

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

**HELD ON 11th September 2023
at 2.30pm in Civic Offices, Dungarvan.**

PRESENT:

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

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Kieran Kehoe, Director of Services Corporate, Planning, Culture, HR & IS
Mr. Paul Johnson, SE, Housing
Mr. Gabriel Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads
Ms. Josephine McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads
Mr. Niall Kane, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment
Ms. Dawn Wallace, Senior Executive Officer, Environment
Ms. Aisling O'Sullivan, Senior Executive Planner
Mr. Richie Walsh, Senior Executive Officer, Economic Development
Ms. Grainne Kennedy, Climate Action Co-ordinator
Ms. Honor Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

It was unanimously resolved that this council extends its sympathies to the families of the late: Helen Lenihan, victims of crash in Clonmel (Luke McSweeney, Grace McSweeney, Nicole Murphy and Zoey Coffey), Seamus Drohan, Caroline Keane, Tom Cahill, Teresa Holden, Jim Hower, Jack Doocey, Bertie Kingston, Helen Lenihan, Jack Roche, Catherine Sheehan, Louise Hanrahan, Margaret Egan and Tom Cantwell.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

It was unanimously resolved that this council extends its congratulations to Joe Mannion on recent win at Fleadh Ceoil festival, Brickey Rangers on winning the Waterford Intermediate hurling championships, Old Parish hurling club, Aoibhin Lannon and Jake Fitzgerald on winning bronze medals in boxing competition in Latvia. Kudo boxing club won 15 medals in recent competition in Barnslow, England. Dungarvan AFC senior women's team on triple win this year.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of District Meeting held on 10th July 2023 proposed by Cllr. Pratt seconded by Cllr. Doocey and agreed by all.
Minutes of Special Meeting held on the 19th July 2023 proposed by Cllr. Phelan seconded by Cllr. McGuinness and agreed by all.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. McGuinness requested update on previously raised issue in relation to illegal dumping in Waters Edge and if inspection carried out. Requested update on social housing scheme for Sean Phobal.

Cllr. Cronin requested update on wall in old graveyard in Grange.

Cllr. Nugent update on overgrowth around the Spring roundabout.

N. Kane, SEE, will review Waters Edge again and wall in old graveyard in Ballinameela, archaeologist reviewed and preparing license application to carry out necessary works. Will review overgrowth.

P. Johnson, SE, awaiting stage 2 approval from Department, expected in coming weeks and then will proceed to Part V111.

G. Hynes, SE, will look at issue in Ballinameela.

3. PROGRESS REPORTS

(a) Environment and Climate Action Plan Update

Grainne Kennedy, Climate Change Officer, provided summary overview and update on the Climate Action Plan.

Cllr. McGuinness noted that due to the wet summer there are a lot of issues with weeds that need to be addressed. Noted congratulations to all involved in the Linear Park and new BMX pump track.

Cllr. Doocey raised issue regarding cutting the grass in graveyards and need for upkeep in graveyards.

Cllr. Geoghegan welcomed completion of Linear Park, with the development of these parks need to increase budget for these areas and also the older parks. Need to look at Gibbons Park. Enquired as to when will be allowed to use CCTV to tackle persistent illegal dumping.

Cllr. Phelan noted that the IBAL litter survey is positive for Dungarvan but there are black spots, need passive surveillance also in areas and need to review some areas of dumping and anti-social behaviour. Moresby Park upgrade needs signage on the history. Requested area to be provided for dog owners to walk dogs, suggesting Stokes field. Suggested option of extending remit of town presentation team into Ballinroad and Clonea.

Cllr. O'Donnell supports need to carry out spraying on footpaths highlighting need to carry out under barriers also.

Cllr. Pratt enquired if any intention of putting big belly bins into smaller towns and villages.

Cllr. Tobin acknowledged clean up in Tallow after horse fair, disappointing that bins overflowing outside some businesses in the town over the weekend, issues with people disposing of household waste in the bins in the towns which creates problems. Need message to issue to deter this activity as shows a disregard for the community. Also need message to landowners regarding need to cut their hedgerows.

Cllr. Nugent agreed in relation to the need for biodiversity but also need for maintenance and to balance both. Noted need to survey Ash trees and how to deal with dead trees.

D. Wallace, SEO, will revert regarding boundary areas for presentation team.

N. Kane, SEE, noted there has been a difficulty with weather and getting spraying carried out, currently don't have the resources to carry out grass cutting in graveyards. The code of practice is currently being developed for the use of CCTV and will update members when have details. Will review hedge at back of offices to create visibility and signage for Moresby. Dog park not currently in the budget and outlined that it is an offence to dispose of waste in a public bin, requesting notification of areas where it occurs.

