

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

COUNCIL MEETING HELD on 12th February, 2015

**Item No.
1.**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

Cllr. O'Neill
Cllr. Brennan

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 and Water
Mr. B. White, Director of Service Planning & Corporate Affairs
Mr. Ray Mannix, Senior Engineer, Roads
Mr. Niall Kane, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads
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:

John Andrews
May Power
Susie Frawley
Harry Halligan
John Hubert (8th Marquis of Waterford) De La Poer
David Drohan
James Cahill
Aidan Kane

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations were extended to the following:-

Fr. Alphonsus Cullinan Bishop elect of Waterford and Lismore
The Purple Flag Committee
Moe Dunford - Actor
John Kiely - Horse Trainer

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of meeting held on 15th January 2015 were proposed by Cllr. Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr Brazil and agreed. Minutes of Special Meeting held 30th January 2015 were proposed by Cllr Butler, seconded by Cllr Murphy and agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Daniels enquired if there was a response regarding motion in relation to the waiver scheme. E. Ruane responded that a letter had been received but it was too late for inclusion in this month's correspondence indicating that the matter was being referred to the DOECLG.

3. Planning

Cllr Wyse enquired about the Deise Greenway Project and asked for an update on the Clonea to Durrow stretch. Cllrs Geoghegan and O'Ryan enquired on the same issue. CE responded that negotiations had taken place during the past week and that the Council will enter on lands next week to clear growth on the line and that following agreement with the landowners the matter would be reverting to court in the next couple of weeks with a view to discontinuation of these proceedings. The Mayor, Cllr Nugent and Cllr O'Leary thanked the CE for his work on the project to date. Cllr O'Ryan proposed the adoption of the Development Contribution Scheme, seconded by Cllr Geoghegan. Cllr Roche proposed a reduction in residential extension charges and asked if the charges had been factored into the budget, this was seconded by Cllr Daniels. Cllr Power stated that agricultural exemptions should encourage young people to stay/return to farm. The CE confirmed that income from the scheme had been taken into consideration in compiling the budget. Cllr Roche then withdrew her amendment. Cllr Conway supported the scheme but asked that the Council would pursue the current outstanding arrears. B. White confirmed that all outstanding contributions would be pursued. The proposal was then put and carried on a show of hands.

4. Land Disposals

Cllr O'Sullivan proposed the lease of the former Civic Offices to Nearform Ltd. seconded by Cllr Hannigan. Cllr Fitzgerald welcomed the lease and he enquired if the car parking facilities for staff would be retained. B. White, DOS responded that the Riverstown Depot will facilitate staff car parking. Cllr Conway enquired about the waiving of the rent for 18 months. L. Power, DOS confirmed that the full commercial rent would be charged. Cllr O'Leary asked why there is an 18 month free rent. L. Power, DOS stated that this was a standard practice to attract commercial lettings. Cllr Roche proposed the lease of premises at 121/122 Parade Quay to McLearys Restaurant, seconded by Cllr Daniels. Cllr Mulligan raised a query on this lease and L. Power, DOS replied.

5. Monthly Management Report

Cllr Roche enquired about the City Centre Management grouping and youth unemployment. L. Power, DOS responded saying that the CCMC report would be more suited to the Metropolitan meeting and he has referred the issue of youth unemployment to the DSP for further analysis. Cllr Mulligan enquired whether the number of people accommodated in emergency accommodation was correct. Cllr Kelly enquired about speed limits in housing estates and what the closing date for submission for same was. Cllr Power agreed that there should be an extension of the closing date for the scheme.

