

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

**HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2019, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,  
DUNGARVAN at 2.30pm.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. John Pratt (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. Tom Cronin
Cllr. Siobhan Whelan
Cllr. Declan Doocey
Cllr. James Tobin
Cllr. Damian Geogeghan

**APOLOGIES:**

Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. K. Kehoe, Director of Services Corporate, Culture, HR & IS  
Mr. G. Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads  
Mr. J. Leonard, Executive Engineer, Roads  
Mr. H. O'Brien, Executive Planner  
Mr. R. Moloney, Senior Executive Officer, Environment  
Mr. D. Lyons, A/Administrative Officer, Housing  
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

It was unanimously resolved that this Council extends its sympathy to the families of the late

- Vincent Morrissey
- John Barry
- Keith Kenneally
- Deputy Jackie Fahy
- Tom Hickey
- John Casey
- Michael Carey

**VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

Moe Dunford from Dungarvan for the Breakthrough Artist Award at Newport Beach Film Festival.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of District Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Nugent and seconded by Cllr. Doocey and agreed.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr. Whelan requested support of Bus Éireann in the provision of a bus stop at the Marine Bar and if letter had issued. Asked for update on the development of the tree policy.

Cllr. Cronin stated that there are a number of potholes on Ballinacourty Road and asked for an update on Ballylemon.

Cllr. Tobin suggested that Local Link and council work together in relation to the requirement for bus stops.

Cllr. Pratt asked for update on subsidence in Cappoquin and asked if an application for funding has been made under the Better Communities Scheme.

G. Hynes, SE stated that discussions have been underway with the regional safety office in Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and they are reviewing bus stop locations as part of a national review, Cllr. Whelan's issue will be addressed as part of this review. It was suggested that councillors highlight issues of potholes with the GSS/Area Engineer of the area and they will be dealt with. A meeting has been held with the landowner in Cappoquin with regard to the wall on the N72 and the associated required remediation works and will revert with timeframe for completion. Will look at having roads representation at the Local Link meetings.

R. Moloney, SEO stated it is the intention to develop the tree management policy through the Environment SPC.

D. Lyons, A/AO outlined that they are actively looking at making an application under the Better Communities Scheme.

### **3. PLANNING LISTS**

Noted

### **4. PROGRESS REPORTS**

#### **(a) Environment**

Cllr. Doocey outlined that resident's in Clonea are raising the issue of the lack of toilet facilities on the Greenway, particularly between Dungarvan and Durrow and requested that it is addressed.

Cllr. Tobin congratulated all communities/volunteers involved in local clean ups.

Cllr. Whelan thanked environment section for new bin for dog walkers by GSK and congratulated the Ard Scoil pupils who spoke recently on the need for additional bins and water fountains. Supported work of communities on litter picking and asked if air pollution is monitored in the county.

Cllr. Nugent also supported the litter pickers out on clean ups. Raised issue regarding negative news on camper vans on Pond area and asked for an update on plan for parking and access for camper vans, he outlined that Dungarvan welcomes camper vans to the locality. Highlighted that there is an illegal encampment on Clonea Road alongside Crotty's corner that is causing problems. Outlined issues with sulkies enquiring about who has responsibility for animal welfare and the issue of using phones at same time.

Cllr. Pratt thanked tidy town adjudicators for advising tidy towns committees on how to improve their areas and enquired on the take up of the green dogs walker programme.

Cllr. Geoghegan outlined that Dungarvan welcomes camper vans and it is regrettable that it was negatively outlined in the media. Specific areas need to be provided, the council needs to interact more with camper van clubs in order to expand the number coming to the county.

Cllr. Pratt supports camper vans and need to look at option of a specific location, need to ensure the message that Dungarvan welcomes campers vans is portrayed.

R. Moloney, SEO acknowledged comments in relation to community clean ups highlighting that the council continues to support communities. Will refer issue of lack of toilets facilities on the Greenway to the Economic section. Acknowledged issues raised by Ard Scoil students as part of the Global Strike Campaign and commented that they represented their schools and families very well. The EPA have installed a number of monitoring points in the City and the are looking for additional areas in Dungarvan, The Environment SPC looked at policy for the control of sulkies on public roads and is awaiting progression of related legal issues to finalise. Any issue on public roads needs to be addressed by An Garda Síochána and horse welfare is dealt with by the Department of Agriculture of ISPCA. Anyone who wants to be involved in the Green Dog Walker campaign can contact the Environment section.

