**Minutes of Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) Meeting   
held 30th October, 2015**

**Present:** Cllr. Andrew McGuinness, Elected Representative

Colette Byrne, CEO, Kilkenny County Council

Cllr David Fitzgerald, Elected Representative

Declan Rice, County Kilkenny Leader Partnership  
 Cllr. Eamon Aylward, Elected Representative  
 Elizabeth Dermody, Social Inclusion Pillar

Fergus Keane, Social Inclusion Pillar  
 John Bambrick, Irish Farmers Association  
 Loretto O’Driscoll, Teagasc

Martin Carroll, Community Pillar  
 Cllr. Mary Hilda Cavanagh, Elected Representative

Mary O’Hanlon, Social Inclusion Pillar  
 Niall McManus, Environmental Pillar  
 PJ Cleere, Social Inclusion Pillar  
 Sean McKeown, Local Enterprise Office

Sheila Donnelly, Community Pillar

**In Attendance :** Nickey Brennan, Interim Independent Chairman,   
 Maria Melia, Chief Officer

Lindsey Butler, Senior Community Development Officer

Brid Hynes, Senior Community Development Officer   
Lisa Bourke, Community & Culture Dept

**Apologies:** Eileen Curtis, Carlow Kilkenny Education Training Board  
Mary Barron, Department of Social Protection

**Absent:** Martin Costello, Kilkenny Chamber of Commerce

**Item 1 - Minutes**The minutes of the previous meetings were adopted on the proposal of Loretto O’Driscoll and seconded by PJ Cleere.

**Item 2 –** **Matters Arising**Sympathies were offered to Colette Byrne on the recent passing of her brother in law John Lynam.

**Item 3 – Update on LECP**Sean McKeown gave an update on the economic section of the LECP giving details of works completed to date and timelines for the remained of works to be completed.   
  
Lindsey Butler gave details on the work completed to date on the community actions. Some follow up with agencies has been required regarding some actions and gaps, amendments have been requested before 11th December, 2015.

It is proposed by Cllr Eamon Aylward and seconded by Elizabeth Dermody that the draft LECP would be on public display from the 6th to the 30th November, 2015. The plan must be presented to SPC 1 and the LCDC on 11th December, 2015 for approval and presented to the full council on 21st December, 2015.

Members were asked to approve the wording for the LECP vision statement. The following was agreed on majority vote –

*Kilkenny is a great place to live, work and play; offering its citizens dignity, security and the capacity to participate to their maximum potential through:*

* Supporting the Enterprise Economy
* Facilitating Innovation and Entrepreneurship
* Enhancing the Visitor Experience
* Enhancing Educational Attainment and Skills Development
* Developing the Rural Economy
* Advancing Access and Communications Infrastructure
* Fostering Leadership and Capacity
* Protecting and Utilising the Natural, Cultural and Built Environment
* Contributing to Regional Growth and International Potential
* Addressing Area based Poverty and Disadvantage
* Addressing Poverty and Social Exclusion
* Enhancing Community Facilities and Participation
* Improving Health and Well-being

Declan Rice and Eamon Aylward excused themselves from the meeting for the duration of the LDS discussion.

**Item 4 – Update of Local Development Strategy (LDS)**Brid Hynes circulated a progress report on the LDS detailing works completed to date, dates of working group meetings and next steps required. Referring to the option of sending draft chapters to Pobal for review/feedback by 31st October, 2015 the LDS working group feel that this is an unachievable deadline and recommend that the LCDC write to Pobal to avail of the option to extend this deadline to 27th November, 2015. This recommendation was approved by PJ Cleere and seconded by Mary O’Hanlon. The LDS working group have further recommended that the original target date of mid January, 2016 for completion of the LDS be extended by a minimum of one month. This recommendation was approved by Elizabeth Dermody and seconded by Sheila Donnelly. The LCDC also agreed to participate in a focused workshop relating to the LDS on Friday 8th January, 2016.

Collette Byrne stated that being new to the county she has asked to meet with representatives from Kilkenny LEADER Partnership. She intended to take the opportunity to engage with them informally. Anything discussed with regard to LCDC will be brought back to the members of the LCDC. Committee members did wish to point out that they had already unanimously reached their decision and any changes to this will have to be discussed/agreed with the committee.

**Item 5 – AOB**Niall McManus stated that the Public Participation Network (PPN) Plenary meeting was scheduled to take place on 3rd November, 2015. He stated that communication from the Strategic Policy Committee’s (SPC’s) has indicated that lots of people are still in a solo mind set, it is hoped to reiterate to them that they are ultimately representing the plenary and reporting to them. He also stated that the process to recruit a PPN resource worker has begun, which will hopefully greatly grow the PPN.

Lindsey Butler informed the members of a Regional Support Event for LCDC’s scheduled for 20th November, 2015 in the Ashling Hotel, Dublin

Colette Byrne referring to this committee’s role in co-ordinating activities in County Kilkenny suggested that agencies with substantial resources/activities not represented on the LCDC would be invited to present to the committee to inform members of their plans and how the community can interact. Colette also stated that a public notice is to be issued on 9th November, 2015 inviting submissions on proposed boundary extensions (Kilkenny/Waterford).

Nickey Brennan stated that Maria Melia, Director of Services would replace Kevin Hanley as Chief Officer, he wished to thank Kevin for his work to date. Nickey reminded members of the need to appoint a permanent LCDC Chairman and it is proposed to do that at the next meeting of the LCDC which will be held on 11th December, 2015.

This concluded the business of the meeting.