

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

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9th JUNE, 2016 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL,
THE MALL, WATERFORD**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Cha O'Neill

The Mayor asked for a suspension of Standing Orders to go into committee for a presentation from the IDA at 6.45pm.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. M. Walsh Chief Executive
 Mr. P. Daly, A/Director of Services, Roads HR & Emergency Services
 Mr. F. Galvin, Director of Services, Environment, Water and Corporate
 Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services, Housing
 Mr. J. Murphy, Head of Finance
 Mr. L. Power, Directors of Services, Planning and Economic Development
 Mr M. Quinn, Director of Services
 Mr. B. O'Kane, Financial Management Accountant
 Ms. A. Gleeson, Senior Executive Planner
 Ms. A. Doyle, Executive Planner
 Mr. L. Fleming, Executive Engineer
 Ms. C. Hartley, Administrative Officer
 Mr. E. Ruane, Meetings Administrator
 Ms. A. Jacob, Senior Staff Officer

1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of 12th May 2016 were proposed by Cllr Brazil, seconded by Cllr Carey and agreed. Special Meeting of 16th May was proposed by Cllr Murphy, seconded by Cllr Doocey and agreed.

2. Matters Arising

Cllr Mulligan asked for an update on the tenders for housing. I.Grimes, DOS responded that tenders for Cappoquin and Lismore are scheduled for later this month. Cllr Brennan asked for an update on taxi testing in Waterford. E. Ruane, Meetings Administrator said that the Department had replied and that the correspondence was listed for the Metropolitan agenda. Cllr Roche asked for an update on staffing changes in the Economic Development unit and an update on the Boundary Extension review and administrative support. L. Power, DOS said that the staffing changes are being made and that he will circulate contact details. I. Grimes, DOS said that the Boundary Review report is due in June or July and that administrative support had been secured for the Committee.

3. Planning

- (a) Planning lists were noted.
- (b) Chief Executive Report Development Management Standards Proposed Variation No. 1 of 5th May 2016 - Cllr Tobin proposed that the "to the generation of increase traffic from existing accesses to national roads" in Section 2 page 4 of the Report be removed, seconded by Cllr O'Ryan and agreed. Cllr J. Murphy proposed that Table 1.0" *General Standards for new Residential Development in Urban Areas*" Pg 11 and 12 of the variation document which refers to the minimum separation distance between gable and the minimum private open space requirements for new residential development. The material alteration would revert the standards back to those contained in the Waterford City Development Plan 2013-2019 for the City Area only, seconded by Cllr Quinlan and agreed.
- (c) Draft Renewable Energy Strategy 2016 – 2030 presented by A. Doyle, EP. Cllr O'Leary enquired about turbines. Cllr Cronin asked about offshore turbines and said that he would have serious concerns about the targets. Cllr Power expressed his support for the Strategy. L. Power, DOS clarified that the strategy is not being adopted at this meeting and will go on public display before the adoption. Cllr Nugent asked why the Plan is for 14 years. A. Doyle, EP said that this was in keeping with national strategy. Cllr Tobin proposed, seconded by Cllr O'Ryan and agreed that the Strategy to go on public display.

4. Land Disposals

Land disposals as listed were proposed by Cllr Carey, seconded by Cllr Pratt and agreed.

5. Management Report

Cllr Doocey asked about carparking on the Greenway and the problem of Japanese knotweed County wide. Cllr Conway asked if the Council representatives of Waterford Airport Board would brief Council after their July meeting. The Mayor agreed that this could be done if the meeting takes place. Cllr O'Leary enquired when the building of the houses at Portlaw would commence and also about the recent structures at risk grant for the Cosy Thatch. P. Daly, A/DOS said that there are several carparks being developed at present on the Greenway and others being refurbished and this will be ongoing to meet demand. He said that knotweed spraying is carried out twice a year but that if there was any particular issues they should be brought to his attention. I.Grimes, DOS said that the Portlaw development will go

to tender by October . L. Power, DOS said that the conservation payment of the structures at risk grant is only made when works are completed.

Cllr Daniels asked if the Council were working with the waste disposal operators in relation to bag collection, the cost of disposing mattresses and raised his concerns about the collection of development charges. Cllr Brennan asked about overflowing bins in Annestown, Bunmahon and Ballydwane over the bank holiday weekend. Cllr Reinhardt asked if the policy not to sell bungalows under the TPS can be altered. F. Galvin, DOS said that there is provision in legislation whereby Council can designate areas for rubbish bag collection, he also said that the cost of recycling mattresses was expensive and it was difficult to reduce charges but that costs are being reviewed at present. L. Power, DOS said that development contributions are owed and there is an onus on the Council to collect this money and only in very exceptional cases will other options be considered. P. Daly, A/DOS said that bins are collected on weekends in these areas but that he will bring to the attention of the Senior Engineer. I. Grimes, DOS said that bungalows are excluded due to their high priority and demand but will keep it under review. Cllr Mulligan criticised the amount of indiscriminate dumping over the bank holiday weekend and asked if fines were a sufficient deterrent. Cllr Murphy raised a number of issues on the Greenway in relation to the differing surface dressing, toilet facilities and dog fouling and suggested that an information session for Council be arranged. Cllr Fitzgerald welcomed the addition of the new hybrid combi vehicle to the fleet. F. Galvin, DOS responded that there was huge resources being put into litter management and explained the legal process for fines and collection. P. Daly, A/DOS agreed to arrange a presentation on the Greenway if the members wanted it.

