

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

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 IN WIT ARENA,  
CARRIGANORE, WATERFORD.**

**PRESENT**

Cllr. Ger Barron	Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Donal Barry	Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. Liam Brazil	Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell
Cllr. Breda Brennan	Cllr. John O'Leary
Cllr. Declan Clune	Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
Cllr. Joe Conway	Cllr. Thomas Phelan
Cllr. Tom Cronin	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. Eddie Mulligan	Cllr. Adam Wyse

**APOLOGIES**

Cllr. D. Daniels, Cllr. C. D. McGuinness

**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. B. Pollard, Head of Finance  
 Mr. D. Murphy, Financial Accountant  
 Mr. B. Duggan, SEO, Planning and Economic Development  
 Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator  
 Ms. A. Maher, A/SSO, Corporate

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 were proposed by Cllr. Tobin and seconded by Cllr. O'Leary  
 Minutes of Annual Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2020 were proposed by Cllr. Hearne and seconded by Cllr. Brazil.

**2. Matters Arising**

None.

### **3. Planning**

Planning lists as circulated were noted.

### **4. Land Disposals**

K. Kehoe, DOS outlined details of the land disposals as presented. Proposed by Cllr. Pratt seconded by Cllr. Phelan and agreed by all.

It was proposed by Cllr. Phelan, seconded by Cllr. O'Sullivan and agreed by all to amend Standing Orders to deal with items 6, 7, 8, 9 & 10 ahead of item no 5.

### **6. Annual Financial Statement and Section 104 – for Approval**

Cllr. Mulligan enquired about the trade debtors and payments which increased by €10m. He looked for a breakdown on the €2.3m and also commented that there were 6 creditors in the sum of around €3.3m and that the revenue showed €2m outstanding and asked for an explanation for these.

Mr. B. Pollard, Head of Finance explained that there was a big change in connection with Trade Debtors of €10m in relation to the North Quays and other Long Term Loans of €2.34m. Also provision had to be provided for in relation to Rents and Rates. These are reviewed annually and had to be included now.

Approval of the AFS and Section 104 was proposed by Cllr. E. Quinlan, seconded by Cllr. Brazil and agreed by all.

### **7. Audit Committee Annual Report 2019**

Padraic Doherty, Chair of the Audit Committee, presented the Audit Report outlining the role as an independent committee to review risk management, policies and procedures. Mayor thanked Mr. Doherty and the Audit Committee for their continued work.

Report proposed by Cllr. Phelan, seconded by Cllr. Pratt and agreed.

### **8. Filling of Committee Vacancies**

#### Waterford Cultural Quarter – 2 Vacancies

Proposed by Cllr. O'Sullivan and seconded by Cllr. Tobin that Cllr. Mulligan is nominated to the Waterford Cultural Quarter Committee

Proposed by Cllr. O'Sullivan and seconded by Cllr. Tobin that Cllr. F. Quinlan is nominated to the Waterford Cultural Quarter Committee.

Proposed by Cllr. Barry and seconded by Cllr. Ryan that Cllr. Roche is nominated to the Waterford Cultural Quarter Committee.

Proposed by Cllr. Gallagher and seconded by Cllr. Ryan that Cllr. J. Power is nominated to the Waterford Cultural Quarter Committee.

As there were 4 nominations for 2 positions a roll call vote was called for. Cllr. Roche withdrew her name as she objected to the voting process and would prefer the positions be shared and be of interest to the person nominated to serve on the committee.

	<b>Cllr. Mulligan</b>	<b>Cllr. F. Quinlan</b>	<b>Cllr. J. Power</b>
Cllr. Ger Barron	A	A	F
Cllr. Donal Barry	A	A	F
Cllr. Liam Brazil	F	F	A
Cllr. Breda Brennan	A	A	F
Cllr. Declan Clune	A	A	F
Cllr. Joe Conway	F	F	A
Cllr. Tom Cronin	F	F	A
Cllr. Declan Doocey	F	F	A
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	A	A	F
Cllr. Susan Gallagher	A	A	F
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan	F	F	A
Cllr. Jim Griffin	F	A	F
Cllr. John Hearne	A	A	F
Cllr. Joe Kelly	F	F	A
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan	F	F	A
Cllr. Jason Murphy	F	F	A
Cllr. Pat Nugent	F	F	A
Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell	F	F	A
Cllr. John O'Leary	F	F	A
Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan	F	F	A
Cllr. Thomas Phelan	A	A	F
Cllr. Jody Power	A	A	F
Cllr. Seanie Power	F	F	A
Cllr. John Pratt	A	A	F
Cllr. Eamon Quinlan	F	F	A
Cllr. Frank Quinlan	F	F	A
Cllr. Mary Roche	A	A	F
Cllr. Seamus Ryan	A	A	F
Cllr. James Tobin	F	F	A
Cllr. Adam Wyse	F	F	A
	18 For 12 Against	17 For 13 Against	14 For 16 Against

