

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

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD on 14th May, 2015 HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
CITY HALL, WATERFORD.**

**Item
No.
1**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Seamus O'Donnell, Cllr. Damien Geoghegan

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, Water and Corporate
Mr. V. O'Shea, Administrative Officer, Housing, Community & Culture
Ms. J. Cantwell, City & County Librarian, Housing, Community & Culture
Mr. C. Hartley, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services
Mr. R. Maddox, Senior Architect
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:

Aggie Brett, Johnny Cronin, Bill Irish, Pat O'Gorman, Brendan Power

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

Waterford Senior Hurling Team – National League winners
Organisers of the Pieta House Darkness into Light Walk
Cllr James Tobin, Mayor of Waterford City and County Council and Cllr Lola O'Sullivan, Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Waterford on the Mayors Ball

Owners of the Brian Boru Boat venture
Cllr Lola O'Sullivan, Mayor of the Metropolitan District of Waterford on the Mayors Healthy Living Week
Paudie Mahony, Senior Hurling team on a speedy recovery

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of the 9th April, 2015 were proposed by Cllr Daniels, seconded by Cllr and agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Daniels enquired if the report from Michael Kelly, WIT had issued to the Council. The Mayor replied that the report had not yet been received and agreed to write to WIT for an update.

3. PLANNING

- (a) Planning Lists – None. It was noted that Lar Power had been appointed as the new Director of Services for Planning.
- (b) Waterford City Urban Renewal Part VIII – Lar Power, DOS outlined the main proposals contained in the Part VIII. Cllr O'Neill enquired if there were any changes following workshops. DOS confirmed that there was one change in relation to Castle Street. The commencement of the Part VIII was proposed by Cllr Cummins, seconded by Cllr O'Neill and agreed.

4. Land Disposals

Land disposals as outlined were proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr O'Leary and agreed.

5. MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Cllr Daniels asked if the entire city was included in the Living City Initiative and if the funding was ring fenced. He also asked about recent representations from the Island View residents. Cllr Reinhardt enquired about the HAP Scheme and asked if more details could be provided to Council on it. Cllr O'Ryan acknowledged the work of the Economic Development department on job creation. Cllr Butler enquired how much money would be allocated to Waterford for speed limit signage. Cllr Cronin proposed that the Management Report be referred to the District meetings. Cllr Hannigan enquired about HAP. Cllr O'Leary asked if the Healthy City programme would also be extended to the county areas. L. Power, DOS stated that the Living Cities is on agenda for the Metropolitan meeting. M. Quinn, DOS stated that the issues raised by the Island View residents were noted and he would revert and that more information can be provided on the HAP Scheme if required. L. Power, DOS stated the Healthy cities have been looking at extending to other areas. Cllr Cummins, enquired about the flood alleviation scheme pathway near the Tramore Road and when it would open. F. Galvin, DOS confirmed that there was approximately 2 months work left on the flood alleviation Scheme. P. Daly, DOS confirmed that the council had received €5,000 for speed signage to date. Cllr Mulligan enquired if previous years statistics for the HAP Scheme could be provided for comparison purposes.

6. Presentation on Commemoration 2016

- (a) M. Quinn, DOS outlined the commemoration programme of events. Cllr Mulligan stated that he was disappointed to see the flag referred to as green white and orange. Cllr O'Neill asked that where possible events should not overlap between city and county and that the groups liaise with each other. Cllr Hearne noted that the Programme did not include any events to mark those who fought, IRA etc. Cllr O'Ryan asked that all areas be looked at. Cllr Murphy agreed with Cllr Hearne that those that fought should be remembered and recognised and also stated that the Royal Munster Fusiliers should not be included in the programme. Cllr Quinlan asked that the Gaelic League and GAA be included. Cllr Daniels enquired if the schools were included. M.

Quinn, DOS said that he would take on board all of the suggestions made for consideration by the Committee. The Mayor asked that Council approve sufficient funding to cover the Programme at budget time.

- (b) Nominations – nominations for the organising Committee, a rep from each party and one independent was proposed by Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr O'Ryan and agreed.

7.DRAFT Control of Dog Bye Laws 2015

F. Galvin, DOS outlined the draft Bye Laws, which were proposed by Cllr Hearne, seconded by Cllr Roche and agreed. Cllr Hannigan questioned the effectiveness of the laws and enquired about the fines. F. Galvin, DOS confirmed that we have an active fining campaign and licences have increased and a new action plan was in place.

