

Kildare Local Action Group

Minutes

Held at 10:00 am on Wednesday 26th April 2017

At Áras Chill Dara, Naas

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Members in Attendance:

Statutory	Non-Statutory
<p>Local Government Elected Members Cllr. Fintan Brett Cllr. Mark Wall</p> <p>Local Government Officials Peter Carey, LCDC Chairperson & Chief Executive KCC</p> <p>State Agencies David Walsh, Chief Officer, HSE Eoghan Ryan, Principal Officer, DSP</p>	<p>Partnership Companies Patricia O’Brien, Chairperson of CKLP</p> <p>Local Community Interests David Walsh, An Taisce Anthony Egan, Chair, C&VF Allan Shine, CEO, North Kildare Chamber Pat Doyle, CEO, Peter McVerry Trust Mary Waters, IFA</p>

Also in Attendance: Christine O’Grady (A/Chief Officer LCDC); Susan Bookle (Co-ordinator LCDC); Marie Kane (Administrator LCDC); Pat Leogue (CKLP); Brian Kelly (CKLP)

Apologies: Lisa Baggott (Co-ordinator SWRDATF); Jacqui McNabb (Head of LEO)

Peter Carey welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Kildare Local Action Group and he outlined that the purpose of the meeting was to review the LEADER Expressions of Interest for Rural Tourism Projects which had been circulated to all LAG members in advance.

1. Overview of the Expression of Interest Process – CKLP

Pat Leogue and Brian Kelly from CKLP outlined that following the first call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) for Rural Tourism projects, 58 EOIs were received. 13 of the EOIs have been deemed ineligible by CKLP and these will be referred to other LEADER calls which are scheduled in 2017 or to other relevant agencies or sources of funding. All LAG members in attendance agreed that the 13 EOIs were ineligible to apply for LEADER funding in the Rural Tourism Category (Appendix 1 – list of ineligible EOIs)

Pat Leogue said the eligible EOIs will be invited to prepare and submit a full application for LEADER funding. He outlined that a number of workshops will be run by CKLP on: application and business plan preparation focusing on financial management and the procurement process. Brian outlined that not all eligible EOIs will submit a proposal and added that there is no guarantee of funding even if they do submit a full proposal. Pat Doyle suggested that CKLP make applicants aware that there are a large number of applications and it will be a very competitive process. Pat Leogue reminded LAG members of the strict confidentiality rules in relation to the selection process.

Brian gave a brief overview of each of the eligible EOIs. All LAG members present at the meeting were satisfied that the EOIs met with the agreed criteria in the LDS and that there was a good geographical spread and variation of projects.

Brian highlighted an additional ineligible EOI (i.e. Naas Tidy Towns – Naas Neighbourhood Greenway project) as the grant assistance sought of €1,500 is less than the agreed threshold (Appendix 2 – 1 additional ineligible EOI). It was agreed by the LAG that this is an additional ineligible EOI.

A query arose in relation to a number of applications from the same address. Brian confirmed that it is a requirement in the operating rules that CKLP carry out cross checks with other funding agencies as part of the application process and said they had no concerns at this stage of the process.

Pat L said CKLP have sought tenders to sub-contract workshops for applicants in Procurement and Financial Management. All LAG members agreed that CKLP should proceed with the procurement of specialist services for this purpose.

Pat D. asked CKLP if LAG members could be provided with a county map of where the EOIs came from. He said from a SICAP perspective he would be interested to see how many EOIs come from areas of disadvantage and if not, is it due to capacity issues. CKLP agreed that they could provide such a map for the next LAG meeting.

Actions/Agreements:

- ***All LAG members in attendance agreed that the 13 EOIs listed in Appendix 1 were ineligible to apply for LEADER funding in the Rural Tourism Category (Appendix 1).***
- ***An additional EOI was deemed ineligible (i.e. Naas Tidy Towns – Naas Neighbourhood Greenway project) as the grant assistance sought of €1,500 is less than the agreed threshold (Appendix 2). Therefore, 14 EOI in total are ineligible to apply for LEADER funding under this category.***
- ***All LAG members present at the meeting were satisfied that the eligible EOIs met with the agreed criteria in the LDS and should be invited to prepare & submit a full application for LEADER funding***
- ***All LAG members agreed that CKLP should proceed with a tender to subcontract specialist services in relation to Procurement and Financial Management workshop provision***
- ***CKLP agreed to provide a map of Kildare for the next LAG meeting outlining the areas where the EOIs originate from***

2. Budget

Pat Leogue asked the LAG to consider CKLPs request to combine the project budget for 2017 and 2018 for the Rural Tourism call and also for the remaining three calls which are scheduled for 2017. Pat said the Department have confirmed that the LAG may decide to fund projects beyond the originally advertised funding amount where the LAG is satisfied that this does not disadvantage any potential applicant. All LAG members agreed with combining the operational budget for 2017/2018.