(F-For, A-Against).

Cllr. Mulligan and Cllr. F. Quinlan were elected to the Waterford Cultural Quarter Committee by majority vote.

Barker Arts Centre (Garter Lane) – 1 Vacancy.

Proposed by Cllr. O' Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Wyse that Cllr. F. Quinlan is nominated. As there was no other nomination he was elected to the Barker Arts Centre

County Heritage Forum – 1 Vacancy.

Proposed by Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Wyse that Cllr. Geoghegan is nominated. As there was no other proposal he was elected to the County Heritage Forum.

JPC – 1 Vacancy.

Proposed by Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Wyse that Cllr. S. Power is nominated. As there was no other proposal he was elected to the JPC.

## **5. Monthly Management Report.**

Cllr. F. Quinlan highlighted the shortage of bins in areas such as the Greenway, Nature Park, Dunmore Road stating that facilities to dispose of dog fouling bags are necessary.

Cllr. O’Leary enquired as to the number of Disabled Person Grants (DPG) applications that have been received and number of adaptations to council stock noting that there is an emphasis on housing grants to help keep people in their own homes but without a DPG they will have no option but to go into a care facility.

Cllr. Wyse requested an update on the North Quays and requested if an invitation can be extended to the develops to present to council on the plans as he has knowledge of presentations being made to other local authorities.

Cllr. Ryan queried the advertisement that appeared in connection with the pedestrianisation of the Apple Market noting that consideration needs to be given to residents regarding access and egress.

F. Galvin, DoS, responded that the dog fouling bags can be disposed of in any bins, bins have only been installed in car-parks at the Greenway and outlined that users need to be responsible for the proper disposal of their rubbish. Consultation has been undertaken in relation to the Apple Market and they are reviewing submissions received.

I.Grimes, DoS outlined that there are two separate DPG funds in relation to both private and local authority stock. There are currently approximately 150 applications in for adaptations to private stock and 120 applications for council stock and we are awaiting confirmation of allocation to commence.

M. Walsh, Chief Executive, said he was not aware of any company making presentations regarding the North Quays and noted that it is not normal practice to have contracted companies present in the public domain.

Cllr. Barry asked if the council would consider entering the Green Leaf Award, noting the competition is open for applications with a closing date in October.

Cllr. Murphy asked if the income limits can be reviewed in relation to the development in Ballinaneashagh as they are too low and requested that a letter issues to the new Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O’Brien to review the limits for the Tenant Purchase Scheme.

Cllr. Hearne requested that letter to the Minister for Transport in relation to Sulky racing is followed up on. He expressed concern over problem of drugs in the city and the correct disposal of medical/drug related items.

Cllr. J. Power welcomed recent adoption of the Climate Action Plan and queried funding of €130,000 to Lismore Castle.

F. Galvin, DoS, will check out the possibility of entering for the Green Leaf Award and will follow up on letter regarding sulky racing. The advice in relation to the disposal of dangerous substances is that they are to be returned to any pharmacy.

I.Grimes, DoS, confirmed that a letter can issue to the Minister requesting a review of the limits and the Tenant Purchase Scheme.

Cllr. Mulligan enquired if the tourism officer is co-ordinating or sharing information in relation to the offering for Waterford noting that we need to showcase the county and enhance our PR. He questioned the variation in standards in our public toilets and asked what regulations are in place in relation to

visitors coming into our harbours. Enquired if enforcement by dog wardens and litter wardens can be increased.

Cllr. Phelan requested that Choice Based Letting (CBL) applicants are advised if unsuccessful in bidding and would welcome a briefing/workshop in relation to the details and plans for the North Quays.

