

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

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

**PRESENT:**

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

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. K. Kehoe, Director of Services Corporate, Culture, HR & IS  
Mr. G. Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads  
Ms. J. McGrath, Executive Engineer, Roads  
Ms. A. Doyle, 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

- Michael Kiely
- Danny Moore
- Anthony Dalton
- Michael Hanley
- Monica Howell

**VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

It was unanimously resolved that this Council extends a vote of congratulations to:

- Mr Edmond Phelan on his election as President of the Irish Cattle and Sheep Farmers Association

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of District Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> May 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Tobin and seconded by Cllr. Cronin and agreed.

Minutes of District AGM held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were proposed by Cllr. D. McGuinness and seconded by Cllr. Nugent and agreed.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

Cllr. Nugent requested update on Ballinroad, it was agreed to deal with under item 7 on the agenda.

Cllr. Pratt requested update on proposed works to address the issue of erosion on the Kilbree road, lowering of wall by Tournore Park and update on footpaths in Tallow.

G. Hynes, SE stated that in relation to Kilbree there has been a meeting with National Parks and Wildlife and Fisheries and currently conducting an ecological assessment on the river. If the outcome of the assessment is positive work will commence later in the year. Confirmed that works on wall in Tournore Park will commence in coming weeks to lower wall and improve sight lines. Works on footpaths in Tallow will be carried out in the autumn.

Cllr. Cronin stated that there initially had been a commitment for inclusion of footpaths as part of the Ballinroad development and requested an update as part of the motion under item 7.

Cllr. D. McGuinness asked for update on housing proposed for Old Parish. Cllr. O'Donnell stated the houses will be built. K. Kehoe, DoS will follow up on the matter.

Cllr. Nugent raised issue with sulkies on The Strand causing problems to others using the beach. Cllr. O'Donnell supported Cllr. Nugent.

R. Moloney, SEO stated that use of sulkies is prohibited on the beach and is enforced under the Byelaws.

### **3. PLANNING LISTS**

Planning Lists noted

Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended Planning & Development Regulations 2001 as amended Part V111 –Development of a Campervan Facility at Quanns, Ringasilloge, Dungarvan – Commencement of process

G. Hynes, SE outlined the detail of the notification to commence the Part 8 process. Location is at Quanns and requested approval to proceed. Proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan and seconded by Cllr. Nugent.

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined that this is the first phase to develop facilities for recreational vehicles across Dungarvan. Cllr. Pratt welcomed the proposal, Cllr. Geoghegan requested that campervans are written to in relation to the proposal and to request their submissions. Cllr. D. McGuinness asked for the plan to be presented to the council in September.

### **4. PROGRESS REPORTS**

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

Cllr. Nugent congratulated all those involved in the Ravens Rock Rally and the stewarding of the event.

Cllr. Tobin requested a once off bulk collection of large items from households in communities and have it properly monitored for the day.

Cllr. Pratt welcomed the new water station and receptacles at Abbeyside on the Greenway.

Cllr. Phelan requested details on the schedule for emptying bins on Clonea Beach

Cllr. O'Donnell outlined his concern with the privatisation of the bin collection service and the increase in illegal dumping, he requested that the service is taken back by the Council.

Cllr. Mc D. Guinness supported Cllr. O'Donnell regarding the waste collection service. He outlined that there are a large number of environmental complaints that relate to dogs and asked for additional break down. Stated that the cycle and walkway is overgrown and needs to be cut back. Commended the council in its support of the community clean-up.

Cllr. Geoghegan outlined that waste collectors are collecting from 6am in estates which is causing problems for householders and requested that it is reviewed. Highlighted that there has been an increase in the volume of weeds along footpaths and verges and asked for it to be addressed.

Cllr. Nugent noted that there needs to be a balance on biodiversity and how areas are presented, stating that Lisfennel Close is poor. Requested update on letter to the tennis club.

Cllr. D McGuinness supported Cllr. Nugent outlining that Seapark Green is also overgrown.

Cllr. Phelan complimented the environment department on improving biodiversity in the town.

R. Moloney, SEO noted comments in relation to the Raven Rick rally, stating that roads were involved in the preliminary organisation for the event. He will look at a possible pilot initiative with community council in Knockanore for one off collection day. He outlined that water stations have been installed in 4 locations on the Greenway under funding from the local authority waste prevention network, namely Abbeyside, Ballylynch Cross, Kilmacthomas and Bilberry. Issue regarding emptying of bins to be referred to roads. Cessation of collection service was as a result of it no longer being financially viable and the number of customers had been reducing. Outlined that the report on dog control covers a six month period and relates to reporting lost dogs and rehoming requests. Determination on the hours of operation by waste collectors is decided upon nationally and asked for details of the estates where problems are occurring. He outlined that Waterford Council has endeavoured to sign up to the pollinator plan and this means less grass cutting and also reduced use of pesticide. Currently experimenting with the frequency and height of cutting and will continue to review.

