

Minutes of the Meeting of the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee, Held on 16th January 2018 at 10.00am in MIC St. Patrick's Campus, Cathedral Street, Thurles.

In Attendance:

Members of Council	Sectoral Interests	Staff
Cllr John Crosse Chair	T.J. Kinsella - County Tipperary Chamber	Kathleen Prendergast, Economic Development Officer
Cllr John Hogan		Sinead Carr, Director of Services
Cllr Tom Wood		Attracta Lyons, Economic Development Officer
Dr Phyll Bugler		Patricia Spillane, Clerical Officer
Cllr Martin Browne		

Apologies: Rita Guinan, Noel Byrne, Seamus Hoyne, Cllr. Siobhan Ambrose, Cllr. Kieran Bourke and Cllr. Seamus Hanafin.

1. Welcome

Cllr Crosse proceeded to welcome all concerned to the meeting.

2. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on the 12th December 2017 were agreed and there was no matters arising. Adoption of the Minutes was proposed by T.J Kinsella and seconded by Cllr John Hogan.

3. LECP 2015-2020: To Report on 2017 Annual Economic Plan

This is the second year the LECP is reporting to the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee. The Committee approves the plan for 2018 before the integrated report is presented to Tipperary County Council in February 2018.

A Lyons explained the structure and purpose behind the presentation of this report to members as follows

- The LECP is a 6 year integrated community and economic strategy and each year an annual action plan is derived from this plan
- The Economic Development Strategy Policy Committee has responsibility for the oversight and monitoring of the economic actions contained within this document
- The LCDC has responsibility for the oversight and monitoring of the community actions contained within this document
- In order to ensure there is clarity between the two sections, to ensure there is no overlap or duplication and to ensure there is consistency of reporting and coordination of activity, an LECP Advisory Group meets twice a year to review same and make recommendations to both the LCDC and the SPC. The LECP Advisory Group is made up of representatives of both the LCDC and the SPC as well as some external personnel who are expert in this area
- The Economic SPC therefore has a responsibility to be informed of and to note the community elements of this plan and to be informed of and make a decision

around the appropriateness of the economic elements of this plan (the LCDC does likewise for the community elements)

On this basis, a report was circulated to all members of the committee prior to the meeting and an Economic Annual Plan Summary Report 2017 was circulated at the meeting. The Summary report outlined key successful actions in 2017 under the headings below;

- Promote and Support Economic Development Opportunities
- Improve Sustainability of County's Energy Use
- Identify and address Skills Deficit and Vulnerable Sectors
- Enterprise Support and Innovation
- Maximize Attractiveness of County as a Place to Invest

The report was noted and approved by members on the proposal of Cllr John Hogan and seconded by Cllr Martin Browne.

Attracta Lyons reminded the committee about an invitation that was circulated to them for the official launch of the report commissioned by Local Enterprise Office Tipperary (LEO) and Tipperary Education & Training Board (ETB), highlighting the training & educational supports and gaps identified by companies in the County. This is been held in The Anner Hotel, Thurles on Thursday, 18th January at 6pm.

4. To agree 2018 Economic Action Plan.

A draft Economic Action Plan for 2018 was circulated to the committee prior to the meeting. Attracta Lyons outlined the content of same in summary. Adoption of the action plan was proposed by Cllr John Hogan and seconded by Cllr Martin Browne.

5. To Note Community Action Plans 2017 & 2018.

Sinead Carr presented details of the Community Action Plan for 2017 which was made up of 65 actions. Of these 74% are ongoing, 18% have been completed and 8% have not commenced yet. A summary report for 2017 was circulated to the committee at the meeting outlining Key Successful Actions in 2017 and noting those that did not progress.

Cllr John Crosse enquired as to when the Capital Grants that were rolled out at the end of 2017 would be approved. Sinead Carr informed the committee that it would be March 2018 at the earliest before they would be finalised.

Cllr Martin Browne enquired as to why the Traveller Interagency Strategy Group was not set up in 2017. Sinead Carr informed the committee that 1 meeting was held last year for this project but because of limited staff resources it was not able to progress with this project at that time.

The 2017 Community Action plan and the proposed 2018 Community Action Plan was noted by members

6. Any Other Business.

TJ Kinsella requested further information regarding the process of setting the Key Performance Indicators in the initial Plan. He would like to see the SPC review these

targets each year in the context of having reached target, been above target or below target. Sinead Carr informed the meeting that a full review was scheduled for 2018 and this would be taken into account.

Dr. Phyll Bugler enquired if there were any updates in relation to the Lakelands Project. Attracta informed the committee that this project had gone out to tender and it would be mid 2018 before she would have any further information.

Cllr John Hogan reflected on the fact that where there was a new large infrastructural project being proposed, consultation and information provision to the local community similar to the methods used for the Lisheen project should be applied. Correct information was provided to the community and this helped them to understand the valuable outcome it would have for them as a community.

Cllr Martin Browne agreed and felt this would stop the incorrect information been circulated within the community.

7. Date for next Meeting:

Tuesday 27th March in Thurles Municipal District Civic Offices at 10.00am

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: 

Date: 27/3/2018

Chairperson