Cllr. Fitzgerald requested update on coastal erosion funding, asked that funding for outdoor furniture is extended across the county, supported Cllr. Hearne query in relation to disposal of medical waste and acknowledged issue with standards in public toilet facilities.

Cllr. E. Quinlan enquired as part of National Grant Aid Programme that access to local funding for graduates from WIT to work in the council could be investigated, asked if there could be a transfer of duties between traffic wardens and dog wardens and requested that the council writes to the relevant Minister requested a reduction in VAT for businesses.

F. Galvin, DoS acknowledged the comments in relation to the public toilets, working on issue relating to the harbours noting that the onus is on people to report to the local harbour master. Resources are limited in relation to litter wardens and requested that the public continue to contact the council in relation to illegal dumping. He outlined that advisory notices are at all public toilets and noted that environment wardens have same powers as the dog wardens.

I.Grimes, DoS confirmed that the housing department are currently reviewing the CBL and can write to the department regarding the national Tenant Purchase scheme.

B. Duggan, SEO confirmed that a national campaign is underway in relation to the promotion of visiting Waterford and the roll out of the furniture scheme to other areas is being looked at.

K. Kehoe, DoS confirmed that the council works proactively with colleges but there are restrictions on who we can take.

Chief Executive M. Walsh acknowledge request for update on the North Quays.

Cllr. Pratt mentioned that the amount for rural regeneration received by Cappoquin is a game changer for the area, requested consideration for grant funding of canopies for Post Offices and for viability of extension of the Greenway to Cappoquin and Lismore.

Cllr. Roche requested details on the opening of the new Silver Museum and Time Museum, welcomed new 2-hour parking promotion asking for it to be extended and asked for update on the Airport and the old An Post site.

Cllr. Kelly asked about CBL and how do we cater for those who can't or won't use it, asked for update on apartments in Carrickphierish, additional markings required in Apple Market for traffic. and Talk on affordable housing and raising the limits was discussed recently and they asked councils to put forward plans and sites for this scheme and asked have we done this? Can we look at the parks and drug disposal too? Apple market issue already highlighted is something that the Council must be careful on the shared space and he would see some cars coming down through the one way system currently and feels that the Council must stop the traffic properly.

Cllr. Brennan sought an Airport update, update on presentation from TFI and details on roads programme for each electoral area.

F. Galvin, DoS outlined that the council worked with the private car parks and the offer is extended until end of July and will be reviewed near the end of July with the others car park providers. One-way system from Apple Market is in place and the roads department has put in additional marking to help. Will request TFI to present to the Metropolitan District Meeting and update on roads programme will be given at the district level.

I.Grimes, DoS explained that the issue for vulnerable clients and no access to phones/internet is being looked noting that the facilities are available in all libraries. Contractor is currently working on apartments in Carrickphierish and there is a small backlog on allocation which is being tackled.

B. Duggan, SEO will circulate information on the An Post site.

Cllr. Griffin raised concerns about school transport again and the need to write to the Minister of Transport as it becomes a problem each year.

Cllr. Cronin mentioned some applications which were refused Planning Permission in recent times due to lack of water or waste water services and asked for the issue to be addressed as part of the new Development Plan.

Cllr. Nugent reported on recent filming which showed Waterford in a good light and would like more of this to help promote the area.

Cllr. Conway mentioned that Mount Congreve was reopened recently and an update was requested on the promotion of the facility along with proposed developments to gardens and house.

Cllr. Tobin agreed on the school transport issue and asked when and who can make submissions in relation to the new Development Plan noting the importance of public consultation in relation to the plan.

F. Galvin, DoS confirmed that similar amounts have been allocated for the CIS and LIS.

Billy Duggan, SEO Economic Development - there is a lot of opportunity open to the public to make statements etc.

K. Kehoe, DoS informed the members that there will be a workshop and special meeting of council on the 29<sup>th</sup> July where an update on the Development Plan will be given along with a material contravention of the current Development Plan that needs to be dealt with.

Cllr. Clune enquired about illegal dumping and suggested the provision of community skips in these areas.

F. Galvin, DoS noted that it would be impossible to manage a community skip but the environment section works to support clean ups and other organised events with communities.

