

**COMHAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE  
WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Meeting of the Metropolitan District held in City Hall, Waterford on 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2020 @ 5.00pm**

**Present:**

Cllr. Breda Brennan Mayor
Cllr. Donal Barry
Cllr. Joe Conway
Cllr. John Cummins
Cllr. Davy Daniels
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr. Jim Griffin
Cllr. John Hearne
Cllr. Joe Kelly
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan
Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Marc Ó Cathasaigh
Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan
Cllr. Jody Power
Cllr. Eamonn Quinlan
Cllr. Seamus Ryan
Cllr. Matt Shanahan
Cllr. Adam Gary Wyse

**Officials in attendance:**

Mr. F. Galvin, Director of Services  
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator  
Mr. L. McGree, Senior Planner  
Mr. B. Duggan, SEO, Economic  
Ms. O. O’Reilly, AO Housing  
Mr. C. O’Neill, SEE, Roads  
Mr. D. Ó Murchadha, SEE, Planning  
Ms. A. O’Shea, ASO

**Vote of Sympathies/Congratulations:**

A vote of sympathy was expressed to the families of the late Dick Hayes, Johnny Matthews, Billy McGrath, Eileen Doherty, Peter Cannell, Margaret Walshe, Tony Sheppard, John Coker, Marie Purcell and Phil Dalton.

A vote of congratulation was expressed to the pupils from four schools in the City on hosting ‘Not a Session’ in the Theatre Royal, which was a great success.

## 1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes from the Metropolitan District Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Daniels and seconded by Cllr. Kelly and agreed.

## 2. Matters Arising

Cllr. Ryan asked about whether an EIS was required with respect to the 5G network and L.McGree, SP said he would follow up. Cllr. Power looked for clarification on the TPO of trees in Kingfisher. F. Galvin, DOS stated that as there was no TPO in place, permission to cut them was not required from the Council.

## 3. Planning

- a) Planning Lists already circulated by email – noted
- b) Taking in Charge Report

D. Ó Murchadha presented an overview of the current status of Taking in Charge on various estates and dealt with questions relating to Bonds, works not completed, public lighting, Irish Water and time penalties. It is proposed to bring the Taking in Charge Policy to the SPC for modifications.

- c) Section 38 Road Traffic Act 1994 – Traffic calming, footpath and pedestrian crossing at Quarry Road, Waterford – Commencement of Process.

Details of the proposed scheme had been circulated with the agenda, F. Galvin, DoS gave an overview of the proposals and dealt with questions relating to the speed of traffic, traffic volumes, footpath widths and alternative solutions. Dealing with further questions relating to the proposal, F. Galvin stated this was intended as a short to medium term pedestrian safety measure and that while a CPO and a larger scale junction re-alignment was the ideal long term solution, the Council could not fund this at present. In time once larger scale development proposals for the area came on stream for the area, the proposals would be re-visited.

It was agreed to commence the public consultation following which the matter will revert to Council for decision.

## 4. Reports

Cllr. Hearne asked for an Anti Social Behaviour Workshop to be held with members of the Gardaí present as he is concerned about the level of anti social behaviour happening in certain areas of the City.

Cllr. Daniels asked for maintenance works to the River walk and also the fountain in the People's Park needs to be fixed as it hasn't been working properly for a number of years.

Cllr. Wyse is concerned that the urban regeneration works in the City are not up to standard as the pavement in some areas is failing and he asked have we any comeback with the Company who did the works. Also he has concerns about the pedestrianisation of Arundel Square.

F. Galvin, DoS stated that the fountain in the park would be a priority for this year and agreed to look at the River walk with respect to doing maintenance works there. The newly paved areas in the City centre were inspected recently and a number of issues referred back to the contractor for repair. He noted the issues with respect to Arundel Square and stated that the Council is open to discussions with the retailers.

O .O'Reilly, AO stated she would raise request for Workshop with the Director of Services.

Cllr. Ryan asked could we extend the '2Gocup' to the city and also can we look at banning single use plastics in Waterford. He also asked about the bus routes to Kilbarry and Lismore Park to the hospital and would Bus Éireann be invited to address the Council. He also expressed concerns at an apparent increase in fly tipping and stated that the roads in Ursuline Crescent and Church Road are in a poor state and need to be resurfaced.

