

**COMHAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE  
WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 BY ZOOM**

**Present**

Cllr. Ger Barron	Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Donal Barry	Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. Liam Brazil	Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell
Cllr. Joanne Bailey	Cllr. John O'Leary
Cllr. Declan Clune	Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
Cllr. Joe Conway	Cllr. Thomas Phelan
Cllr. Tom Cronin	Cllr. Jody Power
Cllr. Conor D. McGuinness	Cllr. Seanie Power
Cllr. David Daniels	Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. Declan Doocey	Cllr. Eamon Quinlan
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Cllr. Frank Quinlan
Cllr. Susan Gallagher	Cllr. Mary Roche
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan	Cllr. Seamus Ryan
Cllr. Jim Griffin	Cllr. Adam Wyse
Cllr. John Hearne	Cllr. Eddie Mulligan
Cllr. Joe Kelly	Cllr. James Tobin

**Officials in Attendance**

Mr. Michael Walsh, Chief Executive  
 Mr. Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services, Corporate, Culture, HR & IS  
 Mr. Ivan Grimes, Director of Services, Housing, Community & Emergency Services  
 Mr. Michael Quinn, Director of Services, Economic Development and Planning  
 Mr. Bernard Pollard, Head of Finance  
 Mr. Gabriel Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads  
 Ms. Honor Dunphy, Meetings Administrator  
 Mr. Dave Mitchell, Corporate  
 Mr. Conan Power, Communications  
 Ms. Lisa Grant, Economic Development

Meetings Administrator carried out a roll call to confirm meeting attendance.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

- Minutes of Plenary meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> July 2021 proposed by Cllr O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Tobin and agreed by all.
- Minutes of Special meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021 proposed by Cllr Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr Daniels and agreed by all.

**2. Matters Arising**

Cllr. Phelan followed up on his request for a report on parking permits discussed in July.

Mr. Hynes, SE, said that he needed the report back from the SPC which he will then present to council. Cllr. E. Quinlan stated that the Transportation and Infrastructure SPC needed to call a meeting to facilitate the matter coming back to Plenary.

Cllr. Mulligan enquired on the progress with the appointment of a property adviser for the North Quays and if the LEO Measure 1 breakdowns were available as previously requested.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, stated that the property advisor had not been advertised yet and some alternative options were also being looked at. LEO data will be distributed to the members.

Mr. Walsh, CEO, suggested workshop with the members to discuss developments with the North Quays.

Cllr. Roche requested an update on the suggested IDA engagement in September.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, outlined that the IDA board meetings clashed with the Plenary meetings, alternative dates being explored.

The Mayor outlined that in discussion with the Minister for Finance office for suitable meeting date.

Cllr. Daniels proposed that Waterford Airport be added to the Agenda for the October meeting, and this was seconded by Cllr Ryan and supported by the Mayor.

Mr. Kehoe, (DoS) explained that the CPO for the lands and extension of runway were still under consideration with An Bord Pleanála suggesting having on agenda once decision has been reached in October or November. Cllr Griffin expressed his support for this delay with November being mooted when more complete information would be available.

Cllr. Conway requested an update on the Greenway extension to Tramore.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, explained that the tender period had been extended to the end of August at the request of tenderers and that responses were currently being evaluated. He expected that the study would commence in the next couple of months.

### **3. Land Disposals**

None

### **4. Monthly Management Report**

Cllr. Ryan enquired about planned actions relating to coastal erosion especially the Tramore back strand and Sandhills area which had deteriorated. He also asked for an update on progress of the Michael Street development.

Cllr. Tobin stated that the comments from the Regulator on the proposed County and City Development Plan implied that the plan was his rather than the councils especially in relation to housing requirements and available zoned land.

Cllr. E. Quinlan stated that he witnessed night-time road resurfacing in Galway and other counties in the West of Ireland and asked why it could not be done in Waterford. He suggested a list of key city and county roads be tendered for delivery on a night-time only basis. He also raised the issue of an increase in the numbers of abandoned vehicles that had to be disposed of at the council expenses and he asked that the owners be contacted to recoup these costs.

