

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

**HELD ON 12th June, 2023
at 2.30pm in Civic Offices, Dungarvan.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Declan Doocey (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan
Cllr. Tom Cronin
Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. Mairead Tobin
Cllr. Conor McGuinness

Apologies: Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell, Cllr. Thomas Phelan

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services Corporate, Planning, Culture, HR & IS
Mr. Ivan Grimes, Director of Services, Housing
Mr. Gabriel Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads
Ms. Josephine McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads
Mr. Anthony Russell, Administrative Officer, Environment
Mr. Johnny Brunnock, Trails Officer, Economic Development
Ms. Honor Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

It was unanimously resolved that this council extends its sympathies to the families of the late: Jake Chambers, Margaret Veale, Edel Douris O'Halloran, Rita Rice, Willie Lyons, Geraldine O'Gorman, Michael O'Donnell.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

It was unanimously resolved that this council extends its congratulations to the Local Chamber who were selected number one for Dungarvan, Joe Kelly on bronze medal received at Bord Bia Bloom Festival, Clashmore nursery on bronze medal at Bord Bia Bloom Festival, Clashmore festival Strings and Things, Tallow festival and the West Waterford Opera festival. Councillors outlined the benefits to groups who receive festival funding from the council.

K. Kehoe, DoS, acknowledged the support of the councillors in supporting festivals and provision of funding. Supported congratulations to Jenny Beresford on winning the national award.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of District Meeting held on 8th May 2023 proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan seconded by Cllr. Cronin and agreed by all.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Nugent requested update on retrofitting of houses in Dungarvan, commencement of works at the Ballyclamper spur and workshop outlining grant details for dealing with vacancies.

Cllr. McGuinness enquired as to how many houses included and locations of the deep energy retrofit scheme.

I.Grimes, DoS, confirmed that have received funding allocation of €1.9m which will fund 57 houses, technical team working on submission and intention to carry out works across all the electoral areas and will circulate details when completed. Workshop scheduled for Plenary this week which will look at CPOs and grants regarding vacancies.

3. PROGRESS REPORTS

(a) Roads

Cllr. Pratt detailed recent accident at the top of Tallow Hill, need to find solution to prevent accidents at the location. Enquired when sweepers will be in operation in towns and villages, noted that flowers not in place for the June bank holiday, noted need for pedestrian crossing in Cappoquin by hurling field, enquired when lights on Lismore Bridge will be completed and highlighted need for additional car parking in Lismore. Outlined that the Towers in Ballyduff in need of maintenance.

Cllr. Cronin thanked roads engineers and co-operation of landowner regarding recent work in Ardmore. Hedge cutting is an issue at junctions and roads to beaches, needs to be addressed at dangerous locations. Noted need for jet patcher in Coolbagh and inspection of wall at old graveyard in Grange.

Cllr. Geoghegan raised issue of condition of footpath leading to St. Mary's Church, not registered as a public space and needs to be addressed. Clonea Road portion of road collapsing in two areas and needs to be addressed. Bollards in place on Western Terrace, they have proven to be affective and needs to be looked at by Active Travel for a permanent footpath to be put in place.

Cathaoirleach supported need for the car parking facilities in Lismore.

G. Hynes, SE, outlined that numerous interventions have been made to the top of Tallow Hill, noted comments in relation to recent accidents, looking at option of electronic signage and in discussion with TII for solution. Sweeper scheduled to be in operation in the district. Availability of flowers been an issue that has caused delays in planting, expect delivery in coming weeks and acknowledged work of all Tidy Town groups in the district. Current lighting on Lismore Bridge is effective and in accordance with regulations, currently under review with TII and can be reviewed as part of the LED lights scheme. Recently agreed lease with community centre in Lismore to use their car park for visitors during busy times, also looking at other existing car parks that can be made available. Will review maintenance requirements at The Towers. Currently within restricted season for hedge cutting, however will cut where there is an issue at junctions and service roads to popular beaches. Will review road to Coolbagh and carry out inspection at graveyard. Will investigate Clonea Road and funding option for Western Terrace.

