

Minutes of Meeting of Cavan Local Community Development Committee

Date: 28th May 2020

Time: 3.30pm

Location: Online via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Statutory

Mr Brendan Jennings (Director of Services, CCC), Ms Carmel Denning (Dept of EA&SP), Cllr T.P. O'Reilly (Elected Member), Cllr Aiden Fitzpatrick (Elected Member), Cllr Clifford Kelly (Elected Member), John Kearney (CMETB), Marcella Rudden (LEO)

Private Sector Interests

Mr Fintan Mc Cabe (Environmental Interests), Mr Jim Maguire (Breffni Integrated Ltd.), Ms Ada Vance (Women's Interests), Mr Seamus McGrath (Disability Interests), Ms Olive Hannigan (Social Inclusion Interests), Ms Aisling Tobin (Youth Issues), Catherine McCollum (Agricultural & Farming Interests), Mr Tom Brady (Cavan Chamber)

Apologies:

Statutory: Mary Rose Smith (HSE)

Private Sector Interests: None

In attendance:

Mr John Donohoe (Chief Officer), Ms Angela Fitzpatrick (Cavan County Council), Mr Terry Hyland (CEO of Breffni Integrated), Ms Sinead Tormey (Healthy Cavan Coordinator, Cavan County Council),

The Chair (Mr Fintan McCabe) opened the meeting and read out the apologies.

1. Minutes of previous meeting

Minutes were proposed by Cllr Clifford Kelly and seconded by Ada Vance.

2. Matters arising

- a) Paperless LCDC Meetings – The Chief Officer asked Committee members if they would be agreeable to the issuing of all meeting documentation by email only, in advance of future meetings. The Chair agreed, given that preparation and meetings are being done remotely, it would be more practical. This was agreed by the members.
- b) SICAP Mid Year Reporting 2020 – The Chief Officer informed members that the Department and Pobal had agreed that in light of the current challenges being faced by both LCDC's and LDC's, that the timelines submission of SICAP mid-year reports is to be extended for 2020:
- The reporting period will be January 1st to June 30th 2020 (was previously end of May)
 - Mid-year reports must be submitted by 14th July 2020.

It was also agreed that for 2020, Quarter 3 payments to LDC's will not be linked to approval of mid year Reports.

Additional guidance on the mid year reporting process will be issued in the next few weeks.

3. Election of a Vice Chair

The Chair reminded members that Tommy Ryan who stepped down from the LCDC at the end of 2019 had been the Vice Chair. In this regard he said it was necessary to replace the vice chair. The Chair informed members that a Vice-Chairperson of the LCDC is selected by majority decision from among the members of the LCDC. He asked members for nominations. Cllr Clifford Kelly nominated Mr Brendan Jennings. Brendan expressed his appreciation at being nominated and agreed to accept the role if elected. Jim Maguire seconded the proposal to elect Brendan. The Chair called for any other nomination – no further nominations were made. Mr Brendan Jennings was elected Vice Chair of the LCDC.

4. Conflict of Interests

The Chair reminded members of their conflict of interest's responsibilities.

5. Healthy Cavan Update

The Chair informed members, at the LCDC Meeting held on the 16th September 2019 the LCDC supported the approval of the Healthy Ireland Funding proposals for Phase 3 which included actions up to end June 2021. He informed members that Covid19 is impacting on the implementation of many of these actions. He welcomed Ms Sinead Tormey, Healthy Cavan Coordinator to the meeting to provide a brief update on what is happening currently under Healthy Cavan Programme.

Sinead informed members that some work had been completed under approved initiative in advance of Covid19. These included:

- Action 4 - Digital Health Conferences: Bounce back Youth Service and Youth Work Ireland Cavan Monaghan In conjunction with Healthy Cavan, held a Digital Health Conference in March this year in the Hotel Kilmore. The conference was attended by over 1200 young people with 35 primary schools and 6 secondary schools from around the county in the attendance, helping to educate them on how to use the internet safely.
- Community Mental Health Fund Action ran in partnership with Children and Young Peoples Services Committee (CYPSC):
A resilience worker has been recruited through the ISPCC and continues to work remotely. This support is being provided in Cavan Town, Kingscourt and Mullagh areas. It includes one to one therapeutic support work with young people and their families to develop resilience.

Community Mental Health Small Grants Scheme:

Sinead informed members that the Community Mental Health Small Grants Scheme would be advertised in the coming weeks. This funding will be available to local community, voluntary and sporting organisations to deliver actions or projects which are in line with the Mental Health theme of Round 3.

Sinead outlined the measures currently ongoing in response to Covid19. These include:

- Ongoing promotion of health and wellbeing campaigns from Healthy Ireland, Health Service Executive (HSE), Mental Health Ireland MHI including the #InThisTogether and #HoldFirm campaigns.
- Physical activity and mental health supports are promoted daily for both young people and older people on social media.
- Care Box Initiative: Care boxes are filled with essential health and wellbeing items such as: thermometers, disinfectant, hand sanitizer, overnight bags, etc., They also include information leaflets on health and wellbeing. In collaboration with the HSE they will be delivered to vulnerable people in our community including those who are self isolating and cocooning. There are 80 boxes available and individuals will be identified through the HSE.
- In light of recent tragic deaths among young people in the county, a new health and wellbeing committee has been set up by the Cavan GAA County board. Sinead is representing Healthy Cavan on this committee.