Chief Executive Michael Walsh outlined details of the restart grants and encouraged members and the press to promote the grant and encourage businesses to apply. This is a significant opportunity for businesses to get funds with a minimum grant of €2,000 and maximum grant of €10,000 and any business registered for rates may be eligible.

## **9. LCDC Vacancy – Replacement of Chairman**

It was proposed by Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Cronin and agreed that Cllr. Geoghegan is elected as Chairman of the LCDC.

## **10. Correspondence**

Proposed by Cllr. E. Quinlan, seconded by Cllr. O’Sullivan and agreed.

## **11. Notice of Motions**

### **1. Motion in the names of Cllr. Seamus Ryan, Cllr. Thomas Phelan and Cllr. John Pratt (Deferred from June Meeting)**

*“That Waterford City and County Council support SIPTU and the “Big Start Campaign” which demands adequate investment in the Early Years services to make it affordable, accessible with high quality with professional pay for childcare workers. And further calls on the government to fully support the campaign.”*

**Reg. No. 154** (dated 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2020)

Cllr. Ryan asked that Cllr. Barron’s name be added to this motion. Cllr. Ryan requested that detail of the motion is circulated to other Local Authorities along with the relevant Ministerial departments.

Agreed by all.

**2. Motion in the names of Cllrs. Joe Kelly, Donal Barry, Joe Conway and Davy Daniels (Deferred from June Meeting)**

*“That we the Members of Waterford City & County Council in exercising our responsibility to protect the public and the environment from harm, oppose the roll out of the 5G Mobile Network, until the health implications of 5G are known and fully debated. We further hereby call on ComReg to delay licensing for its rollout and also call on the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment to establish the facts about the radiation impact of 5G on the environment and, in particular, on human health and that a Report on same be compiled and presented to the Oireachtas for full debate there.*

*A copy of this Motion, if adopted, be forwarded to the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment, ComReg and each of the Oireachtas Members in the County”.*

**Reg. No. 156** (dated 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2020)

Cllr. Kelly outlined the details of the motion noting his concern over the roll out of 5G and reported health effects. Cllr. Wyse disagreed with the motion stating that there is misinformation which is misleading to the public and requested a roll call vote on the motion.

	For	Against	Abstain	Not Present
Cllr. Ger Barron			X	
Cllr. Donal Barry	X			
Cllr. Liam Brazil	X			
Cllr. Breda Brennan		X		
Cllr. Declan Clune		X		
Cllr. Joe Conway	X			
Cllr. Tom Cronin			X	
Cllr. Conor D. McGuinness				X
Cllr. Davy Daniels				X
Cllr. Declan Doocey				X
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald		X		
Cllr. Susan Gallagher		X		
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan		X		
Cllr. Jim Griffin		X		
Cllr. John Hearne		X		
Cllr. Joe Kelly	X			
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan		X		
Cllr. Jason Murphy	X			
Cllr. Pat Nugent		X		
Cllr. Seamus O’Donnell		X		
Cllr. John O’Leary	X			
Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan			X	
Cllr. Thomas Phelan		X		
Cllr. Jody Power		X		
Cllr. Seanie Power			X	
Cllr. John Pratt			X	
Cllr. Eamon Quinlan		X		
Cllr. Frank Quinlan		X		
Cllr. Mary Roche		X		
Cllr. Seamus Ryan			X	

Cllr. James Tobin			X	
Cllr. Adam Wyse		X		

Total – 6 For, 16 Against, 7 abstained and 3 not present. Motion defeated so not carried.

**3. Motion in the name of Cllr. Breda Brennan (Deferred from June Meeting)**

*“That Waterford City and County Council requests that the Minister undertakes the following: That the stillbirth register and stillbirth registration be removed and be replaced with a birth and death certificate for babies who are stillborn, so that babies who are stillborn can be registered on the birth and death register and can receive the same state records of their existence as everyone else. Parents whose babies are currently listed on the stillbirth register should be given the opportunity to have their babies placed on the birth and death register and to receive a birth and death certificate for their babies.”.*

**Reg. No. 155** (dated 26<sup>th</sup> February, 2020)

Proposed by Cllr. Brennan, seconded by Cllr. Roche and agreed.

As the 2-hour meeting limit was reached motions 4&5 deferred to next meeting.

**12. AOB**

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

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