

**DÚICHE DHÚN GARBHÁN AGUS LIOS MHÓR
DUNGARVAN AND LISMORE DISTRICT MEETING**

**HELD ON 13th JUNE 2022
at 2.30pm in Civic Offices, Dungarvan.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Tom Cronin (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. James Tobin
Cllr. Declan Doocey
Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell
Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. Thomas Phelan
Cllr. Conor McGuinness
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services Corporate, Planning, Culture, HR & IS
Mr. Ivan Grimes, Director of Services, Housing, Community & Emergency Services
Mr. Gabriel Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads
Mr. John Leonard, Executive Engineer, Roads
Mr. Raymond Moloney, Senior Executive Officer, Environment
Ms. Aisling O'Sullivan, Senior Executive Planner
Mr. Richie Walsh, Head of LEO
Ms. Honor Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

It was unanimously resolved that this council extends its sympathies to the families of the late:

- Lar Barton, Michael Wright, Tom Donovan, Paul Harty, Noel Walsh, Lena O'Brien, Eileen Walsh.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

It was unanimously resolved that this council extends its congratulations to the organisers of the Waterford Festival of Food in Dungarvan, Anita Geoghegan and Maeve Quinlan, noting that the cleansing of the town was very positive during the whole festival. Committee members in Clashmore for the Strings & Things Festival and the Surprise Surprise event held in Cappoquin.

K. Kehoe, DoS noted councillors support in the funding of the festival, congratulating principal organisers of the event, thanked council staff in preparation for the event and staff for keeping town clean over the weekend.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of District Meeting held on 9th May 2022 proposed by Cllr. Pratt seconded by Cllr. Doocey and agreed by all.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. McGuinness requested update on application to the Department for social houses in Sean Phobal and provision of dog fouling bins on R674 at Helvic.

Cllr. Pratt noted there is provision of dog fouling bins in city but not in county and asked for this to be addressed and noted that in minutes lights in Shanbally noted as not working and should state not connected.

Cllr. Phelan requested update on scheduling of Anti Social Behaviour workshop.

Cllr. Tobin requested update on Ballyduff graveyard.

G. Hynes, SE, outlined that policy in relation to dog fouling bins is to have them where there are dedicated crews to service them, outside of these areas responsibility to empty falls to the roads section and due to resources and other priorities not in a position to reallocate resources from main core road duties and hence the result in not putting in locations such as Ring and Tallow. He acknowledged there is an issue with lights in Shanbally which is being looked at.

R. Moloney, SEO, will follow up on Ballyduff graveyard and revert.

I. Grimes, DoS, informed members contacted superintendent in Dungarvan to arrange workshop and will revert with dates, Sean Phobal will be in position to submit application shortly.

Cllr. Nugent acknowledged and welcomed new signage in place for campervans as previously requested.

3. PROGRESS REPORTS

(a) Planning

Cllr. McGuinness noted ongoing works in Ardmore that seem to be encroaching on the public car park enquiring if it is a planning enforcement issue that needs to be reviewed, enquired if there has been any correspondence received from the OPR in relation to the adoption of the new Development Plan, a number of applicants have held off on submitting planning permissions as waiting for new plan and enquired if adequate planning staff in place to deal with applications.

Cllr. Pratt raised issue in relation to the footpaths in Cúl Rua and trees, as estate is not taken in charge how can this be addressed.

Cllr. Nugent enquired when applicants should submit application to be considered under the new plan.

Cllr. Tobin noted that waiting 12 months for An Bord Pleanála decision in relation to the West Waterford wind farm noting it is unfair on the community that decision is taking so long. Supported by Cllr. Tobin.

A. O'Sullivan, SEP, noted have no control over An Bord Pleanála decisions or their timeframes. The Development plan comes into effect 6 weeks after the day of adoption, anyone who submits application will be considered under the new plan. Will review issue in Ardmore, no further update from OPR yet, currently filling planning vacancy.

G. Hynes, SE noted that need to have Cúl Rua estate taken in charge before issues in estate can be addressed.

K. Kehoe, DoS, noted that hoarding in Ardmore is to facilitate construction works and will not be a long-term issue. Expect there may be an increase in planning applications but currently no need for staff increases.

Cllr. Geoghegan agreed that An Bord Pleanála decisions are inefficient and ineffective.

(b) Environment

Cllr. Phelan commended council workers in place over the weekend for the festival of food and welcomed compactor bin in the new skateboard park suggesting water refill station and segregated bins for the users.

Cllr. Nugent enquired if any details on the disposal of large bulky items.

Cllr. McGuinness enquired when compactor bin and recycled bottle cage will be in place in new park, received a number of emails using the new amenity requesting that some yard brushes made available to be able to clean the surface of the skateboard park. Moresby Park looking very attractive, enquiring that disability proof picnic benches installed in the future, this park also needs to encapsulate the towns maritime heritage and noted also locomotive heritage and may be fitting to incorporate these aspects into the park.

