COMHAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting of the Metropolitan District Draft Budgetary Plan held in City Hall, Waterford on 21st October 2018 at 4.00pm

Present:

Cllr. Breda Brennan (Mayor)
Cllr. Donal Barry
Cllr. Joe Conway
Cllr. Davy Daniels
Cllr. John Hearne
Cllr. Joe Kelly
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan
Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Marc Ó Cathasaigh
Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
Cllr. Jody Power
Cllr. Eamon Quinlan
Cllr. Seamus Ryan
Cllr. Matt Shanahan

Apologies: Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald

Officials in attendance:

Mr. M. Walsh Chief Executive Mr. F. Galvin, District Manager Mr. B. Pollard, Head of Finance

Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

The meeting was called to consider the Draft Budgetary Plan for the Metropolitan District for 2020.

The CE outlined the principle figures in the draft plan including the amounts available for allocation to the Metropolitan District. He outlined the members have the capacity to vary the parking charges, at this time he would not be recommending any increase.

Cllr. Conway outlined parking charges in Tramore has remained the same since 2004 and proposed an increase to €3.

Cllr. Ryan requested a reduction in parking charges at certain times to encourage shoppers into the city centre and suggested special rates for the Christmas shopping period.

Cllr. O'Sullivan opposed to increase in Tramore and suggested an increase for camper vans to €10 and would like to consider commencing a minimal charge in Dunmore East.

- M. Walsh, CE stated it is a matter of choice for the members to increase charges and stated the parking volume is not large enough in Dunmore to necessitate a parking charge. He outlined that the current parking charges in the city is fair in comparison to other areas.
- F. Galvin, DoS outlined that the cost of putting in a system in Dunmore and the associated cost to the council would result in a revenue neutral system. He stated that there is free parking in council car parks on Sunday.

Cllr. Shanahan questioned the cost of operation and maintenance of piers and harbours and asked how the municipal golf course is performing and what subsidy was provided by the council. He queried if it is possible to introduce a parking by text system in Waterford.

F. Galvin, DoS outlined that there are a number of piers and slipways across the city and county used for low level fishing and swimming, the budget covers the maintenance of these. Grant applications are made for capital improvements work on the harbours. Parking by text not viable for Waterford but will continue to review.

- M. Walsh, CE outlined that the golf club is an inherited issue and a subsidy is provided. It was provided for at a time to make golf affordable to the general public and have tested the market to see if there is interest in it to run as a private facility.
- F. Galvin, DoS stated that they can review the camper charge increase for 2020.

Members agreed to proceed with budget as proposed.

Cllr. Mulligan stated day to day parking is good and would welcome discussions with the retail committee in relation to parking offers in the run up to Christmas.

The CE agreed that the he would consider a Friday night parking offer for the Christmas period but only in the context of an overall business led promotional campaign for the city centre and with inclusion of the private car parks.

This concluded the business of the meeting. Signed: Dated: Mayor