Dept. Of Health and Pobal Update

- Communication has been received from the Dept. Of Health and Pobal regarding changes in activity and budgets due to current restrictions. In this context, they are asking LCDCs to review the programme of work to ensure the actions and activities proposed to deliver in the next 12-13 months are realistic and achievable in the context of the current operational environment and the timeframe of the funding (30 June 2021).

Sinead informed the members that she would be sending out templates for changes to the Lead partners and continuing to work with the Healthy Cavan Committee to adjust and introduce meaningful actions at this time. Sinead asked members to contact her if there is any community work being done in response to Covid-19 that members think needs support and funding.

It is hoped to have all actions re-aligned and/or new ones introduced within the next few weeks for approval at the Junes LCDC Meeting.

6. Community Response – Cavan Covid19 Community Call

The Chief Officer provided information on the Community Response and Community Call helpline. He explained that the Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government instructed local authorities to put in place arrangements to ensure that all vulnerable members of our communities affected by the COVID-19 response are appropriately supported as we move through the stages of Covid19 restrictions.

On foot of this, the Community Response Forum was established, which includes wide representation from state, community and voluntary sectors. The forum meets regularly to discuss issues arising and responses required. The Community Call helping was established simultaneously which is operated by local authority staff and is available from 8am to 8pm 7 days per week. The Chief Officer explained that there has been over 600 calls dealt with to date. He said in recent days there has been a noticeable drop in the number of calls especially at the weekend, this reflects supports available throughout the community. Calls still coming from those with no support network. The provision of the helpline service is to be reviewed nationally as the phases of restrictions are reviewed.

Mr Terry Hyland provided information on the work being done with local communities under SICAP. The main points included: Meal on Wheels service was established and is providing meals to over

7. LECP Implementation Plan 2020

The Chair advised members this item was deferred from the February meeting. The review was circulated by email and post in advance of today's meeting.

The Chief Officer provided a brief overview of some of the highlights from the LECP Implementation plan for 2020.

Ada Vance proposed approval of the Implementation Plan. This was seconded by Clifford Kelly.

8. SICAP

Mr Terry Hyland explained that a lot of SICAP work has been diverted in response to Covid19. Much of the work has been done through the Community Response Forum and also through responding to calls received through the Community Call. He outlined some of the main initiatives which are ongoing:

- Food Hubs – providing food in locations all over the county, providing over 600 food parcels each week to households in the county. Support in delivery of same is provided by An Garda Siochana and Cavan Civil Defence.
Terry explained that in order to alleviate potential for dependency on this service those who continue to be in need will now be signed up to the SICAP programme for supports. This will help identify why the need exists and it is hoped that in working with a Community Worker these people will receive the support they need.
- Meals on Wheels – a number of meals on wheels services closed down at the beginning of Covid19 as they were operated by older members of communities. Cavan County Local Development Company (CCLD) set up a Meal on Wheels service to fill gaps where this service was needed across the county. They are currently delivering meals to over 90 people twice each week. The HSE have requested CCLD to look into operating this service on a long term basis – options for providing this on a sustainable, long term basis are currently being reviewed.
- Volunteer Programme – CCLD are the sponsor organisation for Cavan Volunteer Service. All volunteers are garda vetted. As needs arise volunteers are assigned to help. Terry asked members to contact the Community Call Helpline if there is anyone in need.
- Face Masks initiative: Cooperation project between TUS, SICAP and St Vincent de Paul. Tus workers are currently making face masks which are being distributed to community groups across the county. Terry asked members to contact him if they know of any groups who need masks.

Terry also informed members that SICAP work is continuing remotely, meeting clients online. The SICAP plan is being adjusted to meet the Covid19 response.

9. AOB

- The Chief Officer informed members that the Clár Scheme has been announced. Some measures have been amended on previous years to include Covid19 response measure. It will be advertised on the website, social media and print media.
- The Chief Officer also advised members that the Town and Village Scheme has also been announced. The scheme has two strands – the traditional stand and an Accelerated Measure in response to Covid19 which is specifically in relation to adaptations such as pedestrian adaptations, public spaces, recreations areas, picnic areas and how they can be amended in light of social distancing. It was emphasised that the timeframe was quite short on the Accelerated Measure with expressions of interests due by Wednesday 7th June 2020. There are two deadlines – there will be an initial tranche of funding made available quickly. There will be a second round for applications which require more planning.
- Ms Sinead Tormey informed members that the Pride of Place awards are currently being organised. Due to Covid19 usual judge's visits cannot take place so video submissions are required from community groups. Sinead asked members to contact her with any ideas of groups which should be nominated for an award.

Date and time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 25th June 2020 at 3.30pm online via Microsoft Teams.

Signed: _____

Chairman

Date: _____