

**Miontuairiscí ó Chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil na Gaillimhe a
tionóladh ar 16ú Márta 2021, ag 5.30 p.m.**

Minutes of Galway County Local Community Development Committee held on
16th March, 2021, at 5.30 p.m.

Present:

Cllr. Noel Thomas, LA Member (Chairperson)	Public
Kevin Kelly, Interim Chief Executive	Public
Breda Fox, Head of Local Enterprise	Public
Michael Keady, HSE West	Public
Cllr. Karey McHugh Farag, LA Member	Public
Ruairi O'Neill, Údarás na Gaeltachta	Public
Donal Walsh, GRETB	Public
Terry Keenan, FORUM Connemara Ltd (Vice-Chairperson)	Community
Steve Dolan, Galway Rural Development	Community
Máire Ui Mhaoláin, Comhar na nOileán Teo	Community
Margaret Sheehan, PPN Environment	Community
Dan Dowling, PPN Community	Community
Kathleen Aspel Mortimer, PPN Social Inclusion	Community
Martin Ward, PPN Social Inclusion	Community
Seán Ó Coistealbha, PPN Community	Community

Apologies:

Tom Turley, IFA	Community
Cllr. Padraig Mac An Iomaire, LA Member	Public
Regina Higgins, Dept. Social Protection	Public
Kenny Deery, Galway Chamber	Public

Also in Attendance:

Kieran Coyne, Mary McGann, Rita Tansey, Galway County Council.

N. Thomas welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the apologies received from those unable to attend.

**1 Miontuairiscí ó chruinniú an Choiste um Fhorbairt Pobail Áitiúil a tionóladh ar an 3ú Feabhra 2021
Minutes of Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) held on 3rd February 2021**

N. Thomas asked if there were any matters arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting and none were declared.

On the **PROPOSAL** of D. Dowling, **SECONDED** by K. Aspel Mortimer, the Minutes of the Meeting held on 3rd February were **APPROVED**.

2 Céadú: Ciste Éigeandála COVID-19 Babhta 2

Approvals: COVID-19 Emergency Fund Round 2

M. McGann informed the members that the LCDC sub-committee met and had reviewed the COVID-19 Emergency Fund applications. M. McGann presented the proposed allocations to the members for approval. There was a total allocation of €54,589.00 and 79 applications were received. Following the assessment process by the sub-committee, 45 applications were recommended for approval. The breakdown of the total allocation across the categories which could be supported under the Fund were:

- €19,250.00 for frontline services
- €29,100.00 in contributions towards running costs of Community Facilities
- €5,730.00 towards Keep Well activities.

3 Céadú: Meabhairshláinte sa Phobal – Scéim na nDeontas Beag

Approvals: Community Mental Health Fund – Small-scale Grants Scheme

M. McGann confirmed that 30 applications were received under the Community Mental Health Fund – Small-scale Grants Scheme. These applications were reviewed by the Health & Welfare sub-committee. M. McGann informed the members that 14 of the applications were deemed unsuccessful and 2 were moved to other areas for funding. M. McGann stated that, of the remaining 14 applications that were eligible, 8 of these applications were funded, covering a variety of wellbeing activities, a pilot social prescribing programme and targeted of various marginalised or vulnerable groups.

N. Thomas thanked M. McGann for the presentation and details in relation to the COVID-19 Emergency Fund and Community Mental Health Fund – Small-scale Grants Schemes. K. Aspel Mortimer stated that these grants make a very positive impact on the community groups giving the example of how the funding assisted their Group to make a booklet based on musical memories of participants in her area. N. Thomas agreed and stated that we are in difficult times and funding for groups for wellbeing and mental health is very important.

On the **PROPOSAL** of Ruairi O'Neill, **SECONDED** by Seán Ó Coistealbha, the allocations for COVID-19 Emergency Fund and Community Mental Health Fund – Small-scale Grants Schemes were approved.

4 Céadú: Tuarascáil Bhliantúil LCDC 2020

Approval: Annual Report of LCDC 2020

M. McGann gave a brief overview of the LCDC Annual Report 2020, highlighting the number of meetings, attendance, programmes etc throughout 2020.

