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| **Minutes for Strategic Policy Committee (SPC) Meeting for Economic Development & Enterprise**  **Held in Conference Room, WCCC Civic Office, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford September 27th @ 9:30am** | | |
| **Present (Councillor and PPN members)** | * **Cllr. Pat Nugent (Chair)** * **Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan (Online)** * **Cllr. Mary Roche**   **Cllr. Thomas Phelan** | * **Cllr. Conor D Mc Guinness** * **Maoliosa NÍ Chléirigh** * **Oren Byrne** * **Cllr. Gerard Barron** |
| **Present (WCCC Officials)** | * **Michael Quinn** * **Julie Walsh** | **Finn Brophy** |
| **Apologies** | * **Billy Duggan** * **Cllr. Cristiona Kiely** * **Cllr. Stephanie Keating** * **Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald** | * **Lisa Grant** * **Garrett Wyse** * **David Lane** |

| **Item No.** | **Decisions Taken** | **Responsibility/Action/When?** |
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| **1.Approval of minutes** | * Minutes of Meeting May 31st 2023 were proposed by Cllr. Pat Nugent and seconded by Cllr. Mary Roche | Adopted minutes to be published on website and added to Decision Time. |
| **2.Matters arising and updates** | * There were no matters arising |  |
| **3. Local Development Strategy Presentation** | * A presentation was made by J. Taaffe of Waterford Leader on The Leader Programme. A plan designed by members of rural communities to support the sustainable development of their own areas. Key areas for the LEADER strategy consist of: Economic Development, Rural Infrastructure & Social Inclusion, Rural Environment & Climate Change Mitigation & Adaption. Discussed were the challenges facing rural towns & villages. Project examples of works done to date were shown. Funding streams were discussed and what sectors are not eligible. | Presentation to be circulated. |
| **4. FI Destination Experience Development Plan Presentation** | * A presentation was made by M. Hoolihan of Failte Ireland on it’s DEDP – 5 year Sustainable Tourism Development Plan. * FI is working with Local Authorities to influence visitor flow to Waterford and surrounding areas. Also working closely with WCCC to develop an attraction of scale to bring more visitors to the City & County. * A discussion was had on accommodation shortage, hostel offering and lack of conference facilities. Also derelection and opportunities for those buildings, it was advised that WCCC are actively persuing and tackling this issue. * It was susggested that an indoor food / artisan market in the city would be a big draw / attraction for visitiors to come to Waterford. * A suggestion of focusing & capitalizing on country houses we have in Waterford could be another tourist attraction, also transport links to the likes of Mount Congreve need to be improved. * A discussion on disabled friendly tourism was had. |  |
| **5. Street & Outdoor Dining Furniture Proposal** | * Due to time constraints F. Brophy will present this proposal @ the next SPC meeting. |  |
| **6. Date/time next meeting** | The next meeting is scheduled @ Port of Waterford on December 13th 2023. | **ALL** *Agenda Inclusion Deadline is -7 days from meeting* |
| **7. AOB** | * Requested that the Rural Economic Development presentation from the meeting in May be circulated. | Presentation to be circulated |

Signed by:

Cllr Pat Nugent, Chairperson