



Minutes of the Waterford LAG Meeting

Thursday 10th September 2020, teleconference Conference Room, Dungarvan at 11.00 a.m.

Present:

Non Public Sector:

Public Sector

1. Gabriel Foley	PPN / Environment	1. Cllr. D. Geoghegan Chair*	Mayor Public Rep
2. Richard Grant	CEO – Waterford Area Partnership	2. Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan	Elected representative
3. Jimmy Taaffe	CEO – WLP CLG	3. Cllr. Adam Wyse	Elected representative
4. Heather Kiely	PPN/ Community & Voluntary	4. Julie Somers	CYPSC Coordinator
5. Maggie Flanagan	PPN / Community & Voluntary	5. Brendan Lawton	Reg. Mgr. Dept Social Protection
6. Senan Cooke	PPN / Community & Voluntary	6. Richie Walsh	Head of LEO
7. Jenny Beresford	CEO Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber	7. Derval Howley	Head of Wellbeing HSE
8. Catherine Quinlan	I.C.M.S.A.	8. Michael O’Brien	WWETB
		9. Michael Walsh	CE, WC&CC
Apologies:		Apologies:	
1. Gerald Hurley	CEO Waterford City Chamber		

Staff Present: D. Tuohy Chief Officer*, Ivan Grimes DoS, J. Codd A/S.O, E. Smyth, A/A.S.O.); C.O’ Brien S.O. (part of meeting) (* attendance in person)

1.Total current Membership	19
2.Total attendees	17
3. Quorum % required (50% of 1 above)	Achieved – 89%
4. non-public/public ratio attendees	8 non-public : 9 public
% ratio non-public/public attendees	47% non-public: 53% public

- 1. Confirmation of Quorum:** Having reviewed the attendance record, Chief Officer D. Tuohy confirmed that a quorum was achieved. Non-public 8; Public 9; 17 members in attendance. It was agreed that Derval Howley and Julie Somers would stand down from voting in order to balance the quorum in favour of the non public side; furthermore Michael Walsh would also stand down when a further revision of the quorum was required due to Jimmy Taaffe’s C.o.I. as project officer.

2. Appointment of Chair

The Chief Officer called for nominations for the position of Chair replacing Cllr. John Pratt. As there were no further nominations, the Chief Officer called for a proposer and seconder for Cllr Geoghegan to be appointed Chair:

Proposed: L. O’Sullivan	Seconded by: A. Wyse
Abstentions: As noted in Item 1	
Quorum achieved: Yes	APPROVED

Incoming Chair Mayor Damien Geoghegan opened the meeting.

2. Apologies

As per table above, apologies were noted.

3. Conflict of Interest

- (i) Chief Officer D. Tuohy outlined the provisions of Section 5.4 of the LEADER Operating Rules (v2.0) and reminded members of their obligations therein. He reminded members to consider whether a conflict of interest could arise on receipt of the notice of meeting and agenda items. He requested members to contact him in advance of the meetings following reviewing the Agenda and associated documentation should a COI arise.

Agreed

Jimmy Taaffe CEO – WLP declared a conflict of interest, as project officer, on two Leader projects before the committee namely 31LDRWAT112557: DGS Aeroparts Limited and 31LDRWAT112550: O.K. Fuels.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of LAG Meeting held on July 9th 2020.

Following the decision to reallocate Leader funds across project themes at the July meeting Mr. Jimmy Taaffe CEO – WLP stated that it was necessary to outline more comprehensively the proposed movement of funds and for the LAG to discuss the opportunity to maximise the potential of the programme. Adjustments were presented to the committee in documented form which set out the subthemes involved in the proposed movement of funds and the rationale for the movement of funds (attached to minutes as Appendix 1). A discussion took place regarding the

budgetary changes including the amount of funding proposed to be moved. The proposed changes as set out in Appendix 1 were approved.

Proposed: J. Beresford	Seconded by: G Foley
Abstentions: As noted in Item 1	
Quorum achieved: Yes	APPROVED

5. **Matters arising:** No matters arising.

6. **For Noting**

- i) Details of the RDP Administration Returns, Income, Expenditure & Bank Reconciliations for the period January to June 2020. Returns for Waterford Leader Partnership and Waterford City and County Council. These figures are made available for oversight and transparency and are available on extranet.
- ii) LFI and Coop Budget updates. A certain level of funding is still available as per the Department's update.
- iii) Change of date 31LDRWAT108255 West Waterford Festival of Food. This event will now take place in April 2021 (approval to change of date previously granted).

7. **Rural Development Programme.**

Mr. Jimmy Taaffe informed the committee of some new projects which will be presented in October and November including two food initiatives and a transnational project with Northern Ireland.

(a) **Project Approvals**

Projects for consideration (Evaluation committee decision sheets, and score records as circulated on the extranet): Mr. J. Taaffe C.E.O. WLP summarised the main points and background of all projects detailed below for the members.

