

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

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 14TH MAY, 2020 IN THE LARGE ROOM, CITY HALL,
WATERFORD.**

PRESENT

Cllr. John Pratt (Mayor)	Cllr. Seamus Ryan
Cllr. Donal Barry	Cllr. Adam Wyse
Cllr. Jody Power	Cllr. Damien Geoghegan
Cllr. Breda Brennan	Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan
Cllr. John O’Leary	Cllr. Conor D. McGuinness
Cllr. Joe Conway	

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

- Mr. M. Walsh, Chief Executive
- Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services, Housing, Community & Emergency Services.
- Mr. F. Galvin, Director of Services, Roads, Water & Environment.
- Mr. K. Kehoe, Director of Services, Corporate, Culture, HR & IS.
- Mr. M. Quinn, Director of Services, Economic Development.
- Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator.

Mayor Cllr. J. Pratt informed all that the meeting is being live streamed to allow members not in attendance to hear the meeting. He acknowledged all who have had a part to play in tackling COVID-19 over the last number of weeks and commended their work. He thanked the executive for the work carried out in order to allow the meeting to take place.

Suspension of standing orders to deal with Items 1,2,4,6,7, and 8 on the agenda proposed by Cllr. Wyse, seconded by Cllr. Geoghegan and agreed by all.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

- a). Plenary Meeting held on 13th February, 2020
- b). Plenary Meeting held on 25th February 2020
- c). Special Plenary Meeting held on 9th March, 2020

Proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr. O’Sullivan and agreed by all.

2. Matters Arising

Cllr. Conway noted an omission to minutes of the 13th February 2020 regarding his question in relation to the number of vacant houses which were subject to CPOs and a breakdown of the number currently occupied. Requested details on the number of houses occupied and also if there has been any advance since last meeting.

I. Grimes, DoS stated no update on information previously provided and no progress on allocations due to COVID 19 and impact on ability to progress allocations. Will provide information as requested directly to members after the meeting.

3. Planning

Noted

4. Land Disposals

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined details of land disposals as circulated.

Land Disposals proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr.D.McGuinness and agreed by all.

5. Monthly Management Report

Noted

6. Section 85 Agreement – Public Lighting Contract

F. Galvin, DoS outlined the details of the Section 85 as circulated. Purpose to retrofit the public lighting across the City and County with high energy efficiency LED lights. This is part of a regional programme with Cork City, Cork County, Limerick, Clare and Kerry acting as a single contracting authority. Section 85 Agreement required for Waterford City & County Council to act in partnership with Cork County Council in respect of the project. Proposed to go out to tender and to be on site by the end of 2020. Will revert back to council for approval of borrowing requirements for the project, after the payback period he stated that there will be substantial savings to the local authority in relation to maintenance and electricity use. The project will also deliver on a significant aspect of the local authority's commitment to reduce CO2 omissions and meeting 2030 targets.

Cllr. Ryan queried the quality of lighting from the LED in relation to the current lights.

Cllr. Power asked what % of CO2 reduction will be involved in the project.

Cllr. Brennan outlined delay in fault repairs to the current system and enquired is there will be a new system for the reporting of faults.

Cllr. D. McGuinness welcomes the project and improvements in energy efficiency. Enquired how the council will oversee the work carried out and exercise oversight and control of the project seeing that it will be delivered by Cork County Council.

Cllr. Conway enquired if the retrofit programme could be used to reassess the necessity for certain street lights across the city and county, particularly where it is intrusive.

Cllr. O'Sullivan outlined that some of lighting is old and asked if the savings resulting from the project could be reinvested into the provision of replacement lighting and also in areas where street lighting has been lacking.

Cllr. Pratt concurred that there is limited funding for public lighting and would welcome any increase.

F. Galvin, DoS outlined that the quality of lights will be different as LED light is a flatter whiter light with less light overspill but it will be like for like in relation to illumination. Different type of lighting profiles will be installed in different areas to accommodate different requirements for public open spaces in contrast to a residential area. He will revert with reduction in CO2 levels, currently spend in the region of €1.3m on electrical power and will be hopeful of a 50% saving on this expenditure. This section 85 agreement relates only to the contract to procure and install the lights only and there will be a separate contract with respect to the maintenance of the lights. Emphasised many benefits to these lights including that LED lights have a longer life span so repair requirements will lesson. He outlined that as the project commences the council staff liaise closely with contractors for the duration of the project. He confirmed that the project relates only to the replacement of existing lights and is not about additional new lights or reassessing existing lights.