Mr. Hynes, SE, acknowledged that there is sand drift in Tramore, a survey was being undertaken in conjunction with the OPW of the area from Tramore to Kilfarrasy to look at the situation and the measures that might be required. Funding for this was expected from the OPW and consultant would be needed to carry out the work. He outlined that there were significant cost implications for tendering for night work and there were limitations on what could be undertaken as some essential supplies were not available at night. There may be some tasks involving machinery and labour that could be tendered for, but the increased costs would obviously have implications for the scope of the overall roads programme

that could be undertaken. In respect of the high cost of removing abandoned vehicles he stated that the council would try to recover these costs from the vehicle owners.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, stated that the Michael Street development was in design, and he would be able to report back in the next few weeks at a workshop. Regarding the comments by the Regulator on the Draft Development Plan he stated that we have to comply, and efforts were being made to strike a balance. The concerns raised by the Regulator were being assessed and considered and will go back before the SPC and then the full Council. Cllr Tobin stated that the members must have input into any replies and responses as they own the Development Plan. The mayor expressed his agreement with Cllr. Tobin.

Cllr. McGuinness spoke about the increases in average rents in Waterford and the lack of student accommodation. He enquired how the council might work with WIT management to reduce the pressure on students and their families. Regarding the Draft Development plan, he stated that the regulator had a red pen attitude and that the zoning of land as residential is not a guarantee that it might ever be built on. More land needed to be zoned to take account of this. He stated there was a need for the regulator to meet with the members. The Mayor stated that he would write to regulator to invite him.

Cllr. Clune asked about the Council's information security and if there was an incident plan or if any penetration testing had been undertaken. Regarding the Airport and the Search and Rescue helicopter stationed there he said there were fears regarding the contract renewal. The Mayor committed to writing to the local Oireachtas members and the Department regarding these concerns.

Cllr. Griffin enquired about the councils' achievements against department targets with regards to delivering social housing. He also stated that this was "joined at the hip" with being carbon neutral. He suggested establishing a cross party working group and having a summit between now and Christmas and discussing housing strategy with relevant stakeholders then setting tangible targets to be revisited every three months.

Mr Grimes, DoS, said in response that any meeting on student accommodation with WIT could be done but would also need to include the planning department. The targets for Social Housing delivery are set by the department annually and for 2020 Waterford exceeded them and we had already achieved the 2021 target. More detail on the implementation of "Housing for All" is needed from the department before having any summit relating to affordable housing.

Mr Quinn, DoS, did not think that the Planning Regulator attended workshops, but he will ask and perhaps they might be willing to discuss and listen to councillors' concerns. If they don't then the concerns will be relayed back in our written response to them. The Mayor added that the written response would contain the members views and any review would go through the SPC then to a plenary workshop which Mr Quinn agreed was the correct way to proceed.

Mr. Kehoe, (DoS), addressed the issue of cybersecurity and explained that there were more than 1700 devices and 90 servers in the council domain. A detailed response plan is in place, and this was used when the HSE was attacked recently. Cybersecurity insurance is in place and the latest version of software protection are installed. Multi factor authentication has been introduced for staff. There were .5 million emails received in a three-month period and 40% of them are blocked by the protection systems. It is a constant process, and the Council are doing what can be done to protect the organisation.

Cllr. Daniels enquired if 'Housing for All' changed the discount policy for tenant purchase scheme discounts and is there an increased rent levels for council tenants. He also asked in the Land Development Agency had a role in buying land from the private sector. He stated that funding for housing adaptation schemes were exhausted which was a critical and serious issue and if there was scope for further funding.

Cllr. Gallagher referred to the Transport Infrastructure Ireland document "Travelling in a women's shoes" and the case studies on the use of GIS. She asked if our GIS could be used to provide safe footpath routes for the disabled, to those pushing buggies and for women to walk safely. It could be used perhaps to help build a picture of hotspots that could be addressed. Given the impressive GIS applications the Council currently has it might be possible to extend functionality to include these requirements. "Make Way Day" is approaching, and bins, signs and cars are obstructing many paths enquiring if the council would be

participating in the event. Also pointed out that wheelchair friendly benches were available at the Bishop's Palace and asked if the council would be procuring any soon.