- **31LDRWAT110720: Restoration of Clonegam Church, Portlaw. Fiddown Union of Parishes**

Project Code:	31LDRWAT110720
Project Name:	Restoration of Clonegam Church, Portlaw
Promoters Name:	Fiddown Union of Parishes
Description:	Preservation of Clonegam Church will ensure that the valuable relics contained within, will be protected from the elements and shared with visitors as part of Portlaw's heritage experience
Theme:	LO1 Rural Tourism

Sub-Theme:	SA 1.2 Cultural & Heritage Tourism
Funding Sought by Promoter:	The cost of this project is €47,670.00 and the promoter has requested funding of €35,752.50 or 75% of eligible costs whichever is the lesser.
Details of Private Funding:	€11,917.50 personal loan to Parish
Synopsis of Project:	Preservation of Clonegam Church
Detail of Discussion:	<p>This project was recommended for approval in December 2019 with the following conditions:</p> <p>The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding the project with the following conditions: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Lease must be in place prior to payment. • A fairer balance of membership must be obtained by adding a minimum of two members from the Portlaw Heritage Group or from a local Community group. <p>A maximum of €35,752.50 or 75% of eligible expenditure whichever is the lesser for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The project scored 75/100 - The project fits the Co Waterford Local Development Strategy for Cultural Tourism. <p>Correspondence received from the promoters below requesting that they be allowed to revert to their original plan due to the extra costs involved.</p> <p><i>“When we started out this project it was through Fiddown Union of Parishes. Following a request from Leader we formed the Friends of Clonegam of which members are made up of the church, the heritage and Curraghmore. However, we did not at the time realise the additional financial implications for the group and the project. The following is a list of extra expenses we find ourselves now having to consider.</i></p> <p>Additional Costs</p> <p><i>The license and RCB solicitors will cost approximately € 500</i></p> <p><i>The license holds each one of us members severely and jointly liable</i></p> <p><i>This is not a safe or acceptable position to put members in.</i></p>

Therefore, we need to be a CLG Company Ltd by guarantee.

*This adds an additional set up cost
€500*

*Also 6 years of annual returns of €650 plus vat, approx €800 per annum
€4800*

In addition, the RCB insist that the church would have to be insured for rebuild.

*This would be an extra financial cost of approx. 600 per annum to the group
€4200*

*In addition to paying the insurance for the parish 300 x 7 years
€2100*

*Approx Solicitor fees
€500*

***Total additional financial costs
€12,600***

These additional costs were never part of the original plan, as a union of parishes our normal cover of approx. €300 per annum would have covered us. We find ourselves in an untenable position, willing and able to renovate and save this heritage building with Leaders help, but unable to sustain a further very conservative €12,000-euro expense.

My husband and I were more than willing to bridge the loans and have no problem in waiting to collect the 25% which will have to be fundraised in the future. Our whole locality would benefit from this heritage and culturally significant project, located within the Comeragh uplands region. Our builder was ready to start on the first of May and we have the funds in place to start immediately. Rose Ryall, Heritage Officer for the County has also been in touch to see what progress has been made.

What we are asking is could we do this through our original plan as Fiddown union of Parishes, as it is financially far more viable and you are dealing with the very same group of people all of whom have ties to Clonegam, Heritage and development of the local area.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Corinne Power O'Mahony"

The Evaluation Committee considered the request discussing all aspects of the project again. The following is a summary of points raised:-

