

In Attendance:

Members of Council	Sectoral Interests	Staff
Cllr John Crosse - Chairman	Clare Cashman - PPN	Pat Slattery, Director of Services
Cllr Seamus Hanafin	Mary Spillane - PPN	Aisling Kelly, Assistant Staff Officer
	Tom McGrath – Business Pillar	
	Laura Jones – Business Pillar	
	Imelda Walsh – Farming Pillar	
	Jim Sheehan – Development Construction Pillar	

Apologies: Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro, Cllr. Mairin McGrath, Elaine Cullinan, Anthony Fitzgerald.

Absent: Cllr. Mary Hanna Hourigan, Cllr Siobhan Ambrose, Cllr. Joe Hannigan, Cllr Seamus Morris, Cllr Phyll Bugler, Cllr Tony Black, Cllr. Garret Ahearn, Cllr. Peter Ryan, Seamus Hoyne – LIT,- Noel Byrne PPN,

Welcome

Cllr Crosse opened the meeting and welcomed everyone and noted the apologies received for this meeting.

Pat Slattery advised if any members had any ideas or research that they would like explored and developed that these would be investigated and explored with a view to progressing them.

1. Minutes and Matters Arising

The minutes of the meeting held on the 22 October 2019 were presented. Adoption of the Minutes was proposed by Mary Spillane and seconded by Tom McGrath.

2. Approval of LECP Annual Report 2019 and Draft Economic Action Plan for 2020

Pat Slattery presented the report and plan to the members and thanked and acknowledged Elaine Cullinan’s role in collating together the details of the plan and report. Pat advised that the plans had to be presented at the SPC to the members for approval and then presented at the February Council meeting for adoption by the members of STCC.

Pat highlighted a number of successful initiatives which resulted from the 2019 action plan as follows:

1. The successful development of the Ballingarrane site and Master plan.
2. The Lisheen agrichemwhey project
3. Digital hub for Roscrea
4. Town and village renewal through LEADER
5. LEO s ongoing support and promotion of Micro Enterprise and training supports
6. Tipperary Food production Network and their Breakfast initiative and long table dinner event and new brochure and the Tipperary food tour programme in primary schools and brand development and the food centre of excellence.
7. Action plan developed for the green sector network to deliver on the strong green enterprise potential in Tipperary.
8. The Town centre Fora to implement Town Centre Initiative actions in the 9 towns (Clonmel, Nenagh, Thurles, Roscrea, Cashel, Cahir, Tipperary, Carrick on Suir and Templemore.
9. New projects developed under the Town and village Renewal programme, Ireland 2040.
10. Continued development of the Kickham Barracks project.
11. Implementation of the Tipperary Tourism Strategic plan and its 5 objectives.
12. Continue the development of Ireland’s ancient East and Irelands Hidden heartlands.
13. Development plan for Cashel with the possible development of the visitor centre.
14. Inclusion of Fethard Town on the Butlers trail
15. Redevelopment of the Tipperary Museum
16. The launch of the new Tipperary Tourism website

17. Upgrade of historic town signage supported by Failte Ireland.
18. LIT working actively with TEA on a wide range of actions and implementation of sustainable energy action plan
19. Progress on the implementation of the National Broadband plan in County Tipperary and the roll out of the BCPs (Broadband connection points in local remote communities to give high speed fibre internet connection) and the ongoing infrastructure development in the county.
20. Inclusion of the N24 ad Clonmel/Thurles/ Nenagh Road in appropriate national, regional and local strategies.
21. New reservoir in Giantsgrave improving the town water supply in Clonmel and that will allow Ballingarrane to upgrade their existing water supply capabilities to allow for high demand industries to consider setting up business in Ballingarrane.
22. Conduct a training needs analysis of Employers in the County, adjust and introduce new programmes that meet the needs of employers examine what current skills are required in the existing companies in the County.
23. Develop a craft strategy and craft network for the County.

Pat provided an overview to the members on the 2020 LECP plan proposals. He noted the significant progress to date of the plan. Pat also highlighted the role of "Whats on in tipp" and "Tipp live" and asked if maybe there was a way of bringing these platforms together to allow the citizen to be able to check one place to find out what is happening in all of Tipperary e.g. festivals events etc. Pat also noted the importance of supporting struggling businesses in the County.

Cllr. John Crosse asked if actions could be added to the plan.

Cllr. Seamus Hanafin highlighted the Syrian refugee families that were arriving in Tipperary, and asked how we might support their integrated into the workforce and what skills and training would be available due to their different cultural work backgrounds.

Pat noted the suggestion of the Migrant Integration into the workforce: As part of the preparation of a County Migrant Integration Strategy (Margo is bring this to the next LCDC to propose that the LCDC take the lead). This Strategy would provide a county wide vision and actions for migrant integration but could also focus on integrating migrants into the workforce as an economic action;

Pat Slattery advised the members that the LCDC had met recently and that it was proposed that they would take the lead on collaborating with the STDC, ETB, ESB and Tipperary County Council and develop a strategy and that this could be considered for adding to the Economic Action plan for 2020.

Cllr Seamus Hanafin proposed this and Jim Sheehan seconded the proposal.

Mary Spillane raised the issue of integrating people with mental health issues and disabilities and noted the huge difficulties these people experienced trying to gain employment or return to employment.

A discussion took place regarding the issue of integrating those with mental health issues into the workforce, and it was agreed that this would be supported in the Strategy, and the action would refer to the open Door initiative (ODI) which supports work opportunities for all. This objective has cross over with the integration of refugees into the workforce also. In summary it is about influencing employers in the county to have an open door policy

3. A.O.B

Cllr. Crosse thanked everyone for their attendance and set the next date for the meeting as 10am on Thursday the 9 April 2020.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: John Crosse M.C.C. Date: 21/7/20

Chairperson