

Case Study 16



RECOGNITION PROGRAMME

COMMUNITY VIBRANCY RECOGNITION PROGRAMME 2017-2019

NEWKD in partnership with Kerry Group are delighted to announce Lyreacrompane Community Development Company as the 16th recipient of the Community Vibrancy Recognition Programme.

This is a three-year initiative (2017-2019) aimed at recognising the diversity and vibrancy of community work throughout the region. Every year NEWKD works with over 500 community groups, businesses and initiatives under our 4 Strategic Pillars:

- **Social Supports**
- **Employment Services**
- **Enterprise and Tourism**
- **Community, Environment & Rural Development**

The 'Community Vibrancy Recognition Programme' pays tribute to a number of recipients each year. Each project is selected for their uniqueness, vibrancy and responsiveness to addressing local needs. Recipients are nominated locally through the NEWKD structures which operate in Tralee, Listowel, Castleisland and Dingle, and are exemplars of best practices and innovative solutions in social, economic and environmental development, while giving recognition to community leadership and entrepreneurs.

Previous recipients:

1. Glanageenty Walkways
2. The Kerry Food Hub, Furies
3. Ballybunion Men's Shed
4. Dingle New Music Choir and Orchestra
5. Baile Mhuire Day Care Centre
6. Ballybunion Senior Citizens Meals on Wheels
7. Mol Teic - Dingle Creativity and Innovation Hub
8. NEWKD's Local Area Advisory Councils (LAACs)
9. Castleisland Community Garden
10. Sliabh Luachra Boxing Club Castleisland
11. Áras Mhuire Nursing Home
12. Kerryhead/Ballyheigue Family Resource Centre
13. Community Café, Ballyduff
14. Sliabh Luachra Cultural & Heritage Centre
15. Listowel Tidy Towns



Lyreacrompane Community Development Company

Lyreacrompane Community Development Company was established in 1993 for the purpose of purchasing a community field. At the first meeting, which 43 people attended, it was decided to have a once-off house-to-house collection and to establish a weekly lotto which was proposed by Pat Carmody. The lotto started in November 1993 and has been the catalyst for all the development that has been achieved.

The first committee included: President; Fr. James McElligott, Chairperson; Breda Carmody, Vice Chairperson; Tony Lyons, Secretary; Larry Long, Assistant Secretary; Kay Lyons, Joint Treasurers Martin Leane & Mick Naughton, PRO; Billy O'Connell, Assistant PRO; Mary Mangan. The committee formed a Company Limited by Guarantee in 1995 and subsequently were awarded Charitable Status.

The field was purchased in 1994, 6.6 acres for £6,600. It was ploughed, levelled and drained between 1995-1996. The Mass Path was developed in 1994 with the help of North Kerry Walks' Tom Finn (RIP), Denis Ogie Moran, Shannon Development, good neighbours, Coillte and the Irish Forestry Unit Trust. Lyre Walks opened in 1995, a very successful walking festival, and in 1997 the committee started planning a Community Centre. It took two years to plan which allowed for visits to other community centres, and following community consultation the plans were approved.

In 1998 Lyreacrompane Community Development Co. bought the Lyre Creamery from Kerry Co-Op creameries, part of Kerry Group for the sum of £1. The Centre opened in 2000 at a cost of over €250,000 to build, while the debt was only £39,000. Grants supporting the building were received from NEWKD/LEADER (£80,000) and Lotto Sports Capital (£20,000). FÁS supplied the skilled labour under Youth Training Programme.

The committee members were always involved in the community so when the facilities opened the next development effort was to get the Centre used by the community.



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Lyreacrompane Community Development Company CO. KERRY

The developments now include the following facilities and community services:

- Over 55's Club
- Social Care Supports
- Parent and toddler group
- Tennis and basketball courts
- Women's Group and Mens Shed initiative
- All-weather walk route with lighting
- Childrens playground
- Riverbank reclamation to save walk
- Coillite re-development of Mass Path and River Walk
- Upgrading of centre to include: 3 phase power, commercial oven, commercial dishwasher washers, floor cleaning machine, built extension for storage and a workshop.
- The Centre is also the operational base for the Island Crown Community Employment Scheme.
- Partnership with Sliabh Luachra Active Retired Network is in operation for 15 years hosting a choir and poetry workshops twice monthly, concerts and many social parties.
- The centre covers a catchment area including Lyreacrompane, Rathea, Listowel, Knocknagoshel, Brosna, Castleisland, Scartaglin, Currow, Ballymacelligott and Tralee.

SUPPORT FROM NEWKD

- RSS - Rural Social Scheme
 - Tús Community Work Placement
 - SICAP, through developmental supports, capacity building and group support and interventions
 - LEADER Programme
- Upgrading electricity and fire doors: €9,829.80
Leisure amenities and sign: €20,201.63
Playground development: €40,764.48
Signage: €7,920.00
Development of tennis court: €2,336.51
Feasibility into preservation of river bank: €3,262.00
Lighting, repair to bridge: €16,491.75
Purchase of bollards and lights for car park: €3,800
Tarmacadam for carpark: €5,000
Establishing of multi purpose complex: €80,000
Total Grant Paid: €189,606.17



GOOD PRACTICE & LEARNING:

1. Self-sufficient: with the goodwill of the community and the lotto the centre has no debt.
2. As a community development organisation Lyreacrompane Community Development Company is always looking forward and we try live up to the 1st clause in our article of Association:
 - i. To develop Resources and Amenities within the Community for the benefit of all people in the Community and the general public as a whole.
3. There has always been a strong ethos of sharing and supporting other groups and to exchange best practise
4. Developments were done in stages and gradually, to ensure they were achievable and deliverable, which in turn built up a trust in the committee and the capacity of the committee.
5. Partnership with agencies and organisations has been a key part of our success including: Sliabh Luachra Local Development now NEWKD, HSE, Local Link Kerry, Kerry County Council.

CONTACT DETAILS

Lyreacrompane Community Development Company,
Resource Centre, Lyreacrompane, Listowel, Co Kerry.
Tel: 068 48369 | Email: info@lyreacrompane.ie
www.lyreacrompane.ie
Facebook/[lyreacrompanecommunitydevelopment](https://www.facebook.com/lyreacrompanecommunitydevelopment)



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



RECOGNITION PROGRAMME

NEWKD and Kerry Group wish to acknowledge and thank all those who have contributed to

LYREACROMPANE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

Presented in recognition of the valuable contribution the group makes to the:

- Community Vibrancy specifically for the Lyreacrompane Area
- Social Supports in the provision of essential community supports, activities and resources
- Community, Environment and Rural Development Leadership

September 2019