Cllr. Barry asked if the Frasers Group Plc could be approached by the Council to take over the Debenhams store as they had done in Cork and Kildare. He said he had personally written to them and asked if Waterford 2040 could also write to them in addition to the council. Additionally, Cllr Barry asked about the appearance of the lampstands on Blackwater Bridge in Lismore which were in poor repair.

Mr. Grimes, DoS, stated that changes to the Tenant Purchase Scheme will be made which will require new legislation and there would be changes to both the income thresholds eligibility criteria and a reduction of the maximum discount to 25%. He will revisit the document about rents on council properties increasing. Housing adaptation funding was a recurring problem and extra had been requested from the department. Regarding the Land Development Agency, he stated that legislation had only been recently enacted and that the council were stating to work with them and would continue to do so.

Mr. Hynes, SE, stated that improvements to paths had been made in the city via the Active Travel Schemes. He agreed that there were opportunities to add more to the Council GIS Applications, but extra resource was needed to do this. He is not aware of plans for a "Make Way Day" and will revert details. The wheelchair friendly tables would be available and prioritised for 2022. The lamps on the bridge in Lismore had been recently repaired but suffered from being hit by passing traffic, he would check the status and consider having the standards offset to protect them.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, confirmed that they had contacted the letting agent for the Debenhams building regarding approaching Frasers Group and he is happy to write to them recommending Waterford,

Cllr. Phelan echoed the Development Plan issues raised by Cllr. Tobin and others. He queried if there were sufficient resources in the planning department given the increase in applications and if staffing had increased.

Cllr. O' Leary enquired about Ministers target under the "Housing for All" plan.

Cllr. J. Power congratulated Spraoi and TV Honan on the recent events on the Greenway and the Prism event at the courthouse. He asked if any delay to the Southeast Greenway would occur due to the delay in the Kilkenny Greenway. The governments Climate Action Plan requires climate leadership training for Local Authorities enquiring when Waterford would complete this training given that we were in the process of formulating the next development plan. He raised a potential safety issue where St. Declan's Way and the N25 intersection stating that an underpass was needed. He additionally asked about the situation regarding the disposal of waste oil at our harbours or piers and what facilities were provided.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, stated the increased level of planning applications has been addressed with some reallocation of resources and the situation will be monitored noting that any new planning jobs had to be approved by the Department first. The New Ross element of the Southeast Greenway plan is progressing and would be kept under review in relation to issues at other locations.

Mr. Grimes stated that 285 units were delivered last year and 351 expected this year but he doesn't have the target to hand but those figures exceeded the targets. New targets are expected to be set under "Housing for All" plan.

Mr. Hynes, SE, stated that some Climate Action Training had been undertaken in-house and further training can be rolled out. He was awaiting the commencement notice from the Department for the Climate Action Plan which could tie in with this. In relation to the N25 at St Declan's Way an assessment of the number of users is needed first and signage can be installed in the interim and will discuss with the regional safety officer of TII. Dumping of oil outside the high-water mark would be the responsibility of the Coast Guard, responsibility for correct disposal if brought ashore lies with the boat owners.

Cllr. Mulligan stated that there's no mentions of affordable housing in "Housing for All" plan. He asked if he could have a report on the 28 units in Carrickphierish and how they are progressing. He enquired about the council's archive building in the Viking Triangle and if there were plans for it. Cllr. Mulligan

stated that the streets in the city needed to be cleaned before 8am to clear the rubbish left by outdoor dining and socialising in the evenings.

Cllr. Pratt also raised the question of planning resources and pre planning meetings that were delayed and what a reasonable delay might be. He also asked if an update could be obtained from the Department regarding Part 5 properties and how they are not included under the Tenant Purchase Scheme.

Cllr. Fitzgerald asked if people who availed of the housing insulation and retrofit schemes and have air to water heat systems could continue to have open fires. He also asked if anything could be done about the die off of shellfish and the huge level of green algae on the shoreline in the Estuary.

Mr. Hynes, SE, stated that street cleaning in the city had already been extended including on weekends, but that funding was limited and has a budgetary impact, members can review as part of the upcoming budget process. He stated that the algae and shellfish issue in the lower estuary could be referred to the regional team involved in catchment management for investigation.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, stated that the reallocation of resources to handle the extra planning applications during the summer may have delayed some other services like pre planning meetings and anticipates improvements after the summer period.