- Ms. Claire Connors advised that because of the Liability Insurance required

	<p>by RCB the promoters have no option but to become a CLG. The costs involved in this are much greater than they anticipated, and they would like to revert to their original application under the Fiddown Union of Parishes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Committee Member noted that the costs involved average out roughly at €2,600 pa. MS. Connors clarified that the promoters provided costs for 5 years to cover the lifespan of the LEADER programme. • It was noted that in similar type projects, for example the Red Hall, Lismore, a separate community group was set up for them to obtain LEADER funding. The original application was more Church of Ireland focused and funding was not recommended until it was changed to community. The new community group had to get insurance to cover the build. • Mr. Jimmy Taaffe clarified that to be eligible for funding the group must show that it genuinely open to the general public giving the examples of the Visitor Centre in Glencairn which is run by nuns but that anyone from the public can book to stay there. • Ms. Connors clarified that the building will be open by appointment only because of the valuable relics housed within and that the doors will never be left fully open. The purpose of the application is to make the facility weather tight, with stage two opening for public visitors. This will be done by advance bookings through Portlaw Heritage Centre, Facebook, and the Fiddown Union of Parishes. • A Committee Member queried if it should be funded as its more preservation rather than restoration at this point. Ms. Connors confirmed that it is being funded under the Cultural element of the Rural Development Programme and that stage 2 will be about opening it up to the public. Portlaw Heritage Group will have a key and can take bookings for tours, there is also a Facebook page and Fiddown Union of Parishes can take bookings. • Mr. Jimmy Taaffe said that Ger Crotty from the Portlaw Heritage Group (PHG) was added to the Friends of Clonegam Committee (FofCC) noting that it would be good to have a second independent member nominated also. It was noted that Mr. Alan Walsh, a member of the Fiddown Union of Parishes, was also a member of the Portlaw Heritage Group. Ms Connors noted that the promoters are requesting not going with this model preferring to revert to their original application where the project application comes from the Fiddown Union of Parishes due to the costs involved with becoming a CLG. • The Evaluation Committee all agreed that the core issue is how they will demonstrate that the facility will be open to the public and that having it run by a local community group is best. • The Committee stated that they would like to support the project as they consider it very worthwhile but want to get the structure of it right as the
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	<p>second application will be for a far greater amount.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Ms. Connors pointed out that the second application will be at 50% and not 75% as they will be charging fees for entry to cover running costs. ◦ Mr. Jimmy Taaffe advised that he did not think the Department would consider the project eligible under the Fiddown Union of Parishes. ◦ The Evaluation Committee agreed that their original recommendations, review, and scoring shall remain in place. <p style="margin-left: 40px;">- The Lease must be in place prior to payment.</p> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">- A fairer balance of membership must be obtained by adding a minimum of two members from the Portlaw Heritage Group or a local Community group.</p> <p>A maximum of €35,752.50 or 75% of eligible expenditure whichever is the lesser</p>
Was an assessment completed?	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the project assessment was completed on the 27 th August 2019.
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the promoters followed Category 1 National Procurement Guidelines
Innovative Element of project:	It was agreed that the project is innovative as the preservation of the Church will allow visitors to Portlaw to share the heritage experience.
Consideration of Deadweight:	The Evaluation Committee agreed that deadweight is not an issue as without funding this project will not proceed.
Consideration of Displacement:	The promoter would not be able to do this essential work without funding. These relics are unique to the Church and having tours here will complement the existing heritage offerings in Portlaw already.
Economic justification for the project:	The project fits in with the Co Waterford LCDC Plan for Cultural Tourism and funding will preserve the valuable relics that are contained within Clonegam Church.
Average Score for Project:	The project scored 75/100

% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €35,752.50 or 75% of eligible expenditure whichever is the lesser
Proposed by:	Mary O'Halloran
Seconded by:	Donal Connolly
Agreed by:	Paul Clerkin

The request to the LAG to alter the Letter of Offer was deferred on 9th July. Mr. Jimmy Taaffe informed the committee that the promoter will now proceed as per original Letter of Offer and that a 6 month extension has been requested and will be forwarded to the Chief Officer for consideration.

- **31LDRWAT112550 Biomass Log Drier**

Mr. Jimmy Taaffe outlined the project details and noted that the company has performed well and has experienced increased employment levels. The proposed purchase of the log drier will allow for further growth and employment opportunities primarily in the manual labour market.

Project ID	31LDRWAT112550
Project Type:	SA 2.1 Capital Investment in existing and start-up technology, graduate orientated rural businesses.
Project Name:	Biomass Log Drier 11
Promoters Name:	O.K. Fuels
Address:	Deerpark Road, Lismore, Co. Waterford
Description:	The project a renewable energy project, where wood cuttings are prepared and dried in a large drier to make them suitable for burning in home/private stoves to heat family homes. The project involves the purchase of a second Biomass Log Drier to dry the chopped wood to requisite moisture content.
Theme:	LO2 Enterprise Development
Sub-theme:	SA 2.1
Link to LDS	LO2 Enterprise Development, SA 2.1

Total Project Costs	€26,000
Eligible Project Costs	€26,000
Funding sought by promoter:	The promoter has requested funding of €13,000 or 50% of eligible costs whichever is the lesser.
State one of the following: - First Review / Previously Deferred	Deferred

or Not Recommend			
Funding recommended by Evaluation Committee:	A maximum of €13,000 or 50% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.		
Details of private funding:	Own Funds		
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No		
Synopsis of project:	<p>The project a renewable energy project, where wood cuttings are prepared and dried in a large drier to make them suitable for burning in home/private stoves to heat family homes.</p> <p>The project involves the purchase of a second Biomass Log Drier to dry the chopped wood to requisite moisture content.</p>		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report)	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ 50%
	Biomass Log Dryer	€26,000	€13,000 @ 50%
	Total Funding		
		€26,000	€13,000
Was an assessment completed?: Date: __24/07/2020__	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the project assessment was completed on the 24 th July 2020		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	The Evaluation Committee agreed that the promoters followed Category 2 LEADER Specific Guidelines and therefore is applying for 50% funding.		
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	N/A		
Innovative Element of the project:	It was agreed that the idea is innovative, as the promoters will be building on 12 years development of the business. This next phase is using technology to improve the product to meet the demands of a growing market.		
Consideration of Deadweight:	The Evaluation Committee agreed that deadweight is not an issue as this is a capital-intensive business that is expanding. For them it is a significant investment.		
Consideration of Displacement:	The Evaluation Committee agreed that displacement is not an issue as this is the only major business of its type in the region.		
Economic justification for project:	The Evaluation Committee agreed that this project fits under the Local Development Strategy for Enterprise type projects.		
Average Score for Project:	After achieving an overall score of 80 out of 100, the Evaluation		

