

Meeting: Laois Kilkenny Community Forum

Date: 16th September 2021

Venue: Online Zoom

Participants:

Irish Rural Link- Seamus Boland, James Claffey and Brendan Mulvy

EirGrid-Avril Wilson

M.CO- Coleen Savage and Richard Jermyn

Laois Kilkenny Community Representatives- Lawrence Vesey, Michael McEvoy, Paschal McEvoy and Tomas Healy

Meeting chaired by Irish Rural Link and draft minutes compiled by: Irish Rural Link

Item	Description	
1.	Introduction Seamus Boland (Chairperson) opened the meeting and introduced the agenda. The forum members were invited to introduce themselves. Apologies Pat Farrell, Deirdre McMahon and Juanita Dunphy	
2.	Minutes of previous meeting The minutes of the previous were proposed by Paschal McEvoy and seconded Michael McEvoy	
3.	Presentation on the Draft Community Benefit Fund Scoping Report M.CO Colleen Savage from M.CO presented the draft scoping study. M.CO welcome any comments the forum on the report.	
	Questions/Queries	Response
	Can a community group submit a joint application for a larger project?	M.CO informed members, they will take it away for consideration and get back to the group.
	A member of the Spink Community Development Group wasn't approach about the scoping report and would like to engage with M.CO.	M.CO will engage with the group members and include their feedback. Meeting date and time to be arranged.
	Will organisations be advised of the application process?	The opening of the fund will be advertised in local press and media. An information evening, regarding the community benefit fund will be held, members of the forum and local community and voluntary groups will be invited to attend. All Members of the forum will be informed about the next steps in this process.
4.	Next Steps Following further engagement with stakeholders and forum members, M.CO will update the draft Scoping study and it will be circulated to forum members for	

approval. It is agreed that the report will be approved via email by Monday 27 th September 2021.
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