Cllr. Conway is concerned about the state of the approach routes into our City and asked have we been in touch with Kilkenny County Council to discuss same, also the approach routes from Tramore and Dungarvan especially

advertisement lorry parked at the Long Haul Tavern needs to be looked at. He asked if the Council could assist the Green Schools in putting a green transport to school policy in place. The grass needs cutting in St. Declan's cemetery and advised that Sherry Fitzgerald Auctioneers have details of the owner of the Grand Hotel.

Cllr. Barry was disappointed that IBAL singled out Ballybeg in their January report stating that Ballybeg is the largest social housing estate in the country and asked if IBAL could sponsor a clean-up campaign, he stated that local supermarkets should be responsible for all the trolleys dumped in the area. He also asked have the proper fire regulations be put in place for our social apartment developments in the City, looked for the speed ramps to be reinstated on the Old Tramore Road and for the removal of the tree stump in Cherrymount Estate.

F. Galvin, DoS stated the '2GoCup' was recently launched in Tramore as a pilot project and if this is a success, the intent would be to roll it out across Waterford. Banning single use plastics is a National policy issue but following consideration by the SPC, the Council will be bringing forward a Single Use Plastic Policy for those areas that the Council has control of. He has discussed the bus route extensions with Bus Éireann and they are currently awaiting NTA approval for a number of route alterations. In response to the question on fly-tipping, F. Galvin stated that the Council already commits huge resources to litter picking, cleanups, community supports, tackling dumping, awareness raising etc but that unfortunately a small number of people still persist in illegally dumping. The Council is committed to further preventative actions in 2020 including inspections under the new Waste Presentation By-laws. With respect to the IBAL results, F. Galvin stated that he was disappointed with the results but that efforts would be made to address the issues identified. He advised that he had raised the question of maintenance of the Newrath approach road with Kilkenny County Council, would refer the grass cutting at St. Declan's to the amenity team in Tramore and that it was intended to raise the issue of a Green Schools Transport Policy at the Roads SPC meeting.

C. O'Neill, SEE stated they are preparing the Roads Works Programme with workshops planned for each District so priority can be given to roads with most defects and he will look at replacing the speed ramps on the Old Tramore Road.

O. O'Reilly, AO confirmed that Paul Johnston, SRE would confirm that a fire safety audit had or would be undertaken for the Buy & Renew projects at Thomas Court, Manor Court, Barker Place and the potential RLS in Clarendon Court.

L. McGree, SP will check out the legal position with respect to the truck advertising.

Cllr. Griffin asked could the issue of alternate accommodation for the Rogue Gallery be brought to the Cultural Quarter Steering group. He asked could a meeting be set up with the Harbour Master regarding the proposed pontoon at Cheekpoint stating that the locally owned fishing boats need to shelter there in bad weather. He is anxious that housing grant applications are being lost in the system, asked about status of the five houses in Doyle Street and noted there are a number of pot holes in St. Killian's Place. Asked if an action list had been prepared after the Housing Summit and could the Economic Department meet with business people to discuss retail in the City centre.

Cllr. Fitzgerald asked had a survey been carried out on the Knockboy Road stating that it was very busy. The surface on the High Road in Dunmore East is very bad. What is the procedure in advising Housing of a HAP property which is not up to standard and who monitors smokeless coal stating that Tramore is now a smokeless free zone.

Cllr. Quinlan asked if Economic Development could liaise with the St. Patrick's Day committee in Tramore regarding the parade which will have to change routes due to urban renewal works being carried out in the town centre. What was the current position with respect to the former Railway Station in Tramore and what is the update on the Nursing Home in Tramore. He asked about the provision of lights at a pedestrian crossing in Ballybricken and raised an issue concerning a horse dog box parked on the Lower Yellow Road.

F. Galvin, DoS stated the Council would be happy to meet with the fishermen whenever a definite proposal for a pontoon had been made. He stated that there are national standard for smokeless coal quality and the Council undertakes regular inspections of outlets in the City. He advised that the Resident Engineer had been in contact with the Saint Patrick's Day committee in Tramore and he will ask the Environmental Enforcement Officer to check out the trailer on the Lower Yellow Road.

C. O'Neill, SEE said he will check out the road surfaces in both St. Killian's Place and the High Road, Dunmore East and that a traffic survey for Knockboy Road is on the list.

