Meeting of the Metropolitan District held in City Hall, Waterford on 20th June 2016 @ 5.00pm

Present:

- Cllr. Eamon Quinlan Mayor
- Cllr. Lola O’Sullivan
- Cllr. Breda Brennan
- Cllr. Joe Conway
- Cllr. Davy Daniels
- Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
- Cllr. Blaise Hannigan
- Cllr. Jason Murphy
- Cllr. Adam Wyse
- Cllr. Eddie Mulligan
- Cllr. Mary Roche
- Cllr. Cha O’Neill
- Cllr. Jim Griffin
- Cllr. John Carey

Officials in attendance:

- Mr. L. Power, District Manager
- Mr. I. Grimes DOS Housing, Community & Culture
- Mr. N. Kane, SEE Roads
- Ms. M. Murray, SE Planner
- Mr. R. Moloney, SEO Environment
- Mr. P. McCarthy, SE Water
- Mr. B. Duggan, SEO Economic Development
- Mr. E. Ruane, SEO Corporate
- Ms. M. Fitzsimons, CO Economic Development.


Vote of Sympathy:

At the outset of the meeting Cllr. O’Sullivan proposed a special vote of sympathy to the family of Gerry Clune, father of Cllr Declan Clune, this was seconded by Cllr. Brennan and agreed. The meeting was adjourned for five minutes as a mark of respect.

Further votes of sympathy were extended to the family of Patricia Dreelan

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the Metropolitan District meeting held on the 16th May 2016, were proposed by Cllr. Brennan, seconded by Cllr. Fitzgerald and agreed.

2. Matters Arising

Cllr. Roche confirmed her request in relation to the N25 Toll was to move the toll to the motorway. Cllr. O’Neill requested details on the vehicular numbers using the toll bridge; he also requested that the presentation on entering the city from Sallypark be reviewed; he suggested examining the option of use of the Regional Sports Centre to facilitate parking of campervans overnight. Cllr. Roche requested details on the estimate for the installation of CCTV cameras in The People’s Park; she requested that parking spaces be marked at the carpark in Woodstown to encourage correct parking of campervans,
and the inclusion of the total numbers on the housing list be included in housing reports. Cllr. Daniels requested clarification on clauses within the Tenant Purchase Scheme. Cllr. Mulligan requested an update on public lighting in Riverside, Ballinakill Downs; he endorsed the need for CCTV and lights within The People’s Park and suggested that it be remotely monitored; he requested a costing on the opening up of the City Walls and outlined the need for improved communication with businesses affected by Urban Renewal Works. Cllr. O’Sullivan agreed with the need for action in relation to provision of parking for campervans, particularly in the Tramore area.

R. Moloney SEO confirmed that planting work which has commenced in the Sallypark area will be completed shortly; he confirmed that the quotation for installation of CCTV cameras in The People’s Park has been received and is under examination. Cllr. Roche outlined that the Gardaí would consider adding The Park to their current system for monitoring CCTV in the city. I. Grimes DOS outlined the specifics of the Tenant Purchase Scheme and confirmed that all concerns received have been raised with the Dept. of Environment, Community and Local Government as they will be reviewing the scheme. He confirmed the numbers on the Housing List at 2,500 as of October and outlined that the Needs Assessment will be carried out on an annual basis in the future. Cllr. Daniels proposed that a letter be written to Oireachtas members and the Minister of Environment, Community & Local Government outlining concerns in relation to the Tenant Purchase Scheme; this was seconded by Cllr. O’Neill and agreed. N. Kane SEE confirmed that works on the public lighting in Riverside has been completed. P. McCarthy SE confirmed that campervans can park in any space so long as it is legally parked but not overnight in proximity to beaches as per the Beach By-Laws; parking facilities for campervans is under discussion at SPC level and he will examine facilities at the RSC and will mark the spaces at Woodstown as requested. L. Power District Manager outlined the funding streams for the City Walls; he agreed to have the contractor speak to businesses in the location of the Urban Renewal works.