Mr. Grimes, DoS, stated that regular reports will be provided on affordable housing when the Department defines how it is to be funded, delivered, and administered. He is not aware that there is any lifting of Part 5 bar to tenant purchases and any changes would require new legislation. He will request staff and contractors to advise elderly tenants of the consequences of the retrofit and adaption schemes on open fires and stoves.

Mr Walsh, CEO, stated the budget process was very detailed and linked payroll costs and resources. He said there is a certain element of a Covid bubble with planning applications which should go down as we exit the crises. A set of proposals for affordable housing needs to be put in place with resources, this is not an insignificant amount of work. Regarding cleaning in the early morning there are limited budgets with little room for more flexibility. Staffing is at a maximum and changes to rosters cannot happen without the members providing extra budget for any change.

Cllr. Murphy enquired if a congestion charge could be considered for the city to alleviate the impact of the trucks and heavy vehicles driving through the city, He also stated that a taskforce should be put in place to refocus on the city centre to look at changing city centres.

Cllr. Doocey stated that action on coastal erosion was needed rather than reports and similarly with river erosion which should be excluded from planning so that it could be resolved quickly, stating there was a serious issue on the Blackwater at present that needs to be addressed. He stated that the lack of zoning for housing in the planning regulators proposal would increase the price of sites. He asked that recognition be given to zoned land available for sale.

Cllr. Hearne urged caution on the any congestion charge as it might force employers out of the city. The HAP scheme inflates rents, so it was not suitable in the current environment when housing is needed for students. The Community Safety Partnership is being established, hopeful that local success with bangers and bonfires could be extended to other areas of the county. He suggested that the St Patricks Day Parade is dedicated to front line workers with them present on the reviewing stand rather than councillors.

Mr. Hynes, SE, responding on the congestion charge stated that study in progress and going for public display later this year which addresses sustainable transport and use this as a forum to input into proposals. In respect of costal erosion, it is necessary to carry out the study first to ensure defences are sustainable and consider upstream and downstream issues before starting work. He added that a study was underway in Ardmore, Tramore would be done in the next six months and a further one was needed for Dungarvan. With river erosion it was landowners' responsibility, and they are required to comply with planning and environment regulations.

Mr. Grimes, DoS, stated that the Community Safety Partnership was in the process of being established and its primary function was to develop community safety plans in collaboration with local communities. Bangers and bonfires are a problem that An Garda Siochana, the Fires Service and Councils environment department work together to address. There is a St Patrick's Day Committee chaired by the Mayor which

plan the event and the Mayor can bring the suggestion regarding front line workers back to this committee. The Mayor stated that he was happy to do this.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, stated there is a City Centre Group in place which has council nominees. The offer letter in respect of the URDF has been received that includes regeneration and housing to allow people to live in the city and revitalise it. Resources are being ramped up for the URDF implementation plan. More detailed design and phasing of the project is needed plus some minor funding issues to be resolved. He will circulate listing of the City Centre Management Committee members to the members.

Cllr. Bailey requested a full audit of vacant over retail accommodation be carried out in the city and plan for a city centre revamp. She also asked if there was a building that Helping Hands homeless services could use as they were catering for people from a tent. Additionally, she thanked Mr. Kehoe for arranging for The Mall to be lit up for World Suicide Prevention Day and that it is included in social media posts.

Cllr. Roche welcomed the funding of the Greenway to the city and the detail on Arts in the management report. She also asked if there was a register of Derelict Buildings in the City and County and if GIS could be used to track it. She queried why some people had been removed from the hostel and how we deal with the worst impacted people. Regarding the TII plan and carbon neutrality for the city she asked what input the members might have and timeline for same.

Cllr. Nugent enquired if there was a Vacant Homes Officer in the council. He also asked if there was any response from An Taisce regarding letter on the cheese factory.

Mr. Grimes, DoS, stated that a Vacant Homes officer in place for five years and had sourced many units especially under the repair and lease scheme. There is no resource available to do a full audit of retail space available in the city but are working closely with estate agents. Options are being explored for the “Helping Hands” service across a number of departments. Regarding people excluded from the hostel he confirmed there were units for serious cases and exclusion was only in very serious cases where the health and safety of other occupants or staff was threatened.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, stated that he would follow up on the response from An Taisce and check if the Councils Derelict Sites Register was available via the GIS system.

