



Comhpháirtíocht Leader Waterford Leader
Phort Láirge Partnership

Decision of Evaluation Committee

Project ID	31LDRWAT117015
Project Type:	LO 5 Underpinning Social Inclusion initiatives in Rural Areas through investment in Physical and Human Capital
Project Name:	Ballysaggart Community Centre and Remote Working and Studying Hub
Promoters Name:	Ballysaggart Community Dev Co. CLG.
Address:	Feagarid, Ballysaggart, Lismore, Co. Waterford
Description:	An improved Community Centre Facility catering for the basic social needs of the Community, while retaining the basic fabric of the old national school built constructed in 1869, will improve accessibility, better layout for users and modern bathroom and kitchen facilities to improve the users' comfort while in the facility.
Theme:	LO 5 Underpinning Social Inclusion initiatives in Rural Areas through investment in Physical and Human Capital
Sub-theme:	SA 5.1) Through open call process, invite identified locations to submit bids for investment support into community service delivery hubs, with 4 potential benefactors
Link to LDS	LO 5 Underpinning Social Inclusion initiatives in Rural Areas through investment in Physical and Human Capital

Total Project Costs	€329,134.30
Eligible Project Costs	€329,134.30
Funding sought by promoter:	€200,000 or 60.7654% of €329,134.30, whichever is the lesser amount.
State one of the following: - First Review / Previously Deferred or Not Recommend	First Review
Funding recommended by Evaluation Committee:	€200,000 or 60.7654% of €329,134.30, whichever is the lesser amount.
Details of private funding:	Cash €99,134.30 Loan €30,000.00
Voluntary Labour: YES / NO (If yes provide detail)	No
Synopsis of project:	The redevelopment of a former national school which has operated for the last 50 years as a Community Centre in Ballysaggart into modern centre that

	will be a multi-purpose facility. As well as meeting rooms, it will also operate as a Study Centre for Students and during the day will be available as a remote working facility.		
Detail exactly what WLP will be funding (List items from Project Assessment Report)	Detail	Total Cost (Expenditure)	Grant Aid recommend by the Evaluation Committee @ 60.7654 %
	Construction	€329,134.30	€200,000 or 60.7654%, whichever is the lesser amount
Total Funding		€329,134.30	€200,000
Was an assessment completed?: Date:	Yes, 19/01/2022		
Are detailed costings provided for the project? Were the costs for the project considered reasonable and how was this measured?	Yes. The lowest cost was chosen through etenders		
Where the procurement process resulted in less than 3 quotes, the EC must show the additional steps taken to ensure the reasonableness of costs:	Etenders process delivered 4 eligible quotations which is sufficient		
Innovative Element of the project:	The project is connected to Local authorities Broadband Communication Points for Rural Areas.		
Consideration of Deadweight:	Having reviewed the potential income, and the Community Group's finances, this project will not proceed without grant aid.		
Consideration of Displacement:	Displacement is not an issue here, as the activity been undertaken relates solely to this location.		
Economic justification for project:	The LEADER investment will leverage both Philanthropic, State, E.U., and Community funds into a significant much needed update of a communal facility open to all in a very rural location.		
Average Score for Project:	83/100 (2)		
% level of aid & ceiling:	€200,000 or 60.7654% of €329,134.30, whichever is the lesser amount.		
E. C. Executive Summary/Rationale for Funding	The Evaluation Committee agreed to recommend funding this project for the following reasons:- 1. The promoters are a good strong group and can sustain the project. 2. The project scored 83/100 3. Funding this project fits the Basic Service criteria of the LCDC Development Plan. A maximum of €200,000.00 or 60.7654% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser		

Jobs Created	Jobs Sustained	Match Funding	Previous Grant Aid Received
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N/A	N/A	€129,134.30	€10,000 in 2010
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Confirmation on the applicant's position re De-Minimus and double from the relevant agencies.	Date of Confirmation	Signed By
Waterford LEO	20/01/2022	B Kirby

