

COMHAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE
WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL

Meeting of the Metropolitan District held in City Hall, Waterford on 19th November 2018 @ 5.00pm

Present:

Cllr. Joe Kelly Mayor
Cllr. Breda Brennan
Cllr. Davy Daniels
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr. Jim Griffin
Cllr. Blaise Hannigan
Cllr. John Hearne
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan
Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Cha O'Neill
Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
Cllr. Eamon Quinlan
Cllr. Adam Wyse
Cllr. Sharon Carey

Apologies: Cllr. Mary Roche, Cllr. John Cummins, Cllr. Joe Conway

Officials in attendance:

Mr. F. Galvin, District Manager
Mr. B. Duggan, SEO Economic Development
Mr. J. Sullivan, SEO Housing
Mr. P. Johnston, SRE, Housing
Mr. M. Partridge, EA, Housing
Mr. C. O'Neill, SEE, Roads
Ms. B. Stosic, A/SEE Roads
Mr. J. O'Mahony, SP, Planning
Ms. M. Fitzsimons, CO Economic Development

Vote of Sympathies:

Votes of sympathies were extended to the families of:

Elizabeth O'Callaghan and Maurice Shanahan

Vote of Congratulations:

Votes of Congratulations were extended to:

The Art Club in Tramore, Ballygunner GAA on winning the Munster Senior Hurling Champion title and Gaultier Camogie Intermediate Team on being crowned Munster Intermediate Champions.

It was proposed by Cllr. O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Daniels and agreed to bring item number 5 on the agenda forward after Confirmation of Minutes.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

- a) Minutes from the Metropolitan District Meeting held on 17th September, 2018 were proposed by Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Daniels and agreed.
- b) Minutes from the Metropolitan District Meeting held on 15th October 2018 (adjourned) were proposed by Cllr. Daniels, seconded by Cllr. Hannigan and agreed.
- c) Minutes from the Metropolitan Budget meeting held on 15th October 2018 were proposed by Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. O'Neill and agreed.

5. Presentation – Bus Eireann Service Upgrade/Improvements Waterford City

Mr. Mick Faherty and Ms. Sinead Hearne Bus Eireann, Waterford joined the meeting and gave a presentation on the rollout of the bus service improvements being implemented in Waterford City following the award of the tender earlier in 2018. The proposals include the introduction of seventeen new, low emission, fully accessible buses which will deliver an extended service to include Sunday and Bank Holiday services, new branding of the buses and bus stops, route enhancements and real time passenger information.

Cllr. O'Neill welcomed the introduction of a more frequent service and asked that the re-introduction of an Imp type service be considered for older parts of the city. Sinead Hearne stated that it was the National Transport Authority that set the bus routes and that the NTA will be conducting a review of the service in Q1 2019. Mick Flaherty answered questions on connectivity to Tramore, the hospital and others, electronic signage, pay and conditions for staff, training, customer service, the need for further promotion and advertising, safety for drivers, introduction of a night link service and pricing structure.

2. Matters Arising

Mayor Kelly welcomed Cllr. Carey to her first meeting the Chamber and wished her well in her new role.

Cllr. O'Sullivan spoke about the work being done by Waterford City River Rescue Services and requested that a letter of appreciation be sent to. Cllr. Mulligan concurred and proposed that a letter be sent to all local rescue services in Waterford acknowledging the wonderful and essential work carried out by their members.

Cllr. Murphy asked for an update on designated parking spaces for elderly drivers and on signage for St. John Riverwalk. Cllr. Daniels asked for an update on the implementation of a weight restriction on South Parade. Cllr. Hannigan asked for an update on the Showboat site.

F. Galvin, District Manager stated that the question of designated parking spaces for elderly drivers is to be considered by the SPC, that signage for St. John's Riverwalk is in process and a traffic count is underway in South Parade with a report expected in the coming weeks. J. O'Mahoney SP updated on the Showboat site stating that a conditional report has been carried out and that a Section 11 is imminent.