K. Kehoe will issue a copy of the letter to the tennis club to the members.

Cllr. Cronin stated that illegal dumping continues to be a problem and is not a recent phenomenon.

Cllr. Nugent outlined that the success of the greenway has highlighted the need for the provision of toilet facilities and asked if a solution could be looked at. Cllr. Phelan supported this proposal.

K. Kehoe, DoS stated that the greenway has been a great success and public toilets haven't been provided for. Will continue to review and look at options to address it.

Cllr. O'Donnell raised issue of the need for a public toilet facility in Dungarvan.

## **(b) Roads**

Cllr. Pratt requested update on tarmacadam for Gallows Hill, cat's eyes on the Youghal road and surfacing in Park Road estate. Highlighted the need to address issue with sightlines when exiting Lios an Óir estate and outlined issue with junction in Cappoquin when coming from Lismore that needs to be addressed.

Cllr. Tobin asked that the engineer and overseer for the new Lismore LEA are present at the district meeting and asked for details of the staff numbers involved in the roads section compared to 10 years ago

Cllr. Cronin agreed with Cllr. Tobin and supported the need to have more people on the ground to provide the service required and suggested writing to the Minister to request additional funding. Enquired when hedge cutting will be carried out, mentioning that junctions on roads towards beaches are dangerous.

Cllr. O'Donnell raised his concern over the length of time the TII were carrying out work at junction into Ring. Road from Dungarvan through Old Parish and onto Ardmore is dangerous for cyclists with overgrown hedgerows.

Cllr. D. McGuinness raised issue with Murphy's Place in Abbeyside, barrier is causing a problem and requested the council to undertake a review of the decision. Enquired if there is an update on the timeline for the commencement of the OPW funded projects at Duckspool. Outlined that there is confusion at junction at Strand Street, Sexton Street and the causeway requesting that lanes are painted so as to provide clear direction. Outlined issue with junction between Western Terrace and O'Connell Street suggesting that double yellow lines are extended to prevent parking.

Cllr. Phelan raised issue in relation to the Square and lack of drop downs to road level of footpaths and suggested review of footpaths. Noted that people not using roundabout correctly at lower end of Mary Street and asked if consideration could be given to putting back traffic lights. Asked for status of safety audit report on works completed on the Square.

Cllr. Nugent noted that the quality of work in the Square is poor in areas and asked for this to be looked at. Enquired if damage to Youghal Bridge as a result of crash was covered by drivers insurance. Stated that connection fee by Irish Water (IW) to the public water scheme for one off houses is costly and prohibitive.

Cllr. Geoghegan outlined his concern over the general condition of footpaths suggesting the need to have own separate footpath programme for the district for the coming years. Stated that junction on the N25 at Grange church needs to be addressed and resolved.

Cllr. Pratt supported district footpath fund and asked for the schedule of the use of the sweepers in Tallow.

Cllr. Doocey supports Cllr. Nugent in relation to the costs of water connections and Cllr. Geoghegan in the need to have footpaths addressed as trips and falls on footpaths relates to one of the largest claim areas.

Cllr. Geoghegan stated that Irish Public Bodies (IPB) have given a rebate to local authorities and this money should be ring fenced for footpaths alone to deal with slips, trips and falls.

G. Hynes, SE stated that road maintenance funding covers repair work on a case by case basis and there isn't capital funding in relation to footpath repairs, this is a budgetary decision by council.

Cllr. Pratt asked for a footpath funding to be presented in the budget as presented.

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined that there is an issue with road funding nationally and outlined that allocating funding to footpaths will result in reduction of the roads budget.

G. Hynes, SEO stated that in relation to Grange the matter has been discussed with the TII and there is not enough development in Grange to warrant traffic calming for the area, he will bring it up again. Outlined that where there is a traffic accident the insurance company is approached in relation to repair. Aware that IW introduced a new charging scheme from 1<sup>st</sup> April that has been approved by the regulator, the cost is determined by the distance to the main.

K. Kehoe, DoS reiterated that it is IW that introduced the new charging scheme and it is not a cost implemented by the Council.