Cllr. Cronin supported colleagues in relation to litter picking and outlined that beach clean ups in Ardmore, Curragh and Ballyquin are being organised for Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

#### **(b) Roads**

Cllr. Whelan requested a strategy for reviewing parking in Abbeyside and requested details on Stokes field. Outlined that a number of lights in Gealgue are not working and stated that a pedestrian crossing is needed at McDonalds to address safety issues at the location. Outlined that the poor condition of footpaths continues to be a problem and asked if Minister Shane Ross could assist with additional funding.

Cllr. Cronin supported Cllr. Geoghegan proposal for the development of new sites for camper vans and suggested applying for additional grant funding. A number of calls received regarding the Rhincrew roundabout and people speeding through it and asked if it could be addressed. Outlined that visibility on the Tallow Road during fog is dangerous and needs to be addressed, suggesting cats eyes for the road. Cllr. Tobin support Cllr Tobin regarding roundabout and installation of cat's eyes. Thanked council for work on roads in past month and asked who is responsible for the replacement of old timber rail fencing.

G. Hynes, SE stated that camper vans are welcome in Dungarvan and will review additional locations with the camper van groups. He highlighting that the success of Dungarvan in attracting visitors has had an impact on parking in the town, the new car park at Stokes field is a long term goal and will require capital investment.

K. Kehoe, DoS supported G. Hynes and outlined that Dungarvan is very supportive of the provision of proper serviced facilities for camper vans. Locations have been identified for future development but are dependent on the availability of funding.

Cllr. Geoghegan asked if camper vans don't require serviced spaces will there be alternative locations provided. He supported Cllr. Whelan in the delay in repairs to lighting in Gealgue/Kilrush Park.

G. Hynes, SE will have this camper van issue reviewed as part of the policy work of the SPC. He will review the lighting problems in Gaelgue/Kilrush Park. He acknowledged issues with footpaths stating that there is limited funding but as serious issues arise repairs are carried out on a case by case basis, the budget doesn't allow for significant repairs.

Cllr. Geoghegan outlined that insurers have given a rebate in recent years to the council and suggested that this money is ring-fenced for footpaths. Supported by Cllr. Pratt.

G. Hynes, SE suggested that Cllr. Geoghegan raised this suggestion at the plenary meeting. The issue of the Rhincrew roundabout was discussed with safety officer of Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and their data of reported incidents is indicating that it is not a high priority area. Acknowledged that the Tallow to Youghal road can be visibly restrictive in foggy weather and with review option of carrying out works for cats eyes on a phased basis, will also consult with Cork County Council to address their respective areas. He stated that replacement of timber railings is dependent on who initially installed them, individual cases need to be reviewed for a decision.

Cllr. Geoghegan asked for timeline on completion of works in Emmet Street and O'Connell Street, and update on addressing of the silting problem in Helvick pier and harbour.

Cllr. Doocey supports need to upgrade footpaths and replace railings that have fallen into disrepair.

Cllr. Whelan highlighted issued of lack of parking facilities for residents in Hillview Drive and asked if some of the green areas could be converted for parking and outlined issue with bollards on Murphy Place.

Cllr. Nugent outlined some subsidence on Bog Road following recent works with is causing problems for agricultural machinery.

Cllr. Pratt requested update on extension of public lighting to Padre Pio in Cappoquin and outlined that additional electric charging points for cars in Lismore would be beneficial.

Cllr. Cronin asked if application to Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine for coastal repairs could be used for the dredging of Helvick pier. Asked if additional application will be made to the Clár programme

G. Hynes, SE stated that the road works programme for Dungarvan is currently going out to tender and will be completed late summer. He outlined that the dredging works for Helvick is a lengthy and costly process that will require addressing every 3-5 years. The Council were unsuccessful in its application to the Department of the Marine for funding to carry out a feasibility study and initial surveys on the area. It will continue to apply for funding and stated that the grant funding received was for strengthening works to the pier. The repair of railings will be dealt with on a case by case basis. He acknowledges problems of parking in some estates, while it is not considered a priority he will review the issue. He stated that the bollards in Murphy's Place were installed as part of smarter travel, they are effective and there are currently no plans to remove them. He will review issue on the Bog Road. Public lighting at Padre Pio won't be extended this year and Clár applications are currently being received.