	Committee agreed to recommend this project for approval to the Board of Waterford LCDC.
% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €13,000 or 50% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The project scored 80/100 2. The project fits the Local Development Plan (LDS) for supporting Enterprise projects. 3. The promoters have the skills and expertise to successfully implement the project.

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
8 FTE	4FTE	13,000	E27,650 Nov 17 E29,544 Sept 18

Confirmation on the applicant's position re De-Minimus and double from the relevant agencies.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Waterford Local Enterprise Office	24/07/2020	B Kirby

<p>Meeting 14 08 2020 Detail of Discussion: The following were the main points raised in the discussion of the project: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Jimmy Taaffe advised that the promoters wished to purchase an additional log drier to increase production. - The Evaluation Committee noted that the accounts look quite good and that there seems to be a lot of movement between both accounts. - Mr Jimmy Taaffe advised that they provided accounts for both businesses but that this one is being run by the son and his father is a director. While it is a tough job he is doing well and providing employment for low skilled workers in a rural area. - Since previously funding the company has done well and employment increased. Currently they have 8 full time staff, 1 part time and 4 seasonal. With funding these jobs will be sustained and may grow by 1 to 2 this year. - The currently supply both Lidl and Aldi but are only going to deal with one as they do not have the storage capability to supply both now. Next year they plan on building additional storage.

- The Evaluation Committee queried the lease? Mr Jimmy Taaffe advised that it is going to be renewed and extended to the 7 years required.
- It was clarified that the winning tender was an UK company therefore no VAT.
- The Committee stated that in principal they agree about supporting this project but would like to see the lease. Mr. Jimmy Taaffe advised that he would have it for the next meeting.

The Evaluation agreed to defer this project until confirmation on the extended lease is received.

Meeting 26 08 2020 Detail of Discussion: The following were the main points raised in the discussion of the project: -

- Mr Jimmy Taaffe advised that confirmation that the lease is being drawn up has been circulated to the Committee for review.

The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project subject to the following condition:

- A fully signed lease for the duration required by the Leader programme must be on file prior to payment.

A maximum of **€13,000** or 50% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

Amount Recommended: €13,000 or 50%, whichever is the lesser amount	50% of Eligible Project Funding:
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Proposed: J. Beresford	Seconded by: H. Kiely
Abstentions: As noted in Item 1 and Mr. Jimmy Taaffe as project officer.	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

• **31LDRWAT112557 DGS Aeroparts Purchase of 3D Printing Equipment**

Mr. Jimmy Taaffe outlined the project details and the bespoke nature of producing 3D moulded parts for aeroplanes. The company has chosen an Irish base in order to supply the E.U. market post Brexit. Spare parts will be much sought after in the post-Covid aviation industry. Excellent employment opportunities for skilled and graduate labour markets will follow. J Beresford questioned whether the company could diversify should the aviation industry decline post Covid, J Taaffe advised that the company has vast experience in fabrication and diversification would not be an issue for them. G Foley queried whether there were any issues around copyright, J Taaffe advised that the industry was highly regulated. M O'Brien advised that ETBs are providing courses in fabrication and future collaboration with the company could be explored.

Project ID	31LDRWAT112557
Project Type:	(SA 2.1) Capital Investment in existing and start up technology, graduate orientated rural businesses
Project Name:	DGS Aeroparts Purchase of 3D Printing Equipment
Promoters Name:	DGS Aeroparts Limited
Address:	Unit 8, Carrigeen, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford
Description:	<p>DGS Aeroparts supply aftermarket high quality replacements to the aviation industry. It is an English company setting up a branch in Ireland to allow easier access to the E.U. Aero Industry after Brexit. While the industry is in a severe downturn, the supply of after-market parts using specialist 3 D Printing Technology will allow them to attain the necessary certification to supply such parts. Counter intuitively, the market for such spares will increase due the financial constraints that will be on the airline industry over the coming years after Covid19.</p> <p>The project is innovative in 3 ways: 1. High Technology Products in a rural area; 2. Market Opportunity; 3. Highly Skilled Staff in a Rural Area.</p>
Theme:	SA 2.1) Capital Investment in existing and start up technology, graduate orientated rural businesses
Sub-theme:	SA 2.1) Capital Investment in existing and start up technology, graduate orientated rural businesses
Link to LDS	SA 2.1) Capital Investment in existing and start up technology, graduate orientated rural businesses

