

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

**HELD ON 12TH APRIL 2021,
at 2.30pm with members on Zoom.**

PRESENT:

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

Roll call carried out by Meetings Administrator.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. K. Kehoe, Director of Services Corporate, Culture, HR & IS
Ms. C. Horan, Senior Executive Officer, Housing
Mr. G. Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads
Ms. J. McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads
Mr. R. Moloney, Senior Executive Officer, Environment
Mr. H. O'Brien, Senior Executive Planner
Mr. R. Walsh, Head of Enterprise, LEO
Mr. V. O'Shea, AO, Economic Development
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

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

- Francis Mansfield
- Gerome Sheehan
- Austin Fenton
- Kevin Whelan
- Bridget Whelan
- Gerry Kelly
- Tom McCarthy
- Michael Bennett

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

- Walk to Win fundraising effort for raising €5k for local charities and organiser Bob O'Brien.
- Kate Veale of West Waterford Athletics Club on winning 5k race in Czech Republic
- West Waterford Athletic Club for raising €3k in conjunction with Ford's Daybreak for the Heart Foundation.
- Henry de Bromhead in achievements in Grand National race.
- Thank all involved in community clean up at Ballyquin beach which is listed in Top 8 beaches in the country, acknowledging support of the council.
- Thomas Aherne man of the match performance at Pro 14 match against Benetton and acknowledged that recently signed professional contract with the Irish Rugby board.
- All involved in the Mark Dalton fundraising virtual 5k run and wished him well in his recovery.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of District Meeting held on 8th March 2021 proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan seconded by Cllr. D. McGuinness and agreed by all.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Pratt noted reference to Touraneena under roads report should state Tourin.

Cllr. D. McGuinness requested update on application for social housing in Sean Phobal, flooding and drainage issues in Leacain Beag and crash barriers previously requested on N25.

C. Horan, SEO noted no update from department regarding housing in Sean Phobal and outlined that housing are meeting with IW to progress issue at Leacain Beag.

G. Hynes, SE noted currently in contact with regional road safety officer regarding crash barriers and will revert with update.

3. PROGRESS REPORTS

(a) Economic Development

Cllr. Phelan noted the €370,000 funding for the enhancement of existing walkway / cycle way between Clonea Road and Ballinacourty old track, enquiring about the process for rolling it out acknowledging that it is a quieter stretch and asking if there is opportunity to use the funds to enhance connection from Greenway to castle at Clonea. Noted that biodiversity and protection of the flora and fauna to be considered as part of the works.

Cllr. Cronin noted that there is a European Policy Officer in place in other LAs while Waterford has no such position requesting that Waterford puts in place such a position to ensure all funding streams are availed of.

Cllr. Pratt highlighted importance of communicating details of the outdoor dining funding to businesses.

Cllr. Nugent supported Cllr. Phelan and noted need to widen the road in the locality also.

Cllr. Geoghegan noted that the traditional 'wet pub' is excluded from the current Bord Failte grant scheme outlining that all types of pubs need to be able to avail of the grant. Suggested that LEO investigates options for additional funds to assist the wet pub. Supported by Cllr. Pratt.

Cllr. D McGuinness noted contractor appointed for provision of awnings in The Square in Dungarvan requesting details of the awnings to be put in place along with a programme for how they will be installed. Suggested that need to plan and prepare for commencement of summer season suggesting a separate workshop to discuss with officials and Garda Traffic to co-ordinate requirements. Supported Cllr. Cronin's request for European Policy Officer.

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined that council has been successful in securing European funding and have European direct information centres operating out of Central Library. In the cultural quarter Katherine Collins has been successful in accessing EU communities funding and noted comments for dedicated officer.

R. Walsh, LEO, acknowledged additional funding for the Greenway noting there are construction standards for the development of the Greenway to be adhered to and the development will be done sensitively and with local consultation and a Part VIII process. Outlined that outdoor dining and exclusion of wet pubs is national policy and would require specific budget to address. Will be having workshop regarding outdoor recreational facilities and access.

Cllr. Geoghegan noted that ensure lines of communication remain open between council and businesses to keep progress on track and to link with Bernadette Drohan, need to continue to lead the way in this area.

