

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

**HELD ON 8TH APRIL 2024
at 2.30pm in Conference Room, Civic Offices, Dungarvan.**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Pat Nugent (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan
Cllr. Tom Cronin
Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. Declan Doocey
Cllr. Mairead Tobin
Cllr. Conor McGuinness
Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell
Cllr. Thomas Phelan

Cathaoirleach acknowledged this as the last meeting of the current term

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Paul Johnson, A/Director of Services, Planning, Corporate, HR, IS & Culture
Mr. Ivan Grimes, Director of Services Housing
Mr. Gabriel Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads
Ms. Josephine McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads
Ms. Dawn Wallace, Senior Executive Officer, Environment
Ms. Aisling O'Sullivan, Senior Executive Planner
Mr. Conor O'Neill, SEE, Economic Development
Ms. Mary Conway, A/Head Librarian
Ms. Honor Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

It was unanimously resolved that this council extends its sympathies to the families of the late: Gertie Murphy, Maria Doherty, Declan Palmer, Ger and Eileen Mason, John Dee, Don Mulcahy, Brian O'Connell, Eileen O'Donnell, Seamus Ó Droma, Pat Buckley, Millie Fintan, Ann Marie Quinn, Steve Redmond, Reggie Hayes nee Cotter, Philip Dunne, Pat Walsh, Denis Begley, Austin Flahavan, Aidan Barron.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

It was unanimously resolved that this council extends its congratulations to Kate Veale on recent achievements and being picked for world championships, launch of next stretch of St. Declans Way in Cashel and committee that is involved in delivering the project, win by Waterford Senior football team.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of District Meeting held on 11th March 2024 proposed by Cllr. Doocey seconded by Cllr. Phelan and agreed by all.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Phelan noted Causeway festoon lights still not working and not much progress in relation to the repairs on public lighting, new funding by Minister Humphries and requested workshop for updates on projects to be scheduled.

Cllr. McGuinness enquired if could approach Failte Ireland in relation to any additional budget that could be used to fund a water activity centre for Clonea, requested letter to Department requesting retention of post office in An Rinn, issue of purchase of land in An Rinn by housing department and what it will be used for.

Cllr. Cronin requested update on affordable and social housing for Ardmore and supported issue of post office in An Rinn.

Cllr. O'Donnell supported issue of post office in An Rinn and challenge of getting adequate funding for it. Cathaoirleach supported post office for An Rinn.

I.Grimes, DoS, noted that have acquired site in An Rinn and will be looking at use for it. Ardmore no issue in accessing funding for scheme, currently finalising procurement documentation and committed to delivering the affordable and social scheme for Ardmore and intention to have workshop on proposed projects.

P. Johnston, outlined that Local Area Plan requires local transport plan and consultants appointed, there is no additional funding for town centre management, acknowledged issue of need for community facilities and committed to providing.

G. Hynes, SE, informed the members that the lighting contractor has closed 1500 issues with public lights, received 1200 additional faults and still legacy issues to be addressed. Where public light connected directly to ESB the contractor cannot engage until ESB cut the power.

C. O'Neill, SEP, communicating with Bord Failte and awaiting response.

3. PROGRESS REPORTS

(a) Planning

Cllr. McGuinness requested update on estates in Ringaphuca and taking in charge, enquired if any potential serviced sites identified in district, welcome reopening of Mullaney Abbey.

Cllr. Phelan requested update on Ringaphuca, not many houses being built in the district currently and enquired if any approaches from developer to build new estates on newly zoned land.

Cllr. Doocey noted issue of one off rural houses and need to have joined up thinking between all sections, farm buildings and additional charges and requirements.

Cllr. Cronin planning in the town is an issue in certain areas, lack of water due to deficits in the infrastructure that will cause problems going forward, town needs houses for young people and need to ensure infrastructure is in place.

Cllr. Geoghegan highlighted issue with time it is taking for An Bord Pleanála to make their decision on an application, government need to look at their set up and having timelines for a decision.

Cllr. Nugent noted issue with Dungarvan and no development currently happening, no storm water services on a number of sites, issue with water and as a council need to highlight so that developments can happen. Issue on farmers applying for any development and set of further information that they need to provide.

A. O'Sullivan, SEP, outlined that in order to comply with water directive we are looking for more information with agricultural applications, it's about management of effluent and will update forms so that all information will be supplied with the application and acknowledged that additional information is required. Informed the members that have met with all stakeholders in relation to the Ringaphuca estate, the issue with the pumping station is being resolved which will allow Cruachán and Waters Edge to be taken in charge and other enforcement issues are being progressed. Actively aware of the housing issues in Dungarvan, infrastructure issues and unavailability of land and active land management team looking at sites and potential. We have active pre planning for residential development in Dungarvan. One off housing issue, number of refusals is minimal 5-6 not suitable and are actively working with applicants to find a solution.