Mr. Walsh, CEO, stated that the Carbon Neutral City and transport strategy, funded by the NTA, would have a first draft completed by November. A decision was awaited on becoming a decarbonisation zone, but a draft plan is in progress that will come before council prior to the budget in November.

Mr. Kehoe, DoS, stated that options were being examined for a single facility to house the archives.

## **5. Draft Waterford City & County Council Festival Funding Policy 2021 – for approval.**

Mr Quinn, DoS, introduced the proposed policy for consideration by members. Acceptance was proposed by Cllr. O’Sullivan and seconded by Cllr. Tobin.

Cllr. Clune requested to see an income and expenditure account to show where the €426k funding was being spent on Winterval. Cllr. Daniels asked for clarification on how annual training and festivals could be provided. Cllr. Mulligan not supportive of proposal noting concerns about its operation and the allocation of pillar status. Cllrs. Barron, Ryan, J. Power, Geoghegan, O’Leary and Griffin spoke in favour of the proposal and added their support. Cllr. E. Quinlan asked for some reassurance that arts festivals which had to reinvent themselves annually would not be reclassified as “emerging” each year. Cllr. McGuinness enquired about economic impact assessments for the pillar festivals, welcomed the expansion of Spraoi into the county and requested review of proposal in the New Year. Cllr. Murphy expressed reservations about creating two tier funding as did the Mayor who stated that he was not supporting the proposal.

Mr. Quinn, DoS, stated there would be future reviews. Metropolitan District Council reviews Winterval in more detail but some items like tender prices cannot be disclosed plus he pointed out the €429k spend is offset by various income streams. He suggested a review workshop with either the SPC or the council which could be undertaken when the impact is visible in twelve months’ time. In the interim progress

reports could be provided to council from the SPC. He confirmed that there was no intention to diminish the status of reimagined cultural festivals annually and classify them as emerging.

The mayor suggested that he would prefer if any review was with full plenary council rather than the SPC  
A roll call vote was called resulting in the following:

**Roll Call Vote Election – Adoption of Festival Funding Policy 2021**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Against</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Ger Barron (Lab)	Yes			
Donal Barry (Ind)	Yes			
Liam Brazil (FG)	Yes			
Joeanne Bailey (SF)	Yes			
Declan Clune (Ind)		No		
Joe Conway (Ind)	Yes			
Tom Cronin (FF)	Yes			
Conor McGuinness (SF)	Yes			
Davy Daniels (Ind)	Yes			
Declan Doocey (FG)	Yes			
Pat Fitzgerald (SF)		No		
Susan Gallagher (GP)				Not present
Damien Geoghegan (FG)	Yes			
Jim Griffin (SF)	Yes			
John Hearne (SF)	Yes			
Joe Kelly (Ind)		No		
Eddie Mulligan (FF)		No		
Jason Murphy (FF)		No		
Pat Nugent (FG)	Yes			
Seamus O'Donnell (Ind)				Not present
John O'Leary (FF)	Yes			
Lola O'Sullivan (FG)	Yes			
Thomas Phelan (Lab)	Yes			
Jody Power (GP)	Yes			
Seanie Power (FG)	Yes			
John Pratt (Lab)	Yes			
Eamon Quinlan (FF)	Yes			
Frank Quinlan (FG)	Yes			
Seamus Ryan (Lab)	Yes			
Mary Roche (Ind)	Yes			
James Tobin (FF)	Yes			
Adam Gary Wyse (FF)				Not present

**Result:**

**24 For Adoption and 5 Against**

Extension of Standing Orders for 30 minutes proposed by Cllr. Roche, seconded by Cllr. Pratt and agreed.

#### **6. Approval of One-Off Grant to Waterford Area Partnership – for approval.**

Mr Grimes introduced the proposal and referred to the note circulated outlining the background.