Cllr. Cronin thanked roads for the disabled bench installed in the car park in Ardmore, enquired when large compactor bins are due for Ardmore.

Cllr. O'Donnell noted that sandbank in Dungarvan Bay is causing issues of flooding on the Quays.

R. Moloney, SEO, noted comments regarding cleanliness of Dungarvan during the festival weekend, compactor bin installed and looking at water station in the new skatepark once access funding. Looking at identifying a number of areas in district to bring large bulky items to, will inform members of details. Acknowledged issue of debris on the new skatepark due to dry area around it, will look at method of removal. Regarding maritime and locomotive history noted that opposite the greenway have rail tracks in paving area which shows the heritage. Will look at compactor bin in Ardmore and lead in time.

Cllr. Geoghegan suggested highlighting the original tracks in the cobbles in the park

G. Hynes, SE, as previously advised in relation to dredging that these are low level waters, ongoing dredging will be required, need to have surveys carried out and these cost in region of €150K for foreshore and dumping at sea licences and need funding for this. If cannot get funding cannot carry out the works.

(c) Roads

Cllr. Tobin congratulated the council in relation to condition of roads across the county, hedge cutting issue remains in some areas and need to have the council address where it is dangerous. Agreed and supported by Cllr. Cronin that dangerous junctions and roads to beaches are kept maintained,

Cllr. Phelan requested update on section 254 licences for Grattan Square and lighting issue at location, update on footpaths in Main Street and if there will be dishing of footpaths as part of the works, repair of paving outside library, commencement of work on Davitt's Quay. Noted traffic issues on Clonea Road and need to segregate cycle lane and requested review of options in relation to drop off and pick up at schools. Requested update on when will have public toilet in Dungarvan, tourism season commenced and need to have this in place. Motion for footpath in Ballinroad from Church Cross to Clonea roundabout passed 3 years ago and need to know when this footpath can be expected.

Cllr. Pratt requested update on playground in Tallow, thanked section for works undertaken regarding removal of tree and asked that West Street is reviewed.

Cllr. McGuinness thanked roads section for installation of picnic benches in Helvic and undertaking to replace old timber benches at cove and in Ardmore. Noted that approached by Dungarvan business in relation to the challenges of parking and no longer having access to parking permit, requested discussion on parking permits for Dungarvan and finding a solution. Raised concerns about the Active Travel Scheme in Ballinroad creating link to the rugby club versus the scheme that is needed for footpath to the church. Noted issue regarding funding restrictions for piers and harbours as imposed by the government as being at odds to the European Commissioners direction that the use of the funding is a local decision and therefore shouldn't deter against using funding for the development of the necessary preparatory reports.

G. Hynes, SE, notes comments in relation to the roads work programme. Outlined that with hedge cutting the general approach during summer months is to cut grass verges on regional road junctions and approaches to beaches and towns and villages, as previously advised it is the responsibility of landowners to carry out where needed, will carry out where needed by beaches and if there is a significant safety issue will review. Aware of issue of lighting in Grattan Square and working with contractor, footpaths on Main Street are complete, have done repair work on Davitt's Quay and will address other issues as they arise. Considerable work throughout the district on Active Travel projects, in relation to the footpath in Ballinroad need to liaise with landowner and hope to bring Section 38 to the members in the coming months. If landowner agreement is not reached will need to be CPO'd which is a further 12 months on the process. Considering set down area in Duckspool and hope to progress a Section 38 in coming months. An Grianán is currently ongoing and being worked on by the Active Travel team, in discussions with the Fisheries Bord in relation to West Street and bridge and will revert regarding the playground. Committed to workshop on parking and will look at scheduling in September. Notes point regarding dredging funding but can only apply the criteria as issued by the Department.

K. Kehoe, DoS, noted that currently looking at option for public toilet that may result in quicker turnaround and will revert with details.

Cllr. Geoghegan requested update on works in Cushcam, noted poor condition of footpaths in Upper O'Connell Street that needs to be reviewed. Highlighted the issue of build-up of silt in Ballinacourty

which is a danger and needs to be address. Noted that Quay was designed with 3 eyes, these need to be kept open to assist with preventing build up at the jetty. New footpath needs to be funded at An Grianán. Cllr. Nugent noted that need to meet on site at the proposed active travel for Western Bay, enquired as to who is covering the costs in relation to the repairs on the Youghal Bridge, noted that works are needed on the Canty Road and outlined that works at Carroll's Cross are not being managed correctly. Cllr. O'Donnell raised issue in relation to the presentation and sale of cars on the Youghal side of the bridge.

