

Minutes of Economic Development , Enterprise & Planning Strategic Policy Committee Meeting

LEO Cavan Offices, Boardroom CITC Building, Dublin Road, Cavan

Monday 22nd December 2025 @ 11.30am

Present: Cllr. Winston Bennett, Chairperson
Mr Brendan Jennings, Director of Service
Mr Conor Craven, Head of Enterprise
Cllr. Adrian Rogers
Cllr. John Paul Feeley
Cllr. Val Smith
Cllr. Brendan Fay
Cllr. T.P. O'Reilly
Mr. John Donohoe, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Nicholas O'Kane, Senior Planner
Mr. Karl Kelly, Business Advisor, LEO

Apologies: Mr. Richard Moeran
Ms. Connie Whelan
Mr. Michael Lynch
Ms. Caroline Brady
Mr. Darragh Elliott

1. Welcome & Introduction

Chairperson Cllr. Winston Bennett formally welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes from previous Meeting

Minutes from 26th September 2025 were adopted. No matters arising.

Proposed: Cllr. TP O'Reilly

Seconded: Cllr. Brendan Fay

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Update on Large Capital Projects

John Donohoe gave an update on the large capital projects around the county. He advised that the Regional Sports Campus had been awarded an additional €15.036m in funding in October. The Tender document is due to be published in February, with commencement set to begin in the summer of 2026 and the campus is expected to open in late 2028. John stated that the Ballyjamesduff Community Enterprise Hub was awarded €7.6m under RRDF and a local contractor Sandar Construction had started works with an expected completion date of early 2028. He noted that works on St Michael's Hall in Cootehill to a value of €6m will commence in Q2 2026 and continue for a 2 year period.

John also advised 9 projects are being funded under the Clar Programme with the two largest projects being community playgrounds in Bailieborough & Ballyconnell who have received €100,000. Just under €1 million has been approved under the Town & Village Renewal scheme for Mullagh, Killeshandra & Kingscourt.

Cllr. B. Fay acknowledged the good works being undertaken to develop projects around the county. Mr. B. Jennings also acknowledged this but also advised of the economic spin off that these projects bring to the county.

5. Local Enterprise Office (LEO) Update

The Head of Enterprise provided an update on the work the LEO has done in 2025. He discussed Mentoring, Training, Lean for Business, Digital for Business, Green for Business along with the value of all the Grant supports provided to the Businesses during the year. He also provided an update on the Created in Cavan Food and Drink Network. Cllr. TP O'Reilly commended the LEO team on the work they do with local businesses.

6. Review of SPC Works Programme 2025

CC gave a recap of the activities of the SPC over the past year. Under the Local Economic Community Plan he mentioned Mixer Sauces moving into their new unit in March 2025, the new IDA building that is ready to open and Clubspot that exited the Cavan Digital Hub and moved into their own premises in Stradone. In relation to the New Economic Strategy for Cavan he advised that an update will be given at the next SPC meeting. He also mentioned the opening of the new premises at PQE in the Cootehill Enterprise Park on 19th December which provides for 50/60 jobs.

BJ advised that the Council have recently sold 2 sites in the Cootehill Enterprise Park. The Chairperson asked if the space previously occupied by Clubspot had been filled in the Cavan Digital Hub to which he was advised that there is generally a 70% occupancy rate at present and there is a time delay in a business leaving and being able to secure a suitable replacement.

7. Membership of SPC

It was noted that the representative of the construction pillar at SPC meetings hasn't attended the past 4 meetings and that action would need to be taken to address this. BJ advised he would approach the representative.

8. AOB

TO O'Reilly asked if the issue with connections to Irish Water for Retail Unit space had been relieved. BJ advised that the cost to each business is substantial and the issue is based on anticipated water use and the issue was still ongoing.

9. Date of Next Meeting

6th February 2026 at 10am

Cllr. Bennett thanked all members and closed the meeting.

Signed: Wendy L Bennett
Chairperson

Date: 13.2.26