Cllr. Phelan welcomed the canopy proposal and noted that people using tables for takeaway food and need to ensure areas are kept clean and bins emptied. Enquired if there will be area for seating by Minnie's and if loading bay on O'Connell Street can be moved to allow for seating.

Cllr. Pratt enquired if scheme would extend to Cappoquin.

K. Kehoe, DoS acknowledged new location at Minnie's incorporates widened areas and can look at relocating loading bay as requested. Scheme is open city and county wide.

(b) Environment

Cllr. Pratt noted national tidy towns proceeding this year and importance of groups attending online webinar.

Cllr. D. McGuinness outdoor recreation scheme work in vicinity of Abbeyside football grounds, issue of illegal dumping anti-social behaviour and need for environment to have input into new scheme and look at lighting, bins, signage. Issue with rats in general vicinity of Abbeyside enquiring when issue will be addressed, thanked department for assisting communities for cleaning up of their areas.

Cllr. Nugent requested mattress amnesty update.

Cllr. Phelan welcomed running of the tidy town's competition noting difficulty in adjudicating on submissions of only photos and also difficulty in groups carrying out clean ups in current restrictions. Enquired about timeline to dealing with rodent issue in Abbeyside. Noted that Park and lookout are in great condition, outlined that bins in the Square are not big enough and suggested the installation of the compactor bins. Enquired if there are plans for planting along Youghal road suggesting biodiversity planting.

Cllr. Geoghegan thanked officials for dealing with rodent problem.

Cllr. Tobin outlined need for tax on plastic coffee cups as increase in the littering of county with them.

R. Moloney, SEO outlined that webinar for tidy towns is to facilitate groups with the application process, outdoor recreation scheme construction by environment department and will address the issues as outlined. Noted the rodent issue at Seafront and planning to have the area investigated and issue resolved. No indication of details for mattress amnesty. Acknowledged clean ups by a lot of excellent community groups and families to address the problem, very encouraging to see people and council happy to support all efforts by groups. Will review the issue with bins in Square and will examine the cleaning schedule for the area, Department have carried out consultation process in relation to tax on coffee cups and awaiting outcome. Also, a public consultation process underway on deposit return scheme.

(c) Housing

Cllr. Tobin noted that in Knockanore there is a site suitable for 4 houses, site is left vacant and would like it to be developed.

Cllr. Doocey requested a workshop to discuss how people are allocated houses and anti-social behaviour.

Cllr. D. McGuinness noted 48 houses funding for deep retrofitting by WCCC welcomed and number of council owned estates in West Waterford that haven't had any investment requesting the funding is ring fenced for this area. Enquired about dogs that can be kept in social houses as there are many reps about the danger posed by dogs homed in unsuitable areas. Requested update on ASB workshop. Council homeless services, noted excellent services but not always accessible and there is a deficit of access to these facilities in West Waterford, requesting outreach service for the area.

Cllr. Geoghegan enquired about provision of affordable housing schemes for Dungarvan, will council apply for serviced site funding or is there a preference for turnkey development.

Cllr. Pratt concurred with Cllr. D. McGuinness regarding homeless service and need for provision of services in Dungarvan, acknowledge start of retrofitting of houses and need to tackle the houses in West Waterford.

Cllr. Cronin supports need to discuss anti-social behaviour and need workshop once a quarter to discuss it.

Cllr. Phelan requested update on ASB and suggested inclusion of issue of dangerous dogs, what breeds allowed and how to manage the issues. Requested follow up on widening of road in Ballinroad, details of process of what happens with out of hours homelessness emergency situation.

Cllr. Nugent enquired about the housing stock in the district as to when unit's changeover how long it takes to refit and relet.

C. Horan, SEO will revert with details on site in Knockanore and will have date for ASB workshop shortly and will include the keeping of dogs, allocation policy as requested. Success of current homeless services as set up is that it is a one stop shop with a multi-agency approach, will compile statistics as to use of service by people from the West of the county. Feasibility of replicating as an outreach service is difficult, noting there is excellent phone support along with housing staff in Dungarvan that can assist and advise.