8. Supporting Waterford Communities Fund Allocations WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL ARTS PRACTICE GRANTS AND ARTS VENUE GRANTS AND 12. WATERFORD CITY & COUNTY COUNCIL – SUPPORTING WATERFORD COMMUNITIES FUND 2015

M. Quinn, DOS outlined the programme. Cllr O'Leary welcomed the scheme. Cllr Roche also welcomed the scheme and asked if it was possible to give all the groups the same funding. The Mayor enquired how the funding compared to last year. M. Quinn, DOS said that there was a budget of €111,000 for 269 groups this year compared to €60,000 for 124 groups last year. Cllr Daniels commented that without the efforts of Residents Associations the Council would be in difficulty to provide the services required. Cllr Kelly commented that Hillview Residents Association received €650 last year and €450 this year, he stated that residents are citing the fact that they are paying property tax as a reason for not paying their annual subscriptions to the association. Cllr O'Neill said that it was difficult for residents associations collecting money and asked if funding could be increased. Cllr Mulligan said that he was disappointed to see a reduction on last year. Cllr Cummins enquired about proportioning funding for the estates based on the size of the grass cutting areas. Cllr Griffin asked why the sports funding had not been received. Cllr Fitzgerald stated that the level of grant aid for private estates and council estates was the same but that it should be increased for council estates. Cllr Pratt commented that the residents in the west of the county were pleased with their funding. Cllr Butler agreed and welcomed the funding. Cllr Roche proposed that the sports clubs all receive the same funding. He said that for next year an increase in funding could be considered at budget time by Council. M. Quinn, DOS said that proportioning in relation to size of grass areas funding would involve substantial work and that the money can be used for other services. Cllr Hearne stated that the Community Support Officers are missed in the estates. Cllr O'Leary enquired when the funding would be released. M. Quinn, DOS said that it would be available in 3 to 4 weeks for majority. The grants were proposed by Cllr O'Ryan, seconded by Cllr O'Neill and agreed.

9. Annual General Meeting

The 29th June at 5pm in Waterford was proposed by Cllr Cronin, seconded by Cllr O'Sullivan and was agreed.

10. Correspondence

Noted. Agreed to follow up with Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government on refuse collection. Listed conferences noted.

11. Notice of Motions

A proposal to amend the motion in the names of Cllr O'Ryan, Cllr Geoghegan, Cllr Fitzgerald, Cllr Pratt and Cllr O'Neill as follows

"That this Council places a moratorium on the granting of any new planning applications, forthwith for commercial wind farm projects and that this council agrees that it would be premature to grant any new applications prior to the emergence of new national guidelines being finalised and in force by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government in tandem with the Minister for Communications, Energy and National Resources."

The amendment proposed by Cllr O’Ryan, Cllr Fitzgerald, Cllr Pratt and Cllr O’Neill was

“That this Council requests the Minister of Environment, Community and Local Government to place a moratorium on the granting of any new planning applications, forthwith for commercial wind farm projects and that this Council agrees that it would be premature to grant any new applications prior to the emergence of new national guidelines being finalised and in force by the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government in tandem with the Minister for Communications, Energy and National Resources.”

The amendment was put and carried by all present with the exception of Cllr Conway.

Reg. No. 29 (dated 30th April, 2015)

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Wyse seconded by Cllr Mulligan and carried.

‘This motion calls on the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Paschal Donohoe, to solidify the legal age a citizen of Ireland can be charged an Adult Fare in terms of monetary amount when using public transport and also for the Minister to nationally recognise the use of a ‘Youth Card’ for discounts on public transport for those under the age of 18.’

Reg. No. 22 (dated 27th February, 2015)

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Clune, seconded by Cllr Brennan and carried.

"That Waterford City & County Council supports the overwhelming vote by the Constitutional Convention in September 2013 in favour of extending the right to vote for the President of Ireland to citizens in the North of Ireland and the diaspora, and calls on the Irish government to now set a date for a referendum on the matter during this Dáil term and let the people have their say."

Reg. No. 23 (dated 3rd March, 2015)

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Pratt seconded by Cllr Butler and carried.

“This Council supports the workers in Dunnes Stores who are seeking:

- The implementation of banded hour contracts which would give workers security of hours and earnings.
- A review of excessive use of temporary contracts of employment.
- Individual and collective representational rights for Dunnes workers.

This Council welcomes the commitment to legislate for an improved framework for workers who seek to better their terms and conditions where collective bargaining is not recognised by their employer.

Further this Council welcomes Government commitment to legislate so that workers can have confidence that they have an effective system that protects and promotes their rights. This legislation ensures they can advance claims about remuneration, terms and conditions and have these determined based on comparisons with similar companies – and not to be victimised for doing so.