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

- Mr Jimmy Taaffe advised that previously this project along with the Ballysaggart GAA was not recommended for funding as they were competing against each other. Both projects were duplicating elements in a small area. Since then, Ballysaggart GAA has gone ahead on its own with a Sport / Gym facility only. Leader is unable to fund projects in receipt of Lotto funding.
- This application is for a community facility with improved accessibility and a better layout for users and modern bathroom and kitchen facilities. The theatre element of the original application has been removed.
- The Old School is a two-roomed building with limited facilities within .5km of the village and is used regularly. This project will renovate the two rooms and the toilet and kitchen area as well as improve access to the building.
- Ballysaggart GAA is supportive of this project and sees it as being complementary to their GAA project and not a duplication. Some of the Committee Members overlap on both projects.
- The centre will host the Broadband Connection point for the area. This will facilitate remote studying and working for those in the area with poor broadband connections.
- A Committee Member queried if the fruition of the GAA project will impact this facility in any way. Mr Jimmy Taaffe confirmed that it will not. Originally the GAA project incorporated meeting rooms into their plan but has since removed them and are building a Sports Hall /Gym with changing rooms. It will be sports related rather than facilities related. They do not have the ground to do something like Ballymacarby which incorporates both.
- The Committee discussed the issue of displacement and if the implications of funding halls in one village on nearby villages/towns has ever been reviewed. Mr Jimmy Taaffe advised that this is a discussion that is taking place with WC&CC and for the next programme very few halls will be funded. He went on to advise that it is difficult to get a booking in any of the halls in Lismore on a weeknight due to the level of activity taking place and didn't see funding this project as an issue as the demand is there locally. Ballysaggart has a population of 300 to 400 and the hall is currently being used by various groups. Another example he gave was the WWETB wanted to expand their use of the hall in Cappoquin but were unable to do so because of bookings.
- Part of the original reasons for not recommending the project was the lack of footpath from the village to the centre, lack of lighting and parking. Mr Jimmy Taaffe advised that additional parking is been provided across from the centre and that the outside lighting will be improved. The lack of footpath or lighting out to the centre will not change.
- The Evaluation Committee agreed that overall, they are in favour of the project.

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- 1. The promoters are a good strong group and can sustain the project.**
- 2. The project scored 83/100**
- 3. Funding this project fits the Basic Service criteria of the LCDC Development Plan.**

A maximum of €200,000.00 or 60.7654% of eligible expenditure, whichever is the lesser

Amount Recommended: €200,000.00

60.7654% of Eligible Project Funding: €200,000 or 60.7654% of €329,134.30, whichever is the lesser amount.

Signed: _____

Signed: _____

Chairperson of Evaluation Committee

Committee Member

Date: _____

Date: _____

Issues / Queries raised by Evaluation Committee	Project Officers Response

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

WLP Project Officer

Please insert photos below of reference purposes:

(for example a photo of the building to be renovated/machinery being purchased, etc)



Evaluation Committee Scoring Record

Date: 9/21/2022

Time: 11am

Project Title: Ballysaggart Community Centre & Remote Working Hub

Project Reference Number: 31408 WAT 117015

Assessment Criteria	Objective	Issues raised by Evaluation Committee	Weighting	Score
Compatibility with Local Development Strategy	Do the project proposals meet the criteria set out in the LAG business plan for the relevant measure?		Yes / No	
Innovation	Is the product innovative in its nature and does it displace existing enterprises? - Product / Service 9/19 <u>8</u> - Displacement 5/19 <u>5</u> - Job Creation 5/19 <u>2</u>		19	15
Promoters experience	Does the promoter have the training/skills, track record or experience to deliver? - Standards of Operation 6/25 <u>5</u> - Track Record 6/25 <u>5</u> - Structure of Business 6/25 <u>5</u> - Necessary skills base 7/25 <u>6</u>		25	21
Financial Viability	Are the project costs justifiable (reasonableness of costs) and / is funding available to co-fund the project? - Overall Costs 7/25 <u>6</u> - Co Funding 6/25 <u>5</u>		25	21

	- Financial Plan	6/25	5		
	- Deadweight	6/25	5		
Sustainability	Is the project viable and will the service continue to be delivered?			13	12
Requirement	Does the proposal target a specific need or address a specific gap in the market?			18	14
Total				100	83

N.B. Project must receive a minimum score of 65% prior to being recommended for approval.

- Has the potential level of deadweight been assessed for this project? YES / ~~NO~~
- i.e. would the project proceed without LEADER funding? YES / NO

Recommendations of the Evaluation Committee: FOR APPROVAL

Signature: Paul O'Leary

Signature of Evaluation Committee Chair

Date: 10/12/2022

Denise Walsh

From: pclerkin@cablesurf.com
Sent: Friday 11 February 2022 12:36
To: Denise Walsh
Subject: Evaluation Committee Meeting held on 9th February 2022.

Dear Denise,

I have reviewed the draft minutes of the above meeting and I confirm that I am in agreement with them.

Regards,

Paul Clerkin.