G. Hynes, SE, hedge cutting season open and landowners need to cut hedges up to 1st March, bring issues to the attention of roads so can issue notice. Don't have resources to address graveyards in rural communities but will work with local communities and assist where possible. Litter management in rural communities falls to the roads crew, limited resources and will review if there is scope to address. Aware of issues with Ash trees and is the responsibility of the landowners where issues occur.

(b) Economic

Cllr. Cronin enquired about options to convert the Old Court House in Ardmore to a hub.

Cllr. Pratt commended all on delivery of street enhancement scheme in Tallow and enquired if all funds have been spent.

Cllr. Phelan requested that the festoon lights on Davitt's Quay are inspected as they are not working, noted need to remind users of the rules on the Greenway. Enquired if there is funding to acquire Friary Hall.
Cllr. McGuinness support proposal for Friary Hall, dereliction in Dungarvan an issue and premises have been purchased by council to provide facilities for the community.
Cllr. Geoghegan noted that the lights along the harbour haven't work in full over the summer and needs to be addressed.

R. Walsh, SEO, outlined that an offer has been made in relation to the acquisition of the old courthouse that to date has not been accepted. Street enhancement in Tallow was a positive project with some small works still to be carried out. Looking at overall branding signage plan for the Greenway. Friary Hall is a priority for council and could be included in future acquisition measure under Town and Village renewal, issue is the sustainable long-term management of the building, preference to be community led and managed.

K. Kehoe, DoS, will follow up on festoon lights.

(c) Housing

Cllr. Cronin noted his disappointment with withdrawal of the development in Ardmore, enquired as to when it will be put back out to tender.

Cllr. O'Donnell noted Garda Barracks closed in An Rinn and why taking OPW taking so long to address.

Cllr. McGuinness noted seven units on Mary Street up on CBL enquiring as to how many people applied as huge demand for one bed units and when can expect to be allocated. Welcomed Part V111 at Shandon would like to see provision of affordable housing option at Fairlane site alongside the cost rental provision. Disappointed that Ardmore scheme is not going ahead suggesting the local authority develops site and access funding from Department directly. Enquired about outcome of housing maintenance tender and if there is a contractor in place for the ongoing repair and maintenance of houses retrofitted with heat pumps.

Cllr. Phelan noted well publicised issue of anti-social behaviour (ASB) in estates with criminality, enquiring if council will seek to ensure that they are prosecuted and held responsible with sanction against any council tenants involved. Requested regular meetings with An Garda Siochana to discuss ASB to be scheduled. Requested item in monthly report as to how many vacant units and length of time vacant and percentage that is vacant at any one time.

Cllr. Geoghegan enquired as to what action is taken against own council tenants that partake in anti-social behaviour and who is liable for the damage. Number of approved housing bodies in Dungarvan, issues with some of them and Local Authority has no say in tenants that go into approved housing body units.

Cllr. Pratt enquired about timeline on allocation of houses in Tallow and Cappoquin being allocated.

Cllr. Doocey noted that adaptation grants for council tenants need to be processed faster.

Cllr. Tobin asked about status of Bank of Ireland building in Lismore and if to be used for social housing.

Cllr. McGuinness requested workshop with Affordable housing bodies, seconded by Cllr. Geoghegan.

P. Johnson, SE, confirmed that proposed scheme in Ardmore not likely to receive Department funding based on financial considerations. There is planning on the site, and it will be the intention of the council to deliver both social and affordable scheme at the location. Not familiar with Garda Barracks in Sean Phobal. 7 units on Mary Street are through the allocation process and ready for offer, 19 units in O'Connell street for a Q4 completion and will commence allocation in Oct/ Nov. Part V111 in Shandon and intend to bring Fairlane affordable scheme to councillors in workshop. New framework established for maintenance, one contractor appointed and also standby contractor which will improve the service, included in this is the servicing of heat pumps. Stated that recent ASB in Dungarvan is unacceptable and assured that all avenues to resolve the issues and causing of damage and costs will be utilised. Outlined that there were 103 houses vacant for WCCC at the end July which reflects 1.8% of total housing stock, target is to have below 2%. Number of voids coming available increasing, 20% more units this year on last year, due to numbers of transfer and leaving units. Alms houses in Tallow due to be allocated shortly and Cappoquin units near to resolution. Turnaround times on adaptation grants to local authority houses has decreased and continue to work on improving this. There is no social housing project planned for the old Bank of Ireland building in Lismore. Will review monthly reports for inclusion of additional data.

(d) Roads

Cllr. McGuinness highlighted recent situation where Helvic lifeguard out of action due to access difficulties as a result of silting, noting the need to dredge the area. Concern that Department won't provide funding to get licence to do the dredging and resulting concern on not being able to rely on RNLI lifeboat being able to launch. Disabled parking space adjacent to toilets in Helvic needs to be repainted for parking. Noted that green area in front of Duckspool needs to be maintained. Enquired about speed limit review and input from councillors and roll of public in the process.