P. Johnston, DoS, noted that there are infrastructure deficits which are not in the remit of the council. The planning section provide a good service, land zoning and granting planning permissions. There are a number of planning permissions that haven't commenced yet.

(b) Housing

Cllr. Nugent welcomed 50 new social housing for Fairlane and approval by the Department of Housing. Cllr. Phelan noted need to secure site in Estuary Heights, requested update on boundary at Highfield and welcomed funding for outdoor swimming that is being administered by Sports Partnership requesting consideration for application for sea swimmers at Clonea.

Cllr. McGuinness noted infrastructural deficit and raised need to have Uisce Eireann at meetings to align priorities as they have no relationship with the elected members. Requested update on Shandon and construction of social housing, Fairlane Park, allotments in Shandon and Community Safety Partnership, housing in Sean Phobal, location of community allotments and whether housing development can progress without affecting the allotments. Enquired when can expect confirmation of funding for affordable sites in Ardmore and potential to develop affordable housing on other sites. Requested support from council for family resource centre in Dungarvan.

Cllr. Cronin welcomed 50 social houses for Fairlane and enquired about intention of buying additional land for social and affordable houses in Dungarvan.

Cllr. O'Donnell requested update on houses for Sean Phobal.

Cllr. Geoghegan supported applying for funding for changing facilities at Castle end of Clonea beach. Suggested review of tenancy agreement as noted the poor condition a house was handed back in, need to carry out periodic inspections of tenanted properties to ensure they are being kept in a good condition.

Cllr. Pratt supported issue of need to inspect houses, requested update on delivery of affordable housing.

Cllr. Tobin supported the need to inspect houses and ensure they are maintained enquiring as to what checks are being done, need to investigate and follow up on.

Cllr. Phelan noted unfair on neighbours when houses not maintained.

I.Grimes, DoS, noted that over 6,000 tenancies and is not practical to carry out inspections on every unit, where made aware of issue do follow up on it and investigate, in some instances cannot gain access to properties and tenants do not engage with the council. When take back houses from tenants 20% of cost of refurbishment is dealing with waste left behind. Key issue is that need to be made aware of issues. In relation to Fairlane, received approval in principal for 50 houses by Lidl, in addition to 27 cost rental properties and looking to acquire land in Dungarvan and deliver a mix of housing. Waiting on report on Highfield, noted correspondence regarding water and will look at making an application to improve facilities. Planned to go out to tender for Shandon at the end of Q2. Shandon allotments will be dealt with at CSP meeting, contracts signed and will review boundary, Sean Phobal allotments will need to be moved and will not cause delays. Support any proposal for Family Resource Centre.

(c) Roads

Cllr. Geoghegan noted speed limit on N25 at Bridgie Terries is 100kph and number of complaints about safety on exiting junction. Contact operators of Dublin bus as using streets in centre of town to access bus stops and need to contact to divert. Council needs to liaise with GAA and Gardai to look at parking plan when matches on and resulting impact on Sycamores housing estate.

Cllr. Pratt requested update on footpaths in Tallow, upgrades on playground in Tallow, Villierstown and option for playground in the area, speed calming measures and request for them across the district and need to look at issues in the localities and need to review options. Noted concerns about flooding at West Street in Tallow, can works be carried out in the area and options for future plans for the locality.

Cllr. Tobin requested lights on pedestrian crossing on Main Street in Tallow, Chapel street bollard missing across from entrance to Tallow tyres and water lodging there also, footpath out to Parc Dotha needed, damage to roads as a result of heavy rainfall and need to have plan in place on West Street, requested sign for play school on West Street in Tallow.

Cllr. Doocey support need for flashing lights in Tallow Hill.

Cllr. Phelan note uphill issue of potholes due to the poor weather, ongoing rain is highlighting need for ongoing flood measures to be put in place, requested new pedestrian crossing in Ballinacourty, look at sea wall on Strand Street South. Need to improve access to the Blackwater river and requested timeline for footpath workshop.

Cllr. McGuinness requested a second jet patcher to be purchased for district, R3102 at Mapstown and surface issue and causing damage to machinery, An Cluan lighting not working and needs to be

prioritised, need inspection on reinstatement works carried out by Uisce Eireann in Dungarvan, issue of need for funding for dredging and requested each councillor to raise with government.

