

Jonathon Codd

From: Jonathon Codd
Sent: Monday 19 June 2023 10:17
To: Jonathon Codd
Cc: Sinéad Breathnach; Susan Whelan; Dylan White; Ivan Grimes; Emma Smyth; Ovidiu Matiut; Eoin Morrissey; Kevin Moynihan; Eddie Mulligan
Subject: Minister Humphreys officially opens the Fethard Town Park during visit to Tipperary

Dear Chair and members of the LCDC/LAG,

Please see [press release below](#).

Media Release

Sunday 18th June 2023



Rialtas na
hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Tionscadal Éireann
Project Ireland
2040

Our Rural Future: Minister Humphreys officially opens the Fethard Town Park during visit to Tipperary

- ***Minister officially opens state of the art community sports and recreation campus at Fethard Town Park in County Tipperary***
- ***Investment of over €3 million from the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund.***

Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, today (Sunday, 18th June) visited Fethard, Co Tipperary, to officially open the Fethard Town Park project. This project has provided a community and sports recreation campus for Fethard and the surrounding communities.

Funded under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund with significant matched funding from the Magnier Foundation (Coolmore Ireland), Tipperary County Council and community fundraising, the project has been delivered at an overall cost of €7.14 million. The strong public private partnership investment in Fethard will deliver positive long-term health and wellbeing benefits for the people of Fethard and the wider Tipperary region. ■

The investment comes as part of the Government's commitment to the revitalisation of rural towns under its Rural Development Policy, *Our Rural Future* and the *Town Centre First* policy which aim to bring more people, business and investment opportunities to Irish towns.

Tipperary County Council was awarded funding of over €3 million under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund to deliver the Fethard Town Park project.

Speaking at today's opening in Fethard, Minister Humphreys said:

"I'm really delighted to be here today for the official launch of the Fethard Town Park. The state of the art facility is providing sports and recreational facilities for the local community and the wider region."

"Fethard Town Park will be transformative for the town of Fethard and the surrounding communities, delivering positive long-term health and wellbeing benefits for the people of Fethard and the wider region."

The Minister continued:

"Through my Department's Rural Regeneration and Development Fund, and with the support of Tipperary County Council, the John and Susan Magnier Foundation and community fundraising, the total investment in this project of €7.14 million shows our commitment to supporting towns and villages across rural Ireland."

ENDS

Notes to editors:

Our Rural Future

Our Rural Future is the whole-of-government policy for rural Ireland for the period 2021-2025. It offers a blueprint for a thriving and inclusive rural Ireland and adopts a more strategic, ambitious and holistic approach to investing in and maximising opportunities for rural areas.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund

The Rural Regeneration and Development Fund provides funding for the development and construction of capital projects in towns and villages and rural areas across Ireland. In total the Fund has now provided over €398m for 215 projects across Ireland, worth a total of €545m.

In relation to projects in County Tipperary, the Fund has provided €46.8 million for 13 projects worth a total of almost €62 million.

Town Centre First

Town Centre First contains 33 unique actions which will give our towns the tools and resources they need to become more viable and attractive places in which to live, work, visit and run a business. Town Regeneration Officers in all relevant Local Authority areas are being funded by DRCD to drive forward Town Centre First on a local level.

The policy also contains a range of actions designed to achieve key objectives such as social and economic revival in towns, the provision of housing, as well as addressing challenges like vacancy and derelict buildings. The actions also support the protection of our environment, as well as the heritage and culture of our towns.

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From: Jonathon Codd
Sent: Thursday 29 June 2023 16:12
To: Jonathon Codd
Cc: Sinéad Breathnach; Susan Whelan; Dylan White; Ivan Grimes; Emma Smyth; Ovidiu Matiut; Eoin Morrissey; Kevin Moynihan; Eddie Mulligan
Subject: Ministers Humphreys and Joe O'Brien announce €308,834 for 160 local projects in Wicklow under the Community Support Fund 2022

Dear Chair and members of the LCDC/LAG,

Please see the below media release issued by the Department today.

Media Release

Thursday, 29th June 2023



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail**
Department of Rural and
Community Development

Our Rural Future: Ministers Humphreys and Joe O'Brien announce €308,834 for 160 local projects in Wicklow under the Community Support Fund 2022

- ***Ministers announce successful projects under 2022 Community Support Fund***
- ***Minister O'Brien made the announcement whilst on a visit to Wicklow***
- ***Small grants to benefit community groups across Wicklow***
- ***Ring-fenced funding to support growing network of Women's Sheds***

Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD, and Minister of State with responsibility for Community Development and Charities, Joe O'Brien TD, have today announced the successful projects in Co. Wicklow under the 2022 Community Support Fund.

Minister O'Brien was in Wicklow to visit a community project when he formally announced the funding.

The 2022 Community Support Fund was launched in November 2022 with funding of €10 million available. €100,000 of this funding was ring-fenced specifically to support Women's Sheds. The key

theme of the fund is to support groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas, with their energy bills, as well as with improvements to their facilities.

The Community Support Fund is a once off fund provided by the Department of Rural and Community Development and administered by Local Community Development Committees, with support from the Local Authority, in each area.

Announcing the successful projects for Co. Wicklow today, Minister Humphreys said:

"I am delighted to announce almost €310,000 in funding for 160 local projects across County Wicklow today as part of my Department's Community Support Fund.

"Through 'Our Rural Future', I want to support locally led, ground-up projects in local communities across the country. This funding is all about giving a helping hand to our local groups and clubs with their energy costs, whether it's the electricity bill, insurance costs or other overheads.

"While these grants are small in nature, they can make a big difference by allowing local community organisations to carry out much needed works in their area."

Minister Humphreys added:

"I fully appreciate the fantastic work carried out by volunteers in communities across the country whether it's the local Parish Hall Committee, the Development Association or the local Senior Citizens Group. These local committees work hard to make sure they can keep the lights on and run fantastic local services and events for young and old to enjoy.

"I would like to thank Wicklow County Council and Local Community Development Committee for their assistance in administering this fund."

Also announcing the successful projects today, Minister Joe O'Brien said:

"I am delighted to be here in Wicklow today and announce the successful Wicklow projects under the Community Support Fund. The Community Support Fund provides a range of invaluable small grants to help the smaller community groups and facilities that support communities at a grassroots level.

“I know that this funding is an important tool in helping these important groups and we were especially conscious that with the impact of current energy costs many groups would need additional supports to help them to continue to provide their valuable services to the people in their areas. I want to congratulate the successful projects and to thank them for the vital work they do in providing services in their local communities”

List of the successful projects in Co. Wicklow is available [here](#)

ENDS

Notes to editors:

- Community Support Fund is targeted towards enhancing facilities in disadvantaged communities. It provides small grants to community groups in a manner consistent with each area’s Local Economic and Community Plan.
- The Community Support Fund was launched in November 2022. The once-off fund is allocated under the Department’s Community Enhancement Programme.
- The funding is administered locally by [Local Community Development Committees](#) (LCDCs) across the country, with support from their Local Authority. Contact details for LCDCs are available [here](#).
- List of county allocations are available [here](#)