G. Hynes, SE, will review St. Bridget's Terrace, noted substantial work involved in addressing Ballinacourty Pier stating that once go below high-water level need foreshore licence and will look at safety signage for the area. Active Travel and An Grianán and new footpaths, new footpaths are fully funded. Will revert request for Western Bay to active travel team, all works on the seawall at Youghal Bridge funded by TII. Can carry our repair work on potholes on Canty Road and consider for next year's RWP. Disagrees fully in relation to N25, works are being carried out in a timely fashion for a extensive project including drainage and safety measures, it will be a significant addition to N25. Very complex location with significant works, due to be completed in 3rd week June and contractor should be complimented in his programme of works.

Cllr. Tobin complemented works carried out on the Lismore Bridge.

Cllr. Nugent requested update on LIS.

Cllr. Cronin noted wreck of a boat at Youghal bridge and needs to be removed.

Cllr. Phelan requested active travel programme of works and workshop to look at this for Dungarvan district

G. Hynes, SE, outlined that in the process of identifying ownership of the boat.

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined that will arrange to have a workshop on active travel programme for the district.

Proposed to suspend standing orders to defer items (d) and (e) on reports to the end of the meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Cronin, seconded by Cllr. Geoghegan and agreed by all.

4. SECTION 38 ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1994

a) Traffic Calming Scheme, Ballyduff Village R666 – Completion of Process

Cllr. Tobin enquired if those that made submissions had been met with in relation to their issues.

G. Hynes, SE, noted that 8 submissions received, dealt with the submissions and addressed issues raised within the scheme. Scheme has overall aim of connectivity and protection of the vulnerable road user.

Proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr. Pratt and agreed by all.

b) Additional Road Improvement Works along L-2012/L 2014 Aghish – Completion of Process

Proposed Cllr. Geoghegan, seconded Cllr. Nugent and agreed by all.

5. Part V111 Sea Wall improvement works along Clonea Road (R675) in the townland of Duckspool

Deferred to Special meeting on Wednesday 15th June 2022

6. Presentation by Childcare Committee

Presentation given by Rose Murphy outlining the current numbers, profile of services for Waterford, policy developments and challenges for the sector.

Cathaoirleach acknowledged work at Ardmore, thanked Rose for works and services to date.

Cllr. Phelan noted that is a worrying picture about the availability of childcare places, no current planning applications in Dungarvan and no replacement for the closed Bright Stars facility. Enquired if temporary

solutions could be investigated in the interim, there is an issue with lack of suitable buildings and need to be imaginative and asked if council could look at purchase of Bright Stars building and lease to a local operator.

Cllr. Pratt noted there is a site in Tallow which is dependent on capital funding and affordable childcare essential.

Cllr. McGuinness noted that he is struck at how bad the situation is, there is an issue with capacity and enquired about the long-term impacts on children and families noting that cost is also causing a barrier to parents

Cllr. Geoghegan enquired about the impediments to people entering the market in the provision of this service, what kind of work underway with the ETB regarding childcare practitioners coming on stream, essential that when discussing care of children that need to ensure meet all guidelines.

Cllr. Nugent noted the popularity of Dungarvan, and people returning to live here and need to look at solutions.

Rose Murphy noted that entering in childcare is challenging due to the numerous requirements of Tusla registration, contracts with Department, compliance with Phobal which is onerous and challenges with recruiting staff. Continue to work and collaborate with ETB and SETU.

Cllr. Tobin enquired as to who applies for the planning permission if site is available, suggested that Rose is invited back in September to review the current position. Seconded by Cllr. Cronin and agreed by all.

Cllr. Geoghegan noted that council role in childcare is minimal and not the function of the Local Authority.

K. Kehoe, DoS, clarified that provision of childcare is not function of the council, but provide support in the planning system and also supports to the community. Focus must be on the services that we are responsible for, with such a demand there is an issue that the private sector is not providing and this needs to be addressed.

I.Grimes, DoS, noted that in his role in community services there is no funding stream for councils national government but that the community section will facilitate and support groups where possible.

Proposed to defer items (d) and (e) on reports, members can submit any questions to the meetings administrator. Proposed by Cllr. Cron, seconded by Cllr. Geoghegan and agreed by all.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

None

8. MOTIONS

Proposed extension of Standing Orders for 10 minutes to deal with the motion. Proposed by Cllr. McGuinness, seconded by Cllr. Phelan and agreed by all.

Motion in the name of Cllr. Conor McGuinness

“That the Dungarvan/Lismore District would nominate two members to the Dungarvan Town Centre Management group and would consider the establishment of a similar group for other towns within the District.”

Reg. No. 17 (dated 25th May, 2022)

Motion proposed by Cllr. McGuinness and seconded by Cllr. Pratt.

Cathaoirleach requested a show of hands in relation to the motion, the majority of members present voted against the motion and as a result the motion fell.

9. A.O. B

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathairleach

Dated: _____