Pat L added that due to internal reorganisation within CKLP the operational/administration budget for 2017 will need to be adjusted. Pat will bring the details to the next LAG meeting for approval.

Pat L said it is highly likely that the 2017 budget will not be spent. He suggested the areas that could be fast-tracked in 2017 as follows:

- Rural Youth Training for empowerment & employment initiative (S.A. 6.1)
- Biodiversity awareness & protections programme (S.A. 8.1)

It was agreed by the LAG that the 2 Strategic Actions 6.1, 8.1 would be rolled out in 2017.

Actions/Agreements:

- **All LAG members at the meeting agreed with CKLP's proposal to combine the project budgets for 2017 and 2018**
- **Pat Leogue will provide details of proposed adjustments to the 2017 Administration budget at the next LAG meeting**
- **It was agreed by LAG members that Strategic Actions 6.1 and 8.1 would be included in the 2017 implementation plan**

3. Evaluation Committee

Pat Leogue recommended that the Evaluation Committee be set up not later than July as all applicants will have 3 months to prepare their proposals. Susan Bookle and David Walsh (HSE) agreed to meet soon to discuss the establishment of the Evaluation Committee.

Actions/Agreements:

- **Susan and David Walsh (HSE) will meet to discuss the establishment of the LEADER Evaluation Committee.**

4. Any other business

- Peter Carey outlined that following the very positive feedback received from the Department after their attendance at the LCDC meeting on 1st March, 2/3 representatives from Kildare LCDC will present at an inter-departmental meeting on 3rd May.
- Susan Bookle gave an overview of the recently announced Community Facilities Grant Scheme which is to be administered by the LCDC. Each county will receive a total of €64,500. The Department guidelines recommended €1,000 grant per project but it is being proposed that Kildare LCDC support one project per MD for a total amount of €12,900 focusing on two LECP target areas of Disadvantaged Youth and Disadvantaged Men. All members agreed with this proposal and Christine O'Grady said she would follow it up with a letter to all LCDC members outlining the details.

Actions/Agreements:

- **LAG members present agreed that the Community Facilities Scheme should support one project per MD to the value of €12,900. Christine O'Grady agreed to follow up with a letter to LCDC members outlining the details of the proposed scheme.**

5. Date of Next Meeting

The next LCDC meeting is on Wednesday 24th May 10.00am – 12.00pm

Signed: _____

Mr. Peter Carey

LAG Chairperson

Appendix 1 – 13 Ineligible Expressions of Interest

13 Expressions of Interest Received and Deemed Ineligible Total Grant Aid Sought: €555,200.00

Applicant Name	Naas United Football Club
Applicant's Address	c/o 7 Aylmer Park, Naas, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Pitch development, new ride-on mower, new generator and new pitch marker
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€10,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible under this call – this is not a Rural Tourism Project
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	Kildare Sports Partnership and Sports Capital Programme

Applicant Name	Gabrielle Noble
Applicant's Address	'de Derls', Brannockstown, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Setting up new craft-jewellery business, purchase of garden-workshop unit
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€1,700.00

Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible under this call – this is not a Rural Tourism Project
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	RDP-LEADER call for Enterprise Projects

Applicant Name	Mary O'Connor
Applicant's Address	94 Roseville, Naas, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Residential rehabilitation facility for equine physiotherapy service
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€75,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible under this call – this is not a Rural Tourism Project
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	RDP-LEADER call for Enterprise Projects

Applicant Name	Derrybeg Community Supported Farm
Applicant's Address	Farm Address: Mooretown, Maynooth Road, Celbridge, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Following a fire and vandalism at the farm in November 2016 the Promoters plan to purchase new tools and invest in a storage facility
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€5,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	In-eligible under this call – this is not a Rural Tourism Project
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	RDP-LEADER call for Enterprise Projects

Applicant Name	Fran & Laura Berry
Applicant's Address	Gilltown, Kilcullen, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Construction of pre-quarantine stables for horse export. Promoters have purchased 10 acres of land in Gilltown, Kilcullen to set up a pre-quarantine facility to allow the expansion of their bloodstock company.
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€50,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible under this call – not a Rural Tourism Project.
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	Appropriate Equine Organisation

Applicant Name	Monasterevin Youth Action
Applicant's Address	Main Street, Monasterevin, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Promoters are currently in the process of establishing a dedicated youth space in the centre of town and seek grant assistance on completing the plumbing works for this project.
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€5,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	In-eligible under this call – this is not a Rural Tourism project.
Link to L.E.C.P.	

Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	RDP-LEADER call for Youth Facilities and Amenities

Applicant Name	Ballyshannon Community Hall
Applicant's Address	c/o Ballyshannon National School, Athy Road, Kilcullen, Co. Kildare
Project Description	To upgrade and improve the Ballyshannon Community Hall which is in need of renovation
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€135,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible under this call – not a Rural Tourism project.
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	RDP-LEADER call for Community Infrastructure

Applicant Name	Silken Thomas Ltd.
Applicant's Address	Silken Thomas, Market Square, Kildare Town, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Restoration of the Gate House which was originally one of four tower houses which made up Kildare Castle. Plan to create a two bedroom suite on the upper two floors with an accessible roof at the top, appealing to clientele who want to experience a castle stay.
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€50,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible – this is an enhancement of an existing bar & restaurant business.
Link to L.E.C.P.	
To be referred to:	Failte Ireland

Applicant Name	Little Oak Equestrian Centre
Applicant's Address	Downings North, Prosperous, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Redevelopment of existing 60mx40m riding arena to include installation of new French drains, recovery of old surface, new membrane, new sand, rubber & fibre surface and new post and rail fencing.
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€23,500.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible – this is not a tourism based enterprise. Will be included under the call for Enterprise Based Projects.
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	RDP-LEADER call for Enterprise Projects
Applicant Name	Kilcock Tourism Group
Applicant's Address	24 Ryebriidge Rise, Kilcock, County Kildare
Project Description	The Project Promoters propose to install two micro hydro power generators between the Royal Canal and the Rye River near Kilcock at existing water abstraction locations. One of these locations is in County Kildare and the other in County Meath. The Project Promoters seek grant assistance towards the generator in County Kildare.
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€50,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible under this call – not a Rural Tourism project

Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	RDP-LEADER call for Renewable Energy Projects

Applicant Name	Kilcock Tourism Group
Applicant's Address	24 Ryebriidge Rise, Kilcock, County Kildare
Project Description	The Project Promoters believe that there is little or no transparency within the county in relation tourism policies and resources. The Promoters seek grant assistance towards the facilitation of a Kildare Tourism Marketing strategy.
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€50,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible – this project would give rise to displacement as the proposed project comes under the remit of County Kildare Failte.
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	

Applicant Name	McAuley Place
Applicant's Address	McAuley Place, Sallins Road, Naas, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Phase 3 of a Health Through Learning Centre at McAuley Place, Naas. Phase 1 was restoration of the listed building, Phase 2 was bringing services to the building. Phase 3 will build a new room to the building which will be a creative/crafting/making room open to the entire community.
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€50,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible under this call. This is not a tourism based project, will be included under the call for Community Infrastructure.
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	RDP-LEADER call for Community Infrastructure Projects

Applicant Name	Wendy Quinlan
Applicant's Address	Bishop Lodge, Bishopland, Ballymore Eustace, Co. Kildare
Project Description	The Project Promoters are currently producing polo ponies by retraining thoroughbreds that don't make it on to the track. The Promoters have had interest in polo holidays the past two years and now wish to convert old farm buildings which need work to make them suitable for horses.
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€50,000.00
Eligibility in Principle	Ineligible under this call
Link to L.E.C.P.	
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	
To be referred to:	RDP-LEADER call for Enterprise Projects

Appendix 2 – 1 additional ineligible EOI

Applicant Name	Naas Tidy Towns
Applicant's Address	5 Maple Drive, Oldtown, Demense, Naas, Co. Kildare
Project Description	Naas Neighbourhood Greenway. This is a greenway which will create a network throughout the town and connect Sallins, Kill and Johnstown. Seeking grant assistance toward a sign in Naas Canal Harbour.
Estimated Grant Aid Sought	€1,500.00
Eligibility in Principle	Eligible in Principle, but grant assistance sought is not in the €5,000 to €50,000 threshold.
Link to L.E.C.P.	Objective 3.6
Link to County Kildare L.D.S.	S.A. 1.2