

COMHAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE
WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting of the Metropolitan District held in City Hall, Waterford on 18th November 2019 @ 5.00pm

Present:

Cllr. Breda Brennan Mayor
Cllr. Donal Barry
Cllr. Joe Conway
Cllr. Davy Daniels
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr. Jim Griffin
Cllr. John Hearne
Cllr. Joe Kelly
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan
Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Marc Ó Cathasaigh
Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan
Cllr. Jody Power
Cllr. Eamonn Quinlan
Cllr. Seamus Ryan
Cllr. Matt Shanahan
Cllr. Adam Gary Wyse

Apologies:

Cllr. John Cummins
Mr. F. Galvin

Officials in attendance:

Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator
Mr. J Sullivan, SEO Housing
Mr. C. O’Neill, SEE, Roads
Mr. V. O’Shea, AO, Economic
Ms. A. O’Shea, ASO

Vote of Sympathies/Congratulations:

A vote of sympathy was expressed to the families of the late Alison Murphy (nee Tierney), Michael White and Philomena Flynn.

Votes of congratulations were expressed to:

- Eamon McEaney on being appointed Officer (Knight First Grade) of the Royal Norwegian Order of Merit.
- Cian Ó Ciadhla, Glor na Mara NS on taking a seat in Dáil Éireann as part of RTÉ’s Youth Assembly.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes from the Metropolitan District Meeting held on 21st October, 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Daniels and seconded by Cllr. Quinlan and agreed.

Minutes from the Metropolitan Budget Meeting held on 21st October, 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Ó Cathasaigh and seconded by Cllr. Power and agreed.

2. Matters Arising

Cllr. Mulligan requested report on monthly parking ticket query.

3. Planning

- a) Planning Lists already circulated by email – noted
- b) Development of Coastal Walking Trail works from Portally Cove to Brownstown Head – Completion of Process. V. O'Shea, AO, indicated Estuary Coastal Trail Part 8 was from Portally Cove to Ballymacaw Cove and was a change from the original Part 8 Coastal Trail Proposal. Cllr. Kelly was happy that action was being taken to minimise impact on the Annex 1 bird species, he had concerns regarding damage to hinterland and asked what measures were being taken to secure the path to stop people straying. Cllr. Mulligan welcomed the development and looked for updates on funds for the Estuary Opportunity Study. Cllr. Griffin thanked all concerned for their hard work and stated that there was good local consultation. Cllr. Ó Cathasaigh was delighted to see the quality of submissions and congratulated all for their hard work. Cllr. Shanahan asked if signs could be put up warning of steep incline from Portally Cove. Cllr. Daniels asked about emergency access in the event of an accident.

V. O'Shea, AO stated that signage could be erected at an appropriate area in Portally Cove to advise of the steep ascent and also appropriate access for cliff rescue would be made at a number of locations on the trail. V. O'Shea, AO also stated that the appropriate assessments were undertaken regarding habitats and landowners after being consulted were happy with fencing proposed to safeguard landholdings. The Opportunity Study is in draft stage and should be ready by year end.

The completion of the Part 8 with amendments for Archaeological Impact Study and Trail Ecological Report was proposed by Cllr. Griffin and seconded by Cllr. Kelly and agreed by all.

4. Reports

Cllr. Murphy stated that cycle lanes in the City need to be upgraded, they are marked only with white lines and motorists are using them to park and the footpaths in Lismore Park need to be made more wheelchair friendly. Cllr. Fitzgerald asked could a traffic survey be done on the Knockboy Road between Orpens Cross and the Gaelscoil and for traffic calming measures be put in place outside St. Mary's Church, Ballygunner. He queried why yellow lines have been painted on the roads around Dunmore East and asked for signs to be put in place in Passage East to stop ferry traffic from driving through the residential area and asked that the Council have a look at an area in Passage East where a bin lorry had damaged the drain.

Cllr. Griffin looked for an update on the Public Realm Works in Tramore, road repairs at Chapel Lane, Ballybricken and raised concerns with the water coming from a site at Bunkers Hill.

C. O'Neill, SEE said there is a long term plan in place to repair footpaths, he will revert re Traffic Survey at Knockboy Road, will check the yellow lines in Dunmore East and will put up signage in Passage to deter motorists driving through residential areas. The Public Realm Works in Tramore contract has been awarded and an open meeting will be arranged with residents and businesses in advance of construction, the Council intends to commence the works in Chapel Lane shortly and he will arrange further follow up with the owner of the site at Bunkers Hill.

Cllr. Mulligan stated the street lights on the Cork Road by the RSC are not working, looked for an update on the Traffic Management Plan in Arundel Square and Mayor's Walk, the timeframe for re-opening Brown's Lane, stated

that the 3.5 axle ban is not working in South Parade and could we have a look at the Parking Bye Laws regarding residents parking and also asked about the housing development in Slievekeale.

Cllr. Barry asked for better road marking on the Poleberry Link Road, a footpath is needed at junction of Sunrise Crescent/Claremount and looked for trees to be planted at the Dr. Noel Browne memorial.

Cllr. Conway stated that there is serious flooding on the Glen Road, looked for update on Public Lighting on Fenor Road, raised an issue about potholes on Morrisson's Road and said there is a need for all the derelict buildings in Tramore to be put on the Derelict Sites register.

