

**COMHAIRLE CATHRACH AGUS CONTAE PHORT LÁIRGE
WATERFORD CITY AND COUNTY COUNCIL****COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th May, 2016 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC
OFFICES, DUNGARVAN, WATERFORD****PRESENT:**

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

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Joe Conway, Cllr Damien Geoghegan, Cllr Joe Kelly, Cllr Adam Gary Wyse

The Mayor asked for a suspension of Standing Orders to go into Committee for a presentation from Enterprise Ireland at 6.45pm. Cllr Roche questioned why the presentation was in Committee and felt it should be held in public. Cllr Tobin concurred with this. The suspension of Standing Orders was proposed by Cllr Doocey, seconded by Cllr Nugent and agreed.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. L. Power, A/Chief Executive
Mr. P. Daly, A/Director of Services, Roads HR & Emergency Services
Mr M. Quinn, Director of Services
Mr. J. Murphy, Head of Finance
Mr. J. O'Mahony, Senior Planner
Ms. A. Gleeson, Senior Executive Planner
Mr. F. Galvin, Director of Services, Environment, Water and Corporate
Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services, Housing
Mr. V. O'Shea, Rapid Co-Ordinator
Mr. E. Ruane, Meetings Administrator
Ms. A. Jacob, Senior Staff Officer

1. Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of 10th April were proposed by Cllr Power seconded by Cllr Carey and agreed. Cllr Fitzgerald asked that the minutes of 14th April be amended to reflect the sentiment of his contribution on the Eir broadband and the concern of elderly people about the installation of water meters and concern about odours from the Cheekpoint sewerage system. E. Ruane, SEO confirmed that this will be included in the May confirmation of minutes.

2. Matters Arising

Cllr Roche requested an update on the Boundary Committee report and on the staffing situation in the Economic Development Department. I. Grimes, DOS replied that the Committee had sought further information and the report is expected in June or July. L. Power, DOS said that vacant posts will be filled and that there will also be additional staff in Economic Development. Cllr O’Ryan asked if there had been any reply to motion No. 42 regarding the Department of Social Protection. E. Ruane, SEO replied that an acknowledgment had been received but was too late for the Agenda and will be included for the next meeting. Cllr Brennan asked if there was a reply from the Ministers office on taxi vehicle testing. E. Ruane, SEO said that a reply was expected soon.

3. Planning

- (a) Planning lists were noted.
- (b) Development Management Standards Variation of the Development Plans –A. Gleeson, SEP outlined the Plan and clarified that this item was the completion of the consultation process only and proposed to Council that a workshop be held over the coming weeks to allow more indepth discussion on the detail of the Plans. This was agreed by all. The Mayor said that it had been agreed by CPG that the second part of the housing workshop be held on 26th May and recommended that the Planning workshop also be held on that day. This was agreed.

4. Land Disposals

Cllr Reinhardt asked for clarification on the disposals listed in relation to the SVP Mens Hostel. F. Galvin, DOS said that the disposal of 3 houses D626/D627/D628 were in exchange for the SVP Mens Hostel at Lady Lane. Cllr Mulligan asked if the Council have any plans for the Mens Hostel in Lady Lane. L. Power, DOS responded that there are no plans at present. The disposals as listed were proposed by Cllr Hearne, seconded by Cllr Doocey and agreed.

5. Management Report

Cllr Fitzgerald welcomed the awarding of the tender for surfacing works in Dunmore East. Cllr Nugent asked for a breakdown on the increase in planning applications. Cllr Daniels raised concerns about the pay for weight scheme being introduced in July and whether bags will be banned and the lack of information to the public. He proposed that the Council ask the Minister to defer the introduction of the scheme which was seconded by Cllr O’Neill and agreed. He also enquired about the phasing of works on the public realm, J. O’Mahony, SP replied that most applications were single houses and that the commercial/domestic split could be supplied. F. Galvin, DOS replied that the waste collection operators will supply information on pay by weight to the public and that the continuation of the bag collection has been extended. P. Daly, A/DOS said that a Project Manager will be assigned to the Public Realm Scheme with regular meetings to deal with issues as they arise. The Mayor asked that the phasing plan be circulated to members. Cllr O’Neill said that there was an issue with waste accumulating in back gardens in some estates and enquired if the matter could be addressed by the Environment Department. He also enquired whether the Council could consider building houses by direct labour to cater for needs and asked about the Council’s land bank. Cllr Mulligan referred to the increase in homeless figure and

enquired about funding and if the Council could go to tender to build the 87 houses. Cllr R. Murphy asked about flytipping and CCTV results. F. Galvin, DOS said that the Council has a service available at a charge to collect bulky goods but do not undertake clean ups of houses and that CCTV is being utilised as part of the Council's ongoing drive against illegal dumping.