3. Planning

- a) It was noted that Planning Lists were circulated by email

Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended Planning & Development Regulations 2001 as amended Part V111 – Completion of Process

- b) Construction of 50 Houses in An Garrán (Phase 2), Crobally Upper, Tramore, Co. Waterford was proposed by Cllr. Quinlan, seconded by Cllr. Hannigan and agreed.
- c) To provide 2 no. 2-bed Social Housing Units by means of refurbishment of existing vacant properties at 42/43 Doyle Street was proposed by Cllr. O'Neill, seconded by Cllr. Reinhardt and agreed.

d) To provide a 5 no. 1-storey residential building Social Housing Scheme at Ardmore Park/Priory Lawn, Ballybeg was proposed by Cllr. Brennan, seconded by Cllr. Hearne and agreed.

e) Taking In Charge of Housing Estates/Roads – Cllr. Daniels asked about the taking in charge of The Paddocks. Cllr. O’Sullivan asked about the taking in charge of Tramore Holiday Villas which are now used as permanent residences. J. O’Mahoney agreed to discuss further and report back. The taking in charge of Bridgefield, Tramore was proposed by Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Quinlan and agreed.

4. Reports

Cllr. Daniels asked for shrubs to be cut back at Lower Newtown and for lights by the steps at Lower Newtown to be repaired; he also requested information on the proposed works at Knockboy Junction and asked about funds following the storms earlier in the year. Cllr. Wyse supported the request for the introduction of a weight restriction at South Parade; he asked for an update on Fairfield Park, Kilcohan and outlined the need for fencing on Knockboy Hill.

F Galvin, District Manager agreed to follow up on the shrubs at Lower Newtown and will check out the lights at Christchurch school; he outlined the elements of emergency funding applications and allocations following the storm.

C. O’Neill, SEE stated that the works at Kncokboy junction involve the re-alignment of the road and this work will commence in the New Year. It was also agreed to check the fence at Knockboy Hill.

P. Johnston, SRE updated on Fairfield Park saying that no formal submission has been received though talks have commenced.

Cllr. Hearne expressed thanks to the Environment Department for providing spring bulbs and commended V. Butler who assisted with the planting; he asked about the introduction of a bike hire scheme and suggested that a night link bus service be provided during the Christmas period; he asked that the Housing SPC discuss the requirement to provide a consultants letter for Housing Adaptation Grant; he asked that bollards be fitted in the Cleaboy carpark and that Patrick Street be included in Winterval. Cllr. Reinhardt raised an issue about trees at St Paul’s School which are blocking the public lighting. Cllr. Hannigan proposed that the Council consider the purchase a net to collect plastic in harbours.

F. Galvin, District Manager confirmed that discussions regarding the introduction of a bike scheme are underway, he agreed to have a look at the Cleaboy carpark and the trees on at St. Paul’s school; he also agreed to examine the benefits of installing a net at harbours to collect plastic.

Cllr. Brennan asked for a list of available land banks in Waterford, thanked those involved in road patching and asked about resurfacing at St. Herblain/Kilcohan area; she asked for relining at St. John’s Park/St. Herblain Park and Kilcohan areas; she acknowledged the installation of dog waste bins near Couse Roundabout and noted that one had been vandalised; she also asked for an update regarding the proposal to purchase St. Josephs House on Manor Hill. Cllr. Fitzgerald requested that the results of the traffic count and report on South Parade be circulated to Councillors; he pointed out lights at Millars Marsh are out and reported that the ladder at Passage East harbour is loose; he raised an issue with drainage at Brookside, Passage East. Cllr. Murphy asked if Waterside carpark is the most suitable location for the Winterval Ice Rink; he asked about painting the handrail along the flood barrier on The Quay and that the bollard in The Apple Market be relocated.

P. Johnston, SRE updated on St. Joseph’s House outlining that the acquisition was examined but it was difficult to justify, alternative options are being considered; he also agreed to bring a list of land banks to the next meeting.

