

Minutes of Meeting: Louth Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)

Date: 15th September 2025 at 4.00pm

Location: Cooley Room, County Hall, Dundalk and via Teams

- In attendance:** Cllr. Kevin Meenan, Chairperson
Cllr. Shane McGuinness
Cllr. Ejiro O'Hare Stratton (via Teams)
Mr. David Conway, C.E. of LCC
Ms. Nikki Campbell, LEO
Mr. Ciaran Reid, LLD
Ms. Sadie Ward-McDermott, LMETB (via Teams)
Ms. Bridie Pepper, HSE
Mr. Kevin Sweeney, IFA
Mr. Liam Reilly, PPN (via Teams)
Mr. Hubert Murphy, Chamber of Commerce Drogheda (via Teams)
Mr. Pat McCormick, Chamber of Commerce Dundalk (via Teams)
Ms. Jasmine Mathew, PPN (via Teams)
Ms. Bernardine Quinn, PPN (via Teams)
Ms. Kayleigh Mulligan, Louth Volunteer Centre
- Officials:** Mr. Finbar Gethins, Senior Executive Officer LCC/Chief Officer
Ms. Joanna Kelly, Acting Director of Services LCC
Ms. Miriam Roe, Senior Staff Officer LCC
Ms. Ann Monahan, Staff Officer LCC
- Apologies:** Cllr. Dolores Minogue
Ms. Sharon Curran, DSP
Ms. Carol Murphy, PPN
Mr. Eugene Conlon, PPN
Ms. Sinead McVerry, Administrative Officer LCC
- Guests:** Ms. Mary O'Neill, LLD
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LCDC MATTERS

LCDC Minute No. 61/2025

1. Minutes of LCDC Meeting Monday 21st July 2025:

On the proposal of Mr. Liam Reilly, seconded by Cllr. Kevin Meenan and unanimously agreed by the members, the minutes of the meeting held on the 21st July 2025 were adopted.

LCDC Minute No. 62/2025

2. Declaration of Conflict of Interest:

Mr. Finbar Gethins reminded the members to declare their Conflict of Interest at the beginning of the meeting or as it appears on the agenda, if applicable.

LCDC Minute No. 63/2025

3. Matters Arising:

There were no LCDC matters arising.

LCDC Minute No. 64/2025

4. LCDC Correspondence:

There was no correspondence for noting.

LCDC Minute No. 65/2025

5. Social Inclusion & Community Activation Programme (SICAP):

Conflict of Interest: Mr. Ciaran Reid.

(a) SICAP VAT Payment January to May 2025:

Members were advised that the SICAP VAT January – May 2025 payment is now due, in the amount of €13,808.31.

Recommendation: To approve SICAP VAT January – May 2025 payment in the amount of €13,808.31.

Decision: On the proposal of Cllr. Shane McGuinness, seconded by Ms. Bernardine Quinn, SICAP VAT January – May 2025 payment in the amount of €13,808.31 was approved.

(b) SICAP Qtr. 4 Payment - October to December 2025:

Members were advised that the SICAP Qtr. 4 payment (October to December 2025) is now due in the amount of €425,811.25.

Recommendation: To approve SICAP Qtr. 4 payment (October to December) in the amount of €425,811.25.

Decision: On the proposal of Cllr. Shane McGuinness, seconded by Ms. Bernardine Quinn, the SICAP Qtr. 4 payment (October to December) of €425,811.25 was approved.

(c) SICAP New Arrivals Qtr. 4 Payment – October to December 2025:

Members were advised that the SICAP New Arrivals Qtr. 4. payment (October to December 2025) is now due, in the amount of €59,577.25.

Recommendation: To approve SICAP New Arrivals Qtr. 4 payment (October to December 2025) in the amount of €59,577.25.

Decision: On the proposal of Cllr. Shane McGuinness, seconded by Ms. Bernardine Quinn, SICAP New Arrivals Qtr. 4 payment (October to December 2025) in the amount of €59,577.25 was approved.

