

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

Metropolitan District Meeting held in Council Chamber, City Hall on 17th July, 2023, at 5.00pm

Present:

Cllr. Jody Power (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. Adam Wyse
Cllr. David Daniels	Cllr. John Hearne
Cllr. Stephanie Keating	Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Joe Kelly	Cllr. Joe Conway

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
Mr. G. Hynes, SE, Roads
Ms. H. O’ Shea, SEP, Planning
Mr. M. Murphy, SE, Active Travel
Mr. A. Kirwan, EE, Roads,
Ms N. Keating, SEE, Roads,
Ms. M. Nolan Reade, Corporate Department

Vote of Sympathies/Congratulations:

Votes of sympathy were expressed to families of former councillor Davy Walsh, Tom Martin, Michael Costello, Finbarr Berry, Gayle Doherty Brophy.

Congratulations to David McGlynn of Waterford AC on achievement of Gold Medal National title in 2000m, to Kian Flynn aged 10years representing Ireland in Irish Karate Federation in the world WUKF Karate Championships.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes from the Metropolitan District Meeting held on 19th June 2023 proposed by Cllr. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. Kelly and agreed by all.

Minutes from the Metropolitan District AGM held on 19th June 2023 proposed by Cllr. Murphy seconded by Cllr. Wyse and agreed by all.

2. Matters Arising,

Cllr. Ryan welcomed work commenced on Mount Suir, enquired if review will be carried out on remaining 18 apartments.

Cllr. Kelly spoke of the bridge in Peoples Park noting very expensive tender prices enquiring if payment could be made over two budgets.

Cllr. Bailey enquired about repairs/replacement of phone box on The Quay requested information and plan going forward.

Cllr. F. Quinlan thanked outdoor staff for pruning of trees along The Quays.

G. Hynes S.E, noted funding of €100,000 from Department under rehabilitation programme towards works on bridge in People Park, awaiting response from Department following further discussion, no issue with partly funding over two years subject to Department approval.

M. Quinn, DoS, will review phone box on The Quay directly with Eir and revert.

C. Hartley, SEO, understands 18 apartments will be inspected will clarify with delivery team.

Amend standing order to take item 4 Presentation by GIY before item 3 Reports. Proposed by Cllr. Bailey, seconded by Cllr. O' Sullivan and agreed by all.

4. Presentation by GIY – Programme for Harvest 2023

Shona Dubois from GIY provided a detailed presentation on Waterford Harvest Festival which will be held on 8th - 10th September 2023. She outlined the highlights from the 2022 festival noting the four pillars for the development of the festival as being Sustainability, Community, Legacy and Creativity.

Cllr. Ryan would like to see non-use of single use plastics for the festival.

Cllr. Bailey enquired if they GIY will would do anything different from last year in regard to advertising and suggested covering regular bins in city during festival and adding wash area allowing people to bring own cutlery.

Cllr. Kelly enquired if there was any breakdown of the 43K footfall if it was local, national, or international visitors. Enquired if the stage in O' Connell Street is daytime or night-time music.

Cllr. Griffin noted that the national television broadcasting programme was of huge benefit to GIY. Suggested GIY and council tenants would come together to guide tenants in gardening.

S. Dubois outlined advertising planned is locally, nationally and on social media platforms. Welcomed the suggestion of covering bins during festival and noted water stations will be available during festival. No full breakdown of type of footfall of visitors, noted music stage is daytime stage. Outlined that during covid received government funding to teach people how to grow food, would consider working with council tenants if funding was available. Outlined festival does not allow single use plastics for traders but can be difficult to police.

Cllr. F. Quinlan enquired if traders were reimbursed at loss of Sunday trading from cancelled day in 2022.

Cllr. Kiely noted 33% traders from Waterford trading at this year's festival enquired how many Waterford traders last year and what are trading rates.

Cllr. E. Quinlan enquired if there are plans to include Ballybricken area for festival.

S. Dubois welcomed members comments outlining rates for different traders, noted that traders were reimbursed following cancellation due to weather warning at last years festival. Consideration to include Ballybricken area in 2024 festival.

3. Reports

C. Hartley, SEO, provided an overview of housing report and statistics, gave a breakdown and explanation of tables on the monthly report.

Cllr. O' Sullivan requested update on schedule for the planting of trees on Main Street Tramore. Requested review of footpaths in Riversdale Park, requested ramp at Train Hill be relocated.

Cllr. Barry requested contact made with owners of Moirs Estate to repair wall which has fallen into council property, requested update on plans for house in Doyle Street. Noted need to address issue of water coming through walls on Manor Hill with increased water flow. Request reapplication of road markings in city centre such areas as City Square and Alexandra Street and update on glass cleaning at Apple Market roof. Cllr. Bailey requested cleaning of canopy in Plaza and brightening up area with flowers and flags. Requested update on antisocial behaviour document to be issued to tenants. Enquired about location of Winterval ice skating rink. Requested update on signage to be installed in areas where prohibited to feed birds or wild animal. Requested engagement with resident at Presentation Gardens regarding drainage issue when raining.

