

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

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 11<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,  
CITY HALL, WATERFORD.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. John Cummins, Mayor	Cllr. Joe Kelly
Cllr. Liam Brazil	Cllr. Eddie Mulligan
Cllr. Breda Brennan	Cllr. Jason Murphy
Cllr. Mary Butler	Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. John Carey	Cllr. Sean Reindhardt
Cllr. Declan Clune	Cllr. John O'Leary
Cllr. Joe Conway	Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. Davy Daniels	Cllr. Eamon Quinlan
Cllr. Declan Doocey	Cllr. Mary Roche
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Cllr. James Tobin
Cllr. Jim Griffin	Cllr. Adam Gary Wyse
Cllr. Blaise Hannigan	Cllr. Siobhan Whelan
Cllr. John Hearne	

**APOLOGIES:**

Cllr. Cha O' Neill, Cllr. Tom Cronin, Cllr. Damien Geoghegan, Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell, Cllr. Michael J O'Ryan, Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan, Cllr. Seanie Power

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. M. Walsh, Chief Executive  
Mr. L. Power, Director of Services, Economic Development and Planning  
Mr. M. Quinn, Director of Services, Community and Culture  
Mr. P. Daly, A/Director of Services, Roads HR & Emergency Services  
Mr. J. Murphy, Head of Finance  
Mr. F. Galvin, Director of Services, Environment, Water and Corporate  
Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services, Housing  
Mr. E. Ruane, Meeting Administrator  
Mr. J. Daniels, Administrative Officer  
Ms. A. Jacob, Senior Staff Officer

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2016 were proposed by Cllr Tobin, seconded by Cllr. Carey and agreed.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

None.

### **3. PLANNING**

Planning lists were noted.

Cllr. Conway asked about the Queen of Peace Nursing Home.

L. Power, DOS replied that agents had been in contact to move the project forward.

### **4. Land Disposals**

Cllr. Whelan – sought clarification on L836 Waterford and Lismore Diocesan Trust

Cllr. O' Leary – sought clarification on L833 Kilmacthomas Mill

Cllr. Conway – sought clarification on D630 5 Riversdale, Tramore

Cllr. Mulligan - sought clarification on the lease of former presentation convent to Waterford & Lismore Diocesan Trust.

F. Galvin DoS responded with clarification of all issues.

The listed disposals were proposed by Cllr. Conway and seconded by Cllr. O' Leary and agreed.

### **5. Management Report**

Cllr. Tobin asked have we applied for grant aid for roads, how much has been applied for and how is it to be distributed. Cllr. Brennan raised a question on the economic development figure, housing, 51 cases for January, when is SEAI grant being allocated, asked if the residents associations community grants will increase and how many on the spot fines were paid.

Cllr. Daniels asked how many tenants are eligible for the Tenant Purchase Scheme, how long residence is required to qualify, will it be individual valuations and when will it commence.

P. Daly, A/DOS replied that the application has been made for emergency funding for roads. A detailed list had been submitted and roads will be prioritised on the basis of greatest need.

F. Galvin, DOS advised that the SEAI grants closing date is 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2016 with results expected in April. On the spot fines have 21 days to pay.

L. Power, DOS explained the economic development figures.

I. Grimes, DOS will revert on the January housing figures. The Tenant Purchase Scheme terms are being finalised.

Cllr. Reinhardt requested comparison figures for housing applications.

Cllr. Hearne said that repair of windows should be put back to SPC.

Cllr. Hannigan asked how many NAMA houses are being considered.

I. Grimes, DOS replied that the comparison figures will be supplied. The issue of windows will go to the SPC. and will revert on NAMA houses.

Cllr. Kelly asked if homeless are priority and requested an explanation of void units. Environment- He asked what was the follow up on 177 complaints.

Cllr. Roche asked if overall housing statistics can be included in report. She said that Arts and Community funding in Waterford is low by comparison and that the Council needs to make a case for this. She asked how many IDA visits the Council was asked to participate in and asked that the Council consider free hazardous waste collection.

Cllr. Mulligan complimented the opening of the new Fire Station and suggested an open day be organised for the public. He requested housing comparison figures. He said there was a problem with Irish Water reinstatement works on the Dunmore Road. He enquired about funding for acquisition for 33 The Mall from Centenary Capital Funding. CE will revert on funding application for 33 The Mall.

I. Grimes, DOS replied that he will revert with housing comparison figures and said that homelessness are given priority in relation to re-housing.

F. Galvin, DOS replied that 177 environmental enforcement issues are the explained figures.

P. Daly, A/DOS, replied that he will bring the issue of open day in Fire Station to Management Team. He said that the Dunmore Road contractor is responsible for work for one year.

Mayor asked that the IDA Regional Director be invited to address Council.

