

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

**Metropolitan District Meeting held in Council Chamber, City Hall on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 at 5.00pm**

**Present:**

Cllr. Jason Murphy (Mayor)	Cllr. Cristiona Kiely
Cllr. Donal Barry	Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan
Cllr. Joanne Bailey	Cllr. Mary Roche
Cllr. Seamus Ryan	Cllr. Eamonn Quinlan
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Cllr. Frank Quinlan
Cllr. Jim Griffin	Cllr. Jody Power
Cllr. David Daniels	Cllr. John Hearne
Cllr. Stephanie Keating	Cllr. Joe Conway
Cllr. Joe Kelly	

**Apologies:** Cllr. Adam Wyse

**Officials in attendance:** Mr. M. Quinn, DoS, Economic Development  
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator  
Mr. N. Kane, A/SEO, Environment  
Ms. C. Hartley, SEO Housing  
Ms. H. O’ Shea, SEP, Planning  
Ms. N. Keating, SEE, Roads  
Mr. M. Conway, SEA, Economic Development  
Mr. A. Kirwan, EE, Roads,  
Ms. A. Jay, Architectural Technician, Economic Development  
Ms. B. Stosic, A/SEE, Roads  
Mr. G. Hynes, SE, Roads  
Ms. A. Flynn, Corporate Department

**Vote of Sympathies/Congratulations:**

Votes of sympathy were expressed to Jemma Jacob on death of her mother Maria and the family of Noel Cullen.

Congratulations to Eamonn McEaney and Rupert Maddock on their retirement, to Josephine St. John and to Comhairle na nÓg and Ardscoil na Mara who won awards at the Young Environmentalist Awards 2023.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes from the Metropolitan District Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 proposed by Cllr. Keating, seconded by Cllr. Hearne and agreed by all.

**2. Matters Arising,**

Cllr. Ryan welcomed the update Councillors received from the Housing Office in relation to Mount Suir and asked if there is a timescale for completion.

Cllr. Bailey enquired if the previously requested workshop with the Regional Sports Centre (RSC) and the community section regarding the facilities is to be scheduled.

Cllr. F. Quinlan requested update in relation to parking bays around the city for people with disabilities.

C. Hartley, SEO said a Contractor has been appointed for Mount Suir and inspections are to begin with most of the apartments inspected by the end of the month.

M. Quinn, DoS noted that issue in relation to the RSC has been referred to the Community Office.

G. Hynes, SE, noted that a contractor is being sought for works on regards parking bays for people with disabilities.

Cllr. Keating noted the need to ensure Mount Suir is addressed as a priority.

Cllr. Barry asked if a fire safety audit will be conducted for Mount Suir.

Cllr. Kiely also expressed concerns around fire safety at Mount Suir.

C. Hartley, SEO said the fire safety aspects will be incorporated in the overall report and there will not be a specific fire safety audit.

### **3. Reports**

Cllr. F. Quinlan raised issues of overgrown trees on the Quay and cars speeding in Bilberry requesting ramps to slow down traffic. He requested update on the Carlisle Bridge and the resurfacing of John's Avenue and noted the misuse of bring banks.

Cllr. Conway requested safety handrail for the Nature Park and involvement of the council in the retention of the 360-bus service to Tramore.

Cllr. Hearne requested leaking roof in Manor St John Community Hall is addressed and enquired about development of pub in Ballybeg which appears to have come to a standstill.

G. Hynes, SE noted that speed in Bilberry will be reviewed, tender received in relation to the maintenance and painting of Carlisle Bridge was extremely high with the cost outside budget and needs to be renegotiated.

A. Kirwan, EE, noted that resurfacing of John's Avenue will be considered for 2024.

N. Keating, SEE, will follow up with National Road Authority regarding proposed change to the 360-bus service.

N. Kane, A/SEO will review trees on the Quay, informed members that any dumping at bring banks needs to be reported and requested confirmation of location for handrail in Nature Park.

H. O' Shea, SEP, noted there is an active planning permission at Ryan's pub in Ballybeg where owners have five years to complete the development.

H. Dunphy, MA, will refer issue in relation to Manor St John to facilities section for inspection.

Cllr. Keating raised issue regarding damage to tombstones in Wyse Park, requested wheelchair space at the Churchyard Sessions and requested clarification in relation to figures under Housing Allocations.

