

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

**HELD ON 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2019, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,  
DUNGARVAN at 2.30pm.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. John Pratt (Cathaoirleach)

Cllr. Pat Nugent

Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell

Cllr. Tom Cronin

Cllr. Siobhan Whelan

Cllr. Declan Doocey

Cllr. James Tobin

Cllr. Damien Geoghegan

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. F. Reidy, A/Director of Services Corporate, Culture, HR & IS

Mr. G. Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads

Ms. J. McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads

Mr. H. O'Brien, Senior Executive Planner

Mr. R. Moloney, Senior Executive Officer, Environment

Mr. D. Lyons, A/Administrative Officer, Housing

Ms. M. O'Brien, Staff Officer, Housing

Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

The meeting passed a vote of sympathy for Mrs. Mary Grimes, mother of Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Service and Jack Walsh, former councillor and Mayor of Waterford City 2008-2009.

Mary Kyne

Bernadette Cullinane

Eilish de Paor,

Síle Breathnach

Pierce Butler

Bridget Morrison

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of District Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 were proposed by Cllr. Cronin seconded by Cllr. Nugent and agreed.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr. Whelan requested update on information regarding availability of 1 and 2 bedroom units.

Cllr. Cronin requested update on the TII funding for the council.

Cllr. Tobin asked for update on land in Tallow.

Cllr. Pratt asked for update on pruning of trees in Lismore Graveyard. He outlined concern relating to the reporting system with Killaree Lighting, noting that there seems to be a delay with the timeframe for resolution of a number of reported incidents. He also outlined that some members of the public aren't able to avail of the online system.

Cllr. Cronin highlighted that lights outside of GAA field in Clashmore which had been previously repaired are broken again and requested they are checked to determine if there is a larger fault.

Cllr. Geoghegan supports use of the on line system outlining its ease of use and highlighted that the public can report incidents to councillors who then can log incident.

D. Lyons, A/AO outlined that provision of figures can be distorted as applicants can overlap with several areas of choice and can be repeated in individual areas. The most efficient way to provide information is through the results of the most recent housing needs assessment carried out in June 2018. This assessment provides the figures for the required house types in the county; he invited councillors to meet with him to discuss specific requirements for a particular area. He confirmed that the Housing section will re-engage with the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government regarding the Tallow site when the need arises for the area, it will continue to be re-assessed.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that the full detail on the funding will be provided in the 2019 roads programme workshop which is due to be scheduled, a number of new projects have commenced across the county. G. Hynes, SE stated that the most effective way to report faults with the public lighting is through the web based system. The target is to have faults resolved and closed out within a 10 day period, however if there is a significant issue that falls outside normal routine work it may take longer. The system will highlight if there is a larger problem.

F. Reidy, A/DoS outlined that people who have difficulty in using the online system can ring the Council customer service who will report the issue on their behalf.

R. Moloney, SEO stated that a contractor has been appointed for works in Lismore and is scheduled to commence in coming weeks.

Cllr. O'Donnell requested update on walkway in Abbeyside.

G. Hynes, SEO reviewed Abbeyside stating the priority is for safety measures in the area, on this basis there will be no removal of bollards.

### 3. PLANNING

Noted

### 4. PROGRESS REPORTS

#### (a) Housing

Cllr. Whelan noted that houses in Highfield are being allocated and that there are reports of anti social behaviour in the area, asking when the council will be putting estate management in place for the area. Requested update on Choice Based Letting (CBL) scheme and stated that people are enquiring about the type of heating system installed in Highfield.

Cllr. Geoghegan stated that an update of the housing application form would assist in determining where demand is. He acknowledged and complimented work being carried out in relation to the new boundary wall at Highfield between both housing estates.

Cllr. O'Donnell asked if 3 quotes are required for electrician/plumber in emergency situations.

D. Lyons, A/AO stated no reports of anti social behaviour have been received regarding Highfield. A resident's association group will be set up once there is full occupancy of the estate as is the norm for new estates. In relation to CBL it is a successful scheme and is beneficial in that people get to express an interest in any property in the county. There will be a new promotional campaign to advocate to applicants to support the scheme as it will be the primary source of allocation by end of 2020. D. Lyons, A/AO outlined that the heating system in new houses is a highly efficient air to water system, it will be the primary type of heating fitted in all houses, improving energy efficiency of the property. Regarding emergency works there is a framework in place for the whole county. F. Reidy, A/DoS outlined we are obliged to abide by procurement regulations for the appointment of contractors.

