

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

COUNCIL MEETING HELD on 11th December, 2014

PRESENT:

Cllr. James Tobin, Mayor	Cllr. Joe Kelly
Cllr. Liam Brazil	Cllr. Eddie Mulligan
Cllr. Breda Brennan	Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Mary Butler	Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. John Carey	Cllr. John O'Leary
Cllr. Joe Conway	Cllr. Cha O'Neill
Cllr. Tom Cronin	Cllr. Michael J O'Ryan
Cllr. Davy Daniels	Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
Cllr. Declan Doocey	Cllr. Seanie Power
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan	Cllr. Sean Reinhardt
Cllr. Blaise Hannigan	Cllr. Mary Roche
Cllr. John Hearne	Cllr. Siobhán Whelan
Cllr. Jim Griffin	Cllr. Adam Gary Wyse

APOLOGIES:

Cllr. Quinlan
Cllr. Cummins
Cllr. O'Donnell
Cllr. Clune

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. M. Walsh, Chief Executive
Mr. J. Murphy, Head of Finance
Mr. M. Quinn, Director of Service Housing, Community & Culture
Mr. P. Daly, A/Director of Service Roads HR & Emergency Services
Mr. L. Power, Director of Service Economic Development
Mr. F. Galvin, Director of Service Environment and Water
Mr. B. White, Director of Service Planning & Corporate Affairs
Mr. E. Ruane, Meetings Administrator
Ms. A. Jacob, Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

A vote of sympathy was expressed to those bereaved by the deaths of:

John (Johnny) Prendergast
Paddy Costello
Eddie Doyle
Joe Morrissey
Noel O'Neill
Helen Cobbe
Bridget Relf

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations were extended to the following:

Modeligo GAA for their Munster success.
Interval Committee for the outstanding event.
Moe Dunford, Actor, Berlin Film Festival.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of meeting held on 13th November 2014 were proposed by Cllr Geoghegan seconded by Cllr Brazil and agreed. Minutes of the Budget Meeting held on 20th November 2014 were proposed by Cllr Geoghegan seconded by Cllr Brazil and agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Daniels enquired if the householders with refuse waivers have been notified that the waivers are not being renewed.

Cllr O'Neill also commented on the loss of the waivers. Cllr O'Leary commented on private refuse collectors covering remote areas in the county. Cllr Nugent enquired about private refuse collectors. Cllr Daniels enquired if the waivers could be retained for charitable institutions. F. Galvin, DOS confirmed that all householders with waivers have been notified and also that no provision had been made for waivers.

Desmond O'Flynn CEO and Dan Browne Chairman of Waterford Airport then addressed Council on Waterford Airport. D. O'Flynn gave a comprehensive report on the activities of Waterford Airport and told the meeting that he had been informed that day of the termination of the Flybe route to Birmingham in May 2015. He stated that the airport was constantly seeking new partners and new routes. Questions raised by the Council were addressed by Mr. Browne and Mr. O'Flynn.

3. Planning

Cllr Roche enquired about the status of the GIY headquarters location. B. White, DOS confirmed that full planning permission had been granted and the Planning Department can meet with applicants if required. Cllr O'Neill asked where the issues that previously went to the Area Meetings should be dealt with. B. White, DOS confirmed that any Council member could bring issues to the Planning Department but in the case of formal submissions the usual conditions would apply.

Cllr Mulligan enquired about a workshop on the draft contribution scheme. It was confirmed to Cllr Mulligan that the workshop will be held on 19th January 2015.

4. Land Disposals

It was proposed by Cllr. Carey seconded by Cllr Pratt and agreed that the land disposals as listed be approved.

5. (a) Monthly Management Report

Cllr Daniels enquired about Road Programme funding. He also welcomed the recent announcement that the Diageo Brewery on Grattan Quay had been sold to establish a distillery. Cllr O’Ryan raised the recent road damage caused by heavy rainfall in the Comeragh area and requested that funding be sought from the Department for emergency funding. Cllr Brennan asked how many of the 35,000 social housing units that were to be provided would be allocated to Waterford, how much is allocated for maintenance per house, how many maintenance requests are outstanding and also asked about the repairs policy for windows and doors. Cllr Hearne commented in relation to waste disposal about disposal of packaging and regulating collectors.