Cllr. Conway – raised Tramore Centre business.

Cllr. Wyse enquired about businesses providing dog bins and an update on social housing in City East.

Cllr. Griffin requested an update on jetpatcher and an update on hedgecutting. He asked about plans for social housing and modular homes. He also asked about privacy screening in Baileys New Street offices and can Irish Water be asked about pumphouses maintenance.

I. Grimes, DOS, replied that the first modular housing is not complete in Dublin where assessment will take place. Proposals are with the Department for social housing.

P. Daly, A/DOS replied that the schedule for the jetpatcher will be put on the extranet.

L. Power, DOS said Council working with Tramore Centre group.

F. Galvin, DOS will revert on cost of dog bins. He said that pumphouses had been upgraded and are now the responsibility of Irish Water

Cllr. Butler asked if there are any plans to introduce a Community Improvement Scheme, enquired about NAMA houses and stated that litter levels on roads are very high.

Cllr. Clune asked how many new housing units will be completed this year and asked have funds been drawn down for speed restrictions.

Cllr. Pratt asked can refused houses be advertised and about date for choice based letting scheme.

P. Daly, A/DOS replied that it is up to Council to set aside money for Community Improvement Scheme and he will revert on speed restrictions in housing schemes.

I. Grimes, DOS advised that NAMA houses will be explored. Will revert on number of finishes this year.

Cllr. Nugent agrees with CIS and asked when will part of Greenway open.

Cllr. Fitzgerald agrees with CIS and requested that regular hazardous waste collections be organised. He asked if Council has land in East Waterford.

Cllr. Doocey asked that the jet patcher be used on double shifts.

Cllr. Carey enquired about the derelict pub in Cheekpoint.

P. Daly, A/DOS replied that LIS's and CIS's are Council Members decisions. The Greenway to Knock will be finished by February and then proceed to Durrow. Operating the jet patcher at weekends is not provided for in budget.

F. Galvin, DOS stated that hazardous waste collection is expensive and increase was not provided for but would examine the matter.

L. Power suggested a workshop on derelict sites be held.

## **6. Finance**

J. Murphy, HOF presented the Vacant Rated Properties Scheme.

Cllr. Tobin proposed that no decision be made for one month, Cllr. Daniels seconded.

CE said that the bills must go out and if decision is not made incentives cannot be granted and he commended the scheme and recommended a decision be made.

Cllr. Roche proposed scheme, seconded by Cllr. Doocey and agreed.

## **7. Control of Skips Bye-Laws 2015**

P. Daly, A/DOS presented the Waterford City and County Council Control of Skips Bye-Laws 2015. The Bye-Laws were proposed by Cllr. Conway, who suggested that they be altered to include reflective strips on 4 sides of the skip - it was confirmed that this was already included, seconded by Cllr. Doocey and carried.

## 8. Festivals Funding – Grant Application Scheme

L. Power, DOS presented the Scheme.

Cllr. Roche objected to the scheme and expressed concern about the suggested evaluation process.

She was supported by Cllr. Tobin who said Councillors should be involved. Cllr. Conway also objected.

CE responded that Council would be involved in evaluation.

Cllr. Mulligan and Cllr. Fitzgerald expressed their reservations. Mayor suggested working with some recommendations as guidance. L. Power, DOS, Economic Development will bring recommendations to a workshop to be held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> at 4pm in City Hall, and to be continued on March 8<sup>th</sup> if necessary.

## 9. Supporting Waterford Communities Fund 2016

M. Quinn, DOS advised that an advert will be in next weeks paper.

## 10. Correspondence

Letter from An Post was referred to by Cllr. Tobin.

Conferences listed were proposed by Cllr. Daniels and seconded by Cllr. Kelly and agreed.

## 11. Notice of Motions

**The following motion was proposed by Cllr. Roche Clune seconded by Cllr. Daniels:**

“In an effort to improve the lives and wellbeing of our Deaf and Hard of hearing citizens, that this Council calls on the Government to give official recognition status to ISL, Irish Sign Language. Furthermore, in the context of both enhancing the lives of our deaf and Hard of Hearing citizens and adhering to the spirit and ethos of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that Waterford City & County Council calls on the Government to give official recognition status to Irish Sign Language (ISL) especially to Article 21 that states ‘recognising and promoting the use of sign language most likely requiring implementing legislation’. Also Article 24 – 3b ‘facilitating the learning of sign language and the promotion of the linguistic identity of the deaf community’.

**Reg. No. 40 (dated 2nd February, 2016)**

Motion was supported by Cllrs. O’ Leary, Brennan and Reinhardt and carried.

## 12. AOB

Cllr. Brazil sought support for the Mental Health and Suicide Conference in Dungarvan on 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> February.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_