N. Kane, A/SEO, outlined signage Cllr. Bailey referred to not yet installed, will review Plaza.

G. Hynes, SE, will review footpaths at Riversdale Park through Active Travel, review disabled ramp on Train Hill and outlined that gone to tender for road markings with statutory lining to be addressed initially and requested councillors to refer areas of concerns to Area Engineer Alan Kirwan.

A. Kirwan, EE, outlined Bunker Hill/Manor Hill water flow is a result of ground water between rock and wall would require significant works to access a drain to manhole, will review.

M. Quinn, DoS, will revert regarding timescale of tree planting at Main Street, Tramore. Outlined in process of retendering for cleaning of Apple Market and that Winterval are exploring options for moving location of ice-skating rink.

C. Hartley, SEO, will refer issue at Presentation Garden to Torc agency, antisocial behaviour policy due for discussion at SPC, tenants' responsibility outlined in tenant's handbook which has been updated and circulated to all new tenants over last two years. Will refer Doyle Street issue to capital team and noted that Moirs Estate is responsibility of the owner.

Cllr. Murphy requested update on proposals for suitable lighting in Peoples Park. Noted need to make retail spine of City; Barronstrand Street, Michael Street, John Street a more attractive space.

Cllr. Daniels requested that sensor at pedestrian crossing at entrance to Powerscourt is reactivated as there is great difficulty in residents accessing the road in a safe manner. Requested Kilmarragh Cross, Viewmount and St. Alphonsus be reviewed for road repairs. Requested update on development of Munster Express building.

Cllr. Kelly enquired about timescale for completion of road markings on Tramore Road following resurfacing. Enquired if there is adequate accommodation for Ukrainian and other nationalities in Waterford. Requested support in lighting of council buildings blue and yellow on 24th August for Ukrainian Independence Day. Requested update on water fountain in People Park.

N. Kane, A/SEO, outlined consultant to revert regarding bat friendly design to assist in provision of appropriate lighting, construction works on fountain due to commence mid-August.

G. Hynes, SE, outlined road sensor not appropriate use for managing traffic from an estate will review for provision of a yellow box. Noted road markings will be carried out following settling period of surfacing. Outlined there is a programme of works regarding road repairs to be carried out.

M. Quinn, DoS, acknowledged Cllr. Murphy's comments regarding city centre retail spine adding while not entirely in the control of council, that are in process of reviewing city centre programme to work in addressing presentation issues. Acknowledged request for lighting of council buildings. Outlined that currently developing design to reflect historical nature of the building.

C. Hartley, SEO, no specific figures in terms of new arrivals seeking protection continue to deal with numbers as they present.

Cllr. Hearne noted Larchvile/Lisduggan area in finals for Pride of Place Awards thanking all staff for work carried out. Enquired if council are responsible for cycle lanes on Tramore Road and if there will there be engagement with public. Requested update on picnic area at Carriganore.

Cllr. F. Quinlan requested clean up the Kingsmeadow roundabout and installation speed limit signage on Cleaboy Road approaching the traffic lights.

Cllr. Kiely requested that issues of dereliction, rubbish and bollards on Manor Street are addressed. Enquired about role of council in finding tenants for the old Argos store building. Requested that the presentation of Tramore is focused on in preparation for the women's international cycling race, Rás na mBan, which will start and finish in Tramore on 9th September. Enquired about the provision of ebike scheme for Tramore.

M. Murphy, SE, outlined Tramore cycle lanes development funded by NTA and carried out under their guidance, scheme in early stages information will be available publicly in due process. Noted Kingsmeadow roundabout improvements will be under active travel cycle routes for the city. Currently no proposal for ebikes in Tramore. Outlined Manor Street is incorporated in Cork Road Scheme under active travel and will be part of the second phase of the scheme.

G. Hynes, SE, will review need for additional signage on Cleaboy Road.

N. Kane, A/SEO, noted comments regarding presentation of Tramore for Rás na mBan cycle race.

M. Quinn, DoS, will follow up with SETU regarding their project of picnic area at Carriganore. Noted attempts to identify owner of Argos Store to provide supporting to attract a tenant.

Cllr. Ryan requested engagement between residents of Spring Garden Alley and council to discuss ongoing issues. Enquired on timescale of Ballybruckle works. Requested writing to TFI regarding expansion of bike rental scheme to Ferrybank and Dunmore Road area. Enquired if tenants can be contacted regarding incomplete forms rather than returning application.

Cllr. Fitzgerald enquired if pump station at North Quay is on schedule to be completed on time and on budget. Requested footpath at Woodview Estate is reinstated following recent works. Requested review of speed signage at St. Johns Park and Airport Road.

Cllr. Roche requested update on Michael Street development. Request survey on signage entering city adding it's not good quality or consistent. Enquired if there is a plan to improve the water quality at stream in Dunmore East. Requested viewing the city traffic survey tender documents. Requested timescale for Kilmarragh Park. Requested engagement with Waterford Walls in alleviating graffiti. Concurred with Cllr. Daniels issues at Powerscourt feels there should be consultation with residents.