F. Galvin, District Manager agreed to revert on South Parade when available; he outlined that options to relocate the Winterval Ice Rink are limited; he confirmed that a trial treatment will be carried out on the timber on the Quayside flood barrier at Scotch Quay; he said that the relocating of the bollard at The Apple Market would incur a considerable cost and that the location was determined to accommodate buses. C. O’Neill, SEE outlined that the road marking budget for 2018 is committed but will address the relining of St. John’s Park/St. Herblain Park and Kilcohan areas in 2019; he confirmed that the ladder in Passage East harbour had been fixed and agreed to check with the contractor; he will follow up on the area where the pipe has collapsed in Brookside, Passage East. B. Stosic, A/SEE agreed to follow up on lighting in Millars Marsh.

Cllr. Quinlan raised an issue regarding use of the public pathway in Carrickphierish and requested that additional bollards in fitted in Colbeck Street; he said that utility companies are doing a sub standard job when re-instating roads/footpaths and asked that companies be required to engage with local businesses

prior to planned outages and he asked about the dereliction order on the Grand Hotel, Tramore. Cllr. Mulligan asked that Operation Enable be progressed; he reported use of black tar on cobblelock bricks by Irish Water when reinstating following works; he requested a workshop on traffic management and asked that the Planning SPC consider a Shop Front Policy and grant; he noted sixty five houses at appraisal stage in Ballygunner and queried where they were located. Cllr. O'Neill asked if repeat offenders in relation to traffic fines were brought through the court system; he raised the issue of derelict pubs and asked about the site bought in Ferrybank to facilitate conversion to apartments.

P. Johnston, SRE outlined that the site in Ballygunner for fifty five, rapid delivery units is opposite the Gaelscoil; he said that conversions of the over the shop units can be targeted by the Repair and Lease Scheme and set out that there can be exemptions in these cases; he confirmed that the site in Ferrybank was purchased to meet the high demand for one and two bed units and that options in Ferrybank were very limited so the vacant property was acquired. F. Galvin, District Manager agreed to follow up on Operation Enable with the Gardai and the bollards will be reinstated in Colbeck Street.

It was proposed by Cllr. O'Neill, seconded by Cllr. Brennan and agreed to extend the Standing Orders by ten minutes to allow for the conclusion of the business of the meeting.

C. O'Neill, SEE outlined that contractors opening roads/footpaths are monitored, he agreed to follow up on the Gladstone Street issue; he also confirmed the urgent nature of the work to be carried out by ESB Network during the recent outage. F. Galvin, District Manager confirmed that in relation to traffic offences, repeat offenders are brought to court or their vehicle may be clamped or towed away; he agreed to follow up on the issue in Carrickphierish and confirmed that options are being examined in relation to the Grand Hotel.

Cllr. Griffin asked about Severe Weather plans, he requested tree pruning at Oak Close in Hillview; he pointed out that rubbish bags are ready for collection following a clean up in the sand dunes in Tramore; he asked for an update on the Housing Summit and for deer signage to be erected at Passage Cross and by Jaybees on the Dunmore Road; he asked that the area by Chapel Lane be resurfaced.

F. Galvin stated that the Council had reviewed its Severe Weather Plan and would involve the Civil Defence and other agencies and groups as required. He also confirmed that the trees at Hillview are on the list. C. O'Neill, SEE will refer the request to remove bags from the sand dunes to the Presentation Crew, agreed to erect the warning signs and will check the position at Chapel Lane. B. Duggan, SEO outlined that following the Housing Summit in July, target groups will be spoken to as part of the process, he confirmed that he will revert to Councillors once the process is complete.

6. Correspondence

There was no correspondence

7. Notice of Motions

There was no notice of motions

9. AOB

Mayor Kelly complimented the launch of Winterval, adding that Santa's Grotto has been transformed. Cllr. O'Neill asked that City Hall and other Council buildings light up to add to the Christmas atmosphere.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____