

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

**HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2020, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,  
DUNGARVAN at 2.30pm.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. James Tobin (Cathaoirleach)

Cllr. Damien Geoghegan

Cllr. Tom Cronin

Cllr. Declan Doocey

Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell

Cllr. John Pratt

Cllr. Thomas Phelan

Cllr. Pat Nugent

Apologies: Cllr. D. McGuinness

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. K. Kehoe, Director of Services Corporate, Culture, HR & IS

Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services, Housing, Community & Emergency Services

Mr. G. Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads

Mr. R. Moloney, Senior Executive Officer, Environment

Mr. H. O'Brien, Executive Planner

Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

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

- Mary Walsh, Ballinroad
- Michael Lombard, Clashmore
- Petroska (Oes) Lombard, Clashmore

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of District Meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 were proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan seconded by Cllr. Phelan and agreed.

Minutes of District AGM held on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020 were proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan seconded by Cllr. Phelan and agreed.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

None

**3. PLANNING LISTS**

- (a) Planning Lists – noted

**4. PROGRESS REPORTS**

**(a) Environment**

Cllr. Phelan complimented council workers on presentation of the town and recently planted flower boxes, outlined issue in relation to overflowing bottle banks requesting frequency of collection to be reviewed. He

noted that there is an issue with dog fouling on road from Park Hotel to the Estuary requesting additional dog fouling bins to be installed in the area and requested frequency of emptying of bins at Clonea Strand to be increased. He enquired if there has been a report of prohibited tree felling in Murphy Place.

Cllr. Geoghegan highlighted issue of weeds around housing estates that need to be addressed, continued dumping of rubbish into Colligan river, highlighting that 1tonne of rubbish was collected in recent clean up. Enquired if a sensor system can be installed on bottle banks that would indicate when they are nearing capacity and also requested signage indicating where additional bottle banks are located.

Cllr. Tobin asked if the council can check the weighing mechanisms on private waste collection trucks to ensure accuracy when weighing rubbish bins.

R. Moloney, SEO outlined that there has been a 50% increase in the amount of bottles disposed of in the bottle banks in quarter 2 compared to quarter 1 of 2020 and the frequency of emptying has increased and continues to be monitored. He confirmed that the council is reviewing a system of fitting sensors to the bottle banks that will digitally inform them when they are reaching capacity. There is signage at all bottles banks requesting people to take away any boxes and bags and also looking at introducing audio message to the bottle banks in Dungarvan. He is not aware of any tree felling in Murphy's Place and noted that weeds in estates has been delayed further due to the weather but will be scheduled into work programme. Will review funding options for additional clean up at Shandon site and outlined that the council has no formal role to play in monitoring of weighing mechanisms on private waste collection trucks.

Cllr. O'Donnell requested that provision of disposal of cans at bottle banks is considered for An Rinn and An Phobal.

Cllr. Cronin supported Cllr. O'Donnell and requested more dog fouling bins at entrances to beaches.

Cllr. Nugent requested another amnesty day for collection of mattresses.

R. Moloney, SEO outlined that there are a number of units for disposal of cans banks at some bottle banks but will review additional locations. He noted that any bins can be used for disposal of dog waste and will review options for another mattress amnesty day.

G. Hynes, SE stated that he will review collection frequency of bins in Clonea but noted that it is an individual's responsibility to dispose of their waste appropriately and bring waste home if bins are full.

## **(b) Roads**

Cllr. Nugent complimented work carried out on Military road and requested update on Ballylemon.

Cllr. Pratt enquired if drainage work in Villierstown is completed, noted that site at Railway Gardens remains open for access to the public, requested that drain across Mill Road is included in Roads Work Programme. He requested that Irish Water reinstate road properly on Tallow Bridge road on completion of current works, requested speed counters on Chapel Street in Lismore and by hurling pitch in Tallow.

Cllr. Cronin noted that there are overgrown trees in front of public lighting at the Round Tower Hotel in Ardmore and requested that the speed limit in village of Clashmore is extended.

Cllr. O'Donnell requested that ramp and pedestrian crossing is put in place at Murphy's Place, Abbeyside,

G. Hynes, SE acknowledged comments in relation to Military Road noting that works are due to be completed by end of the month. He acknowledged the co-operation of the landowners involved as the works would not have been undertaken without their assistance. He noted that the Ballylemon scheme will be going out to tender in coming months, Villierstown work commenced and outlined that Railway Gardens has not been taken in charge and currently in discussion with planning to progress it. Mill Road can be considered for inclusion in the 2021 Roads Work Programme, Irish Water will have to reinstate road as per the requirements of their road opening licence. He will review options for speed surveys in requested locations and outlined that change in the speed limits can be addressed and adjusted as part of the speed limit review which is due in 2021. Notes issue with public lighting in Ardmore and outlined that Murphy's Place was previously altered as part of the Smarter Travel Scheme as approved by the members.

Cllr. Phelan requested that condition of footpaths by Murphy's Place are reviewed and highlighted that there are a number of lights at pedestrian crossings not working. Requested update on when drainage works and final road resurfacing in Ballinroad would be completed and asked if uneven surfacing on the Quays could be reviewed. He requested if council could assist schools with social distancing at drop off areas in

preparation for re-opening in September. He requested additional surface lining in Grattan Square and outlining of priority routing. Suggested use of undeveloped ground behind staff carpark as additional temporary car park, installation of light weight plastic bollards in front of Dealz and asked if the Quay could be made a one-way system due to parking on double yellow lines and noted that staff carpark wasn't open last weekend.