Cllr. Tobin asked if it is national policy that if there is a public main by a house the council will not give a grant for a private well. Requested a representative from IW to attend meeting.

G. Hynes, SE stated that is national policy not to provide a grant for a private well where there is a public main in front of a private house.

Cllr. Geoghegan asked for a copy of the charging regime to be circulated to members.

G. Hynes, SE acknowledged issues in relation to the pavement in the Square and is in discussions with the contractor to resolve. Once all issues closed out the safety audit can be made available, no timeframe at the moment. Issue regarding Murphy's Place has been raised on a number of occasions, can review it and will need to carry out consultation if it is to change. Duckspool works to commence in coming weeks. Applied for funding for Ardmore sea wall, no funding received and therefore no works to be carried out currently. Work at Helvic pier due to commence in September and consists of strengthening existing pier. Ring Cross safety barrier works carried out by contractor and acknowledge traffic congestion caused. Currently looking at junctions on Military road with remedial works for sightlines where feasible. Outlined that the act prohibits hedge cutting from 1 March to 31 August but there is an exemption where there are dangerous junctions. In relation to the recent reorganisation and the second team overlapping the 2 areas, the GSS areas not changed and current teams remain. There is a current workforce that is tied within financial resources and workforce plan and have to work within these resources. The issue of the junctions raised by Cllr. D. McGuinness will be reviewed, hedge cutting on Gallows hill will be carried out and will review strengthening works. Currently reviewing Youghal road to Tallow, gone to tender and in discussions with Cork engineers to share the work that is required. Will look at Lios an Óir issues and will look at junction in Cappoquin.

Cllr. Tobin asked if there is any consultation with the council in relation to the boundary changes. Cllr. Cronin asked for a copy of the boundary change submission.

K. Kehoe, DoS stated there is a national consultation process but the final decision lies with the Minister and the Department.

### **(c) Housing**

Cllr. Pratt asked if there have been improvements in older people and those with a disability accessing the adaptation grants.

Cllr. Geoghegan asked for the problem with the access points from Highfield onto the main road to be addressed and resolved. Requested an update on the building of wall between Highfield and Silversprings. Cllr. Phelan asked for update on the completion of houses in Ballinroad, enquired if agreement has been received from landowners for road widening in order to improve sightlines and asked has the proposed entrance changed for the development.

Cllr. Doocey stated there are a number of vacant houses around the county and owners have a concern of availing of the repair to lease scheme.

Cllr. McGuinness concurred with issues associated with entrance from Highfield onto the N25 as not being safe. Requested an update on issues with Childers estate as raised at previous meeting. Asked if there is timeline for the delivery of new units in Estuary Heights and outlined there is an issue around boundary between Highfield and Springfield that needs urgent action. Stated that there is an issue with anti-social behaviour in a number of housing estates in Dungarvan and asked if the Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) unit have adequate powers to deal with the issues.

Cllr. O'Donnell asked if is cheaper for the council to buy a house rather than build it.

D. Lyons, A/AO outlined that the council is looking at its approach to the dealing with the categories of grants, he will get an update on funding sources and revert. He notes concerns raised in relation to Highfield estate and will report back to councillors with options for a solution. There is no date for the commencement of the wall at Highfield and will revert with details. Ballinroad works have commenced, it is a 12 month contract, the road widening agreements have been resolved and discussions concluded. Entrance on Cushcam side is temporary access to service the site, the main entrance will be as proposed at Part 8 stage and there are no modifications to this proposal. In relation to vacant properties that utilise the repair and lease scheme the council is responsible for all issues that may arise from the property and would like to encourage people to avail of the scheme. There is a plan for the council to resource the required work for Childers Estate, will be looking at a deeper analysis of the properties and reviewing what is required. The ASB unit is resourced and pro-active in dealing with issues, getting results and taking legal advice on how best to enforce the ASB legislation. Stated that the council acquires a number of properties and location and market dictates price.

Cllr. Geoghegan asked what role the council has when there is an encampment on private land.

D. Lyons stated the council can only service notice on council land and responsibility for private land lies with the landowner.

K. Kehoe, DoS stated that encampments on private land would become an unauthorised development and would be dealt with in this guise.

### **(d) Planning**

Cllr. Tobin asked if there has been any correspondence for the proposed wind farm in Knockanore. With regard to the illegal wind farm in Ballyduff asked if the council has carried out enforcement and asked if there has been correspondence with the council about putting up a monitoring mast for a wind farm in West Waterford.