Cllr. Geoghegan highlighted an issue with the CBL system in that people don't know when a house has been allocated. D. Lyons, A/AO stated they are in process of reviewing the CBL scheme and this has been noted for a change.

Cllr. Nugent highlighted the benefits of turn key developments and asked when remaining houses in Highfield will be allocated.

Cllr. Doocey noted that he is receiving representation that forms for the Rent to Buy Scheme are difficult to complete.

D. Lyons, A/AO will request O. O'Rielly to contact Cllr. Doocey directly regarding forms. He stated that the Council is currently in process of allocating remaining houses in Highfield.

Cllr. Tobin stated that applicants of CBL scheme need to be fully aware of the process and need to ensure they are bidding correctly on houses.

Cllr. Geoghegan highlighted that there is a section of roadway on Marquis Drive leading to Highfield that is in poor condition and asked for it to be addressed.

Cllr. Cronin noted that turnkey developments are not as beneficial for small towns and villages and need to look at appropriate solutions for these areas.

Cllr. O'Donnell asked if there will be social housing as part of new planning permission for 42 houses in Abbeyside.

Cllr. Pratt asked when the official opening of the Alms houses will be held.

D. Lyons, A/AO outlined that people cannot be precluded from making a bid on a property, however if a bid is successful and is refused and deemed an unreasonable refusal the applicant will be removed from the CBL scheme for a period of time. Acknowledged that some areas may be better served by smaller capital projects. The Abbeyside development will be affected by normal part V planning regulations for social housing. Councillors will be informed in due course of the official opening of the Alms House development.

G. Hynes, SE stated that Marquis Drive will need to be included in the 2019 roads programme.

#### **(b) Environment**

Cllr. Doocey asked if there is a new policy coming into effect whereby people will automatically be added to the register of electors and raised concern over people being removed from the register incorrectly.

Cllr. Whelan asked who is responsible for informing residents of issues with the drinking water in Villierstown and acknowledged the removal of waste as a result lay-by fly tipping on Clonmel Road.

Cllr. Geoghegan outlined that there are no bins for dog waste at the Cunnigar or Ballynagaul. Requested that report on trees on N25 at Lisfennel is distributed to councillors and asked for another amnesty day for bringing mattresses to the recycling centre.

Cllr. Pratt requested dog fouling bins on either side of link road. Asked if there is a waiver for people who need to dispose of clinical waste.

R. Moloney, SEO will refer question regarding Villierstown to the water section. Outlined that any bin can be used for the disposal of dog waste but will have the environmental inspector review the areas. Currently finalising reports for tender documents for Lisfennel and will circulate to members. The mattress recycling scheme was a particular programme supported by Department of Communications, Climate Change and Environment and will make an application this year for the scheme. Dog fouling on Link road will be reviewed and will get details in relation to waiver for disposal of clinical waste as part of domestic waste stream.

Cllr. Tobin asked if mattress amnesty could be extended to Lismore also. R. Moloney, SEO confirmed it will be included.

H. Dunphy, AO stated that the corporate section hasn't been informed of any changes to the process for automatic addition to the register of electors. With regard to the removal of people from the register it was confirmed that this is done only when instruction is received in writing. F. Reidy, A/ DoS stated that changes to the procedures for unique identifiers is welcomed from a National perspective.

Cllr. Geoghegan requested hard copies of register to be provided to councillors for their specific areas and reflecting the recent boundary changes.

H. Dunphy, AO confirmed that copies along with maps will be provided to all councillors once the live register has been completed.

F. Reidy welcome changes to assist with cleaning up the register from a National policy perspective

Cllr. Cronin requested an update on rural broadband and availability of grants to groups. Cllr. Geoghegan and Cllr. Nugent supported this highlighting the frustration of households.

F. Reidy, A/DoS stated that there is a broadband meeting scheduled with the Minister and will revert to the next district meeting regarding the outcome of the meeting.

### **(c) Roads**

Cllr. Nugent asked if current funding will include safety measures at Ballylemon cross. Highlighted that the lay-by at the Sweep needs to be cleared of overgrowth. Requested that road in Clashmore is considered for improvement.