Cllr Fitzgerald commented on the cut in the roads budget. Cllr Conway welcomed the new national surf training centre in Tramore and said he hoped that the Mayor would be included in the official opening. Cllr O’Leary supported the need for emergency funding for repairs to weather damaged roads in the Comeragh area.

Cllr Roche asked if the Economic Development report could include IDA visit statistics and also any activity in relation to youth employment.

Cllr O’Neill welcomed the proposed expansion of Bausch and Lomb.

M. Walsh, CE said that the Annual Service Plans will address all areas of activity. P. Daly, A/DOS confirmed that details of how the roads budget will be distributed will be provided in January in the Annual Service Plans. Cllr O’Ryan asked if a request had gone to the Department for the emergency roads funding. Cllr O’Leary also asked about the roads emergency funding. P. Daly, A/DOS confirmed he had met with the Department re emergency funding but was not confident of securing same. M. Quinn, DOS stated that social housing strategy numbers have not yet issued from the Department and that the housing budget was €4.4 million. He stated that outstanding housing maintenance requests are being dealt with on an ongoing basis. Cllr Nugent expressed disappointed at the CIS being discontinued and also enquired about Smarter Travel allocation to Dungarvan.

5 (b) Waste Management Plan

Carol Sweetman, from the Southern Region Waste Management office gave a briefing to Council on the Southern Regional Draft Waste Management Plan 2015-2021.

5 (c) Tenant Maintenance Policy

Policy circulated to Council. Cllr Pratt enquired if exterior painting was covered in the policy. Cllr Roche enquired if some discretion could be used by the Council in repairs/maintenance windows and doors in certain situations. Cllr Murphy concurred but asked if particular consideration could be given to situations where damage was caused by vandalism. Cllr Hearne asked who was responsible for water damage. Cllr O’Leary enquired on policy in relation to the homeless. Cllr Brennan also enquired about responsibility for wear and tear. M. Quinn, DOS responded that it is the tenants responsibility for the maintenance of windows and doors and that Irish Water will be responsible for water damage. He said that there is a comprehensive programme in place to cover homelessness with an inter agency group in operation. He said that exterior painting is the responsibility of the tenant. Cllr Conway enquired if there is a role for Council to assist tenants to provide insurance. Cllr Whelan enquired if the Council could carry out repairs and recoup the cost over a period of time from tenants. M. Quinn, DOS responded that it would be difficult for the Council to administer such schemes. Cllr Hannigan felt that the Council should be

responsible for criminal damage caused to houses. Cllr Griffin asked how houses are assessed for priority for windows and doors. Cllr Carey proposed that the policy be adopted. Cllr Kelly said that there should be some review mechanism on the position re vandalism costs. Cllr Geoghegan seconded the adoption of the policy. On the suggestion of the Mayor it was agreed to adopt the policy and refer it back to the Housing, Community, Culture, Sport and Recreation SPC.

6. Bank Overdraft Approval 2015

It was proposed by Cllr Roche seconded by Cllr Cronin and agreed that overdraft facilities in the sum of €13,000,000 for the year ended 31st December 2015 be approved.

Standing orders having been exceeded items 7 and 8 were deferred to the next meeting.

9. AOB

The Mayor and Cllr O'Neill announced that the Mayors Ball will take place on 25th April 2015 and the beneficiaries this year will be Pieta House, Downs Syndrome and the Simon Community. Cllr Geoghegan proposed seconded by Cllr Cronin and agreed that the January Plenary meeting take place on 15th January in Dungarvan. It was proposed by Cllr Carey seconded by Cllr O'Sullivan that Brendan Cummins, Pauric Doherty and Tom Egan be nominated to the Council Audit Committee. It was agreed on the recommendation of the CPG that the membership of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC be increased to 14 to facilitate a Sinn Fein representative (Cllr Fitzgerald). Cllr O'Ryan asked that a letter go to the Department regarding emergency funding for roads. The commencement of the formulation of the Local Economic and Community Plan was approved. This concluded the meeting and the Mayor wished all a happy Christmas and New Year.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____