

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

COUNCIL MEETING HELD 9th October, 2014

**Item No.
1**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

Cllr John Hearne
Cllr Jim Griffin
Cllr John Cummins

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. M. Walsh, Chief Executive
Mr. J. Murphy, Head of Finance
Mr. D. Murphy, Management Accountant
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. R. Moloney, Deputy Director of Services Water and Environment
Mr. E. Ruane, Meetings Administrator
Ms. A. Jacob, Senior Staff Officer

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

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

Tom Coffey
Dan Leahy
Eddie Power
Pa Joe Power
Eileen Kelly
Chrissie Horan

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

Caitlín Uí hAodha on the launch of new vessel Dearbhala in Dunmore East.
 Ballygunner CLG on winning the County championships.
 Michael Ryan on his appointment as Westmeath football manager.
 Liam Prendergast for his back to back all Ireland and European ploughing wins.
 Tramore GC, Waterford GC and Waterford Castle GC on their recent wins.
 Cappoquin on its championship success.
 WLR on PPI award.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of meeting held on 11th September were proposed by Cllr Roche, seconded by Cllr Nugent and agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Roche commented that her contribution on the title of Mayor was not recorded.

Cllr O'Neill enquired when the chairman of Waterford Airport would address the Council. M. Walsh, CE stated that the Airport Company Chairman would attend either the November or December meeting.

3. Planning

- a) Cllr Roche proposed Part VIII Development of Cycle and Pedestrian Route (Greenway) completion of the process, seconded by Cllr Pratt and agreed.
 - b) B. White, DOS stated that the Development Contribution Scheme as circulated would go on display for a 6 week period. Cllr Murphy enquired what schemes qualify for funding.
 - c) L. Power, DOS presented Winterval Event licence. Cllr O'Neill proposed, seconded by Cllr Daniels and agreed.
- Cllr Kelly raised a question on admittance to public space during events.

4. Land Disposals

B. White, DOS presented.
 It was agreed to amend notice of disposal of 60sq metres at Cappoquin to read "to the trustees (Jeremy Nicholson and John McGrath) Cappoquin Salmon and Trout Anglers Association, proposed by Cllr Cronin seconded by Cllr Doocey and agreed.
 Cllr O'Neill raised a question on disposal of repossessed houses and the use they are put to.
 Cllr Kelly also commented on this and asked if other mechanisms could be explored.
 Cllr O'Leary stated that repossessed houses should be reused.
 M. Walsh, CE responded that in disposing of repossessed houses the Council is obliged to seek best price.
 Cllr Conway enquired what measures can be employed to check into tenants who may not be occupying properties. Cllr Fitzgerald enquired what happens to owners of repossessed houses.
 M. Quinn, DOS noted that a capital funding stream was required to acquire repossessed houses for housing stock. Unoccupied houses can be repossessed and he recommended that this and other issues can be referred to the Housing SPC.

5. Monthly Management Report

Cllr O’Ryan complimented the siting of West Pharma at Knockhouse.

The Mayor, added his support and also acknowledged the removal of Chimney fire charges.

Cllr Daniels and Cllr Geoghegan also welcomed the West Pharma development.

Cllr Roche enquired of any developments in relation to the Wild Atlantic Way or an alternative Celtic Way.

Cllr Cronin enquired what minimum rent was to be applied in the Council.

Cllr O’Neill asked if the work to replace all lead pipes would be completed by September 2015.

Cllr Nugent offered his congratulation on West Pharma and noted the introduction of the new air route between St. Johns, Newfoundland Dublin and its benefits to tourism. He noted the success of the recent boxing tournament in Dungarvan.

Cllr Butler asked the CE if it the full budgets for Housing and Building and Transportation would be spent by year end.

Cllr O’Leary also welcomed the investment by West Pharma and the recent intake of apprentices by Waterford Crystal.

Cllr Doocey also welcomed the investment by West Pharma and asked if it was possible to produce a database of all businesses lost over the last number of years in the west of the County.

Cllr Mulligan complimented the CE’s report and commented on the Environmental Services Section public awareness initiatives on dog fouling and enquired about funding.

Cllr Fitzgerald welcomed the West Pharma investment and supported access to the Wild Atlantic Way or an alternative.

M. Walsh, CE said that the challenge for the whole was economic and community development and to bring on indigenous development of business is the most desirable aim. A submission on the Wild Atlantic Way will be made to Bord Failte in the next couple of weeks. He also commented that the Department of CE&LG had advised to hold rents as a national scheme was due. He stated that support for festivals will continue within the same budgetary confines. He summarised the Crystal situation.

L. Power, DOS informed the meeting that the West Pharma development subject to planning will commence shortly, that the Newfoundland relationship should be developed and a list of lost businesses in the west would be compiled..

The Mayor, commented on the University status for Waterford WIT and asked that the issue be included on all future management reports.

Cllr Cronin raised an issue on repair works to houses.