The grant of €60,000 was proposed by Cllr Geoghegan and seconded by Cllr Roche. Several councillors spoke in favour of the grant with Cllrs. Geoghegan, Roche, Kelly, Hearne and Pratt complimenting the executive on their role in saving the SICAP programme and the 45 jobs in the partnership. Cllr. Barry acknowledged the revamp of the organisation being carried out but wanted to know if investigations by An Garda Síochána, Revenue and the Charity Regulator were complete. If the grant was not being used to pay off legacy employment issues he was happy to support. Cllr. Ryan added his support as did Cllr. J. Power who asked about professional oversight to prevent any recurrence.

Mr. Grimes, DoS, stated he could not comment on any investigations into another organisation. The interim CEO stated that resolution of the accounts will resolve substantive issues being investigated. The grant would be used for specific purposes which would benefit WAP into the future.

Mr. Walsh, CEO, stated that no monies have been paid to WAP to date by the Council for anything other than contracted services. He confirmed this one-off grant was being spent on ensuring good governance in the future as requested by an independent professional board that had done phenomenal work to straighten out the issues. This would bring stability and sustainability to the organisation. He added that all the board members were professional and overseeing the leadership transition and the council not party to details of any investigations.

The grant was approved unanimously.

#### **7. Appointment of Chair to Economic Development and Enterprise SPC**

Cllr. O’Sullivan proposed Cllr. Nugent which was seconded by Cllr. S. Power.

Cllr. Ryan proposed Cllr. Roche which was seconded by Cllr. Bailey.

A roll call vote was called with the following votes cast.

#### **Roll Call Vote Election of Chair for Economic Development SPC** **Plenary 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Cllr Roche</b>	<b>Cllr. Nugent</b>	
Ger Barron (Lab)	Cllr Roche		
Donal Barry (Ind)	Cllr. Roche		
Liam Brazil (FG)		Cllr. Nugent	
Joanne Bailey (SF)	Cllr. Roche		
Declan Clune (Ind)	Cllr Roche		
Joe Conway (Ind)		Cllr Nugent	
Tom Cronin (FF)		Cllr Nugent	
Conor McGuinness (SF)	Cllr Roche		
Davy Daniels (Ind)	Cllr Roche		
Declan Doocey (FG)		Cllr Nugent	
Pat Fitzgerald (SF)	Cllr Roche		



Susan Gallagher (GP)	Cllr Roche		
Damien Geoghegan (FG)		Cllr Nugent	
Jim Griffin (SF)	Cllr Roche		
John Hearne (SF)	Cllr Roche		
Joe Kelly (Ind)		Cllr Nugent	
Eddie Mulligan (FF)		Cllr Nugent	
Jason Murphy (FF)		Cllr Nugent	
Pat Nugent (FG)		Cllr Nugent	
Seamus O'Donnell (Ind)			Absent
John O'Leary (FF)		Cllr Nugent	
Lola O'Sullivan (FG)		Cllr Nugent	
Thomas Phelan (Lab)	Cllr Roche		
Jody Power (GP)	Cllr Roche		
Seanie Power (FG)		Cllr Nugent	
John Pratt (Lab)	Cllr Roche		
Eamon Quinlan (FF)		Cllr Nugent	
Frank Quinlan (FG)		Cllr Nugent	
Seamus Ryan (Lab)	Cllr Roche		
Mary Roche (Ind)	Cllr Roche		
James Tobin (FF)		Cllr Nugent	
Adam Gary Wyse (FF)		Cllr Nugent	

**Result: 16 For Cllr. Nugent and 15 for Cllr. Roche**

Cllr. Nugent was deemed elected chair of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC having received 16 votes to 15 for Cllr. Roche.

## 8. Correspondence

Proposed by Cllr. Phelan and seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald and agreed.

Cllr. Ryan referred to the letter from Wicklow County Council regarding the siting of Defibrillators on new estates and that the Council should give our support to it. The Mayor was also in favour of this. Cllr. Tobin stated that while he broadly supported this there was a need to have appropriate training for people in the estates to operate the units otherwise they would be useless.

## 9. Motions

### 1. Motion in the name of Cllr. Eamon Quinlan (Deferred from June meeting)

*"That WCCC writes to the Minister for Housing and Local Government to request legal powers for Local Authorities to attach fines to any tenants rent book who are engaged in anti-social behaviour. The fines would be equal to the cost in Council staff hours salary devoted to dealing with the anti-social behaviour at the specific premises. "*

**Reg. No. 191** (dated, 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2021)

This motion was introduced and proposed by Cllr. Quinlan and seconded by Cllr Tobin.