Total Project Costs	The cost of this project is €87,265.12
Eligible Project Costs	€87,265.12
Funding sought by promoter:	The promoter has requested funding of €43,632.56 or 50% of eligible costs whichever is the lesser.
State one of the following: - First Review / Previously Deferred or Not Recommend	First Review
Funding recommended by Evaluation Committee:	A maximum of €34,906.048 or 40% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.
Details of private funding:	Cash/Money in account €43,632.56
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No
Synopsis of project:	DGS Aeroparts supply aftermarket high quality replacements to the aviation industry. It is an English company setting up a branch in Ireland to allow easier access to the E.U. Aero Industry after Brexit.

	<p>While the industry is in a severe downturn, the supply of after-market parts using specialist 3 D Printing Technology will allow them to attain the necessary certification to supply such parts. Counter intuitively, the market for such spares will increase due the financial constraints that will be on the airline industry over the coming years after Covid19.</p> <p>The project is innovative in 3 ways: 1. High Technology Products in a rural area; 2. Market Opportunity; 3. Highly Skilled Staff in a Rural Area.</p>		
<p>Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report)</p> <p>Total Funding</p>	<p>Detail</p>	<p>Total Cost (Expenditure)</p>	<p>Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ %</p>
	<p>Metal and Composite 3 D Printer</p>	<p>€87,265.12</p>	<p>A maximum of €34,906.048 or 40% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.</p>
<p>Was an assessment completed?: Date: 25/07/2020</p>	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed that the project assessment was completed on the 25th July 2020</p>		
<p>Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?</p>	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed that the promoters followed Category 2 LEADER Specific Guidelines and therefore is applying for 50% funding.</p>		
<p>Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:</p>	<p>N/A</p>		
<p>Innovative Element of the project:</p>	<p>It was agreed that the idea is innovative, as the promoters will be part of the first wave of 3D manufacture in aviation outside of major OEM's and the only aftermarket new part supplies outside of the US (PMA) system.</p>		
<p>Consideration of Deadweight:</p>	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed that deadweight is not an issue as the investment in the equipment will not go ahead without funding.</p>		
<p>Consideration of Displacement:</p>	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed that displacement is not an issue as this is the only business of its type in the region.</p>		
<p>Economic justification for project:</p>	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed that this project fits under the Local Development Strategy for Enterprise type projects.</p>		
<p>Average Score for Project:</p>	<p>After achieving an overall score of 66 out of 100, the Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend this project for approval to the Board of Waterford LCDC.</p>		

% level of aid & ceiling:	A maximum of €34,906.048 or 40% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. The project scored 66/100 5. The project fits the Local Development Plan (LDS) for supporting Enterprise projects. 6. Funding this project will provide employment in a rural area.

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
3	0	Yes Own Funds	None

Confirmation on the applicant's position re De-Minimus and double from the relevant agencies.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Waterford LEO	25/07/2020	B. Kirby

The following were the main points raised in the discussion of the project: -

- Mr. Jimmy Taaffe advised that this is a new start-up company in Cappoquin, Co Waterford. They are setting up an EASA part 21g approved aircraft part manufacturing facility. Part of the business requires the purchase of a 3D printing equipment for multiple plastic components that they will use for replicating cabin parts.
- The promoter and his family moved to Ireland over 18 months ago and are living in Ballysaggart. The promoter's wife is from Ireland and along with moving for Brexit reasons they wished to relocate their family back to Ireland.
- They have agreed a lease with one of the industrial units in the Cappoquin Business Park.
- The Evaluation Committee noted that their only concern was lack of knowledge about the promoter and his track history.

Mr. Jimmy Taaffe advised that he has been in operation in the UK for over 20 years and this reallocation was partly to cover all eventualities with BREXIT and partly family reasons, as his wife is Irish. They seem to be here for the long haul and have purchased a large bungalow in Ballysaggart and enrolled their kids in the local school.

By having a company in Ireland, they will be able to trade with the rest of the EU in the same currency. The company in the UK has been in existent over 20 years and is solvent.

The promoter has been in contact with both Waterford Leader and the Local Enterprise Office with the past 12 months and is very professional in his dealings.

- The Evaluation Committee noted that the letter from the bank seemed to be a bit vague? Mr. Jimmy Taaffe confirmed that they are not going to support him at this time noting that he is not

unique in that unfortunately. He is going to provide his own match funding.

- While high risk the Evaluation Committee said that by funding it supports not only the promoter, who is willing to start up a new manufacturing industry in a rural area, but also the aviation industry which is being badly hit at the moment.
- Mr. Jimmy Taaffe noted that the aviation industry will be looking at ways to reduce costs, using products such as the ones being manufactured by the promoter.
- Mr. Taaffe confirmed that the other two business partners will be staying in the UK with the parent company and the promoter will run the offshoot company in Ireland.
- The Evaluation Committee agreed that it's worth funding as it is a manufacturing company that will create employment in a rural area but at a reduced rate of 40%.