Cllr. Griffin requested extension to the closing date for the Climate Action Plan as only one submission received. Noted need for identification of grounds for community sports facilities in Tramore. He welcomed the new footpaths and disability ramps in Newport Square and requested parking options sign at the sand dunes car park in Tramore. He noted lack of a bus shelter at Carrickphierish and enquired if ownership of land at old pumping station at Holycross could be confirmed suggesting it is offered to the community.

Cllr. Bailey asked that the speed limits in and around Butlerstown be reduced. She requested a shelter for the bus stop at Arbour Road noting that here and in other locations information provided is not visible or missing altogether. Noted that the phone box at the GPO on the Quay needs to be cleaned or replaced.

G. Hynes, SE said that parking signage in Tramore will be reviewed, outlined that the pumping station at Holycross would have transferred to Irish Water and will consult with them in relation to Community use. He outlined that the speed limit review will be commencing shortly.

N. Keating, SEE, outlined that bus shelters and information provided at them will be reviewed.

N. Kane, A/SEO aware of damage to headstones in Wyse Park and is consulting with Conservation Officer around their repair and will revert in relation to the Climate Action Plan.

M. Quinn, DoS, will refer the issue of wheelchair access at the Churchyard Sessions to the organisers, noted that sporting facilities would not normally be provided in communities by local authorities, the condition of the phone box on the Quay will be brought to the attention of Eir.

C. Hartley, SEO said the housing Report will be reviewed noting that a narrative to the tables may be helpful.

Cllr. Fitzgerald requested electronic speed limit signage on the Killea Road, noted that green area adjacent to the ferry slip in Passage East is being used by contractor for parking and noted and is a local amenity area.

Cllr. Ryan requested access to the Nature Park from the Cork Road, enquired if electricity supply can be provided in the top of the town garden in Patrick's Avenue, requested provision of storage container on the Greenway at Carriganore for access ability bikes users of the Brothers of Charity service. He noted that emergency funding is needed for work on footpaths some of which are extremely dangerous. He asked that Kilkenny County Council be contacted in relation to streetlights out of order between Quarry Road and Newrath. He asked if the trees on the inner ring road from entrance to Ursuline Court to Ostmen Place are trimmed as they are blocking the footpath and if the Brill project carpark be addressed.

Cllr. Roche enquired about bathing water in Dunmore East, the loss of the blue flag and steps being taken to remediate. She asked if any progress has been made in relation to the traffic situation on the Wilkin Street/Alphonsus Road/ Lower Newtown Road/ Passage Road area. She asked if the An Post Sorting Office could be used to provide rehearsal space for artists and for the gaps on the Greenway from Bilberry to the Quay to be completed. Requested letter is sent to Transport for Ireland (TFI) in relation to bike rental outages and that emergency funding be sought for footpaths. Noted that She said there need to review the housing allocation policy to allow housing applicants view the property they are to be allocated. She asked that a letter issue to Iranród Eireann requesting additional bike racks at the train station.

G. Hynes, SE, will review measures for Killea Road and noted that there was prior agreement with the contractor for use of green area in Passage East. A. Kirwan, EE, added that meeting has been arranged for Tuesday with residents and the contractor.

G. Hynes, SE, outlined that there is no emergency funding for footpaths and have to work within capital programme. Cllr. Roche and Cllr. Ryan both requested this be reviewed.

N. Kane, A/SEO, outlined that currently reviewing options for access to the Nature Park, noted that Carriganore is not a suitable location for bike storage container suggesting contact with SETU, will review trees on Inner Ring Road and outlined that water team are reviewing water quality in Dunmore East.

G. Hynes, SE, will contact Kilkenny County Council in relation to public lighting outages, outlined there is significant work involved in traffic assessment in Wilkin Street and surrounding areas noting that it is currently at tendering stage for consultant to be appointed.

M. Quinn, DoS noted that the Sorting Office is suitable only as a storage facility and the provision of bike racks at train station will be brought to the attention of Iranród Eireann.

C. Hartley, SEO, outlined that resources are not available to allow for viewing of properties prior to allocation, this is not standard practice across any of the Local Authorities and houses being allocated on the basis of need.

Cllr. Power supported request for extension of the closing date for the Climate Action Plan, requested drinking water fountains for Passage East and Cheekpoint. Enquired if there was a better method of sealing our roads other than chip and tar noting the damage to cars that can result from this method. He requested that the sunken Viking ship in the mud at the bridge piers is protected.