C. O'Neill, SEE said he will log the light fault by RSC, will revert re. Traffic Management Plans, the regulatory signs are in place in South Parade and it's up to the Gardaí to enforce, will revert with respect to residents parking and Browne's Lane is due to be reopened shortly. He will have a look at the road markings on the link road and put footpath on Claremont Road in next year's draft programme and will ask Environment to look after trees in Dr. Noel Browne memorial. On the matter of public lighting on the Fenor Road, there is currently no funding for new public lighting, he will log the pot holes in Morrisson's Road for repair and will speak to Planning re. Derelict Sites Register.

Cllr. Ryan stated that there is an issue with illegal parking in the Applemarket causing obstruction for Spring Garden Alley residents, looked for the roundabout at entrance to Ursuline Court to be landscaped, asked for a report on vacant houses in Waterford South to be prepared and for the Housing Adaptation Grant application to be streamlined in order to speed up the process.

Cllr. Ó Cathasaigh asked for the electric vehicle chargers to be reinstated in Tramore, markings on the road from WIT Campus to N25 to be repainted and stated that the paving at the entrance to Applemarket is lifting and needs to be fixed.

Cllr. Kelly looked for update on traffic calming at Bowefield and on the pedestrian crossing in Barrack Street.

C. O'Neill, SEE stated he will ask the traffic wardens to patrol the Applemarket, will pass on the request for planting on the roundabout at the entrance to Ursuline Court to Environment, the charging points in Tramore will be reinstated and road markings at WIT campus roundabout will be refreshed, the paving in Applemarket is still in warranty will be referred to the contractor for repair and he will revert regarding the proposed pedestrian crossing at Barrack Street and the traffic calming at Bowefield.

J. Sullivan, SEO stated that WCCC overall turnover of vacant houses has been addressed with the physical works having a 4 week turnaround period built in to the voids contract. The timeline for turnaround is also impacted by applicants having to give notice as well as SW Household packages and ASB checks. It is proposed to streamline the grant applications process in 2020, stating that 400 applications are processed each year. Cllr. Griffin stated that a local company can build modular rooms in one day with no planning permission required and that the Council should invite the company to give a presentation Cllr. Mulligan supports this proposal.

Cllr. Power asked that the Harbour Byelaws be posted up in Cheekpoint and Passage East harbours and stated that dredging in Cheekpoint harbour is needed. In Woodstown there is a problem with rubbish from the shellfish farming, he asked when will the toilets be reopened, stated there is a need for extra litter bins and the stream at the southern of beach appears to be polluted. He also asked about the surfacing of an unofficial car park near Geneva Barracks.

Cllr. Shanahan asked when would the workshop be held on the Area Action Plan for Kilbarry, looked for update on plans for the Yellow House and asked how much provision we had for insurance claims.

Cllr. Quinlan asked if we could facilitate business in disposing of their electrical items at a nominal cost. He stated that proper signage is needed for City Hall, requested that Economic Development look at the outside space in Michael Street stating it needed to be developed and cycle lanes need to be re-developed with physical barriers.

C. O'Neill, SEE stated he will get the Byelaw signage erected in both harbours, the dredging of Cheekpoint Harbour is a matter for the Port of Waterford, he will refer the questions of rubbish, toilets, pollution of stream and need for extra bins in Woodstown to Environment. He will revert regarding car parking at Geneva Barracks and will pass on queries regarding Michael Street and insurance to Economic Development. Cllr. Fitzgerald stated it was important to have the harbour dredged and the onus was on the Council.

H. Dunphy, MA said she will consult with the Conservation Officer regarding signage for City Hall which is a protected structure.

Cllr. Brennan asked could a provision for school bus parking be made outside Christ Church N.S., stated there are pot holes in Pearse Park and St. Herblain Park and is looking for road speed survey for Old Tramore Road and Airport Road. Cllr. Daniels looked for update on Taking in Charge of the Paddocks and the possibility of extending public lighting to Passage Cross stating that it is a very busy stretch of road.

C. O'Neill, SEE will pass on Taking in Charge query to the engineer responsible, stated there is a very limited budget for public lighting improvements, will log the potholes for attention and will arrange for a speed survey on the Old Tramore Road.

5. Correspondence

None

6. Notice of Motions

Motion in the name of Cllr. Breda Brennan

“That Waterford City and County Council in keeping with the objective of making Waterford a fair employment area agrees with and endorses the right of all employees to be represented individually and/or collectively by a trade union if they so wish. We would expect and encourage all employers and their representative organisations in Waterford City/County to fully recognise this basis fundamental human right and so not intimidate, harass or threaten the continued employment of those exercising this right”

Reg. No. 43 (dated 3rd September, 2019) - Deferred from September Meeting.

Motion no. 43 was welcomed by Councillors it was agreed to send a letter to other Local Authorities and relevant Departments. The proposal by Cllr. Brennan was seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald and agreed by all.

Motion in the name of Cllr. John Hearne

“The motion is to ask that Waterford Council would engage with all other state agencies and non-government organizations to establish an unemployment engagement task force for areas of Waterford City identified in census 2016 as being unemployment black spots.”

Reg. No. 45 (dated 6th November, 2019)

The motion was proposed by Cllr. Hearne, seconded by Cllr. Griffin and agreed by all.

7. AOB

Cllr. Griffin requested another Housing Summit in the New Year this was endorsed by Cllr. Ryan and Cllr. Mulligan. J. Sullivan, SEO will take request on board.

Cllr. Power congratulated Eamon McEneaney on the honour bestowed on him by the Norwegian Ambassador and asked for update on the Time Museum.

Cllr. Brennan recommended buying ‘Waterford History’ for Christmas supporting local artists.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____