N. Thomas stated that the year had been a difficult one under the circumstances and thanked the members for their input throughout the year. N. Thomas observed that the attendance figures were disappointing but M. McGann stated that with the virtual meetings the attendance had improved.

Approval of the Galway County LCDC report was **PROPOSED** by K. Kelly and **SECONDED** by M. Sheehan.

5 Tionscadal Píolótach Tithe Sláintiúla **Healthy Homes Pilot Project**

M. McGann gave a brief outline of the Healthy Homes Pilot Project and stated that this was a 2 year pilot project developed by Age Friendly Ireland and that the programme was centred around the person rather than solely focusing on the provision of a house - it was about combining housing needs, health needs and community supports. M. McGann confirmed that 9 Age Friendly Programmes were selected as host counties and Galway County & City Councils were one of these selected.

K. Kelly thanked Mary for her input on this project, he felt this co-ordinated approach to date had been slow but hopes to see a willingness on the part of all the agencies involved to do more. M. Ward felt this is the way forward and stated that it was great to see the LCDC and Galway County Council involved at the beginning and felt it should be focused on the older people. K. Aspel Mortimer felt this will be a very positive project and said that Connemara Care will give any assistance they can to the project. S. Ó Coistealbha asked if there was only 1 person being appointed under this project for both City & County Councils and where they would be located and M. McGann confirmed it was 1 Co-ordinator and they would be located in the Galway County Council offices. N. Thomas said that it is important to keep people happy in their own homes as long as possible and projects like this are great but will involve a lot of work and co-ordination. D. Dowling asked about the criteria on how people were selected and what input Age Action will have as he is very involved with Age Action in Ballinasloe.

M. McGann replied that the project is only starting and will initially focus on referrals from the Galway Integrated Care for Older Persons Programme (GICOP) which is administered by the HSE, and that there won't be referrals from the general public until a Rightsizing Policy has been adopted locally – a national draft template has just been circulated to all local authorities to commence this process. Initially, the process will also concentrate on liaising with all Approved Housing Bodies and ensuring that all housing stock suitable for older persons is registered so that all available options are identified to strengthen the capacity of the rehousing process. M McGann advised that as the programme is rolled out, there will be further discussions and consultations with the LCDC.

6 Tionscadal Píolótach Forbartha Pobail **Community Development Pilot Programme**

M. McGann advised that this funding scheme was now open for applications and 8 pilot projects with a community approach to working with marginalised communities will be selected for funding by a departmental DRCD panel. M. McGann confirmed that the funding will range from €120,000 to €140,000 over 3 years going towards employment of community development workers, programme costs, research and evaluation but stated that it does not go towards Capital Costs. M. McGann informed the members that the LCDC's will have an oversight role of any projects funded in their functional area in addition to providing support to the organisation through advice and signposting to other sources of funding. The Pilot projects will present to the LCDC for information purposes in the initial 12 months of funding and as agreed locally thereafter.

7 Dáta don chéad chruinniú eile
Date of next meeting

Date of next meeting was arranged for Tuesday, 27th April, at 4.30pm.

8 Aon ghnó eile
Any other business

M. McGann advised that Clár 2021 funding has been announced and outlined the various measures under which funding was available, in particular, a new Innovation Measure which will provide funding between €5,000 - €50,000 for innovative or pilot projects which address specific challenges of Clár areas such as rural isolation, village decline, service accessibility, population change, social disadvantage and marginalization. M. McGann advised that applications could be submitted across a number of Clár areas and invited LCDC Members to revert with any ideas which would address the identified issues.

K. Coyne advised the members that he is in the process of putting together a report to the Department of Rural and Community Development regarding feedback on positive and negative aspects of the existing LECP process. He said there is an LECP advisory group set up and they will initially be revising the guidelines for the development of LECP's. K. Coyne stated that he will revert to the members when he has more details from the LECP advisory group. N. Thomas asked when it will be finalised and K. Coyne replied that he could not confirm dates as the timelines were behind schedule due to Covid 19.

Noll Thomas
Clr. N. Thomas, Chairperson

Kiernan Coyne
K. Coyne, Chief Officer

Date: 27/4/21

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