Craven (Local Enterprise Office), Dr Fiona McGrath (CMETB).

Private Sector Interests

Ms Beth McEntee (Community and Voluntary Interests), Ms Connie Whelan (Cootehill Chamber), Ms Aisling Traynor (Youth Issues), Mr Paddy Denning (Agricultural and Farming Interests), Ms Ruth Woods (HSE), Ms Frances O'Neill (Disability Interests)

Apologies:

Mr Jim Maguire (Cavan County Local Development Company) - Chairperson,, Ms Gayathri Devi Soman (Social Inclusion Interests), Mr Barry Kavanagh (Environmental Interests), Ms Maryam Temile (Women's Issues).

In attendance:

Mr John Donohoe (Chief Officer Development), Ms Deirdre Donnelly (Cavan County Council), Ms Siobhan Morgan (Cavan County Council), Mr Dermot Gallagher (Local Enterprise Office).

The Vice Chair (Ms Connie Whelan) opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the meeting, particularly Mr Dermot Gallagher, Food Strategy Co-Ordinator who stepped in at short notice.

Apologies were noted.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were proposed by Cllr Clifford Kelly and seconded by Cllr Val Smith.

Mr Conor Craven, Head of Local Enterprise Office joined the conversation and outlined the various incentives for food producers to join the network, it gives them access to business supports like Green for Business, LEAN Programme and capital grants. Mr Craven said that they will apply the same model to the Cavan Craft Network because both craft and food are very important for local economic development.

Mr Jennings explained that the network was formed after The Taste of Cavan festival, and it is about getting members working together. The aim is to get people thinking about a Cavan product. Cllr TP O Reilly added by saying that there are cookery demonstrations each year at the Virginia Show and perhaps it could be looked at about ensuring that there is some collaboration with Created in Cavan in the future.

Mr Paddy Denning informed the group that he is a farmer, he said that hospitality has changed over the last number of years and that people are now going out for dinner, he suggested that it could be put on menus where food is produced. This would make a connection between the producer and hospitality.

5. PEACEPLUS

The Chief Officer informed members that 13 Tenders have now been awarded, and the initial meetings with the delivery agents are now under way. One tender was advertised twice and had no submissions; discussions are now underway with SEUPB to change the tender to a service level agreement.

The Chief Officer then informed the members that a memo was issued to Cavan County Council from SEUPB in relation to procurement.

SEUPB is content that Local Authorities who fall within the jurisdiction of the Republic of Ireland may proceed to procuring their capital builds for their respective Investment Area 1.1 projects.

This is welcome information and Cavan County Council PEACEPLUS have now commenced work to proceed to procuring their capital projects.