Cllr. Conway asked for an update on the safety audit on Newtown Pier and Garrarus and enquired about the weed spraying programme. Cllr. Griffin enquired about the gully machine programme. Cllr. Fitzgerald outlined campervan facilities in Dunmore East. N. Kane SEE confirmed that the gully machine is in use and he will revert on the safety audits for Newtown Pier and Garrarus. R. Moloney SEO confirmed the weed spraying programme is underway.

3. Planning

(a) Planning Lists were circulated by email. Noted.
(b) Taking In Charge of Spruce Cove, Tramore – Completion of the Process – was proposed by Cllr. O’Sullivan, seconded by Cllr. Conway and agreed.
(c) Event Licence – Spraoi Festival – Completion of the Process – was proposed by Cllr. Roche, seconded by Cllr. Brennan and agreed.
(d) Material Contravention of the Tramore Area Plan - Completion of the Process - Proposed development of five houses, house types A (two story over basement) and B (two-storey), a preschool (Naoinra), access roads, lighting, drainage, landscaping and boundary treatment and associated site works at Crobally Upper, Tramore, Co. Waterford – was proposed by Cllr. Hannigan, seconded by Cllr. Griffin and unanimously agreed.
(e) Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended - Planning and Development Regulations 2001 as amended - Part VIII – Commencement of the Process - Demolition of 5 No houses (7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 Doyle Street) and Construction of 4 No Dwelling Units and associated site development works at the intersection of Doyle’s Street and St. Ignatius Street, Waterford City, situated in the Townland of Browley East, Co. Waterford – was proposed by Cllr. O’Neill, seconded by Cllr. Conway and agreed.

4. Reports

Circulated by email for information.

Cllr. O’Neill requested details of any monies returned to the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government for housing. Cllr. Fitzgerald enquired about legislation to protect tenants with rent supplement in the event of the landlord telling them that the house is being sold but re-let at a higher price. Cllr. Murphy concurred with concerns raised about the Tenant Purchase Scheme and the categories of those affected by new clauses and requested an update on the infill housing in Larchville.
Cllr. Griffin asked for a familiarisation tour of the housing offices and suggested that future plans provide areas which are identified for elderly tenants who may need to relocate.

I. Grimes, DOS outlined the stages of approval required prior to funding being drawn down (from the Dept.) on commencement of a scheme and no monies had been returned; he outlined the role of the Private Residential Tenancies Board in mediating on tenant/landlords issues; he confirmed that he will continue to forward all concerns raised in relation to the Tenant Purchase Scheme and that the infill housing in Larchville will go to tender in July 2016; he will discuss the idea of a familiarisation tour with staff members and revert and he agreed to consider the option in relation to secure locations for accommodating elderly tenants.

Cllr.Daniels asked for an update on planning for St. Patrick’s hospital; on liaison between residents and businesses affected by the Urban Renewal Works and on the Applemarket Shopping Development; he enquired about repeater speed signs for the Knockboy area and for the bridge and seats in The People’s Park to be refurbished; he enquired about consultation with The Friary prior to works being carried out. Cllr. O’Neill asked for an update on developments at T&H Doolins, Weatherspoons, City Square and Waterside carpark. Cllr. Roche asked for the repainting of road markings and yellow boxes on the Dunmore Road and for the Castle Street area to be cleaned up; she noted a need for hostel accommodation in the city area and sought update on 3rd bridge at Island Lane. Cllr. Wyse acknowledged the provision of bins on the Dunmore Road and requested that bins be provided on the Ring Road; he asked about a text notification service when parking bays for disabled users are being abused and a playpark at Knockboy junction.

Cllr. O’Sullivan raised an issue with the height of an outflow in Newtown Cove. Cllr. Carey raised the issue of public lighting in Crooke and speed limits on the Outer Ring Road. Cllr. Fitzgerald requested that a bus shelter be erected on the Williamstown Road and raised the pay by weight waste collection services. Cllr. Hannigan raised staffing levels at Tramore Fire Station, festival funding for the truck show and the Railway Station in Tramore. N. Kane SEE confirmed that the speed limit review is ongoing; he will review the requirement for public lighting in Crooke. P. McCarthy SE outlined that funding for same will be decided by the elected body. N. Kane SEE will examine the Williamstown Road area to identify a suitable location for a bus shelter. P. McCarthy SE agreed to revert on the personnel quota in Tramore Fire Station. R. Moloney SEO outlined that an announcement is due from the Minister on the pay by weight waste collection system which will offer clarity. B. Duggan SEO confirmed that a legal team are working on finalising details on the acquisition of the Railway Station in Tramore. L. Power District Manager dealt with query relating to funding for the truck show. R. Moloney, SEO will refer outflow issue to Irish Water.