Cllr. Cronin noted need to upgrade playground in Clashmore to facilitate children in the area and to cater for children with autism and disabilities. Support parking issue outside Fraher field and need for resurfacing issue along the N25, Burgery roundabout proposal is a vital part of infrastructure and need to put pressure on Department to progress it.

Cllr. O'Donnell noted road from McGraths Cross to Clonmel and Ballymacarbry is in poor condition and needs to be addressed, disappointed with Active Travel and narrowing of road by Park Hotel and need to upgrade other footpaths.

Cllr. Nugent noted lighting in Grattan Square is not adequate, no sightlines by golf course, need progress at Garranbane crossroads and noted that parking meters in town not working.

G. Hynes, SE, noted that due to have speed limit review, waiting on department guidelines to issue before progressing, will look at Dublin bus issue, policy is Active Travel funding is ringfenced for new footpaths and not repairing existing footpaths. Can meet with AGS and GAA regarding plan to alleviate parking issues when matches are on, provisions for pedestrians will reduce parking, have a footpath programme and can have workshop over coming weeks to discuss, priority is dealing with day to day issues as a result of the weather. Can look at introducing autism friendly play equipment on a phased basis and can put programme in place to address. Noted that speed tables are not the solution to reduce speed, need to narrow roads. Noted issue with flooding in Tallow and West Street, outlined that the volume of water from catchment areas is increasing and need to look environmental measures further up the river to address issue. Play school sign will be in place and bollards replaced, note comments regarding water on roads, have programme in place and crews are at capacity and impossible to deal with potholes in current weather conditions and will address potholes when weather improves. Noted that works carried out on Quays to tackle issues from the Blackwater. Will review flooding issues on Greenway, looked for OPW for walls, 4th jet patcher will be in a few weeks, will review surface at Mapstown. Programme in place to improve playground in Clashmore. Burgery roundabout to be developer led, McGraths cross to Clonmel will review, acknowledge issue in Grattan Square and when survey work completed will address and prioritise. Noted that had to revise drainage works at Garranbane junction which will require new Part V111. Acknowledged issues with parking meters, will review bridge sightlines. N25 to Dungarvan to Youghal not included in this year's funding and in interim can do temporary repair works and where deficiencies on skid resistance can review.

J. McGrath, SEE, playgrounds works planned for Lismore and Tallow, contractor for footpaths to commence work on Mitchell street.

(d) Environment

Cllr. Pratt outlined that for the 2019 local elections the tidy towns group in Lismore requested that no election posters were erected, requested for the upcoming elections. Supported by Cllr. Doocey.

Cllr. McGuinness requested update on dog warden cover, provision in law for use of election posters and if areas could provide central locations that would be useful.

D. Wallace, SEO, noted that election posters are provided for within the regulations and cannot impose against it, outlined that one dog warden is currently out on sick leave and others are covering the area.

Extension of Standing Orders for 15 minutes proposed by Cllr. Nugent, seconded by Cllr. Phelan and agreed by all.

(e) Economic

Cllr. Phelan noted need for providing playgrounds in areas with increase in population such as Ballinroad. Enquired about use of €1.2m for playgrounds in capital budget.

Cllr. Doocey requested update on proposed route for Greenway from Dungarvan to Mallow and delay in communicating to public.

Cllr. Nugent noted that 82% of land for the proposed Greenway is in private ownership and challenges to develop it.

C. O'Neill, SEE, noted that proposed route is at feasibility stage, no chosen route, currently speaking to landowners regarding the route and then will go out to public consultation. TII have yet to approve and going through a process of negotiation. Will review provision of playground as requested.

(f) Arts/Culture

Cllr. Doocey requested update on repairs to library in Cappoquin and noted option of temporary location for the service.

Cllr. Phelan commended works carried out by the library service, County museum and asked that get commitment and continue to have access to storerooms in the theatre.

Cllr. Pratt supported issue of Cappoquin Library.

Cllr. Geoghegan numbers who use the library service is evident of the great service provided.

M. Conway, A/C&CL, outlined that the facilities section are working on Cappoquin library and are in talks about a temporary premises if required. Acknowledge support stated.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

None

5. NOTICE OF MOTIONS

None

6. A.O. B

All councillors acknowledged the work of Cllr. Mairead Tobin since taking the seat of her late father James Tobin and wished her well in her future endeavours.

Cathaoirleach thanked all councillors for their work over the term of the council and executive for their support and wished all candidates the best of luck in the upcoming elections.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____