O. O'Reilly, AO confirmed that Paul Johnston SRE would revert to Cllr. Griffin regarding the five units in Doyle Street listed in the Housing report and advised she would ask the Director of Services to confirm if action list was

created from Housing Summit. She advised that Councillors can submit the address to the Tech Team or herself directly to schedule an inspection of a HAP property.

Cllr. Shanahan stated that a lorry has been parked on the Tramore Road outside Woodies for a long time and he was wondering if there were any Bye Laws covering this area as it is a safety hazard. Two classrooms in Gaelcholáiste Phort Láirge were destroyed in 2018 and the school is still awaiting new prefabs and could the Council communicate with the school to discuss. He is also looking for a site visit to Waterford Port stating that it would be very beneficial to see the facilities.

Cllr. Power asked is there legislation in place to get homeowners to cut their hedges growing onto the footpaths, how many fines have been issued for non use of smokeless coal in a zone free area and how far below the threshold was Dungarvan for not qualifying for the smoky coal ban. What legislation is in place for cow waste spilling from transport lorries.

Cllr. Kelly asked could dog fouling bins be put in place on the Cleaboy Road/Marian Park area. The entrance to Cleaboy Business needs remediation works and looked for an update on the roads scheme for the Cluain Lara/Ballycarnane area. He also thanked the Environment Department for the successful clean up of the Mount Suir area.

F. Galvin, DoS stated that the Tramore Road is outside the Parking Bye-law zone and unless the lorry was causing an obstruction to either the footpath or the road, the Council would be unable to act. Legally the responsibility for the proper maintenance of roadside trees and hedgerows rests with the land owner, if details are provided of any offending properties, the Council will take action under the Roads Act. The population criteria for the smoky coal zone is 10,000 and Dungarvan is below that threshold. He will look at providing bins on the Cleaboy Road and will talk to Economic Development regarding visit to Waterford port. Waste emanating from cattle trucks was treated in the same manner as litter and would be pursued if details of the offenders were made available.

C. O'Neill, SEE said he will look at the Cleaboy Business Park entrance and the Ballycarnane scheme is subject to the Low Cost Safety Grants Capital Funding which has been applied for.

L. McGree will discuss the classroom issue directly with Gaelcholáiste Phort Láirge.

Cllr. O'Sullivan supports Cllr. Ryan's concerns on fly tipping and asked could a bulky goods collection be organised free of charge for both city and county. She acknowledges all the work that the Housing department do especially with the vulnerable people. She stated the wall at the slip in Tramore fell 2 years ago and needs to be reinstated and advised that the Economic SPC are due to visit Waterford port when the weather gets milder. She asked has planning permission been granted for the erection of the masts on the Grand Hotel and she wished all Councillors running for General Election well stating that the public need to be considerate when making comments on social media.

Cllr. Mulligan asked what is the price of the weekly parking which being implemented on a pilot basis and looked for an update on residents only parking. He stated the footpath in Johnstown needs to be repaired as it's in a bad state, taxis are coming down New Street late at night and driving down Spring Garden and could we get someone to check this out. What is the update on flood barriers in Passage East and is there a January deadline on the North Quays contract.

Cllr. Brennan stated that the roads in St. Herblain Park are full of pot holes, she is looking for total amounts of faults recorded by Killaree for 2 months, a mast has been erected in Claremount and the residents are concerned for their health and €1.2Million was received for parking in the hospital grounds and she was asking if this was a private company.

F. Galvin said there is a facility for bulky goods collection in the City for a fee and that the Council had undertaken a number of mattress amnesty days in 2018 and 2019. He will revert with the cost of a weekly parking ticket. He will talk to the Gardaí regarding taxi's driving down New Street, will revert regarding the number of public lighting faults and the hospital car park is being run by a private company.

C. O'Neill, SEE stated the wall at the slip is the responsibility of the OPW and an application has been made to them. He is to meet with the contractors on the Passage East flood barrier shortly and will look at the pot holes in St. Herblain Park.

B. Duggan, SEO will refer the North Quays query to the Chief Executive.

**5. Correspondence**

Noted

**6. Notice of Motions**

None

**7. AOB**

Condolences were given to Cllr. Barry on the death of his uncle today.  
Cllr. Power looked for update on the Museum of Time.  
B. Duggan, SEO will revert.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Mayor**

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