Cllr. Doocey concerned about flooding at Cappoquin bridge in Ballyrafter and requested – and issue with no access – is there still a plan to raise the road. Issue with potholes at Kilbree

Cllr. Whelan highlighted concern with the right turns off N25 and asked again if TII would re-consider. Outlined that lighting around Cappoquin is poor, particularly around the industrial estate and Padre Pio estate. Welcomed Clár funding and asked if any safety issues flagged in the playground. There is an issue with the hoarding and lighting at Railway Gardens in Lismore.

Cllr. Pratt supports additional lighting for Cappoquin.

G. Hynes, SE stated that there is a separate feasibility report for Ballylemon that will inform the overall project. Aware of the issues on the N72 and Ballyrafter and have procedures in place to deal with areas at risk of flooding. Raising of the bridge is not on the current programme but will review. Regarding the N25 previously advised on outcome of meeting with TII and right turn lane will not be revised if it isn't warranted. Policy and revised procedure of TII is based review of accidents.

J. McGrath, SEE stated that workshop on roads will be scheduled shortly and takes note of suggestions by Cllr. Nugent and will review issue with the lay-by. Will review issue of potholes at Kilbree and stated that upgrading and repairs will be carried out in playgrounds as per inspections.

G. Hynes, SEO will discuss issue of lighting in Cappoquin with the TII.

H. O'Brien, SEP stated that Railway Gardens is not in charge so will need to review.

Cllr. Tobin welcomed traffic calming measures in Tallow and requested driver feedback signs are installed.

Cllr. Cronin asked when Clár programme will be commencing in Ardmore. Highlighted issue with road from Colligan church to the bridge and requested it is reviewed.

Cllr. Geoghegan thanked engineer for quick response to addressing collapsed footpath in Springfield. Highlighted that there are a number of roads in Dungarvan town in poor condition that need addressing - Emmett street, O'Connell street section, road in front of Civic office. Requested review of Western terrace and if a footpath could be added on one side. Noted that the TII advised on requirements in order to progress proposal for Grange, asked that this is reviewed and progressed. Highlighted that there are a number of issues by Cruachan housing estate in Abbey Lane, this is in part due to the development of a number of estates in the area and requested if it can be taken in charge and asked for the area to be reviewed.

Cllr. Pratt asked what is preventing Cois Bride been taken in charge.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that there are a number of issues on the snag list for Cois Bride that need to be resolved before the estate is taken in charge. With regard to the TII meeting for Grange, he will review what needs to be done in order to address the issues raised.

J. McGrath, SEE will look at requirement for additional signage and lining in Tallow. Ardmore footpath scheme is to be done in phases and procurement for lights by Ardmore school has been completed. Outlined that there is ongoing maintenance on O'Connell to be completed before permanent reinstatement works are finalised. Will review Western Terrace and will do temporary repair works in front of civic offices.

Cllr. Pratt proposed extension of Standing Orders which was seconded by Cllr. Geoghegan.

## **5. Presentation – Dungarvan Enterprise Centre**

Presentation given by Aishling O'Connor, Centre Manager outlining the resources available in the centre, the work of the Enterprise Centre and challenges it is facing.

All councillors acknowledged and complimented the work carried out by the Enterprise Centre and highlighted their concern with the lack of support and funding from Enterprise Ireland since 2015. On

the recommendation of Cllr. Geoghegan it was agreed to write to Enterprise Ireland outlining concern and dissatisfaction with current lack of funding. There is a need to continue creating an awareness of the facilities and co-working space available in the centre.

**(d) Planning**

Cllr. Tobin requested that councillors are notified when turbine wind application for West Waterford is lodged and when councillors will have the initial input into the development plan.

H. O'Brien, SEP stated that no application has been received. Due to proposed scale of the plan it will be categorised as a strategic infrastructure project. As part of the process An Bord Pleanála will be obliged to notify the affected Local Authorities and the elected members will be asked for their input. The planning section is currently drawing up timelines for the Development Plan and will inform councillors of this once completed.

**6. Correspondence**

Noted

**7. Notice of Motion**

None

**8. A.O.B**

Cllr. O'Donnell outlined concern over the closure of health centre in Clashmore and additional closures in Old Parish and Ring. Cllr. Cronin support Cllr. O'Donnell stating that the Clashmore Centre closed due to lack of broadband and under new broadband scheme this should be addressed. Requested that a letter is sent to the HSE outlining that the broadband issue will be resolved and request that the centre is re-opened.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

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