A maximum of €34,906.048 or 40% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.

Proposed: S. Cooke	Seconded by: G. Foley
Abstentions: As noted in Item 1 and Mr. Jimmy Taaffe as project officer.	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

Mr. J Taaffe advised of a link between the following four projects as part of the Blackwater Economic Development Zone. Six villages in the region are working cohesively to revive and regenerate their communities and the regional economy. A combination of philanthropic and Leader funding will be utilized to provide quality office space in Lismore, Cappoquin, Villierstown and Tallow respectively. The demand for office space is evident, rates will be attractive, good human resource skill sets exist in the region and the provision of these facilities will reduce work related city commutes. G. Foley queried the availability of broadband, J Taaffe confirmed that an ample supply of the utility was available. J Somers noted that the evaluation committee did question the wisdom of funding all four projects, J Taaffe advised that the region was being promoted as a package and with philanthropic funding available it was best to make maximum use of the opportunity. The influx of families relocating to rural areas from the Capital increases the demand for such facilities. J Somers queried the impact on other services, J Taaffe advised that an analysis of services and facilities in the region was positive. H. Kiely asked if employment or training opportunities would become available to young people in the region, J Taaffe confirmed that training is underway and will be further developed in the future. S. Cooke praised the projects and M O'Brien advised of a number of training centres coming on stream.

- **31LDRWAT113649 Construction of two story office block at Lismore Business Park**

Project Title	Construction of two story office block at Lismore Business Park
Measure	LO3/SA3.2
Eligibility	Yes
Promoters	Lismore Business Park CLG
Address	Lismore Business Park, Mayfield, Lismore, Co. Waterford

Project Application No.	31LDRWAT113649
Project Contract No.	31LDRWAT113649

Total Project Costs	€585,954		
Eligible Project Costs	€585,954		
Voluntary Labour	None		
Amount of Application	€200,000		
Project Description	The construction of a new two storey office building with 20-24 office spaces on a green field site owned by the promoter in Lismore Business Park aiming to attract and retain investment into the town of Lismore and create employment opportunities. The uniqueness of the project is the collaborative approach being adopted by Lismore and the other 3 West Waterford villages under the Blackwater Valley Enterprise Development zone to promote smart working in the region		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Summary Report)	Detail	Total Cost	Recommendation of Evaluation Committee @ 34.13237 %
	Professional fees	€17,890	€6,106.28
	Works	€568,064	€193,893.88
Total Funding		€585,954	€200,000
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:-</p> <p>The majority of the Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project to the Waterford LCDC as presented. One Evaluation Member believed only two of the four should be funded due to the proximity of all centres.</p> <p>A maximum of €200,000 or 34.13237% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser for the following reasons: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. The project scored 74/100 8. The project fits the Local Development Plan (LDS) Local Objective 3 for the revitalisation of local villages through the development of human capital and capital investment 		

	9. Funding this project will provide a smart remote working environment that will benefit both employees and employers.
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Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
0	0	€92,977 loan/bridging	€0
		€292,977 Tomar Trust	

Confirmation that agencies / communities are supportive of the proposed project.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Notification sent to Richie Walsh, Local Employment Service	4 th Aug 2020	CC

Detail of Discussion: The following were the main points raised in the discussion of the project: -	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was noted that there could be a potential tenant for the Lismore facility already. - A Committee Member noted that this is the strongest of the applications as the promoters have proven that they have the capability to successful run an enterprise centre already. - Mr Jimmy Taaffe said that the promoters are fortunate that they are in a strong position as all units in the Industrial Estate are rented out. There is a proven demand in the area. - The majority of the Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project to the Waterford LCDC as presented. One Evaluation Member believed only two of the four should be funded due to the proximity of all centres. 	
A maximum of €200,000 or 34.13237% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.	
Amount Recommended:€200,000	34.13237% of Eligible Project Funding:€585,954

Proposed: J. Beresford	Seconded by: S. Cooke
Abstentions: As noted in Item 1	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

• 31LDRWAT113546 Blackwater House Development

Project Title	Blackwater House Development
Measure	LO3, SA 3.1
Eligibility	Yes
Promoters	Cappoquin Regeneration Company CLG
Address	Main Street, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford
Project Application No.	31LDRWAT113546
Project Contract No.	31LDRWAT113546

