



**Minutes of Kilkenny Local Community Development Committee  
Meeting held on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, 2022 in the Council  
Chamber, County Hall, John Street, Kilkenny.**

**In attendance:** Declan Gibbons, PPN Community Pillar- Chair  
Sean McKeown, A/ Chief Executive Officer  
Aileen McGrath, Local Enterprise Office  
Eileen Curtis, Education Training Board  
Angela Hayes, Teac Tom.  
Sheila Donnelly – FRC  
Michael A Fitzgerald, IFA,  
Denis Drennan CKLP,  
Martin Rochford- PPN Environment Pillar  
Paul O 'Rahilly – PPN Social Inclusion

**Also present:** Annette Fitzpatrick, Katherine Peacock and Cora Nolan,  
Kilkenny County Council.

**Administrative**

**Apologies:** Margaret Clancy, Chamber of Commerce, Cllr. Ger Frisby, Julieanne Power, DEASP, Derval Howley HSE, Cllr. Joe Lyons, Cllr. Mick McCarthy.

**Minutes of Previous Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Proposed by Eileen Curtis, Seconded by Sheila Donnelly

**Minutes of Joint Meeting of SPC 1 & LCDDC held on 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2022.**

Proposed by Angela Hayes, Seconded by Martin Rochford and agreed.

**Matters Arising**

None

**Conflicts of interest**

None.

## **Membership**

Declan welcomed Katherine Peacock Administrative Officer, in place of Lindsey Butler in the Community Department.

### **1. Items for discussion and decision**

### **2. Oversight and Implementation of the community element of the Local Economic and Community Plan including Local and Community Development Coordination and oversight**

#### **Presentation Helena Power KTCM - Community Development Pilot Project**

Declan as chair welcomed Helena Power and Stephen Plunkett to the meeting from KTCM to present an update on the Community Development Pilot Project.

Helena gave a presentation which included the following: -

- The impact the Community Development Programme has had on KTCM, providing staff through CDP means there is somewhere that travellers can go for support.
- Improved engagement with Traveller Services, key actions, outputs and outcomes, building a rapport.
- The key messages, build and expand network, focus on traveller leadership and youth, create more opportunities to listen.
- Key outcomes, develop self-esteem, confidence and capacity within the community, inspire a belief through delivery of programmes and communication, set the direction.
- The impact, progress and growth, after schools 40 children, 24 people engaged in educational workshop, older groups, 10 young travellers on the Youth Council, healthy streets programme etc.
- Communication and visibility, Youth Council development & involvement and events, social media engagement, rolling out cultural and education programmes for primary and secondary school, organising events to promote Traveller culture and heritage.
- Going forward, time and continued support to evolve KTCM and Traveller leadership, understanding current Travellers existing activities, actively manage strategy on an ongoing basis, set standards, create interest and demand for KTCM's initiatives.

A number of committee members including Sheila Donnelly, Eileen Curtis, Sean McKeown, Angela Hayes and Declan Gibbons, congratulated Helena and Stephen on the fantastic work being done.

KTCM require a bigger space to meet the demand, a waiting list is in place to try and accommodate everyone on programmes.

A query arose on hubs dealing with disabilities. KTCM aim to make all spaces safe and accessible.

Technology is huge barrier, 56 on a waiting list to avail of LTI programme.

### **LECP Update**

Annette Fitzpatrick gave an update on the LECP,

The website is up and running [www.yourkilkennylecp.ie](http://www.yourkilkennylecp.ie)

All links are on website which has been circulated to stakeholders. Today at 5.00p.m. is the last day for completing the survey online. The Community stakeholders met on 19<sup>th</sup> September and the Economic stakeholders are meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September.

Dates for virtual event and one in person event. Must preregister

**Castlecomer (virtual event) – Friday 7th October, 19:00-21:00**

**Callan-Thomastown (virtual event) – Monday 10th October, 19:00-21:00**

**Piltown (virtual event) – Wednesday 12th October, 19:00-21:00**

### **Attend an in-person event**

Or register to attend public workshop in Kilkenny City

**Kilkenny City – Ormonde Hotel, Kilkenny, - Wednesday 5th October, 19:00-21:00**

The overall process has 6 stages. Stage 2 is public consultation, proposed joint meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November in person. Its is hoped to adopt the final LECP at the April 2023 Council meeting.

There were a number of queries.

Declan thanked Annette for the update.

## **3. Citizen Engagement and Promotion of Social Inclusion**

### **PPN Report and Update**

Martin Rochford gave the PPN report

## **4. Items for Information and Information Sharing**

None.

## **5. AOB**

None

## **6. Report from Agencies**

**Sean McKeown A/CEO**

Sean advised that a monthly Chief Executives report is presented every month at the Council Meeting and is available on the Kilkenny County Council website.

Budget is the biggest challenge going forward, Elected members agreed LPT will remain the same for 2023. Hopefully the budget next week will announce support packages for Local Authorities.

Dearbhala Ledwidge is now heading up Climate Action Team. Sean also updated on Ukrainians living in Kilkenny, housing, Kilkenny Day on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October, new South East Technological University.

### **Eileen Curtis ETB**

Return to normality in September, challenge also with utility costs, inflation, hoping support packages for schools will be announced in the budget. Delivery of 2 new schools in Bregagh Valley, both have received planning permission.

Strategy statement launched, Application made to Solas hoping to be successful.

Providing ongoing support to Ukrainian refugees at the end of June, 90 students were in school in Kilkenny.

Simon Harris Minister Higher Education announced grant of over one million with significant investment in Grennan Equestrian Centre. Waiting outcome of 2<sup>nd</sup> application for Ormonde College.

### **Aileen McGrath LEO**

A number of courses/programmes being organised, a successful programme in conjunction with KLP for Ukrainian went very well. Start-up business course will run again if demand is there.

Cookie co-op attended the ploughing championship and it went really well. National Women's Enterprise Day is Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> of October in Mountain View, Ballyhale.

### **Denis Drennan KLP**

Update on the response to the Ukrainian, won bid for Local Area Employment services, manager appointed looking for a premises in Carlow. Piltown/Fiddown broadband project won a national award now nominated in European award next month out of 111 nominees, Piltown are representing Ireland, hopefully Piltown will inspire other communities/towns.

### **Sheila FRC**

Working right through the summer with Ukrainians, a lot of trauma, play therapy going well with children. Won an award investing in Children, parents hub set up in the FRC working out great, especially for Ukrainians.

**AOB**

Healthy Ireland Round 4 – Provide a framework for next round of funding, once receive documents 10 weeks to complete local strategy.

A vote of sympathy was passed to Annette Fitzpatrick.

**Dates of Meetings for 2022**

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November at 10.30 a.m.