



Minutes of the Waterford LAG Meeting
Thursday 12th March 2026, Videoconference, 11.00 a.m.

Present: **Non-Public Sector:** **Public Sector**

1. Gabriel Foley	PPN / Environment	1. Mayor Seamus Ryan (Chair)	Elected representative
2. Liam Quinn	CEO – Waterford Area Partnership	2. Sean McKeown	CE, WC&CC
3. Ger Hurley	Waterford Chamber of Commerce	3. Cllr. Liam Brazil	Elected representative
4. Christine Rossi	CEO – WLP CLG	4. Gareth Evans	Head of LEO
5. Ian O’Brien	PPN / Community & Voluntary	5. Derval Howley	HSE
6. Catherine Quinlan	I.C.M.S.A.	Apologies:	
7. Csilla Czelvikker	PPN / Community & Voluntary	6. Kathryn Kiely	SETU
Apologies:		7. Karina Daly	WWETB
8. Sinead Kilcawley Retired	PPN / Community & Voluntary	8. Margaret Mary Collins	TUSLA
9. Jenny Beresford	CEO Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber	9. Cllr. Damien Geoghegan (Deputy Chair)	Elected Representative
10. Mary Ray	Social Inclusion		

Staff Present: Chief Officer S Breathnach Community S.E.O., S. Whelan S.O., J. Codd S.O., Y. Dam A.S.O., G. Mulhall S.O., S. DeFaoite D.O.S., A. Maher, A.O., N Spendlove A.O., J Jackman C.O., N. Osborne LAIT Coordinator.

Apologies: C. Flavin S.O., M. McKnight, C.O., E Morrissey A.O, E Smyth C.O.

1.Total current Membership	19
2.Total attendees	12
3. Quorum % required (50% of 1 above)	Achieved – 63%

1. Confirmation of Quorum: Having reviewed the attendance record, Chief Officer Sinéad Breathnach informed the Committee a quorum was achieved. Chair Seamus Ryan opened the meeting.

2. Apologies.

As per table above, apologies were noted.

3. Conflict of Interest:

- (i) C.o.I. declarations: None
- (ii) Review of Quorum: Quorum achieved.

4. Confirmation of Minutes of LAG Meeting held on 12th February 2026

Proposed: L Brazil	Seconded by: G Foley
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

5. Matters arising:

None.

6. Rural Development Programme.

- i) LEADER Monthly Update: C Rossi gave an update on the progress of the LEADER 2327 Programme.

LEADER targeted Call 4 will close for applications on the 17th of April 2026. There were 27 EOIs but some promoters have indicated that they will not be proceeding in this round.

To date, after three targeted calls, 45% of the budget has been allocated to LEADER projects. Up until the 18th of March 2026, 23% of the budget has been drawn down as LEADER claims.

- ii) For Approval: Annual Progress Report 2025 and Implementation Plan 2026

Proposed: G Foley	Seconded by: L Brazil
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

- iii) For Approval: IE31WAT101422 (Hostel & Glamping at the Old Walsh's Hotel Cappoquin). Itemised expenditure to be reflected in minutes as per decision sheet.

Preliminaries & Contract Conditions **€79,000**

External Site Works **€217,210.90**

Existing Shed **€18,899**

Toilet Block **€19,316**

Hotel Building **€486,198**

Total Expenditure €820,623.90

**Grant Aid recommended by the Evaluation Committee @ 24.37170% Max
€200,000**

Proposed: L Quinn	Seconded by: L Brazil
Abstentions: None	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

- iv) For Noting: OECD Rural Policy Review of Ireland 2026

- v) Appeal: BWA1 IE31WAT1030 Our Nature Corridor

The committee agreed to refer this appeal back to WLP Evaluation Committee

Proposed: S McKeown	Seconded by: G Hurley
Abstentions:	
Quorum achieved: Yes	Approved

7. Circulars: (extranet)

- Circular 01 - 2026 - CAP public consultation and LEADERis35

8. Correspondence

- Minister Calleary announces €17_5 million to Local Authorities for Local Improvement Scheme
- 35 years of LEADER – Minister Calleary congratulates groups on reaching significant milestone

9. A.O.B. None

10. Date and venue of next LAG meeting: 11.00am Thursday 9th April, Dungarvan Council Chamber

Signed _____
CHAIRPERSON DATE