I. Grimes, DOS said he understood the frustration of members with how slow the house build process was but that there was a resource issue in the Department which has now been resolved and that he anticipated an improvement in the coming months. He also said that the query on the land bank will be dealt with at the Housing workshop and will revert on the capital query. Cllr Whelan asked if the Department would reduce funding where local authorities did not meet targets. Cllr Griffin queried the HAP trialing and asked how long it will be in place, he also enquired about the delay on turnaround time for voids and an update on the storm/flood damage funding, he also expressed concerns on the pay by weight scheme and the regulation on the weight of bins before use. Cllr Brennan asked for an update on the Tidy estates awards. F. Galvin, DOS said that Council will have a regulatory role on the calibrations on the bins etc. I. Grimes, DOS said that the Programme for Government will address issues around the HAP Scheme and there has been no announcement in relation to funding yet from Government. He said the average turnaround time for vacant houses is 21 weeks and houses must meet all regulations in relation to H&S and procurement. The Mayor said that the Choiced Based Letting Scheme may improve this. Cllr Doocey raised the issue of fly tipping and dog fouling in urban areas.

Cllr O'Ryan asked that a review of signage on approach roads to the County/City be undertaken and replaced where necessary and also proposed that the Council ask the Minister to defer the introduction of the Pay By Weight Scheme until 1st January 2017, seconded by Cllr Power and carried on a show of hands. Cllr Hearne asked for an outline of the homeless situation and enquired about funding for flood relief. P. Daly, A/DOS stated that a survey of signage is currently being carried out and that the Council is liaising with Tourism Ireland on good messaging signage and that the second tranche of the funding for flood relief is awaited. I. Grimes, DOS said that the homeless figures include eligible people who present. Cllr Reinhardt enquired about reimbursing tenants for malicious damage to their windows and doors or assistance with securing them. Cllr Roche enquired about access to the Greenway in the City, raised concern for children that are homeless and asked are homeless prioritised and about accommodation standards where applicants are housed in B&B accommodation. Cllr Quinlan asked if HAP applicants are under threat and for an update on the CPO at Metalman. P. Daly, A/DOS said that access to the Greenway in the City is being designed. I. Grimes, DOS said that the Council will secure damaged houses and he would refer the reimbursement issue to SPC, that lack of supply is a problem to homeless issue but that it is the highest priority. He also said that HAP applicants under threat are included in figures presented. L. Power, DOS said there is no resources for Metalman CPO.

Cllr Pratt asked that the Council make representations to the Department on the TPS and exclusion of Part 5 and social welfare income, he asked for an update on signs and speed limits in housing estates, Leader funding and whether the Council meets the employment target of 3% for people with disabilities. Cllr Hannigan raised the illegal picking of cockles in Saleens. I. Grimes, DOS confirmed in relation to TPS that Part 5 houses to remain as social housing and social welfare income requirement is to ensure sustainable income in the household. P. Daly A/DOS confirmed that the Council complies with the 3% disability employment requirement. L. Power, DOS said that LCDC is working and that July 1st is the date for funding from Department. P. Daly, A/DOS said that surveying of speed limit in housing estates is ongoing.

6. Regional Cultural Strategy

M. Quinn, DOS presented and recommended the adoption of the Regional Cultural Strategy. It was proposed by Cllr Tobin, seconded by Cllr Roche and agreed.

7. European Capital of Culture Bid Book and Budget grants

M. Quinn, DOS presented and recommended the adoption of the European Capital of Culture Bid Book and Budget. It was proposed by Cllr O'Leary, seconded by Cllr Doocey and agreed unanimously. The Host Bid Book was proposed by the Mayor, seconded by Cllr Quinlan and agreed unanimously.

8. Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2016

V. O'Shea, Rapid Co-ordinator presented the Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2016 allocations which was proposed by Cllr Daniels, seconded by Cllr Reinhardt and agreed.

9. Nominations to Boards (3)

It was proposed by Cllr Tobin, seconded by Cllr O'Donnell and agreed that Cllr R. Murphy be nominated to the board of the Local Link, Waterford Community Transport.

It was proposed by Cllr Quinlan, seconded by Cllr O'Leary and agreed that Cllr. J. Murphy be nominated to the Board of the Theatre Royal.

It was proposed by Cllr Tobin, seconded by Cllr Power and agreed that Cllr R. Murphy be nominated to the Regional Health Forum, South South/West Group.

10. SPC Vacancy

The ratification of Cllr R. Murphy to the vacant position on the Transportation, Infrastructure and Fire SPC was proposed by Cllr Tobin, seconded by Cllr Cronin and agreed.

11. Correspondence

Correspondence and training listed were proposed by Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Carey and agreed. Cllr Roche asked for clarification on the hereditary freeman and E. Ruane, SEO explained that the recent grant of this honour was to address outstanding requests from the old Council but that the continuation of the honour is one for the current Council to agree going forward.

12. Notice of Motions

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr J. Murphy and agreed:

"That Waterford City and County Council provide signage informing tourists on the entrance to Waterford that we have a Gealtacht in the county."

Reg. No. 45 (dated 6th April, 2016)

The motion was supported by Cllrs O'Leary, Nugent and O'Donnell and carried on a show of hands.

It was agreed that Motions 2, 3 and 4 listed would be deferred to the next meeting.

The meeting then went into Committee for a presentation by Gerry Moloney and Brian Fives on behalf of Enterprise Ireland.

13. AOB

None.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____