

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

COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12TH NOVEMBER, 2020 BY ZOOM

Present

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

Apologies: Cllr. Ger Barron

Officials in Attendance

Mr. M. Walsh, Chief Executive
 Mr. K. Kehoe, Director of Services, Corporate, Culture, HR & IS
 Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services, Housing, Community & Emergency Services
 Mr. F. Galvin, Director of Services, Roads, Water & Environment
 Mr. M. Quinn, Director of Services, Economic Development and Planning
 Mr. B. Pollard, Head of Finance
 Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator
 Ms. A.O'Shea, Corporate

Meetings Administrator carried out a roll call to confirm meeting attendance. Outlined the draft Supplementary Standing Orders, as issued by the Department, regulating the proceedings of the council in holding remote meetings noting they require adoption by the Council in order to take effect. It was noted that an additional section was required as follows: in the event that connectivity was lost section 15(b) defined alternative means of voting by contacting the meetings administrator by phone and registering the vote by phone.

The Supplementary Standing Orders were proposed by Cllr. Cronin seconded by Cllr. Daniels and agreed by all.

The Mayor outlined the Extension of Tenure of 3 years for the Chief Executive and looked for approval from the members. This was unanimously approved by all.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting held on the 17th September 2020 proposed by Cllr. Kelly, seconded by Cllr. Ryan and agreed by all.

Minutes of Special Plenary meeting Local Property Tax held on 22nd September 2020 proposed by Cllr. Wyse, seconded by Cllr. O'Leary and agreed by all.

2. Matters Arising

None

3. Planning

- a). Planning lists as circulated were noted.
- b). CE Report on Pre-Draft Development Plan Public Consultation

L. McGree, Senior Planner gave a brief introduction into the pre-Draft Development Plan and the relevant timelines.

H. O'Brien, SEP gave a presentation outlining the pre-draft development plan public consultation process. An issue of note for the process to date was the high level of public interest evidenced by the 285 submissions received, the engagement by the public with online activities and information designed around the Strategic Issues Paper. These submissions will now provide a robust foundation for the preparation of the draft development plan over the coming months and will assist in progressing the dialogue with the Elected Members around the content of the CE report and the strategic direction for the draft development plan at this stage in the plan making process.

Councillors outlined concerns in relation to meetings at area levels, extension of city boundary to North, rural housing, National Marine Planning, rural planning, Irish Water, solar farms and responses to submissions.

H. O'Brien, SEP acknowledge all concerns and said he will revert to the Plenary with a detailed proposal and timetable to facilitate in-person meetings during December at a local/ Municipal District level depending on an easing of Covid restrictions in December. It was decided that a copy of the Report would be posted out to all Councillors.

4. Land Disposals

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined details of the land disposals as presented. Cllr. Quinlan asked for more information regarding reasons for disposals which was supported by Cllr. Phelan. Cllr. Roche asked why the Granary lease was not on the Agenda. Cllr. Mulligan enquired reason why Park Lodge's lease was being renewed early. Cllrs. Cronin and Tobin welcomed disposal of site in Ardmore and Cllr. Murphy welcomed disposal of house at 12 Ormond Crescent.

K. Kehoe, DoS stated he is working on a one page report giving background for Disposals. The Granary lease is making progress with good engagement with WIT and Park Lodge lease is to give certainty to owners.

Land disposals proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr. Cronin and agreed by all.

5. Finance - Renewal of Bank Overdraft Facility of €18M for period to 31st December 2021

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

It was proposed by Cllr. Cronin to suspend Standing Orders to take items 7 & 8 before item 6, this was seconded by Cllr. Pratt and agreed by all.

7. Economic Incentive Schemes for Vacant Properties 2021-2022

M. Quinn, DoS outlined Scheme to support new business in City Centre.

Councillors raised concerns regarding supporting businesses in rural areas, not protecting existing business's, and short term leases. Councillors stated it was a positive scheme and welcomed it.

M. Quinn, DoS stated the scheme is focused on the City Centre to encourage people to come into the core shopping area.

Scheme proposed by Cllr. O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Wyse and agreed by all.

8. Filling of Committee Vacancies WWETB

Mayor outlined that a vacancy has arisen on the WWETB due to the resignation of Cllr. Kelly.

Cllr. O'Sullivan proposed Cllr. Frank Quinlan as a nomination for the vacancy on the WWETB, seconded by Cllr. Nugent. As there were no further nominations Cllr. F. Quinlan was deemed elected.

It was agreed to adjourn meeting and set a date to re-convene to deal with Items 6, 9 & 10. Mayor suggested that item 10 is dealt with as the first item of business at the re-convened meeting, agreed by all.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____