Reg. No. 24 (dated 26th March, 2015)

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

“That Waterford City & County Council, regarding its 'Section 26' Fire Service preparation, changes and implementation,

- Recognises that the International Standards Organisation Insurance Industry Risk Assessment calls for a Six-Person response on initial fire attack;

And furthermore accepts:

- That such 'Section 26' plans should not be passed until all the relevant concerns of Waterford City & County Fire-fighters and SIPTU are properly addressed, particularly with regard to minimum personnel response numbers, and coordination of Fire Service and HSE or Ambulance Services;
and
- That no related changes will be made to the Fire Service in Waterford City & County until the current related National Dispute over the "Keeping Communities Safe" document issued by Phil Hogan is resolved."

Reg. No. 25 (dated 30th March, 2015)

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Brennan, seconded by Cllr Fitzgerald and carried.

"This Waterford City & County Council notes:

That some 11,000 lone parent families have already been affected by gradual reductions to lone parent payments

That further reductions will impact on over 30,000 Lone parent families in July this year, pushing families further into poverty.

That the Tánaiste, Joan Burton, had previously made commitments that there would be affordable and accessible childcare before the reduction of payments

That to date Ireland has one of the highest childcare costs in the OECD meaning more families will be pushed in to poverty.

Accordingly, this Council calls on the Tánaiste and Minister for Social Protection to abandon the plan to phase out lone parents payments once children reach seven years of age."

Reg. No. 26 (dated 30th March, 2015)

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Cummins, seconded by Cllr O'Sullivan.

"That Waterford City & County Council welcomes the agreement between the Department of Health, the HSE and the Irish Medical Organisation regarding the introduction of free GP care for under-sixes, as well an agreed cycle of care for children with asthma, and adult diabetes management programme. These are further important steps towards universal healthcare and follows the recent agreement on free GP care for over 70's. Furthermore, this local authority calls on Waterford GP's to engage with these very welcome initiatives."

The following amendment proposed by Cllr Clune and seconded by Cllr Hearne was lost on a vote of 8 for and 9 against

"That Waterford City & County Council welcomes the agreement between the Department of Health, the HSE and the Irish Medical Organisation regarding the introduction of free GP care for under-sixes, as well an agreed cycle of care for children with asthma, and adult diabetes management programme. This step must be followed, in the shortest possible time frame, by the extension of GP care that is free at the point of care for all citizens of this state.

The original motion was put and carried on a vote of 9 for and 8 against.

Reg. No. 27 (dated 14th April, 2015)

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Conway, seconded by Cllr O'Neill and carried on a vote of 12 against and 14 for.

"That the Seanad Electoral (Panel Members) Act 1947 be amended to provide for the nomination of Seanad Candidates on the same date as the nomination of candidates to the Dáil and that candidates who wish to run for either the Dáil or the Seanad declare those intentions on the same day. "

Reg. No. 28 (dated 28th April, 2015)

Cllr Fitzgerald withdrew the following motion standing in his name

"That Waterford City & County Council considers wind turbines of a size that exceeds 25 metres to be industrial type wind turbines that will be subject to the following regulations:

- A minimum set back distance of each wind turbine of ten times the height of the turbine from any dwelling for wind industrial wind turbines;
- An ordinance survey map marked with the exact location of all proposed wind turbines to be published in the local press and displayed in the lobby of the council building's and public libraries within the county boundaries of the proposed development;
- That companies wishing to develop industrial wind farms must consult with host communities living within a 3 mile radius of proposed developments, inform them of their proposals at planning and construction stage, and provide detailed information on the number of wind turbines to be erected and their precise location;
- That Waterford City & County Council enter into a legally binding agreement with companies/individuals planning to erect industrial size wind turbines to ensure they meet the cost of repairing or upgrading local infrastructure during the construction of industrial wind farms; and are responsible for recycling when they have to be decommissioned.
- Wind turbine developments shall be consistent with the County Development Plan and will only be erected in areas zoned."

Reg. No. 30 (dated 5th May, 2015)

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Brennan, seconded by Cllr Hearne and carried by a majority with Cllr Cummins abstaining.

"That Waterford City and County Council calls on the Government to amend the Health (Fluoridation of Water) Act 1960 and subsequent Statutory Instrument (42/2007 Fluoridation of Water Supplies Regulations 2007) to ban the addition of fluoride to water supplies in Waterford City and County."

Reg. No. 31 (dated 5th May, 2015)

The following motion standing in the name of Cllr's O'Neill and Cllr Roche was proposed by Cllr O'Neill and seconded by Cllr O'Sullivan (in the absence of Cllr Roche who was excused from the meeting earlier) and carried.

"That Waterford City & County Council would examine the feasibility of adding to the Outer Ring Road from the roundabout in the vicinity of the Airport Road to Waterford University Hospital (which part of the road currently does not fulfil the function of an outer ring road)."

Reg. No. 32 (dated 6th May, 2015)

The meeting then concluded.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____