



Thomond Park, Limerick

Thursday 15th November



National Social Enterprise EXPO

**Social Enterprise
Is a
Transforming Agent**

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Against The Odds

- Two major recessions (1980s & 2008 onwards)
- Without policy or implementation plan
- Without fibre broadband in Rural Ireland
- Dormant and deteriorating resources unused
- Austerity programme making life difficult
- Closure of services and facilities
- Emigration and migration to cities

2019 promises to be different !

DFBA Case Study

3 Reasons To Act!

1. Lost 2 teachers – one in each school: 4 to 3 and 3 to 2
 2. Declining population and employment opportunities (17.3%.)
 3.
 - (a) Leader Partnership Companies
 - (b) Community Employment Scheme
 - (c) County Enterprise Boards set up in early 1990s
- *Dunhill GAA built and funded club complex in 1989 (IR350k).*

Mission and Operating Principles

Mission: *To develop our community socially, economically and culturally by harnessing the talents of our people and the resources available.*

Logo: Ballinageeragh Dolmen

Motto: There is no limit to what can be achieved by a community working together

Operating Principles:

1. Empower local people and groups
2. Promote integrated collaborative approach
3. Provide new educational opportunities
4. Create sustainable jobs
5. Protect bio-diversity of the area
6. Add value - avoid duplication, displacement and waste.

Achievements (2018)

Schools: Increase in staff : Dunhill from 3 to 9. Fenor from 2 to 17.

Population: + 25% to 2100 people.

Enterprise: Created 250 jobs in Enterprise Centre from 2000
18 Social Enterprises in DFBA

Education: Over 3000 completed accredited introductory, certificate, diploma courses from 8 to 80 years

Volunteers: Minimum of 200 engaged in DFBA added to those on Pastoral Council, Schools, Sports Clubs and Charities

International Recognition:

- UNESCO Global Geopark
- Integrated Constructed Wetlands
- Fenor Bog and Playpark.
- Ireland – Newfoundland Connections
- Power Clan Gatherings – 2013-2016-2019?
- Dunhill IDA Global Brief
- Intellectual Capital – to China, Canada, UK, EU.

Volunteering- In Whose Interest!

- People want best for families, children and elderly
- Want necessary services, facilities and social cohesion
- Have social capital and capacity to get things done
- Volunteers engage where need is greatest and success possible
- Able to leverage resources and supports from state agencies
- One person/ group/ club can start up a new project.
- Communities small and large, inner city and remote rural can create 10 jobs.
- Never a better time! Abundant resources and opportunities!
- Rural Ireland is a dynamic and creative region of EU.
- The best has yet to come!

Voluntary Community/Charity Priority Responsibility!

- Pastoral Council and sub groups i.e. graveyard, choir, finance,
- School Board and Parents Council
- Youth Club, Community Care, Parents & Toddlers Group.
- Voluntary Housing, Tidy Towns and Villages
- Community Alert and First Response
- GAA, Soccer, Squash, Athletics, Bridge, ICA, IFA, Macra, Scouts.
- Special Olympics, Pieta House Darkness into Light, Lourdes Fund
- Sale of work, pub quiz, Xmas swim, weekly lotto, raffles/ draws
- Performing arts, music, dance, drama, crafts,

***Annual maintenance cost of Dunhill-Fenor parish is €200,000.**

Social Enterprise –A Multi €b Sector

- Communities/clubs working on major infrastructure projects
- Costing €500k to €2m over 3/5 year period
- SE sector needs to be separated from voluntary/ charity

Needs a SE Strategic Development Unit working with Dept

To: Identify and Co-ordinate Assets

Organise and Communicate State Resources

Evaluate and Continuously Improve State Support System

Remove Barriers holding up Progress

Communicate Outcomes and Best Practices Widely

Project Ireland 2040 - €4billion in support funding to 2027

Project Ireland 2040

- 1m additional people by 2040
- €116b capital expenditure 2018-2027.

4 New Funds on top of a multitude of others e.g. Leader

1. Rural Regeneration Development Fund €1b rrdf@drdf.gov.ie
 2. Urban Regeneration Development Fund €2b urdf@dred.gov.ie
 3. Descriptive Technologies Fund, €500m
 4. Climate Action Fund, €500m
- Rural fund, minimum bids €500k
 - Urban fund, minimum bids €2-€10m
 - Led by Public Bodies, Councils, Leader Partnerships, Departments
 - 2018 Sports Capital oversubscribed €150m app for €40m Fund
 - Smart Villages Concept Led by EU- for Launch in 2020.

A Democratic Imperative

- Empower communities for self reliance, resilience
- Centralise services for scale and expertise.
- Decentralise for prevention and solutions at source, at low cost
- Health, housing, education, security environment, tourism, heritage, transport, technology, food, immigration.
- Earn respect for institutions of state and the political system **or**
- Face consequences/cost of isolation and abandonment!
- Community is key socio-economic unit of our time
- Collaborate at community and county levels and be heard!
- Of the people, for the people, by the people, with the people

Greatest Story Never Told

- A story: of closures, housing, flooding, emigration etc.
- Other story: recovery, start-ups, global competitiveness. Agri-food, tourism, FDI, SMEs, Social Enterprises
- Leader prompted, enabled, encouraged, achieved
- Case for Leader made on what it did –fell on deaf ears
- Communities telling their own stories, **is the story**
- €450m to €250m to €500m for 2020-2027
- 27 years of organisation & community knowledge
- Leader with CCJ, GAA , 3rd Level to regenerate country
- Visit Case Studies in Book: Dunhill, Slieve Beagh, Piltown Loughmore, Castlecomer, St Munchin's, Loop Head, Tulsk, Moate, Mayo Abbey, Kildorrerry, Allenwood, Skibbereen etc.

Community Eco-System

- Most Influential Socio-Economic Unit of Our Time
- Wealth Creator –Problem Solver - Safe Haven
- Instils Values, Shapes Character and Attitudes
- Family, School, Club Want the Best and Will Work For It
- SE Services/Facilities Prompt Private Enterprise
- Problems Prevented and Solved at Source
- Volunteers Involved Because They Want to Be
- To Plant, Grow and Harvest Socio-Economic Potential
- Building Enterprising Communities- Is A Priority Task

“The Enterprising Community”

*Just imagine
what could be achieved if a national policy and plan
for social enterprise was in place!*

Order book from
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