Total Project Costs	€596,888.38		
Eligible Project Costs	€422,068.99		
Voluntary Labour	None		
Amount of Application	€200,000		
Project Description	The project involves the refurbishment of a vacant and semi derelict property which is a protected structure in the centre of Cappoquin town and conversion into a walk in ready to use office facility to accommodate up to 16 remote workers while also improving the street scape		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Summary Report)	Detail	Total Cost	Recommendation of Evaluation Committee @ 47.38562%
	Professional Services	€25,684.99	€12,170.99
	Works	€396,384	€187,828.94
Total Funding		€422,068.99	€200,000
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:-</p> <p>The majority of the Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project to the Waterford LCDC as presented. One Evaluation Member believed only two of the four should be funded due to the proximity of all centres.</p> <p>A maximum of €200,000 or 47.38562% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser for the following reasons: -</p>		

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The project scored 74/100 2) The project fits the Local Development Plan (LDS) Local Objective 3 for the revitalisation of local villages through the development of human capital and capital investment 3) Funding this project will provide a smart remote working environment that will benefit both employees and employers. 4) Funding this project will improve the street scape of Cappoquin.
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Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
0	0	€222,068.99 Own funds & Tomar Trust	€0

Confirmation that agencies / communities are supportive of the proposed project.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Local Employment Service	14 th July 2020	Richie Walsh

Detail of Discussion: The following were the main points raised in the discussion of the project: -

- The Evaluation Committee agreed that this is an excellent project as it will help restore the streetscape in the centre of Cappoquin.
- There was a detailed reply provided regarding the write off dept between both companies. The balance written off between the 2 companies was €1,700,515. The write-off in CCDC was matched by an equivalent write-back in CCCL and related to VAT and the original company set up.
- The agreed the promoters had the experience and capability to implement the project successfully.
- The majority of the Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project to the Waterford LCDC as presented. One Evaluation Member believed only two of the four should be funded due to the proximity of all centres.

A maximum of **€200,000** or 47.38562% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.

Amount Recommended: €200,000	47.38562% of Eligible Project Funding: €422,068.99
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Proposed: J. Beresford	Seconded by: S. Cooke
Abstentions: As noted in Item 1	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

• 31LDRWAT113549 Tallow Community Enterprise Hub

Project Title	Tallow Community Enterprise Hub
Measure	LO3/SA3.1
Eligibility	Yes
Promoters	Tallow Enterprise Group CLG
Address	Tallow Enterprise Centre, Nora Herlihy House, West Street, Tallow, Co. Waterford
Project Application No.	31LDRWAT113549
Project Contract No.	31LDRWAT113549

Total Project Costs	€804,282.23		
Eligible Project Costs	€804,282.23		
Voluntary Labour	None		
Amount of Application	€200,000		
Project Description	The proposal is to demolish an existing building except for the party wall and construct a new building in the same line in keeping with the street scape. Internally the office spaces will vary in size with the smallest on the ground floor with two larger spaces flanking a central stair above. The space can be customized to either 3 units for 10 remote workers or 1 large space.		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Summary Report)	Detail	Total Cost	Recommendation of Evaluation Committee @ 24.86689%
	Professional fees	€26,015	€6,469.12
	Works	€778,267.23	€193,530.87
Total Funding		€804,282.23	€200,000
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:-</p> <p>The majority of the Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project to the Waterford LCDC as presented. One Evaluation Member believed only two of the four should be funded due to the proximity of all</p>		

	<p>centres.</p> <p>A maximum of €200,000 or 24.86689% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser for the following reasons: -</p> <p>10. The project scored 74/100</p> <p>11. The project fits the Local Development Plan (LDS) Local Objective 3 for the revitalisation of local villages through the development of human capital and capital investment</p> <p>12. Funding this project will provide a smart remote working environment that will benefit both employees and employers.</p>
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Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
0	6.5	€108,000 own funds	€0
		€96,282.23 bridging/loan	

Confirmation that agencies / communities are supportive of the proposed project.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Local Employment Service	14 th July '20	Richie Walsh

<p>Detail of Discussion: The following were the main points raised in the discussion of the project:</p> <p>-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Claire Connors advised that the revised Project Assessment circulated was due to rounding on the IT system and slight changes to the % rate. - The ease of access to the Cork motorway was noted. - The promoters are experienced in supporting rural development and have successfully run a training centre and enterprise units. - The majority of the Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project to the Waterford LCDC as presented. One Evaluation Member believed only two of the

four should be funded due to the proximity of all centres.	
A maximum of €200,000 or 24.86689% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.	
Amount Recommended: €200,000	24.86689% of Eligible Project Funding: €804,282.23

Proposed: G. Foley	Seconded by: M. Flanagan
Abstentions: As noted in Item 1	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

• 31LDRWAT113677 Villierstown Enterprise Centre – Part Development

Project Title	Villierstown Enterprise Centre – Part Development
Measure	LO3, SA 3.1
Eligibility	Yes
Promoters	Villierstown Community Development CLG
Address	Villierstown, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford
Project Application No.	31LDRWAT113677
Project Contract No.	31LDRWAT113677