Cllr. Tobin noted concerns of road at Tallow Hill and need for prevention of accidents at the location. Noted need for weed spraying on footpaths on approaches to Tallow, requested update on signage for Convent Street, lights on school road in Tallow still on when not needed. Enquired about option of double yellow lines extended towards school in Lismore. Need to issue message that with the start of the summer holidays there will be more children on the roads.

Cllr. McGuinness acknowledged work at green areas in Tournanore, filling of pothole on N25 and bridge repairs. Requested details on timeline for footpath improvements works on O'Connell Street and noted poor visibility on N25.

Cllr. Pratt supported Cllr. Geoghegan regarding issue at St. Marys church footpath and Western Terrace.

Cllr. Tobin noted issue regarding contractors not reinstating properly and trenches at top of school road in Tallow and if there is any funding for pedestrian crossing in Tallow.

Cllr. Pratt enquired if returned dividend from IPB can be invested back into footpaths.

G. Hynes, SE, noted there needs to be a balanced approach to spraying, if there is a safety issue will spray and will review locations as requested, sign for Church Street ordered and in place in coming weeks, issue of public lighting on school road in Tallow to be logged on Deadsure. In discussions regarding additional parking at hotel and GAA in Lismore. School in Lismore is a complex junction and warrants further investigation for crossings and will discuss with TII to address. Acknowledged comments in relation to works carried out, O'Connell Street will be programmed for September, N25 has considerable levels of traffic and there are high risk locations, can address immediate concerns to assist sight lines. N25 needs to be upgraded and needs a carriage way and is long term goal for safety concerns and economic

development of the region. Dredging application to Department not successful and won't be undertaking unless there is funding. Will look at extension of water supply in Helvick. Western Terrace will deliver footpath either under Active Travel or own capital funding. Pedestrian crossing in Tallow funded under Active Travel. Footpaths in general dealt with under the capital footpath programme.

(b) Housing

Cllr. Cronin noted concerns about refusal by An Bord Pleanála for houses, is it possible for council to talk to landowner for purchase of land to provide locals with serviced sites.

Cllr. McGuinness requested update on co-operative housing development proposed for Ardmore and An Sean Phobal social housing development. Baile na nGall housing development in An Rinn and housing scheme option for rural areas. Issue of vacant houses / voids that are between tenancies, and delay in the turnaround of these houses and can we do anything to get additional resources to improve this. Large number of people applying under DAS for minor works for accessibility, need to have an inhouse team to address this.

I.Grimes, DoS, land availability is an issue and actively looking to acquire sites and talking to developers for proposals for affordable housing. Working with housing association regarding Ardmore, due to finalise application with submission in coming weeks. Hope to have information on Sean Phobal in coming weeks. Planning is in discussion with Údarás regarding rural dwelling scheme. In relation to vacants and voids there are certain circumstances where properties take longer to progress, overall performing well, Covid caused delays and working towards achieving pre Covid target of 11 weeks for turnaround of properties. Outlined that have system in place with contractor in each district whereby contractor assesses works and timeframe agreed. Applications for DAS to own stock, putting in place frameworks for contractors to carry out these works.

Cllr. Pratt requested update on development of land in Brid View close in Tallow.

Cllr. Geoghegan enquired when clock commences on turnaround for houses handed back.

Cllr. Cronin Minister O'Brian coming to Waterford and need to raise housing issues, site in Clashmore up for sale.

I.Grimes, DoS, site in Brideview is in the Capital timeline and intention to develop. Time for turnaround of properties commences once the key is handed back. Will review site in Clashmore.

Suspension of Standing Orders to take Item 4 & 5 before 3(c) on the agenda and defer these items (reports on Planning, Environment, Economic and Taking in Charge) to the July meeting. Proposed by Cllr. Pratt, seconded by Cllr. Geoghegan and agreed by all.

4. Section 85 Agreement – Cork to Waterford Pathfinder Programme – Youghal to Dungarvan

Sean Dobbs outlined details of the proposed Cork to Pathfinder Programme.

A number of concerns were raised regarding the development of a cycle track along this road when the road needs to be upgraded.

Cllr. McGuinness proposed proceed with Section 85 Agreement, seconded by Cllr. Pratt and agreed.

5. Control of Parking Bye Laws 2023 – Completion of Process

Deferred to July meeting.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None

7. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Deferred to July meeting.

8. A.O. B

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____