A. Doyle, EP stated that there has been no planning application received or notification on the proposed wind farm. The planning authority served notice on the wind farm operators in Ballyduff and they have applied to make an application for substitute consent in respect of the deviations, An Bord Pleanála are currently considering this. Will need to revert in relation to the monitoring mast.

Cllr. Geoghegan raised issue in relation to Lackenfune, the sale of house not possible as houses not constructed as per planning application and owners have had to submit planning retention. Council are requesting development charges and stated that in this case the charges should be waived.

A.Doyle stated that owners were advised to come in for retention but will review the cases as outlined.

Cllr. Doocey stated that there is a proposal for 200 wind farm off the shoreline and this should be supported. Cllr. D McGuinness outlined that there is an application for a foreshore licence application made. He made a submission that a condition is applied whereby the company would be required to consult with local fishermen.

#### **5. Davitt's Quay - Pedestrianisation**

K. Kehoe outlined report as presented to council and outlined submissions. In conclusion and on the basis of the submissions the recommendation of council to members is not to commence with the closure.

Cllr. Geoghegan commented that the people who made the submission are in the report anonymous. He requested that a copy of all the submissions is given to the members. Highlighted that there is an issue with parking on double yellow lines and enforcement needs to be improved. Need to highlight that there are other free car parking facilities in the town that need to be utilised. Proposed the recommendation not to close the area as outlined this year.

Cllr. Tobin suggested the Chamber should bring together their members to look at the issue.

Cllr. Phelan supports the recommendation and stated that it still needs to be reviewed for next year, suggested looking at a one way system and look at addressing concerns raised through submissions.

#### **6. Correspondence**

None

#### **7. Notice of Motion**

##### **(i) Motion in the name of Cllr. Conor D.McGuinness**

“Go n-iarrann Comhairle Ceantair Bardasach Dhún Garbhán- Leasa Móire ar an Aire Talmhaíochta, Bia agus Mara maoiniú a chur ar fáil chun tabhairt faoi oibreacha dreidireachta riachtanacha ag Cé Heilbhic ar mhaithe le sábháilteacht ar muir agus inbhuanaitheacht an tionscail iascaireachta áitiúil.

That Dungarvan-Lismore Municipal District Council calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine to make funding available to undertake essential dredging works at Cé Heilbhic in the interests of safety at sea and the sustainability of the local fishing industry”

Motion proposed by Cllr. D.McGuinness, seconded by Cllr. Pratt and agreed by all. All councillors commented on the motion outlining the need for the work to be progressed. Cllr. Geoghegan requested clarification on whether the council needs to commence the process.

G.Hynes, SE outlined the start of the process involves applying for the necessary licences and carrying out of surveys. The cost of this is in the region of €150,000 and prior to doing this the council needs to get commitment from Department for the funding before starting surveys. The work will take about 12-24 months and due to the silting the work will need to be carried out every 5 years. Funding has already been applied for and is due to be applied for again in 2020.

Extension of Standing Orders for 10 minutes proposed by Cllr. Doocey and seconded by Cllr. Cronin

##### **(ii) Motion in the name of Cllr. Thomas Phelan**

“That this council commits to providing a footpath and cycle-path to link Ballinroad Cross to Clonea Roundabout in tandem with the council housing development recently started on that road, which is a very busy, winding and poorly-lit road connecting the centre of Ballinroad and the vast majority of local residents, particularly children, to the Greenway, St. Laurence’s Hall and Ballinroad Soccer Club, and which carries high volumes of pedestrians and cyclists who are forced to share the road with fast-moving and hazardous commuter, agricultural and tourist vehicular traffic on a daily basis”

Motion proposed by Cllr. Phelan, seconded by Cllr. Geoghegan and agreed by all.

K. Kehoe, DoS stated that the council will review what is required and determine what needs to be done to address the issue outlined in the motion.

<b>8. A.O.B</b>
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Cllr. Geoghegan congratulated the Tradfest committee and Donnchadh Goff for the event held in Dungarvan. Outlined that need to give provide funding for this event when reviewing festivals grants for 2020.

Congratulations to Danny McGrath and committee for the McGrath clan gathering.

Supported by all councillors highlighting the benefits for Dungarvan.

Cllr. O’Donnell outlined benefits of getting Fleadh Ceol to the area.

Congratulations outlined for Peter Jones, Don Tuohy, Johnny Codd and Sports Partnership in accessing €40,000 for the provision of Skateboard Park for Dungarvan and also the Lyons Club who have committed funding for the project.

Cllr. Pratt asked for all to support the Camphire Horse Trials to be held this month.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

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