R. Moloney, SEO stated that the climate action fund and ESB secured funding installation of charging points for electric cars for primary routes, the council weren't successful for regional routes but acknowledged the need for points in West Waterford.

D. Lyons, A/AO outlined that they are currently addressing the issue of the illegal caravans and are following due process to move the caravans and hope to bring to a resolution shortly.

### (c) Housing

Cllr. Pratt asked if issues regarding the backlog of repairs to houses has been resolved and if there is a date for the official opening of the Alms Houses.

Cllr. Geoghegan highlighted issue of safety of footpath from Highfield onto the N25 and asked for update on wall at Silversprings.

Cllr. Whelan outlined concern in length of time taken to address repair issues. Enquired if the provision of homeless accommodation for residents in west of county has been addressed. Highlighted that there are illegal encampments by Cluain na Gréine are causing issues for local residents.

Cllr. Geoghegan outlined that there are issues at Estuary Heights that need to be addressed before additional houses are to be developed and allocated. It was suggested that a workshop to address the issues is arranged before the May district meeting.

D. Lyons, A/AO confirmed that the contractor's delays in relation to the backlog has been resolved, the process has been regularised and housing maintenance are fully engaging with addressing outstanding works and tackling the back log and prioritising urgent needs. There will be an official opening of Alms Houses and will revert with details. Will review issue in relation to Highfield. Not aware of an update on wall and will revert. Housing are aware of the issues in Estuary Heights and surrounding estates, the anti-social behaviour team and estate management team are working to address the issues with the community and the Garda. He will revert on homeless provision for West Waterford. He stated that the illegal encampment by Cluain na Gréine is on private land and cannot be addressed by council. He will make the necessary arrangements for the workshop and revert.

Cllr. Cronin supports ongoing issue at Estuary Heights and asked for update on development of site in Ardmore .

D. Lyons, A/AO will revert regarding Ardmore application.

#### **(d) Planning**

Cllr. Tobin outlined his concern with the enforcement notice served regarding the wind turbine in Ballyduff as a result of the outcome of the An Bord Pleanála decision and requested what power the council has in relation to addressing the non-compliance. He asked when the councillors will have an input into the new Development plan.

Cllr. Whelan asked if permission is needed regarding bright lights shining on a private housing estate. Asked for update on hoarding at Railway Gardens.

Cllr. Geoghegan outlined no reports for TIC and asked for the monthly reports to be reinstated.

H. O'Brien, Executive Planner outlined that there are a number of stages involved regarding the compliance of a permission, An Bord Pleanála are currently dealing with the issue to determine the outcome. He outlined that the planning section is waiting for staff to be put in place to deal with taking in charge and will highlight need for the reports to issue when staff are in place. Noted that the hoarding in Railway Gardens is due to be addressed by the developer and will revert to Cllr. Geoghegan regarding outstanding issues raised. It is the intention to commence official consultation process of the new City & County Development Plan by the end of the summer. He stated that the issue regarding bright lights in a private car park is a private issue and not a planning issue.

K. Kehoe, DoS stated that the making of the new development plan is one of the strongest functions of the councillors, there is a set timeframe laid out in legislation that planning will have to work through and the councillors will be involved at every stage.

### **5. Correspondence**

Noted

### **6. Notice of Motion**

None

### **7. A.O.B**

Cllr. Pratt suggested change of time for the May meeting to 11am and that the workshop in relation to Anti-Social Behaviour is scheduled for 10am, this was seconded by Cllr. Cronin and agreed by all.

Cllr. Geoghegan congratulated Jane Cantwell and library staff on success of open library. Cllr. Geoghegan proposed extension of standing orders by 5 minutes and seconded by Cllr. Cronin.

Cllr. Geoghegan stated that he is opposed to the proposal for a directly elected mayor and feels that it will not provide for fair representation of the full County. All councillors supported Cllr. Geoghegan outlining that it will take away power from the Chief Executive and will become a political position.

Cllr. Whelan asked the council for support for a new location for the women's shed. K. Kehoe, DoS asked for details to be provided after the meeting.

G. Hynes, SE informed the councillors that Minister Moran is attending Dungarvan on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April and visit Ardmore and Duckspool, Abbeyside with expectation of a positive announcement.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cathaoirleach**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_