Cllr Brazil asked for an update on the provision of speed ramps in housing estates and asked that hedge cutting be carried out on junctions where needed to improve sightlines. Cllr Hearne enquired if retro fitting included the provision of extractor fans and asked about bicycle hire, café facilities and school schemes for the Greenway and also raised the problem caused by the placement of advertising signs on roads and paths for the disabled. Cllr Griffin asked if enforcement officers could be deployed on bank holiday weekends and if the Council could supply wheelchairs on beaches to provide access for people with disabilities. P. Daly, A/DOS said that ads had been placed in newspapers seeking expressions of interest for cycle hire, will bring signage issue to Transportation SPC and agreed to look at the wheelchair access and budget. He also said that the assessment and traffic calming review is ongoing but that any particular problems should be brought to the attention of the roads department for prioritising and that they will carry out hedge cutting at junctions where road safety is an issue. I. Grimes, DOS said that he would revert in relation to extractor fans query. Cllr Roche said she supported the provision of wheelchairs on beaches, she asked that Council be included at the early stages of SDZ process and asked for a total number of people on the housing list. Cllr Kelly asked if funding was available for retro fitting and asked how applicants are being selected, he also asked for update on access platforms and ramps at bus stops, for the disabled.. Cllr Nugent enquired about the Council appointing litter management champions. Cllr Hannigan said that Rocketts Bar is becoming a derelict site and if legislation could be invoked to deal with it. L. Power, DOS said that the intention is to fully involve Council from the earliest stage on SDZ process and would like to provide a workshop on derelict sites. I. Grimes, DOS said that total number on housing list can be included in next report and that applications are still being accepted for retro fitting and are primarily Council houses, he said he would revert on the grant. P. Daly, A/DOS said that the bus bay in Dungarvan is being dealt with. F. Galvin, DOS said he will look at the champion for litter idea. Cllr Carey raised issues on poor condition of footpaths at new housing estates in Cheekpoint and traffic management in Dunmore East during recent filming. Cllr Wyse raised homeless issue and asked when vacant houses will be ready and supported wheelchair access for beaches. Cllr Power said that Council should facilitate arrangement for payment of development charges arrears. Cllr O'Sullivan asked that the Council provide defibrillators on all life guarded beaches for 2016 and oxygen assist for 2017 and that a defibrillator also be provided in City Hall. Cllr Geoghegan supported the wheelchair access provision for beaches and suggested using dividend from IPB to fund it. I. Grimes, DOS responded that homeless are given priority in allocation and that there is a 21 weeks turnaround time for vacant houses. L. Power, DOS stressed that development charges were due and will be collected and that payment plans will only be considered in very exceptional circumstances. P. Daly, A/DOS said that defibrillators will be looked at in the context of the budget..

6. Finance

- (a) Annual Financial Statement was presented by J. Murphy, HOF. Cllr Roche asked about the deficit and asked for a full report on cost of the amalgamation. J. Murphy, HOF said that the deficit is under €8 million. The CE said he would revert with a report on amalgamation. Cllr Daniels queried the cost of delayed receipt of grant payment. J. Murphy, HOF replied that given low interest rates it is not a significant factor. Cllr Kelly enquired about miscellaneous expenses. J. Murphy, HOF gave a breakdown under the main headings. The AFS was proposed by Cllr Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr Tobin and agreed.
- (b) Financial Report and Schedule of Section 104 of Local Government Act 2001 expenditure for approval was presented by J. Murphy, HOF. It was proposed by Cllr Tobin, seconded by Cllr Brazil and agreed.

7. Annual Report 2015 and Performance Indicators

Cllr Roche complimented the presentation of the Annual Report. Cllr Daniels asked about recruitment. The CE said that the workforce plan is in place and that we have gone through a substantial recruitment process on the outdoor side. Cllr Mulligan referred to revenue account deficit and rates increase and collection increase in rates. J. Murphy, HOF said that the deficit was an accumulation of the 3 Councils on amalgamation. Cllr Fitzgerald enquired the number of apprentices employed by the Council. P. Daly, A/DOS said that two fitter apprentices will be employed in the near future. Cllr Roche asked to defer the Performance Indicators until the next meeting for a more detailed discussion.

Cllr Roche proposed the Annual Report 2015, seconded by Cllr Daniels and agreed by all.

8. Correspondence

Cllr Tobin proposed the training and conferences as listed, seconded by Cllr Geoghegan and agreed.

As agreed at 6.45pm Council went into Committee for presentation by Ann-Marie Tierney- Le Roux and Fiona Lonergan from the IDA. Following the presentation a question and answer session took place and the meeting concluded at 8.10pm.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____