There are a number of emergency beds in both city and county. Will revert with details on footpath in Ballinroad and details of affordable housing. Movement of properties and time for reletting is good. Energy retrofitting is based on the allocation, allocation for all counties is small and one of the criteria is to do a range of properties and allocation in future years will be more substantial and the intention is that it will be a ten-year programme. This is a year to learn how to roll out programme and replicate across county.

Cllr. Geoghegan outlined there is a rule to not have maintenance carried out if in substantial arrears and enquired will this be the case with the retrofitting.

C. Horan, SEO noted that the full terms need to be clarified but this may be included for consideration.

(d) Planning

Cllr. Phelan asked if there are any reasons why the Dungarvan Lismore district is the only district last month where planning applications have reduced, is it lack of sites or serviced lands etc. Enquired about next steps regarding application for piggery in Ballinamult where further information requested. Noted that no response from planning enforcement regarding issue in the Burgery since last December and enquired if council is abiding by all necessary rules and legislation in responding to queries.

Cllr. Geoghegan noted issue at Burgery is not satisfactory and response to residents in An Cruachán is needed.

Cllr. Cronin supports Cllr. Geoghegan and the need to progress matter.

H. O'Brien, SEP noted aware of the issue at the Burgery, and the enforcement team have reviewed and progressing with housing and will revert with update.

C. Horan, SEO confirmed that housing authority are working to resolve the issue at the Burgery, a number of residents in locality are on housing list and looking to find alternative accommodation.

H. O'Brien, SEP, outlined that when response on further information is received a decision is due in four weeks. No explanation for reduction in planning applications noting it is a cyclical process and not as a result of any changes to planning policy.

(e) Roads

Cllr. Cronin enquired about road from town out to Glenbeg School requesting council to meet with landowners to rectify issue. Noted that road from Twomilebridge to Ringcross in poor state and needs to be reviewed. Supports section 38 in connection with pedestrian crossing in Ardmore, tender for OPW for beach front in Ardmore noting surveys carried out previously.

Cllr. Pratt requested update on works outside Casey tyre centre and how work on Tallow Bridge is progressing.

Cllr. Nugent noted €100k transferred to road between Glenbeg and Dungarvan and outside this area there is safety measures to go in and enquired when this will happen.

Cllr. O'Donnell noted that there is no area in Dungarvan to dispose of materials from site cleaning of roads and can this be rectified, thanked engineers and staff for works carried out in Old Parish and Ring.

Cllr. Geoghegan asked for survey to be carried out on coastal wall, outlined that spaces on Richard A. Walsh street for driver instructors moved and reduced to 4 spaces to accommodate bus bay requesting it to be extended. Lack of public lighting on oldest street Parsley Lane in Dungarvan to be reviewed. Noted condition of road from top of Church street to lookout and needs to be addressed.

Cllr. Phelan enquired when council will back to line road from cross to roundabout at Ballinroad, coast road to castle end of Clonea if could mark out areas for walkers. Enquired when work on Scanlon's Yard will be completed and if plans for the work could be circulated. Ballinacourty pier at low tide needs to be reviewed. Continuing issue with overflowing bins in Clonea and asked when bigger bins will be back on beaches.

Cllr. D. McGuinness noted fencing on side of the footpath by the pedestrian crossing by Kilrush roundabout needs to be reviewed as where fencing terminates it forces pedestrians off the footpath. New footpath in An Rinn is excellent, outlining where it terminates at entrance to park is steep and causing people to misstep. Requested cats' eyes in new road in Sean Phobal and supports issue raised regarding driving test area.

Cllr. Tobin asked if slip roads are being removed without consultation and what is the reason for it.