Cllr Daniels stated that he was disappointed with recent developments on university status for Waterford and requested that an invitation be extended to the President of WIT to attend a Council meeting.

Cllr O’Neill supported the request that the President of WIT address the Council.

Cllr Hearne thanked Council for agreeing to meet Waterford Athletic Club on its development plans.

Cllr Roche stated as a member of the Board of WIT that every effort was being made to achieve technological university status for WIT.

M. Quinn, DOS responded stating that responsibility for maintenance and care of LA tenancies was broadly similar in all three former LA’s.

F. Galvin, DOS responded that the majority of lead mains will be eliminated by the mains rehab work.

Cllr Geoghegan referred to a previous scheme where a tenants contribution to house painting was collected.

Cllr Fitzgerald raised a question in relation to problems encountered on the sale of a shared ownership property.

The Mayor requested that housing issues be brought to SPC’s.

M. Walsh, CE commented that only areas for which he has direct responsibility should be included in the monthly management report.

6.Finance

Waterford City Council AFS 2013 and Section 104 Notice was proposed by Cllr Daniels, seconded by Cllr O'Neill and agreed.

Waterford City Council AFS 2013 and Section 104 Notice was proposed by Cllr Doocey, seconded by Cllr Cronin and agreed.

Dungarvan Town Council AFS 2013 and Section 104 Notice was proposed by Cllr Nugent, seconded by Cllr Geoghegan and agreed.

7. Nomination to other Bodies

M. Quinn, DOS made a presentation on the makeup of JPC. It was agreed to defer the nominations to the next meeting. It was also agreed to defer nomination to Healthy Cities Steering Committee to the next meeting.

8.Statutory Budget Meetings

It was agreed that the Statutory Budget Meeting would take place in the Civic Offices, Dungarvan on 18th November, 2014 at 4.00 pm. It was also agreed that budget workshops will take place in Dungarvan on 4th November and Waterford on 6th November at 4.00 pm. Cllr Kelly proposed that the starting times be 5.00pm seconded by Cllr Hannigan. This proposal was defeated on a show of hands.

9. Haikou Sister City

M. Walsh, CE gave background of the involvement of the Chinese Embassy and Irish Government and the signing of a friendship agreement. On the proposition of Cllr Carey, seconded by Cllr Wyse it was agreed to send a delegation consisting of The Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Waterford and Lar Power, DOS to attend a Sister City Conference in November.

Cllr Power, Cllr Fitzgerald, Cllr Nugent, Cllr Quinlan and Cllr Mulligan welcomed the visit.

10. Correspondence

Conferences and training as listed were approved.

M. Walsh, CE stated that a Training Programme for next year will be brought back to Council.

11. Notices of Motions

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Roche and seconded by Cllr O'Neill

"That Waterford Council would engage with the liquidator, the Arts Council and other funders including Waterford Youth Committee with a view to ensuring that Red Kettle Theatre Company and Little Red Kettle can be supported into a new iteration and saved for the people of Waterford. And that the Council would undertake an examination of the equity of Arts Council funding received in Waterford."

Reg. No. 10 (dated 27th August 2014)

Cllr Murphy added his support to the motion. The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The following motion in the name of Cllr Clune was withdrawn.

"That Waterford City & County Council supports the maximum reduction of 15% in LPT as allowed under legislation."

Reg. No. 11 (dated 1st September 2014)

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Whelan and seconded by Cllr Roche

"That Waterford City & County Council recognizes that the trafficking, exploitation and abuse of women and girls is taking place in Waterford City & County and throughout the country within and as a direct result of prostitution. This Council understands prostitution to be a form of men's violence against women that affects individuals, communities, and society as a whole and that human trafficking for sexual exploitation is a modern form of slavery and an abuse of human rights. This Council calls on the Minister for Justice and Equality to implement the Justice Committees unanimous recommendations to introduce laws which make it an offence to pay for sex and is seeking such laws. This legislation must criminalise the demand for paid sex, decriminalize the seller and provide social supports for those wishing to exit prostitution. This Council recognises the need for this legislation to be enacted in this jurisdiction and will convey its views to the Minister for Justice and Equality."

Reg. No. 12 (dated 1st September 2014)

Cllr Conway supported this motion. The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Murphy and seconded by Cllr O'Sullivan

"That this council supports an Active Citizenship Pilot Program focusing on primary school students enabling a greater understanding of what it means to be an Active Citizen. This program will promote real and meaningful involvement within communities from our primary school population."

Reg. No. 13 (dated 22nd September 2014)

Cllr O'Neill and Cllr O'Ryan supported the motion. The motion was then put and carried unanimously.

12. AOB

Cllr Conway asked that the Council's objection to the development of the UK Nuclear reactor at Hinkley Point be communicated to the British Government.

Cllr Kelly supported this issue and it was unanimously agreed.

Cllr Pratt informed the meeting that the Comhairle na nÓg annual conference was taking place at the weekend.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____