M. Quinn, DOS responded that the housing data was correct. P. Daly, A/DOS said that the intention was to identify conditions in estates and there was no difficulty in extending consultation period. He added that if members think areas have inappropriate speed limits they should submit them for consideration. Cllr Fitzgerald raised a question on enforcement. Cllr Geoghegan asked if the Council had its social housing proposals prepared. Cllr Brazil proposed that the deadline stay as it will delay works. P. Daly, A/DOS responded that signage would not ensure compliance but it was part of larger traffic calming measures and the overall plan would enquire enforcement by Gardai. M. Quinn, DOS confirmed that sites had been identified and that consultation with approved housing bodies was taking place. The Council was looking at infill proposals and progressing HAP. Cllr Cummins asked if a plan to identify locations would be circulated. M. Quinn, DOS stated that a Plan will be circulated in due course. Cllr Hearne enquired about an out of hours service for homeless and an emergency response number. Cllr Wyse asked if disability parking violations could be included in the next management report. Cllr O'Leary asked that the management report be taken in order for debate. Cllr Pratt asked that the deadline be maintained and that residents associations be contacted to make decisions. Cllr Daniels asked was it only infill housing sites being considered. Cllr Kelly enquired as to the housing prospects of HAP applicants. M. Quinn, DOS confirmed that various options were being considered for housing. He also stated that HAP is an initial measure for families and that all those people will be able to transfer to local authority housing as it becomes available. He stated that the emergency number is available to all agencies.

P. Daly, DOS confirmed that emails can be circulated to the residential associations and will provide a report on the traffic violations. Cllrs Whelan and Murphy concurred with the concerns of Cllr Kelly. Cllr Fitzgerald enquired if we had funding and plans for future housing. Cllr Pratt also enquired if a HAP applicant could lose their place on the housing list and if applicants can transfer to local authority housing. Cllr Reinhardt also enquired about HAP scheme. Cllr Hannigan asked if the HAP scheme reducing the housing list.

M. Quinn, DOS confirmed that there are plans and ongoing negotiations with the Department with regarding to new housing schemes. He also confirmed that they remain for 2 years under HAP and then they can transfer.

6. Annual Service Plans 2015

The CE presented the Annual Service Plan 2015. Cllr Geoghegan proposed the Scheme, seconded by Cllr Carey. Cllr Pratt enquired if Districts have the power to decide where money is spent. CE responded that the schedule of municipal works will go to the Districts in March. Cllr O'Ryan commented on the maintenance of local roads in the Comeragh area and did not agree with the funding allocation. Cllr Kelly commented on the state of the Metropolitan roads and did not agree that the allocation is fair and proposed that €500,000 further be allocated to the Metropolitan District. Cllr Mulligan asked why a workshop/consultation had not taken place. Cllr Roche supported Cllr Mulligan's question and also seconded Cllr Kelly's

proposal. Cllr Daniels supported Cllr Roche and opposed the roads allocations. He also sought an update on the Michael Street/Apple Market development. Cllr Cronin, Butler and Fitzgerald made further contributions. Cllr Conway complimented the plan and suggested a glossary for the acronyms used. Cllr Brazil also commented that the budget was not sufficient for the Comeragh area. Cllr Murphy asked if the debate could be deferred until a workshop is held. Cllr Nugent complimented the plan. Cllr Cummins commented that the metropolitan budget increase of €1.2 million is welcome and also asked if a workshop could be held in future years. On request from the Mayor, Cllr Kelly clarified that the proposed amendment should state that the €500,000 transfer to the Metropolitan area would be achieved by a reduction of €250,000 from the Dungarvan/Lismore District budget and €250,000 from the Comeragh budget. On a show of hands the amendment was lost and the Annual Service Plan as presented was adopted.

7. Draft Beach Bye-Laws for Waterford City and County Council

Draft Beach Bye-Laws were proposed by Cllr Kelly, seconded by Cllr Pratt and agreed, that they be put on public display for consultation.

8. Five Axle Lorry Ban – Waterford City

The Five Axle Lorry Ban 3 month trial period from 1st May was proposed by Cllr Roche seconded by Cllr Hannigan and agreed.

9. Correspondence

Correspondence including conferences and training contained therein was agreed.

10. Notices of Motions

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Pratt, seconded by Cllr Wyse and agreed.

“Cllr. John Pratt would like Waterford Council to investigate the possibility of providing allocated parking facilities for Powered Two Wheelers (PTW).”
Reg. No. 21 (dated 4th February, 2015)

10. AOB

Cllr Mulligan suggested that Mr. Michael Kelly be asked to address Council in committee in respect of WIT Technological University application status. Cllr Brazil asked for support for a 50km cycle for mental health and suicide awareness to be held on Easter Sunday which was agreed.

Cllr O'Donnell suggested that each Councillor give €100 to the Ballybeg Community Centre to help towards reinstatement. The Mayor ruled that such a matter was for individual Councillors to decide for themselves and not for Council decision. This concluded the meeting.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____