

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

**HELD ON 14TH OCTOBER, 2019, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,
DUNGARVAN at 2.30pm.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Damien Geoghegan (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Tom Cronin
Cllr. Declan Doocey
Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell
Cllr. James Tobin
Cllr. Conor D. McGuinness
Cllr. John Pratt

Apologies: Cllr. Thomas Phelan

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. K. Kehoe, Director of Services Corporate, Culture, HR & IS
Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services, Housing, Community & Emergency Services
Mr. G. Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads
Ms. J. McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads
Mr. L. McGree, Senior Planner
Mr. H. O'Brien, Executive Planner
Mr. R. Moloney, Senior Executive Officer, Environment
Mr. N. Curtin, Chief Fire Officer
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Liam McGree and Niall Curtin to the meeting

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

It was unanimously resolved that this Council extends its sympathy to the families of the late

- Laura Cliffe
- David Walsh
- Lucia Healy
- Eddie Walsh
- Mary Cliffe

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

None

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of District Meeting held on 7th September 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Pratt and seconded by Cllr. Cronin and agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

None

3. PLANNING LISTS

Planning Lists noted

Cllr. Tobin welcomed report on renewable energy but stated that it only outlines the number of wind farms that are currently in the County, he would like to know the proposed number of wind farms planned for the County into the future.

Cllr. Cronin supports Cllr. Cronin outlining that there are a number of issue with wind farms going forward. Requested what contact has been made by companies who are planning new wind turbines and highlighted his concern with the proposed off shore wind farm proposal and size of the wind turbines.

Cllr. D.McGuinness welcomes report, outlined that in context of Regional Spatial Strategy need to look at micro generation of energy and alternative ways of producing energy. Concerned about proposal of wind farms that will tower over communities while there is minimal contact with community regarding impact of the proposed off shore turbines. New development plan is vital in order to integrate proposals and plans.

Cllr. Tobin enquired about the development in Ballyduff and if the council has been informed of the judicial review on the matter and if there has been any additional detail regarding proposed development in Knockanore.

Cllr. Pratt highlighted his issues regarding set back distance, height, flicker impact of wind turbines and that we are still awaiting review of wind turbine guidelines from the Department.

Cllr. O'Donnell noted that there shouldn't be any turbines put into the Gaeltacht area.

Cllr. Geoghegan concurred with Cllr. O'Donnell stating that locals are having difficulty in getting planning permission yet applications for wind turbines are being accepted.

H. O'Brien, Executive Planner outlined that a planning application has been lodged in relation to Ballyduff and cannot discuss as it is a live application. He confirmed that the court will be reluctant to take action until planning process has been completed.

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined that the application needs to be processed and a decision on a judicial review will go in tandem with the application.

H. O'Brien, Executive Planner stated there has been no additional contact with regard to the Knockanore application and confirmed that a pre planning meeting has been held in relation to the proposal for Ring. With regard to off shore wind energy he outlined that these will be within 100km of the shoreline, micro generation will be taken on board and will be considered as part of the new development plan and stated that the revised guidelines are due before the end of the year. He notes comments in relation to wind turbines in the Gaeltacht area.

4. PROGRESS REPORTS

(a) Environment

Cllr. Pratt highlighted the need to support and promote the 'Take 3 from the Sea' campaign across the beaches and rivers in the county. He outlined the need to have more water stations across the county in order to promote use of reusable cups.

Cllr. D.McGuinness reiterated his issue for inclusion of accessible playground equipment while noting the challenges he suggested that key to unlock the equipment could be accessed from the council offices. Requested amendment to the Beach Byelaws to include damage to beach equipment and defibrillators and asked for fine for damage to equipment to be increased.

Cllr. Tobin congratulated and complimented all towns and villages on their success in the recent competition and the positive effect it has on communities. Supported recent initiative launched on dog fouling in Tallow and raised issue of the need to educate the public on responsibilities as dog owners, he requested more bins for the disposal of dog fouling bags.

Cllr. Pratt supported Cllr. Tobin and asked for update on possibility for additional electrical car charging points in Lismore.

Cllr. Geoghegan raised issue regarding new signage erected at The Pond in Abbesside, it is causing an obstruction to boat owners who use it to access the water and requested signage to be relocated. He requested clarification on the work carried out in the county for the treatment of Japanese Knotweed.

R. Moloney, SEO outlined that the 'Take 3 from the Sea' is a global campaign to encourage people to assist with tackling plastic pollution. He informed the members that the current refill stations were installed following receipt of grant funding and there is the 'Refill.ie' campaign where local businesses have signed up across the county to refill reusable mugs/bottles when presented. He will refer the request for additional locations along with amendment to the Beach Byelaws to the Environment SPC for consideration. He acknowledged comments in relation to the tidy towns. He will review location of signs in Abbesside and have them relocated. He stated that the All Ireland Pollinator plan asks councils to reduce use of chemicals, the most efficient method is a targeted 4 year application and the plan promotes best practice in the use of pesticides by the local authority.

I.Grimes, DoS informed the members that tidy towns groups avail of funding under the Supporting Waterford Grants which are due to be advertised in Q1 of 2020.

K. Kehoe, DoS complimented all tidy towns who achieved awards in the district and highlighted their importance in improving the presentation of all communities.

Cllr. Pratt commended councils support to communities.

G. Hynes, SE stated that dog owners need to be responsible, the council does not have the resources to install and maintain additional bins.

R. Moloney, SEO stated that funding has been received for additional electrical charging units and a programme for their installation is to be developed.

(b) Roads

Cllr. Cronin requested that ongoing issue of flooding on the spring roundabout to Glenbeg is reviewed, fire station in Dungarvan issue with flooding at McDonalds and Crotty's corner in Abbeyside (report due to come back and asked for update).

