

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

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8th OCTOBER, 2015 HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, CITY HALL, WATERFORD**

**Item
No.1**

PRESENT:

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

APOLOGIES:

Cllr Brazil, Cllr Clune, Cllr Cummins, Cllr Roche and Cllr Tobin.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. M. Walsh, Chief Executive
Mr. L. Power, Director of Services, Economic Development and Planning
Mr. F. Galvin, Director of Services, Environment, Water and Corporate
Mr. M. Quinn, Director of Services, Housing, Community and Culture
Mr. P. McCarthy, A/Director of Services, Roads HR & Emergency Services
Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services
Mr. D. Murphy, Financial Management Accountant
Ms. J. Cantwell, City and County Librarian
Mr. E. Ruane, Meeting Administrator
Ms. A. Jacob, Senior Staff Officer, Corporate Services

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Minutes of Plenary meeting held on 10th September 2015 were proposed by Cllr O'Ryan, seconded by Cllr Daniels and agreed.

Minutes of Special meeting (LPT) held on 24th September, 2015 were proposed by Cllr Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr Cronin and agreed.

Minutes of Special meeting held on 28th September 2015 were proposed by Cllr Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr Brennan and agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr Daniels asked for an update on Bolton Street Carpark and the gasworks site at Waterside. F. Galvin, DOS said that there was no definite commencement date but that a contractor was ready to start on the Courthouse Bolton Street project. Cllr Murphy asked for an update on the Plaza lights on the Quay. F. Galvin, DOS said that they were working on a solution to this. Cllr Wyse asked about the disabled sign parking and the monitoring of the disabled parking signs outside City Hall and for a Council contact name for reporting issues. P. McCarthy, SE said that it was difficult to monitor outside hours but will look at the issue and revert. Cllr O'Neill asked for an update on addressing the approach to the City from the Kilkenny side at the

Railway Station and asked about changing the colour of the lights on the Plaza. Cllr Conway asked for an update on outstanding development charges. L. Power, DOS said that he will revert with report. F. Galvin, DOS said that the approach road to the City was being addressed. Cllr Nugent enquired about the road at Coscam. P. McCarthy, SE responded and said that the NRA report was being considered and will come back to the District meeting for decision.

3. PLANNING

Cllr Hannigan enquired about the building works that had ceased at the nursing home near the Golf Club in Tramore. L. Power, DOS responded that that the Council are waiting on an amended application to be made.

4. Land Disposals

Land disposals as listed were proposed by Cllr Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr Fitzgerald and agreed.

5. MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORT

Cllr Griffin raised a sewerage issue between Irish Water and residents at Hillview and asked for a resolution to be sought. Cllr O’Ryan enquired if the Council were acting as collection agents for Irish Water for non domestic water services and asked for clarification to be sought from Minister in relation to eircodes in Ballymacarbry. F. Galvin, DOS said we no longer had a remit in relation to water and act solely as a contractor for Irish Water 2014, he said that there was a delay in bills going out and that there is some ambiguity where there is a commercial/domestic mix. M. Quinn, DOS agreed to draft a letter to An Post in relation to the eircodes.

Cllr Brennan enquired how many new landlords had signed up for HAP and a monthly breakdown and also enquired about a customer contact to report littering and dog fouling and asked if CCTV cameras could be installed. Cllr Reinhardt stated that there is confusion in relation to responsibility for sewerage issues and asked if the Council could take responsibility for common drainage areas. Cllr Conway asked if there was to be a reduction in the sweeping/cleaning regime in Tramore and voiced his concerns. Cllr Mulligan enquired about emergency call outs and asked for an analysis of same, he also raised housing emergency accommodation and HAP and the difficulties with same. Cllr Whelan enquired about vacancies and how long it takes to turn them around and if the Council had a strategy to deal with homelessness. F. Galvin, DOS said that there is ongoing monitoring for dumping and flytipping and CCTV is used with some successful prosecutions. He also said that Irish Water is the authority for water and drainage issues now, that the sweeping in Tramore is being reviewed but there will be no diminution of the service. M. Quinn, DOS said that 68 HAP applicants had signed up in September, 40 were new and that all concerns were being passed on to the Department. He also said that the fundamental issue was that there is not enough houses to meet the demand. The Council had dedicated homeless staff to address current issues, our own housing construction programme was advancing and the Department were being asked to fund further properties. Alternative options for Dungarvan will be sourced and he will revert with number of new landlords but that the Council does not source landlords for HAP.