Cllr. Hearne stating that while he broadly supported the motion, he felt a multi-agency approach was needed, Cllr. Ryan stated that the motion did not address the Anti-Social Behaviour issue and Cllr. Mulligan stated that this was an issue for An Garda Siochana not the Council. Cllr. Barry thought it might be illegal to implement and stated that people other than Council tenants engaged in Anti-Social Behaviour. Cllr. Phelan stated that there was a good sentiment behind the motion but that it might create more problems so he could not support it. Cllr Bailey noted that legal opinion was needed, and it would be unfair to council tenants if implemented.

A rollcall vote was called for

**Roll Call Vote – Motion 191 (Plenary 9<sup>th</sup> September 2021)**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Ger Barron (Lab)				Absent
Donal Barry (Ind)			Abstain	
Liam Brazil (FG)	Yes			
Joeanne Bailey (SF)		No		
Declan Clune (Ind)				Absent
Joe Conway (Ind)	Yes			
Tom Cronin (FF)	Yes			
Conor D. McGuinness (SF)		No		
Davy Daniels (Ind)				Absent
Declan Doocey (FG)	Yes			
Pat Fitzgerald (SF)		No		
Susan Gallagher (GP)				Absent
Damien Geoghegan (FG)	Yes			
Jim Griffin (SF)		No		
John Hearne (SF)		No		
Joe Kelly (Ind)			Abstain	
Eddie Mulligan (FF)		No		
Jason Murphy (FF)	Yes			
Pat Nugent (FG)	Yes			
Seamus O'Donnell (Ind)				Absent
John O'Leary (FF)			Abstain	
Lola O'Sullivan (FG)				Absent
Thomas Phelan (Lab)		No		
Jody Power (GP)	Yes			
Seanie Power (FG)			Abstain	
John Pratt (Lab)				Absent
Eamon Quinlan (FF)	Yes			
Frank Quinlan (FG)	Yes			

Seamus Ryan (Lab)		No		
Mary Roche (Ind)		No		
James Tobin (FF)	Yes			
Adam Gary Wyse (FF)				Absent

**Result: 11 For Adoption and 9 Against, 4 Abstain**

- 2. Motion in the names of Cllrs Conor D. McGuinness, Jim Griffin, Pat Fitzgerald, Joanne Bailey, John Hearne, Susan Gallagher, Mary Roche, Declan Clune, Donal Barry, Joe Conway, Thomas Phelan, Ger Barron, Seamus Ryan, John Pratt, Joe Kelly, Liam Brazil, Declan Doocey, Damien Geoghegan, Pat Nugent, Lola O'Sullivan, Seanie Power, Frank Quinlan, Jody Power, Davy Daniels, Seamus O'Donnell, Adam Wyse, Eamon Quinlan, Eddie Mulligan, Jason Murphy, James Tobin, Tom Cronin and John O'Leary. (Deferred from July meeting)**

*“That Waterford City & County Council:*

- recognises the strong bonds of friendship and solidarity that exist between Ireland and Palestine;*
- commends Dáil Éireann for taking a strong and unanimous stand in support of the Palestinian people;*
- notes the existing links between civil society groups in Waterford and Ramallah, including amongst schools, religious congregations, sports clubs, youth groups and the trade union movement.*
- signals its desire that the Waterford Metropolitan District would twin with the Ramallah Municipality*
- undertakes to begin a high-level engagement with the Ramallah Municipal Authority to advance the process of twinning the Waterford Metropolitan District with the Ramallah Municipality. ”*

**Reg. No. 192** (dated, 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2021)

This was introduced and proposed by Cllr. McGuinness and supported and seconded by Cllr. Hearne and Cllr. Ryan. The motion was passed with Cllr. Conway abstaining because the twinning would be with what he described as a manifestly corrupt municipal authority.

## **10. AOB**

The Mayor spoke to acknowledge Cllr. Gallaghers contributions and insightful inputs during her time on the council. He appreciated that she was leaving the council due to work pressures and said she would be missed. Speaking on behalf of all members he wanted to wish Susan the best of luck in the future.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_