Cllr. Pratt requested update on Cappoquin traffic calming measures, update on work in Kilbree, acknowledged work in Woodview Park and conveyed thanks from soccer club on work on gates. Outlined his disappointment in relation to the tender for Local Link in that the local provider wasn't successful. –

Cllr. Geoghegan stated that the previous undergrounding of cables in Dungarvan was successful and improved the landscape, he requested the council to examine options for recommencing this work at the Old Bank. Noted that pedestrian access at Highfield still needs to be addressed

Cllr. D.McGuinness outlined issues with storm water drains in An Leacain Beag in An Rinn and requested them to be reviewed. Highlighted re-occurring issue with O'Connell Street and corner of Western Terrace with need for additional lines or plastic bollards to prevent cars from parking there. Asked for any update on correspondence regarding strengthening works at Helvic and need for dredging. Issue with Collins road to Dungarvan College, drop in kerbing causing a problem. Local Link (361 route) not servicing High Road and needs to be included. Concurred with Cllr. Geoghegan regarding Highfield.

Cllr. O'Donnell conveyed his thanks to the roads section for works carried out at Ballyknock Upper. Requested walkway in Murphy's Place, Abbeyside to be removed.

Cllr. Tobin welcomed funding for Camphire Bridge and asked when work is due to commence. He highlighted that dangerous trees are an increasing issue and requested how many notices have issued to landowners regarding overhanging trees. As a voluntary board member of Local Link he outlined how the board is disappointed with the outcome of the tender.

Cllr. Doocey outlined concern over road erosion in Cappoquin and flooding in location is causing ongoing issues and requested update on additional CIS/LIS allocation for this year.

G. Hynes, SE stated that works at Crotty's Corner need to be carried out under low cost safety scheme and will be included for consideration for 2020 funding. The Department has allocated €150k for works at Kilbree and advised that road will be closed from 21st October for a period of 5 weeks and traffic diversion will be in place. Camphire bridge contractor appointed to carry out works at location, planned to carry out works simultaneously. Outlined that national procurement guidelines were adhered to in relation to Local Link tender. Agreed that cables should be undergrounded but is dependent on the availability of capital funding. Previously advised council in relation to process and proposed costs for Helvic, will submit a number of applications for 2020 and will include Helvic in the application and notes Cllr. D. McGuinness request for prioritising the project. The works at Murphy's Place were put in place to address safety needs in the area and was done under consultation with the residents, to remove this would require further public consultation and it was agreed to a workshop to investigate the matter. He confirmed that dangerous trees notices are continually being issued to land owners to address problem area, landowners are responding with action and those that don't are followed up on. Reviewed Cappoquin with Transportation Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and it has been agreed to install traffic calming measures, need to finalise design and submit application to TII for funding.

J. Harty, SEE stated that the gully cleaning programme is underway and currently liaising with utilities to review dropping the kerb and having wheelchair access by Dungarvan College. Clarified that there is no clear outlet for water on the Glenbeg road and currently looking at options to address the problem.

G. Hynes, SE confirmed that there has been no additional allocation for LIS and CIS for 2019.

I.Grimes, DoS stated that Highfield estate was completed as per planning permission, estate management are liaising with residents as a number of residents want the access to remain.

Cllr. Cronin asked for Glenbeg road to be considered for re-surfacing for 2020.

(c) Housing

Cllr. Cronin stated there have been a number of calls regarding anti-social behaviour and requested a workshop to discuss the issue, he asked for an update on the proposed housing development in Ardmore.

Cllr. Geoghegan supported proposal for workshop and asked that the Gardaí are invited to attend.

Cllr. D.McGuinness supports workshop proposal and highlighted concerns in relation to HAP failing families outlining problem where families are eligible but there is little availability in the private market. He outlined that there are a small minority of HAP landlords who are providing substandard accommodation and this needs to be addressed. He raised ongoing issue with boundary wall for Highfield estate.

Cllr. Pratt requested details on when the Strategic Policy Committees are due to meet.

Cllr. Geoghegan requested update on the windows and doors replacement scheme for Childers estate.

I.Grimes, DoS agreed to arrange a workshop as requested. He outlined that there is an issue with the water infrastructure for the site in Ardmore that is currently being considered with Irish Water. He acknowledged issues raised in relation to HAP and outlined that the council does not use landlords who don't comply with standards. The issue of the boundary walls in Highfield has been referred to housing maintenance and he will revert with details on Childers estate.

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined that the nominations from the key stakeholders are due to be finalised by the 17th October, meetings will be scheduled thereafter.

(d) Planning

Cllr. D.McGuinness stated that he has made a submission to the Regional Assembly with regard to the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy, highlighting the issue of the proposed two tier system for Dungarvan, he requested members to lobby for Dungarvan not to be afforded two tier status.

(e) Fire

Cllr. Tobin noted the reduction in figures on false alarms and welcomed this development. He outlined his thanks to all firemen who undertake charity work and requested that this is acknowledged. Cllr. Geoghegan concurred with Cllr. Tobin and highlighted the work they carried out for National Fire week which was beyond their core work.

Cllr. Cronin noted the quick emergency response of the fire service to public events and gave an example of event at Local GAA match, this is to be welcomed and acknowledged.

Cllr. D.McGuinness raised issue regarding emergency first responders and asked how many fire service personnel have first responder training.

N.Curtin, Chief Fire Officer stated the fire service will turn out where HSE requests assistance and informed members that approximately 100 fire personnel are trained first responders.

5. Nomination to Waterford Comhairle na nÓg

Cllr. Tobin proposed Cllr. Geoghegan for the position, this was seconded by Cllr. Doocey and agreed.

6. Correspondence

None

7. Notice of Motion

None

8. A.O.B

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____ **Cathaoirleach**

Dated: _____