Total Project Costs	€616,187.60		
Eligible Project Costs	€616,187.60		
Voluntary Labour	None		
Amount of Application	€200,000		
Project Description	Funding is sought for the renovation of a derelict building in the centre of Villierstown village. The renovation will provide an 1,800 ft square of remote working capable of accommodating 14-16 remote workers.		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Summary Report)	Detail	Total Cost	Recommendation of Evaluation Committee @ 32.45765%
	Professional Services	€59,802.60	€19,410.52
	Works	€556,385	€180,589.49

Total Funding		€616,187.60	€200,000
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	<p>The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:-</p> <p>The majority of the Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project to the Waterford LCDC as presented. One Evaluation Member believed only two of the four should be funded due to the proximity of all centres.</p> <p>A maximum of €200,000 or 32.45765% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser for the following reasons: -</p> <p>13. The project scored 74/100</p> <p>14. The project fits the Local Development Plan (LDS) Local Objective 3 for the revitalisation of local villages through the development of human capital and capital investment</p> <p>15. Funding this project will provide a smart remote working environment that will benefit both employees and employers.</p> <p>16. Funding this project will improve the street scape of Villierstown</p>		

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
0	0	€200,000 Loan/bridging	€0
		€216,187.60 Tomar Trust	

Confirmation that agencies / communities are supportive of the proposed project.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Notification sent to Richie Walsh, Local Employment Service	6 th Aug '20	CC

Detail of Discussion: The following were the main points raised in the discussion of the project: -

- Ms Claire Connors advised that the revised Project Assessment report was necessary as the promoters are doing a dual development of both the enterprise space and the Montessori school. While the tenders include all costs, the contractors were asked to clarify costs for both spaces. The PA was revised to reflect costs for the enterprise centre only which will be funded by LEADER. The Montessori element will be funded by TOMAR funding.
- The Evaluation Committee noted that even if the promoters fill the centre to capacity, they will be liable to pay Clann Credo €20,000 per year. Ms. Connors advised that they had an income of €10,000 from the Montessori School already and with the new premises will have increased capacity and no longer required to pay the rent they are currently.
- The Committee noted that the promoters have successfully managed previously funded projects.
- A Committee Member said the he could see that Lismore, Tallow and Cappoquin would have services to offer in terms of shops, banks, etc but queried what Villierstown would offer? Mr Jimmy Taaffe said that following funding of previous projects and the increase footfall that a shop/bakery has opened. The local pub is also much busier. In terms of location its access to the N25 is excellent.
- The majority of the Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project to the Waterford LCDC as presented. One Evaluation Member believed only two of the four should be funded due to the proximity of all centres.

A maximum of €200,000 or 32.45765% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser.

Amount Recommended: €200,000	32.45765% of Eligible Project Funding: €616,187.60
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Proposed: H. Kiely	Seconded by: J. Beresford
Abstentions: As noted in Item 1	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

(b) WLP Board observations available on Extranet.

It was noted that Board observations were available on extranet for perusal.

(c) Project Extension Request.

As previously noted a six month extension has been requested for 31LDRWAT110720: Restoration of Clonegam Church (Chief Officer to approve).

(d) Presentation on RDP themes 5.3, 6.1 and 6.2

Mr. Jimmy Taaffe CEO – WLP gave a thorough power-point presentation on the above themes. Presentation is available on extranet. D. Howley thanked Mr. Taaffe for this informative piece.

8. Report of the Rural Coordination sub-committee:

R. Walsh advised that the committee didn't meet over the summer but will reconvene in the coming weeks. L.E.O. is engaging with training facilitators, the creation of opportunities and provision of supports remains a key focus. The availability of business grant needs to be highlighted and the uptake of same should be encouraged.

10. Correspondence: None

11. A.O.B.

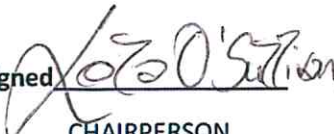
J Somers reiterated the informative value of Mr. Taaffe's presentation on RDP themes. J Somers also pointed to the possibility of funds being used to develop community spaces in similar fashion to the office spaces being provided in the Blackwater Economic Development Zone. An equal emphasis on capacity building in communities and social inclusion as on capital investment is desirable. A request for a presentation from Barnardos on this subject was noted.

Chief Officer D. Tuohy advised that PPN nomination Breda Fell will fill the current vacancy and will be introduced to the committee at the next meeting.

The Chief Officer also advised that following the retirement of Elaine Hickey and the temporary redeployment of Kevin Moynihan, Johnny Codd and Emma Smyth will act as the administrative officers to the LAG and LCDC respectively.

12. Date and venue of next meeting: Thursday 8th October 2020 at 11.00 a.m. via Zoom.

Meeting Closed

Signed  14/10/2020
CHAIRPERSON DATE

