

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, ENTERPRISE AND PLANNING STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL, MERCHANTS QUAY, LIMERICK ON MONDAY 12th of June 2017 at 2 PM.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor Noel Gleeson

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors: Daniel Butler, Seamus Browne, James Collins, Elenora Hogan, Joe Leddin, Emmet O'Brien, Seighin O'Ceallaigh, Jerry O'Dea, Eddie Ryan, John Sheahan

SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT:

Brian Thompson, John Walsh

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Senior Executive Officer (Pat Fitzgerald), CEO Innovate Limerick (Mike Cantwell), Senior Planner (Maria Woods), A/Senior Planner (Stephane Duclot), Researcher (Eileen Humphreys), Senior Executive Officer (Brian Kennedy), Senior Executive Planner (Karen Burke), Clerical Officer (Lorraine Conway)

APOLOGIES:

Dr. Pat Daly

Item 1.

Adoption of minutes from Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning SPC meeting of the 3rd of April 2017.

The draft minutes as circulated were adopted on the proposal of Cllr Eddie Ryan, seconded by Cllr James Collins.

Matters Arising

A query arose as to why Social Enterprise wasn't included on the agenda. Eileen Humphreys updated the members as follows:

A Task Group / sub-committee has been set up under the LCDC to examine the scope for further development of social enterprise in both urban and rural areas and to report back with practical suggestions. The sub-committee comprises DSP (Regional Manager), staff of the Local Development Companies working on social enterprise and a staff member, LCCC. An initial meeting has been held. At this meeting, it was agreed not to get too involved in issues such as definitions of social enterprise (of which there are many) but to take a whole approach to it with the focus on what can be done that is of benefit to enterprise, job creation and addressing needs in communities. It was also proposed to expand the membership of the sub-committee to include an academic at the Kemmy Business School, UL with expertise in social enterprise. This was agreed at the LCDC meeting on June 7th last.

Ms Humphreys outlined that there are a number of existing programmes in rural areas to support social enterprise including actions under LEADER and the SICAP

programme. SICAP supports unemployed people to progress into employment in social enterprise.

There are also a number of new opportunities which could support the development of social enterprise/social economy such as the reintroduction by DSP if the Community Services Programme(CSP).

Enterprise Ireland under the Community Enterprise Initiative Scheme will issue a call for proposals later in the year.

Ms Humphries also responded to queries from members regarding night care for the elderly, rural isolation and rural sustainability.

The members requested that the SPC receive an update on Social enterprise at future SPC. This was agreed.

Item 2

**To consider Notice of Motion deferred from meeting of the 5th of December referred from full Council meeting on the 28th of November 2016:
Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr J. Scanlon:**

I will move at the next meeting that, in future, (a) planning grants require fully cash backed Bonding where multiple housing developments are approved and (b) a fee be introduced to recover the cost of reprocessing invalid planning applications.

The members generally welcomed and supported the notice of motion. There was concern among members that the Council had to spend its own funds in order to complete estates where the bond was not sufficient to meet the taking in charge costs. Mr. Duclot informed the members that we currently have new strict measures in place with regard to new developments and bonds.

It was agreed that this issue does not just concern Limerick it is a national issue. The Council is awaiting new guidance from the Department in that regard. It was agreed that there would be further discussion at the SPC upon receipt of same.

A number of concerns were raised regarding a number of derelict sites in the City Centre that are continuing to deteriorate. The members requested that an audit be carried out of all derelict sites in Limerick and what the future plans for them are.

Regarding part (b) of the motion fees are set up under the Planning & Development Regulations so we are not in a position to change this process.

Item 3

**Metropolitan District of Limerick on the 18th of April 2017.
Notice of motion submitted by Cllr C. Prendiville**

'I will move at the next meeting of Limerick's Metropolitan District that the Council look to amend our development plan to ban the development of incineration, gasification, fracking and other environmentally damaging and destructive industries in Limerick City & County Council.'

It was agreed that this item would be deferred to the next SPC meeting as Cllr C Prendiville was not in attendance.

Item 4

Update on the Great Southern Trail and proposal to change its name to the Great Southern Greenway Limerick.

Members received a presentation update on the Great Southern Trail from Brian Kennedy. The presentation covered a number of key areas including

- Tourism context
- Great Southern Greenway progress to date
- Part VIII works to be carried out
- Future Potential – Other examples
- Future development of Greenway – key priorities

The members welcomed the presentation. John Sheahan proposed that the Great Southern Trail be renamed Great Southern Greenway Limerick and this was seconded by Cllr. James Collins.

The members paid tribute to Mike McDonald and Liam O'Mahony who have worked on the Greenway for a number of years.

5. A.O.B.

Brian Thompson raised an issue regarding the agenda and minutes of SPC meetings. He requested that these be sent out 2 weeks before the meeting to give them the opportunity to discuss them with the PPN members.

Councillor Noel Gleeson

Chairperson

Economic Development, Enterprise and Planning Strategic Policy Committee