Proposed by Cllr. D. McGuinness, seconded by Cllr. O'Leary and agreed by all.

7. Allocation of Supporting Waterford Community Fund

I.Grimes, DoS outlined the process in relation to the allocation of the Supporting Waterford Community Fund. At the last Housing, Community & Culture SPC it was agreed that a further meeting would take place to set out new proposals for allocation of grants in 2021. Funding distributed is similar to previous years with proposed additional level of funding for the tidy towns groups whereby they will received the maximum limit of €530.

Cllr. O’Sullivan requested that it is noted on behalf of Cllr. Brazil that a bigger allocation of funding is giving to the tidy towns groups across the City & County.

Cllr O’Leary welcomes increase to Tidy Towns groups and supports Cllr. Brazil in his proposal.

Cllr. Barry enquired when the funding will issue to groups.

Cllr Geoghegan noted that as member of SPC there is a need to review the allocation for next year and wanted noted the appreciation for the work carried out by Colette O’Brien.

I.Grimes, DoS notes the comments raised and will refer them to the SPC, payments will commence from tomorrow. Agrees with Cllr. Geoghegan in relation to commendation to Colette O’Brien for her work.

Cllr. D. McGuinness supports Cllr. Geoghegan in relation to reviewing allocation of funding at the SPC.

Cllr. Ryan noted as a member of the SPC that this funding is important and welcomes fast issuing of same

Proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr. D. McGuinness and agreed by all.

8. Date of AGMs and June Plenary

Mayor outlined the following resolution for agreement:

To allow the June meetings to be held on the same day as the AGM – as follows:

- (i) Dungarvan Lismore Monday 22nd June (meeting at 2.30, AGM at 4pm) in Civic Offices, Dungarvan.*
- (ii) Comeragh Tuesday 23rd June (meeting at 11.00, AGM at 12.30) in Civic Offices, Dungarvan.*
- (iii) Plenary Wednesday 24th June (meeting at 2pm and AGM at 4.30pm) in WIT Arena, Carriganore.*
- (iv) Metropolitan Thursday 25th June (meeting at 2pm and AGM at 4pm) in WIT Arena, Carriganore.*

Proposed by Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Wyse and agreed by all.

Cllr. D. McGuinness acknowledged the proposal and asked that adequate time is given to enable full discussion on the agenda. Mayor confirmed that the June meetings will follow normal meeting times.

Mayor outlined the following resolution for agreement:

Waterford City & County Council agrees that for the duration of the COVID 19 social distancing requirements that provisions are made to:

- (i) allow the Mayor with majority approval of CPG to change date and location of the Plenary meeting and*
- (ii) allow the Mayor of the Metropolitan District and Cathaoirligh of Dungarvan Lismore and Comeragh districts with majority approval of CPG to change the date and location of their respective meetings.*

Proposed by Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Wyse and agreed by all.

Decisions in relation to the meetings after June will be made at the June meeting.

9. Correspondence

None

10. Notice of Motions

Deferred to June meeting

11. AOB.

Mayor outlined that at the end of the meeting H. Dunphy will instruct members as to the order for exiting. Cllr. D. McGuinness noted a vote of thanks and gratitude to all the essential workers, health care workers, retailers and local authority staff in relation to current situation as a result of Covid 19 and putting their communities first.

Cllr. O' Leary acknowledged the retirement of Joe O'Sullivan, SEO in housing who is due to retire shortly after 47 years' service to the sector. He wished him and his family the best for his retirement.

Mayor thanked everyone for their attendance at today's meeting and for all the work carried out over the last number of weeks, he acknowledged the work of the Executive in supporting councillors during this time.

Cllr. O'Sullivan outlined that work has continued and that the regular zoom meetings have been very beneficial to the members.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____