LCDC Minute No. 66/2025

6. SICAP – Welcome Café – Minister Buttimer’s Visit:

There was no update on this item as the proposed visit by Minister Buttimer to the Welcome Café at Creative Spark in Dundalk was cancelled.

LCDC Minute No. 67/2025

7. PEACEPLUS:

Mr. Finbar Gethins briefed the members on three projects being brought before the LCDC, following which a discussion took place in relation to the tendering process. Concerns raised included the low number of tenders submitted and the need for additional eTenders training and mentorship. It was also noted that the level of administration needed to apply for, run and audit a project was off-putting for applicants and presents particular challenges for voluntary groups.

The following projects were recommended for approval by the members, at a meeting of the PEACEPLUS Partnership held on 2nd September:

- **Community Safety, Engagement, Wellbeing & Signposting Project**

Recommendation: The recommendation of the PEACEPLUS Partnership is to approve the awarding of this tender to Community Restorative Justice Ireland Newry/Armagh.

Decision: On the proposal of Ms. Kayleigh Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Ciaran Reid and unanimously agreed by the members, the awarding of tender to Community Restorative Justice Ireland Newry/Armagh was approved.

- **Young Peoples Outdoor Pursuits Sports Leadership Programme**

Recommendation: The recommendation of the PEACEPLUS Partnership is to approve the awarding of this tender to Dundalk Youth Centre.

Decision: On the proposal of Ms. Kayleigh Mulligan, seconded by Mr. Ciaran Reid and unanimously agreed by the members, the awarding of tender to Dundalk Youth Centre was approved.

- **Youth Leadership & Mentoring Programme**

Recommendation: The recommendation of the PEACEPLUS Partnership is to approve the awarding this tender to Dundalk Youth Centre.

Decision: On the proposal of Cllr. Kevin Meenan, seconded by Ms. Kayleigh Mulligan and unanimously agreed by the members, the awarding of tender to Dundalk Youth Centre was approved.

LCDC Minute No. 68/2025

8. Local Enhancement Programme 2025 Update:

The members were provided with an update on the Local Enhancement Programme for 2025. A total of 125 projects were approved, with combined funding of €227,247.00 allocated. This was divided between Current funding of €34,172 to 59 groups and Capital funding of €193,075.00 to 66 groups.

Groups were asked to submit additional information and the deadline for receipt of this information was Friday 12th September. The majority of the information submitted in relation to Capital funding was received within the 2 weeks prior to the deadline.

Payments to date:

Current Stream – all 59 groups paid in the amount of €34,172.00

Capital Stream – 19 groups paid in the amount of €53,612.24.00

2 groups have advised that they are not going ahead with their projects so their funding in the amount of €2,050.00 will be re-allocated to other groups in the same municipal districts which are Dundalk and Ardee in this case.

The main reasons for delay in submitting documents are:

- Lead-in order times for specific items/equipment
- Difficulty sourcing tradespeople to carry out works

It is hoped to have most of the outstanding documents back in from the groups in the next 2-3 weeks.

LCDC Minute No. 69/2025

9. Local Economic and Community Plan 2024-2029:

Mr. Finbar Gethins informed the members that the LECP Steering Group held their first meeting on 10th September to discuss the responses to the review of the LECP Implementation Plan. This review was carried out in the form of a survey and Mr. Gethins referred to the copy of the responses which were circulated to the LCDC members with their meeting packs. He advised that a presentation will be given at the October LCDC meeting which will provide a more comprehensive overview of the review findings.

LCDC Minute No. 70/2025

10. Next Meeting of LCDC:

Cllr. Kevin Meenan, Chairperson, informed the members that the date of the next LCDC meeting is Monday 20th October 2025. The meeting will be a hybrid meeting.

The business of the LCDC meeting concluded.

Minutes confirmed at meeting held on:

20-10-2025
Kevin Meenan

Chairperson:

Kevin Meenan