Cllr. Doocey supported Cllr. Nugent in relation to Military Road and asked what barrier type is being used at road boundaries. He queried if car owners had to pay arrears on car tax while cocooning.

Cllr. Tobin asked if councillors are entitled to details in relation to the type of personal injury claims against the council and the amount paid out in relation to the claims.

Cllr. Geoghegan noted that the number of personal injury claims against the council seems to be high.

G. Hynes, SE requested Cllr. Phelan to provide details in relation to the pedestrian crossings not working, outlined that due to the extensive works at Ballinroad resurfacing will take place next year to allow for settlement. Outlined that Grattan Square is a shared space and the lining that is in place is in line with the guidelines. Repair work can be carried out on the Quay, will ensure that staff car park is open at weekends, acknowledged issues regarding double yellow lines on the Quay and will review. Notes comments in relation to Military Road, outlined that timber posts with wire mesh is the finish used at road boundaries, there is national legislation in place regarding car tax and details on personal injury inquiries can be made available. K. Kehoe, DoS will make number and locations of claims available to councillors and outlined that IPB are running a national campaign in relation to fraudulent claims.

Cllr. Pratt mentioned that rebate money received back from IPB should be used for footpaths specifically.

Cllr. Geoghegan noted that the IPB recommendation to councils is to use rebate for investment in footpaths.

Cllr. O'Donnell raised issue regarding claims in relation to Grattan Square.

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined that they are currently reviewing parking issues on Davits Quay with the Gardaí and noted that councillors from Cork Council recently visited Dungarvan to see the seating in Grattan Square and acknowledged councillors support in progressing this development.

### **(c) Housing**

Cllr. Phelan enquired if applicants have been notified of their allocation in Ballinroad and how many applied.

Cllr. Geoghegan asked for update on wall between Highfield and Silversprings.

Cllr. Pratt number of elderly on list.

I.Grimes, DoS stated that allocation in Ballinroad hasn't commenced as contractor is still on site, expects it will be completed by end August. There were in excess of 100 bids for the houses and he will be discussing modification to the allocations scheme at the Housing SPC. Will revert with update on the wall along with information on the number of elderly on the list.

Cllr. Geoghegan asked if there is much duplication on the CBL.

I.Grimes noted that people can be bidding on a number of same properties.

Cllr. O'Donnell noted concern in lack of development of one bed units in the Dungarvan area.

I.Grimes, DoS stated that provision of one bed units is a problem across all Local Authorities with about 50% of those on current housing list qualify for a one bed unit, acknowledged the need to also cater for the future requirements of people and noted that the issue is being looked at nationally.

Cllr. Pratt noted that 2 bed units should be promoted and those requiring only a one bed offered a two bed.

### **(d) Planning**

Cllr. Tobin welcomed upcoming Planning SPC meeting, asking for it to be held in the chamber with social distancing in place rather than by Zoom.

Cllr. Nugent noted the number of Section 254 applications that need to be processed for the current season.

Cllr. Phelan supported Cllr. Tobin in relation to the Planning SPC meeting, noted Ballyrafter Buttermill at on outskirts of Lismore as listed in recent An Taisce report and asked if the council has remit in securing future of this property. Requested that monthly taking in charge reports are provided for meetings, asking

for update on Heritage estate in Ardmore. He noted that there have been impromptu market stalls set up in Grattan Square and outlined his concern about this and unfairly competing with local traders. Asked for update on Christmas lighting contract and pending report following issues from last year's lights. Highlighted that there are 13 campervans at lookout and also at pitch and putt and while they are welcomed need to ensure that they are catered for properly and proposed development of site suggesting area by Lidl and Aldi.

Cllr. O'Donnell outlined that the Dungarvan Lismore and Comeragh districts need to be prioritised in the new development plan.

Cllr. Doocey informed members that the Buttermill in Lismore was purchased privately and it is planned to restore the building.

Cllr. Cronin one off rural houses an issue going forward and need to cater for people wanting to settle in a rural area. Highlighted issue of houses being purchased as holiday homes which is not assisting rural businesses and asked for it to be addressed as part of the development plan.

Cllr. Tobin outlined that the current plan is not fit for purpose and this plan is going to be a very challenging plan so as to combine needs of both the urban and rural areas.

Cllr. Pratt problem of national guidelines and need to write to new government as rural councillors to outline the requirements for the area.

H. O'Brien, EP acknowledged that the issue of one off rural housing is an emotive issue and there are challenges in developing a policy and plan that caters for all and gets the balance correct. Currently awaiting revised development plan guidelines to assist with the process ahead and development of draft plan. Department currently asking to retain the current rural housing policy and awaiting one off sustainable rural housing guidelines and associated assessments. He noted that it is the intention of the Planning SPC to increase number and frequency of SPC meetings for the term of the development plan review which will include workshops with the full council. Not aware of status of the Buttermill and will revert, he outlined that D.Ó Murchadha will engage fully with members on his return, the Section 254 licences are complex and are been dealt with as quickly as possible.

K. Kehoe, DoS acknowledged that a balance needs to be struck with all elements of business in the area in order to manage all business offerings. Report on Christmas lights is nearing completion and waiting for costs for new investment to be confirmed so that it can be added to the report. Noted issues raised regarding campervans.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**6. NOTICE OF MOTION**

None

**7. A.O.B**

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

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