

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

**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 HELD IN THE COUNCIL  
CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, DUNGARVAN, CO. WATERFORD**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. John Cummins, Mayor	Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Liam Brazil	Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. Breda Brennan	Cllr. Cha O'Neill
Cllr. Mary Butler	Cllr. John O'Leary
Cllr. John Carey	Cllr. Michael J O'Ryan
Cllr. Joe Conway	Cllr. Seanie Power
Cllr. Declan Doocey	Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Cllr. Eamon Quinlan
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan	Cllr. Sean Reinhardt
Cllr. Jim Griffin	Cllr. Mary Roche
Cllr. John Hearne	Cllr. James Tobin
Cllr. Blaise Hannigan	Cllr. Siobhan Whelan
Cllr. Eddie Mulligan	

**APOLOGIES:**

Cllr. Declan Clune, Cllr. Tom Cronin, Cllr. Davy Daniels, Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell, Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan, Cllr. Adam Gary Wyse

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. M. Walsh, Chief Executive  
Mr. M. Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Community and Culture  
Mr. P. Daly, A/Director of Services, Roads HR & Emergency Services  
Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services  
Mr. E. Ruane, Meeting Administrator

At the request of the Mayor a special meeting to discuss the effects of the recent adverse weather in the County.

P. Daly, A/DOS summarised the situation to date highlighting the efforts of staff in meeting the challenges presented. He said that to date 8,500 sandbags had been filled and distributed, so far €340,000 to €350,000 extra cost over and above the estimate had been incurred. He stated that the N72 and the N25 had been closed along with many regional roads and that very severe damage had been done to the road network with cost estimated at €11.5 million. He also stated that substantial coastal damage had occurred at Annestown, Bunmahon and Dunmore East amongst other areas.

Councillors raised the following issues, flooding at Clonmel/Dungarvan Road, homes flooded in Cappoquin area, flooding at Ballyduff and Tallow and need to recruit more staff, need for a flood study and an audit of services and a co-ordinating unit, flooding in Woodstown and restoration of the Stradbally bridge, N25 alternative route not up to standard, whether an emergency SPC was needed and diverting floodwater at Bonmahon. Other issues raised included flooding at McDonalds at Cork Road, if a study could be carried out of flooding at Cherrymount/Avondale/Tramore Road, funding for Clonea Power and Portlaw, why Carrick Fire Service cannot attend Portlaw in an emergency situation, fire brigade charges in emergency situations, approaching Cork County Council to seek joint bid to upgrade N25, flooding at Earls court and Collins Avenue flooding, the setting up of an emergency task force, Cork Road culvert funding and the possibility of a boating lake at the Nature Park.

P. Daly, A/DOS responding to issues raised said that a claim for €2.6 million was claimed from Department in December and that the new deadline for claim is 12 noon 4<sup>th</sup> January 2016, the Road Transportation SPC covers emergency services, that Clonea Power and Portlaw will be looked at and that sandbag availability should be part of flood plan. The N25 situation is under regular review. He also said in relation to the fire service that there is no boundary to service CAMP controls and that a boating lake is not possible for the Nature Park at Tramore as it is a Special Area of Conservation.

The following motion “Mayor I want to propose here at this emergency meeting of Waterford City and County Council (by show of hands or otherwise) that our road network be classed as in a state of crisis in our interaction with Government departments in seeking emergency funding” was proposed by Cllr Murphy, seconded by Cllr O’Ryan and agreed.

The CE said that he did not accept that a co-ordinated response was not presented, both national and local plans are in place and regular reviews are taking place locally and nationally. He reiterated that the first priority of the Council in emergencies was to protect human life and that cost or resources are not factors in this duty. He acknowledged the professionalism of employees in the situation and said that historical drainage measures on roads needs to be restored.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

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