Cllr. Kiely also requested an extension of the closing date in relation to submissions for the Climate Action Plan, she outlined road safety concerns in relation to construction of new homes in An Gárran requesting safety fencing for the green area during construction. She asked about enforcing the bye laws in relation to illegal parking on footpaths and noted no bike parking at the bus station.

Cllr. Barry asked for an update on the one-way traffic system on the Cork Road. He asked that it be placed on record his disappointment at the Executive of Waterford City & County Council's failure to purchase the former Waterford Crystal Leisure Centre site. He said Waterford City & County Council received €400,000.00 from the Community Recognition Fund to develop a green space in Thomas Street and commented that this money would be better spent on providing facilities in the existing parks around the City. He asked for an update in relation to his previous proposal of putting a memorial to the Waterford to Tramore train at the back entrance to the St. John's River Walk.

G. Hynes, SE, noted that tar and chip is the best form of road surface with superior skid resistance than other surfaces, he noted comments in relation to illegal parking on footpaths and that there are no plans for a one-way traffic system as suggested.

N. Kane, A/SEO noted no funding for the installation of additional water fountains, there is a requirement for the park in Thomas Street and outlined there have been additional facilities added to the other parks in the City.

M. Quinn, DoS, outlined that the acquisition of the Waterford Crystal facility was not provided for in the budget and there were no funding streams available to procure the site. Confirmed that remedial works are taking place at the site of the Viking Ship and are within the archaeological assessment. The memorial for the train station would need to be across a number of departments.

A. Kirwan, EE, will review An Gárran.

Cllr. O'Sullivan asked that the dangerous hedges at the Butlerstown/Fenor junction be cut, she supported the request for land suitable for all sports clubs needs to be found. Noted that the signs at the lower prom in Tramore for camper van parking and age friendly parking need to be looked at. She mentioned an incident on the 9<sup>th</sup> June at Lady's Slip and asked all Councillors to support the call for additional funding in 2024 to provide for lifeguards on our beaches for the full month of June 2024. She mentioned a further incident involving the verbal abuse of lifeguards and asked that a clear message be sent out that this will not be tolerated. She supported Cllr. Conway in relation to the 360-bus service to Tramore and asked that the local Councillors get involved. She asked how many social houses there are in Strand Hill.

Cllr. Daniels welcomed the new additions to the People's Park and noted that the band stand needs painting and enquired about the strategy for the provision of EV charging points.

Cllr. E. Quinlan requested that both Waterford City & County Council and Kilkenny County Council work together to address safety issues at Rose Road in Ferrybank in relation to recent accident. He noted that any defects that are identified in Mount Suir are attributable to third parties should be remedied by Waterford City & County Council with costs pursued from any third party later. He noted the need to revisit a case whereby a tenant's application to purchase her home was refused on the basis that her only income was social welfare even though she had a lump sum to assist in financing it. He supported the safety issue at the green area at An Gárran.

Cllr. Kelly enquired if there would be an increase in rent where a tenant's income remains the same. He said the Council need to engage with the various groups in relation to sourcing suitable land for sport grounds. He asked that the grass growing onto the footpath at De la Salle pitch be cut back. He requested an update on the bus stop on Cleaboy Road and if a TFI bicycle scheme could be set up in Tramore.

C. Hartley, SEO, will revert with details on Strand Hill, noted comment on Mount Suir, outlined that the income that is reckonable for a tenant purchase application is set out in national guidelines and not appropriate to comment on live application. Outlined that a Rent Review has commenced, and rents will be calculated in accordance with the 2020 Rent Scheme.

G. Hynes, SE said dangerous hedges at junctions on regional roads will be cut, signs on lower prom in Tramore will be reviewed along with issues raised in relation An Gárran and will meet with Kilkenny County Council regarding Rose Road.

B. Stosic, A/SEE, said the TFI bike scheme is run by the NTA and will bring proposals to them in relation to a scheme in Tramore.

N. Keating, SEE noted awaiting an update on the Cleaboy bus stop and will follow up.

N. Kane, A/SEO outlined plans for electric chargers are being developed and will review painting requirements at the band stand in the People's Park.

M. Quinn, DoS, outlined that there is both a budgetary issue and availability of lifeguards as many lifeguards are sitting exams in June. The council isn't responsible for the provision of sports facilities.