G. Hynes, SE noted junction realigned and slip road removed as a safety measure under TII safety funding, was necessary and will reduce impact and risk of fatalities. Will meet with landowners in Glenbeg, have carried out some repair works on Canal Road noting the road is under pressure structurally and needs significant funding to improve and have included it for funding under climate adaptation scheme and awaiting response. Note comment regarding Ardmore and S38, coastal erosion assessment out for tender for Ardmore as requested by OPOW as need to assess impact of the works on the beach, will take about six months to complete. Cases in Tallow will be done as part of roads work programme and currently finalising dates. Tallow Bridge included in bridge programme and works dependent on appointment of contractor. Agreed that linears will be installed along the Bog Road in the location of the drop to the stream. Outlined that require a permit to dispose of subsoil and topsoil and currently use site in Lismore, some new applications coming in for vicinity of Dungarvan and once approved will provide other options. Issues regarding seawalls, climate adaptation funding coming from Department and need this to address issues along the coastline. Advised the RSA regarding the parking spaces and costs for extending area and will liaise with them to revisit. Note issue regarding public lighting. Will look at temporary repair works for Church Street to the Lookout. Ballinacourty pier included in funding application. Current policy and priority for cat's eyes is to install on regional roads in the first instance and then move to local roads.

J. McGrath, SEE, outlined have met landowners on Glenbeg Road and will meet others to establish what is required for long term plan. Constantly trying to upgrade lining and will include and look at road to Clonea Beach and additional lining requirements as outlined. Scanlon's Yard work progressing and will include widening of car park spaces. Sufficient bins in Clonea and will review how it progresses over the summer period. Note comment on footpath in Ring and will review along with pedestrian crossing at Kilrush.

4. COIS TRA DUNGARVAN MOTORHOMES, MOTOR & CAMPERVAN PARKING BYELAWS 2021

G. Hynes, SE outlined that the Byelaws as presented are to give the legal basis for the operation of the nine spaces developed at Quanns field beside the Sports Centre, went on display on 10th February with 23rd March closing date for submissions. Report outlined 2 submissions received and acknowledged there were 3 received, noting apologies for omission of 3rd submission from Cllr. Phelan. Phoenix motor home requested lower €10 fee for low season, recommending the maximum fee will be €10 for 24hours and reduced downwards for low season by executive order. Submission by Críostóir Ó Faoláin that all signage, tickets are bilingual. Omitted submission from Cllr. Phelan and outlined that he suggested in Byelaws not to use tables chairs etc, response that not to introduce a fixed penalty for this as will be covered by Parking Byelaws. Also suggested restrictions regarding to noise, recommendations not to introduce fixed penalty but will review after up and running. Waste disposal covered under litter act, parking outside of designated areas will be dealt with under parking byelaws. Recommendation not to introduce fixed penalty but to review and see how areas develop.

Recommendation to adopt the byelaws with one revision for minimum charge to be introduced for low season at the recommendation of the executive.

Proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan and seconded by Cllr. Cronin. Cllr. Phelan noted no issue with clerical oversight and abstained in his support due to his doubts and concerns.

5. CROSSBRIDGE STREET – ONE WAY SYSTEM TRAFFIC PROPOSAL

G. Hynes, SE outlined that this area is dealt with by executive function. On basis of submissions received it is proposed to amend the traffic noting that change will be one way from The Square down to Davitt's Quay and will reverse flow of direction as originally presented.

6. SECTION 38 ROAD TRAFFIC ACT 1994 – TRAFFIC CALMING SCHEME L-3012

Cllr. Phelan proposed and requested support of the members for the proposal, noting support of landowner Michael Keane and the positive impact it will have for Garranbane School.

Cllr. Geoghegan seconded proposal, highlighting need to continue to improve links between Garranbane and Ballinroad.

G. Hynes, SE reiterated and acknowledged co-operation of landowner Michael Keane whom without his support wouldn't have been able to proceed and deliver the traffic calming scheme as presented.

7. DUNGARVAN OUTDOOR SEATING PROPOSAL 2021

K. Kehoe, DoS outlined the details of the proposed outdoor seating and canopies for Dungarvan. Noted have consulted with businesses as to the needs for the area and outlined that that Waterford along with Cork City and Dun Laoghaire are the only authorities that rolled this out to any extent t the to give supports to the businesses in the towns. Noted new area in the green area by the Castle which will be offered to the three local businesses in the area, namely 360 Cookhouse, Tannery and Crews. Also looking at windbreakers and additional planters.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

None

9. NOTICE OF MOTION

None

10. A.O. B

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____