Cllr. Phelan requested active travel workshop for district, update on fixing lights on the Square and adding more lights to the area. Need to review street lighting in front of Knocknagranagh in Ballinroad and requested review of loading bays and road configuration of Davitt's Quay. Suggested signage to inform the public about works underway at Duckspool. Requested update on Cushcam realignment and speed limits. Noted issue of weeds and overhanging trees in Ballinroad.

Cllr. Pratt requested update on works on Tallow Bridge, footpath schemes in West Street and near Clancy's bar and Woodview Park. Requested update on proposed works at Aglish and Cul Rua.

Cllr. Cronin noted infrastructure needed, roundabout on N25 by Burgery and is holding up development and needs to be progressed with TII.

Cllr. Geoghegan noted delays in footpath projects from corner of St Bridget Terrace to Southern Terrace and from Mitchell Street to St. Mary's due to work of Uisce Eireann. Noted the Square is very poorly lit at night and needs to be improved. The Quayside is chaos when busy and needs to be addressed.

Cllr. Doocey noted issue of heavy traffic and need for one way system on the Quays and requested update in relation to the proposed Greenway extension.

Cllr. Tobin requested update on pedestrian crossing for Chapel street.

G. Hynes, SE, noted concerns regarding dredging but cannot proceed without funding from the Department., will review disabled parking in Helvic. Will look at options for active travel workshop. Acknowledged issue with lighting in Square, which is due to unavailability of parts to repair, as part of LED retrofitting surveys on areas of deficit will be conducted and look at upgrade to acceptable standard. Can review loading bays, have carried out work on Davitt's Quay in relation to signage and double yellow lines, have looked at one way in past and can relook at whole area and consult with Active Travel. There are two significant issues at Duckspool, river flooding and outfall area and additional storage capacity is being provided with fluvial flooding remediation work. Seawall on Clonea road and in discussion with OPW to protect area from coastal flooding. Cushcam and speed limits, commenced with Garda and was intention to have workshop in Oct/Nov for discussion on new speed limits, new guidelines to be changing and waiting on these to issue from Department so currently on hold and once received and reviewed will be back to the district meetings regarding changes for each district and then out to public consultation. Cushcam reviewed and will be included in next process. Works on Tallow bridge to start shortly. Aglish and Cul Rua in charge and works to be carried out. New roundabout at Burgery, included in a programme, had discussion with TII and not to fund it currently. Pedestrian crossing at health centre in Tallow will commence on approval from NTA.

Extension to standing orders proposed by Cllr. Pratt, seconded by Cllr. Geoghegan and agreed by all.

J. McGrath, SEE, will review weed issues, have footpaths at Woodview and Clancy's on work programme. Footpaths on Mitchell street will be carried out on completion of works by Uisce Eireann. O'Connell street currently out to tender.

R. Walsh, SEO, process is ongoing in relation to the proposed Greenway extension, project liaison officer meeting with all property owners, on receipt of all submissions will review impacts on the proposed route and alternatives options likely to develop. Will await consultant report and asked that any issues or concerns are relayed to Johnny Brunnock.

(e) Planning

Cllr. Phelan requested update on snag issues on Waters Edge and timeframe for completion.

Cllr. Tobin requested update on Lyrenacarriga decision.

A. O’Sullivan, SEP, noted there is no update on Lyrenacarriga. Received updates on snag list which needs review and will take a number of months to progress.

Cllr. Cronin issue re housing estate in Clashmore to be TIC, can it be progressed for next meeting.

A. O’Sullivan, SEP, outlined that close to advertising for TIC and hope to be before council by the end of the year.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Noted

5. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Motion in the name of Cllr. Tom Cronin

“That this Council agrees to name the access road from the R673 towards The Cloisters estate in Ardmore ‘Ard na gCapall’.

Reg. No. DLS/2023/23 (dated 16th August, 2023)

Proposed by Cllr. Cronin, seconded by Cllr. Doocey and agreed by all.

6. A.O. B

Cllr. Pratt congratulated all involved in the opening of new post office in Cappoquin along with the work of Cappoquin Regeneration project.

Cllr. Phelan requested that look at option for twinning with Taranto in Italy, requested report from Community regarding walkability audits.

Cllr. McGuinness outlined issues regarding Uisce Eireann works in Dungarvan, significant works and due to replace outdated water mains, Uisce Eireann point of entry into the front of the homes rather than the rear of houses and issue with lack of communication with residents. Reiterated request that Uisce Eireann regional managers attend the council meetings.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____