Cllr Kelly asked what happens where a householder cannot afford to pay Irish Water and referred to a case in Cannon Street where the Council allegedly paid for repairs. He also asked if F. Galvin, DOS had received a reply from Irish Water. Cllr Fitzgerald enquired if the urban regeneration programme would provide any funding for social housing, he asked if the €20,000 funding had been received for the sea wall at Cheekpoint and also asked if there was a standard for school pedestrian crossings. Cllr Hearne raised issues in relation to the railings at Cork Road and Paddy Browns Road, housing prefabs and asked if the recent measures announced about derelict sites would address the derelict pub site in Ballybeg. F. Galvin, DOS said the Irish Water response was as advised and that he would look at the Cannon Street case. L. Power, DOS said that a 5% social housing requirement and a vacant sites levy were provided for under the Urban Regeneration Act. M. Quinn, DOS said that the Department were looking at prefab options. P. McCarthy, SE said he would revert on Cheekpoint and that due to variations at schools it was difficult to standardise all school crossings but that the aim would be to do this. Cllr Daniels enquired about capital funding and stated that progress on WIT upgrading was disappointing. Cllr Butler asked if the Council is contracted to collect for Irish Water, if the Council would consider house extensions to address housing needs. Cllr Carey asked for an update on dredging at Passage East harbour. P. McCarthy, SE said that the

funding has been allocated and the disposal of dredged material issues are being examined. M. Walsh, CE said that he was positive that capital projects would attract investment. M. Quinn, DOS confirmed that the Council do extensions to houses to meet need. F. Galvin, DOS responded and confirmed that the Council does collect non domestic water charges for Irish Water. Cllr Wyse asked for an update on Passage East flood relief, a school warden for Waterpark school, uPvc doors and windows at Upper Grange and eligibility criteria. Cllr Nugent asked when the Dungarvan to Durrow Greenway would be opened. Cllr Murphy asked if there were any plans to develop tourist facilities at the Bilberry end of the Greenway and the Red Iron Bridge, he also asked when the lighting on the Folly would be fixed. M. Walsh, CE confirmed that the target was to complete all stages of the Greenway by next May, that expressions of interest will be sought in the next month to develop facilities but that in the short term there was no plans for the Red Iron Bridge. M. Quinn, DOS said that SEAI rules apply to uPvc installation grants. P. McCarthy, SE said that the Passage East flood relief contract will go to tender shortly. Cllr Power enquired what type of licensing the Ormonde Recycling plant in Portlaoise had. Cllr O'Neill enquired about the Council taking on apprentices and if the apartment blocks in the City were up to standard. Cllr Quinlan enquired if the Housing Department would engage in information sharing with landlords on the HAP Scheme. F. Galvin, DOS confirmed that the Ormonde plant had a waste facility permit and that it is monitored and inspected for compliance. M. Quinn, DOS said that the Council had made efforts to engage with landlords and agents that the market was not helping but would be happy to hold an information workshop. M. Walsh, CE said that the Council was not aware of any building control issues with apartments and he said that the workforce plan agreed with the Department made it difficult to give any commitments in regard to apprenticeships.

6. Presentation on Comhairle na nÓg

A presentation was made by Darragh Jane O'Sullivan and Riain Ó'Donoghue followed by questions from members. Members complimented the presentation and thanked Jamie Moore for his work and commitment to Comhairle and wished him well in his new job.

7. Update on Waterford City and County programme for Commemoration 2016

Jane Cantwell, City and County Librarian made a short presentation to update on the work of the Committee on Commemoration 2016. This was followed by questions from the members. Councillors called for a permanent memorial to be erected for the City and County. In response to a question she confirmed that no decisions could be finalised until funding had been allocated.

8. Three Sisters 2020 Capital of Culture Bid Update

M. Quinn, DOS presented an update on the bid proposal and the process followed by questions from Councillors.

9. Confirmation of Nominations to Bodies

- (a) Regional Health Forum – Cllr John Carey was proposed by Cllr O'Sullivan as a replacement for Cllr Brazil, seconded by Cllr Cronin and agreed.
- (b) Local Community Development Committee – confirmation of Professor Willie Donnelly as a replacement for Dr. Ruadhri Nevin and Senan Cooke as replacement for Jamie Moore, proposed by Cllr O'Sullivan, seconded by Cllr Cronin and agreed.

10. Correspondence

Correspondence and conferences were proposed by Cllr Pratt, seconded by Cllr Daniels and agreed.

11. Notices of Motion

None.

11.AOB

Cllr Mulligan requested that the Mayor write to the Department of Defence in relation to the twinning of Waterford with the LE James Joyce.

Cllr Fitzgerald expressed his thanks for the "Portlairge" dredger memorial plaque.

The Mayor reminded the Council of a mayoral reception for the Erasmus teachers in Dungarvan Civic Offices on Friday 9th October.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Mayor

Dated: _____