<b>4. Planning &amp; Development Act, 2000</b> as amended Planning & Development Regulations 2001 as amended Part VIII
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**(a) City of Lights Urban Animation Scheme – Completion of Process**

A. Jay, Architectural Technician introduced the 'City of Lights' Urban Animation Scheme, which will see the introduction of outdoor lighting of iconic buildings and the City walls.

Cllr. Roche enquired if there will be areas where lighting projections will be used.

Cllr. Conway asked if John's River Bridge was or could be included in the Scheme.

Cllr. E. Quinlan asked if buildings which are illuminated in support of diverse groups, for St. Patrick's Day or otherwise are part of the Scheme.

Cllr. Kelly asked if there was a plan for the maintenance of the outdoor lighting.

Cllr. Bailey asked about the cost and if the Munster Express building will be included once renovated.

A. Jay, Architectural Technician outlined that The Plaza, Bailey's New Street and area in front of the Granary / Munster Express will have projections. Bridges are not part of current scheme, outdoor lighting on all buildings will be centrally managed. She said there is a maintenance agreement built into contract and said the Munster Express building will be renovated prior to lighting.

Proposed by Cllr. Roche, seconded by Cllr. Keating and agreed by all.

**(b) Water Activity Centre -addition/extension to the Public Toilets, Lower Promenade Tramore– commencement of process**

M. Conway, SEA introduced the project which is a collaboration with Fáilte Ireland to develop and deliver a Water Activity Centre at the Lower Promenade, Tramore.

Cllr. E. Quinlan welcomed project but said its' delivery in nine months is ambitious and the provision of alternative public toilets during the project construction needs to be considered.

Cllr. Kelly also said that public toilets will be required during construction, the timeline for delivery is tight and asked what the proposals are to mitigate any impact on traffic and parking.

Cllr. Kiely agreed that there needs to be public toilets during construction, she welcomed the project and in particular its inclusion of Waterford's first changing places toilet.

Cllr. Griffin enquired if there will be a solar panel on roof and an area for beach wheelchairs.

Cllr. Roche asked how the facility will be managed.

Cllr. O'Sullivan supported and welcomed project and enquired about solar panels.

M. Conway, SEA noted that the delivery time is ambitious, but the goal is to deliver in the nine months. It is planned that the toilets will be kept open throughout the project and the accessible changing place is hugely important and the first one in the County. He noted that one beach wheelchair will be accommodated, Fáilte Ireland have put together a draft management plan which includes a card operated system for facilities.

**5. Correspondence**

None

**6. Notice of Motions**

None

**7. AOB**

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_

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



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge  
Waterford City & County Council

**Resolution of the Elected Members  
Waterford City and County Council, Metropolitan District  
19<sup>th</sup> June, 2023  
Ref: 2023/11**

In accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part XI Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) Part V111 the proposed development ‘City of Lights’ Urban Animation Scheme and introduction of outdoor lighting of iconic buildings and the City Walls in 19 locations.

	<b>Location</b>	<b>Record of Protected Structures reference: WA730/</b>
1	Beach Tower	216
2	Bishops Palace 18th Century	256
3	Central Library, Lady Lane	245
4	City Hall, The Mall.	257
5	Double Tower, Castle Street	061
6	French Church, Greyfriars	026
7	French Tower, Browne’s Lane	056
8	House of Waterford Crystal, The Mall	N/A
9	Irish Silver Museum, Cathedral Square	071
10	Irish Museum of Time	182
11	Munster Express Building	836
12	Presbytery, George Street	130
13	Reginald’s Tower, The Quay.	268
14	St Martin’s Gate, Spring Garden Alley	429, 430
15	The Granary, Hanover Street	203
16	City Walls, Castle St, Brown’s Lane & Railway Square.	056, 059 & 060
17	Watchtower, Railway Square	404
18	Waterford Gallery of Art, O’Connell St.	347
19	WWV Plaza, Quays	N/A

CERTIFIED RESOLUTION OF THE Metropolitan District of Waterford City & County Council that the scheme as presented and after consideration of submissions, proposed by Cllr. Roche seconded by Cllr. Keating and agreed unanimously THAT THE PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED PROCEEDS.

**Signed:**

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**Councillor Jody Power**  
**Metropolitan District Mayor**

**Witnessed:**

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**Honor Dunphy**  
**Meetings Administrator**