L. Power District Manager confirmed that weekly meetings will be held by the Project Manager for the residential and business community in relation to Urban Renewal Works; he updated on planning stages for the Applemarket Shopping Development and confirmed that all legalities in relation to the Waterside carpark have now been completed and the paperwork is being processed; he outlined an aspiration to have a greater number of hotel beds in Waterford. M. Murray SE updated on St. Patrick’s hospital, T&H’s, Weatherspoons and City Square. N. Kane SEE will review the yellow box junctions as requested and outlined that repeater speed limit sign are place where limits change; he confirmed that a third river crossing in being actively worked on; and that abuse of bays for disabled drivers is currently reported via social media. R. Moloney SEO agreed to raise the request relating to the bridge between the Courthouse and The People’s Park with the Office of Public Works as it under their responsibility and he will review the seating in the park as requested; he confirmed that he will add Castle Street to the works programme; he outlined that the location of bins is being reviewed under Litter Management Plan; he will locate the files relating to the playpark at Knockboy. L. Power District Manager said the provision of a hostel in the city centre is dependent on market influences and confirmed communications with The Friary prior to works commencing.

Cllr. Griffin applauded Council’s outdoor staff on works completed; he raised the issue of public realm in O’Connell Street and of weeds at derelict sites; he outlined that Chapel Lane needs a long term plan and asked that the Council work with land owners in relation to hedge cutting. Mayor Quinlan supported the call for a plan for Chapel Lane. Cllr. Mulligan asked about introducing pay by text parking meters; he requested a clean-up between Georges Quay and Adelphi Quay and at John’s River; he requested an update on the Estuary & Waterford City East Local Economic Plan and enquired about the intended use of the Sorting Office on The Quay and of the vacant unit at Cathedral Square. Cllr. Murphy concurred on comments made in relation to O’Connell Street and raised a query about parking.
regulations in relation to contra flow parking. Cllr. Conway raised a question about discharges from carwashes; he requested a crossing at the Terminus area in Tramore and the installation of a grab rail at the entrances to Tramore Nature Park; he also raised question of the demolition in Monvoy Valley. Mayor Quinlan requested a footpath be placed at Carrickphierish to adjoining school.

Mayor Quinlan proposed suspension of standing order and adding an extra fifteen minutes to the meeting; this was seconded by Cllr. Conway and agreed.

L. Power District Manager confirmed that the issues on O’Connell Street are under consideration and that the Local Area Community Plans are mobilising communities to think about economic development in their areas; he outlined that there are serious legal issues surrounding Monvoy Valley and that options are being examined for the use of the Sorting Office site. Cllrs. Roche and Daniels requested that members be notified of property acquisitions. N. Kane SEE confirmed that the traffic wardens systems are being upgraded to facilitate pay by phone options in the future and that there are no bye-laws preventing contra flow parking; he confirmed a dished crossing at the bus station in Tramore, there is a set down area at Carrickphierish School and that a footpath is planned for Priory Road; he also agreed to re-examine a link road between Hillview and Carrickphierish. R. Moloney, SEO agreed to examine Chapel Lane and John’s River area re the provision of bins; he pointed out the regulations for discharge from carwashes; he will install a hand rail at the entrances to Tramore Nature Park. N. Kane SEE will investigate where responsibility for the Adelphi Quay/Georges Quay area lies. L. Power District Manager confirmed that the lease for the unit in Cathedral Square is proceeding.

5. Correspondence

Correspondence from Bus Eireann was noted.

6. Notice of Motion

There was no notice of motion.

7. A.O.B.

Cllr. O’Neill requested an update on Waterford Airport. L. Power District Manager agreed to revert by email. Cllr. Daniels requested the area beyond Maxol on the Dunmore Road be planted. Mayor Quinlan reminded that the AGM will be held on June 29th at 5pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: __________________________    Dated: __________________________
Mayor