M. Murphy, SE, will revert to TFI regarding expansion of scheme.

A. Kirwan, EE, outlined the process of works at Ballybruckle with timescale of two weeks. Will deal with contractor directly in relation to Woodview Estate. Noted there is traffic calming measures in Johns Park.

N. Keating, SEE, noted received complaints from road users that lights at Powerscourt consistently stopping traffic.

M. Quinn, DoS, engaged with residents of Spring Garden Alley with previous Mayor in addressing issues. North Quays pump station on schedule, advised pedestrian bridge due to start in July. Workshop on Michael Street development will be scheduled. In process of carrying out review of signage approaching city.

N. Kane, A/SEO, outlined have identified pollution sources into stream in Dunmore and working on solution. Noted that targeted graffiti area is not suitable for Waterford Walls.

H. O' Shea, SEP, outlined that developer obliged to reinstate footpaths at Killea Road under conditions of planning and will follow up.

C. Hartley, SEO, noted that in the management of housing applications holding incomplete applications is not effective for either party.

Extension of standing orders for ten minutes proposed by Cllr. Griffin, seconded by Cllr. E. Quinlan and agreed by all.

Cllr. Griffin enquired if area engineer could engage with businesses in Grattan Quay following Bilberry Greenway opening. Enquired if report from EPA regarding Meat Rendering Plant could be requested for planning to review for any breaches. Enquired about building use of construction at Alley Lane. Requested review of CCTV at Tramore Pier following further antisocial behaviour. Requested signage at Bunkers Hill as it is slippery surface.

Cllr. E. Quinlan enquired if Ballybricken could be included in next years Summer in the City programme. Requested update on affordable housing development in Gracedieu. Requested consideration for benches at car park on Priest Road Tramore. Requested council liaise with Uisce Eireann regarding recently installed pipe on Newtown Hill due to complaints of bad smells.

N. Kane, A/SEO, outlined EPA reports are available on website.

G. Hynes, SE, noted comments regarding Tramore Pier. Will review signage for Bunkers Hill and will raise issue as raised with Uisce Eireann.

M. Quinn, DoS, suggested businesses come together with view to putting forward proposal for Summer in the City for consideration in 2024.

C. Hartley, SEO, outlined approval for four affordable housing scheme, progressed sales of two schemes, development at Mountneil Carrickpherish approval of 32 homes 2024 delivery. Councils housing policy and delivery is governed by governments Housing for All policy.

M. Murphy, SE, outlined Grattan Quay is part of Bilberry Scheme and liaised with businesses in the area.

H. O' Shea, SEP, outlined planning permission in relation to 5 Alley Lane, will review and revert.

5. Correspondence

None

6. Notice of Motions

Motion in the name of Cllr. Joe Conway

“This Council requests -in the light of continuing concerns around public transport in the town of Tramore, and the signed disquiet expressed by many residents – that the Minister for Transport ensures that widespread public consultation opportunities are afforded to the people of Tramore, so that changes forthcoming to public bus services are fit for purpose and conducive to maximum possible uptake, and thus to address private car usage and emissions”.

Reg No. MJ/2023/68 (dated 10th July 2023)

Cllr. Conway outlined motion stressing it is vital for consultation in order to have maximum buy in by the people, adding this motion is to impress on the Minister to use his powers to oblige the NTA to consult widely with people in Tramore.

Proposed by Cllr. Conway, seconded by Cllr. Kelly agreed by all.

Cllr. Kiely feels not suitable allowing double decker bus through the route, added widespread consultant is needed.

Cllr. Barry has observed cars crossing over white line feels it would be serious health and safety issue bringing buses into area.

Additional extension of standing orders proposed by Cllr. Kelly, seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald and agreed by all.

Cllr. O' Sullivan noted that other areas should be considered such a Newtown Cove, Newtown Hill and beach area.

Cllr. Griffin suggested Active Travel shuttle bus to alleviate any large congestive near centre.

Cllr. Fitzgerald noted lack of clarity in the changes to the route.

Cllr. Roche noted that adding licencing and bus routes would work better if managed through local authorises suggested writing to Minister stating same.

Cllr. E. Quinlan said it is a badly thought-out plan, should be consultation before any change.

Cllr. Ryan noted that following workshop appears plans are decided upon by looking at maps which he feels is not the correct process.

Cllr. Daniels outlined it is unfair to residents of Sweetbriar and Riverstown with stress of buses going through area or removed.

Cllr. Kelly noted it is unsafe for large buses to drive through the area and agreed consultation is vital.

9. AOB

Cllr. Ryan requested a feasibility study on use of single use plastics in Waterford city.

Cllr. Barry recognised and commended the Waterford Cartamundi workers for the years of service in the company, wished them well in future.

Cllr. F. Quinlan spoke of the upcoming camogie semi-final asked everyone get behind and support Waterford Senior Camogie Team.

Cllr. O' Sullivan suggested over summer period would be ideal time for painting of metal man.

Cllr. Conway took opportunity to convey his best wishes to councillors and staff over summer period.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

Mayor of the Metropolitan District