

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

**COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 8<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2016 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,  
CITY HALL, THE MALL, WATERFORD**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. Adam Wyse Mayor	Cllr. Ray Murphy
Cllr. Liam Brazil	Cllr. Pat Nugent
Cllr. Breda Brennan	Cllr. Seamus O'Donnell
Cllr. John Carey	Cllr. John O'Leary
Cllr. Joe Conway	Cllr. Michael J O'Ryan
Cllr. Declan Clune	Cllr. Cha O'Neill
Cllr. Tom Cronin	Cllr. Lola O'Sullivan
Cllr John Cummins	Cllr. Seanie Power
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald	Cllr. John Pratt
Cllr. Jim Griffin	Cllr. Eamon Quinlan
Cllr. Damien Geoghegan	Cllr. Séan Reinhardt
Cllr. Blaise Hannigan	Cllr. Mary Roche
Cllr. John Hearne	Cllr James Tobin
Cllr. Joe Kelly	Cllr. Siobhan Whelan
Cllr. Jason Murphy	

**APOLOGIES:**

Cllr Davy Daniels, Cllr Declan Doocey, Cllr Eddie Mulligan

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. M. Walsh, Chief Executive  
Mr. L. Power, Director of Services, Economic Development & Planning  
Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services, Housing  
Mr. J. Murphy, Head of Finance  
Mr. J. O'Mahony, Senior Planner  
Mr. L. O'Brien, Senior Executive Officer  
Mr. P. McCarthy, Senior Engineer  
Ms. M. Organ, Arts Officer  
Ms. A. O'Sullivan, Executive Planner  
Ms. A. Doyle, Executive Planner  
Mr. L. Fleming, Manager Waterford Energy Bureau  
Mr. E. Ruane, Meetings Administrator  
Ms. A. Jacob, Senior Staff Officer

At the outset of the meeting the Mayor notified the Council of an emergency motion in the names of Cllr Roche and Cllr O'Neill that met the criteria laid down in Standing Orders and confirmed that he would take the motion first under item No. 12.

## **1. Confirmation of Minutes**

Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> July, were proposed by Cllr O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Brennan and agreed.

## **2. Matters Arising**

Cllr Roche clarified that updates on Outer Ring Road and new bridge be included in Management Report and asked that further options be scoped regarding webcasting Council meetings, updates on staff changes and a third river crossing. Cllr O'Ryan was not in favour of webcam. Cllr O'Neill asked for an update on the Airport and the Witherspoons, T&H Doolans pub and Waterside developments. L. Power, DOS said that the staff structure will be circulated, he said that the contractors were not expected on site at the old gasworks until the end of October. J. O'Mahony, SP will circulate updates on Witherspoons and T&H's. Cllr Cummins asked why the service indicators were not included on the agenda, requested an update on the North Quays and the Greenway. Cllr Conway enquired about housing at Convent Hill in Tramore and the lack of progress with the Queen of Peace Nursing Home. L. Power, DOS said that some strengthening work was required on the North Quays and that ownership on the Queen of Peace Nursing Home has transferred from the original owner and they are intent on progressing the project. The Chief Executive said that the Greenway from Carrolls Cross to Dungarvan will open in October and that the final arbitration is progressing. E. Ruane, A/DOS said that the indicator returns have been made and that NOAC will be issuing report in October and that it would be more appropriate to have workshop at that stage. Cllr Griffin asked for an update on wheelchairs for beaches. P. McCarthy, SE said the Council are engaging with local businesses for the operation of the wheelchair scheme.

## **3. Planning**

- (a) Planning lists were noted.
- (b) Proposed Material Alteration, Chief Executives Report to Draft Variation No. 1 to the Development Plans – sent by email. It was proposed by Cllr Tobin, seconded by Cllr O'Ryan and agreed that the Variation as advertised be adopted and that Transport Infrastructure Ireland's submission suggesting that, we also include the requirement to avoid the generation of increased traffic from existing entrances to National Roads be ignored as it was neither reasonable or practical.
- (c) Draft Renewable Energy Strategy, Chief Executive's Report – Proposed Draft Variation No. 2 to the Development Plans – following some discussion it was proposed to take a recorded vote, the proposal was put on a recorded vote and was carried by 26 votes for, 1 vote against and 1 abstention as follows

For – Cllr Brazil, Cllr Brennan, Cllr Carey, Cllr Clune, Cllr Cronin, Cllr Cummins, Cllr Fitzgerald, Cllr Geoghegan, Cllr Griffin, Cllr Hearne, Cllr Kelly, Cllr J. Murphy, Cllr R. Murphy, Cllr O'Donnell, Cllr O'Leary, Cllr O'Neill, Cllr O'Ryan, Cllr O'Sullivan, Cllr Power, Cllr Pratt, Cllr Quinlan, Cllr Reinhardt, Cllr Roche, Cllr Tobin, Cllr Whelan, Cllr Wyse.

Against – Cllr Conway

Abstained – Cllr Hannigan

## **4. Land Disposals**

Land disposals as listed were proposed by Cllr Kelly, seconded by Cllr Conway and agreed. It was requested if terms could be included in the Notice of land disposals on the Agenda.

## **5. Management Report**

Cllr O'Neill enquired about vacant sites and asked if the roundabout at Kilmeaden could be tidied up. Cllr Clune enquired about bins and mile markers for the Greenway, City Square Car Park access, severe weather preparation and the publication of Councillors Annual Declarations. Cllr Reinhardt said that it was unfair that existing housing applicants had to produce original certified documents for the recent HNA review. L. Power, DOS said that he would revert on vacant sites once they had gone to the Planning SPC. E. Ruane, A/DOS said that the Ethics Register was a public document and available for inspection. The CE noted the suggestions regarding the Greenway. I. Grimes, DOS said that there was a 51% return to date on the HNA review and that the Housing Department will pursue further via social media etc. P. McCarthy, SE said that he would follow up on the Kilmeaden roundabout and said that a severe weather plan was in place.

Cllr Geoghegan enquired about the 2 memorial pieces to be put in place to mark the 1916 commemoration programme. Cllr Brennan enquired about illegal dumping measures and CCTV and if dogs are required to be on leads in public parks. Cllr Fitzgerald enquired about development charges and mains connection charges by IW. Cllr Murphy said that the 1916 memorials will be in place before year end. L. O'Brien, AO said that CCTV units were deployed to hotspots and that the control of dogs was covered by bye laws. J.O' Mahony, SP clarified levying of charges but that he would revert directly to Cllr Fitzgerald on the matter. Cllr Murphy enquired about property standards and what recourse tenants have in this regard. Cllr O'Ryan asked if the laying of concrete drains to road verges will continue, winter arrangements and emergency response. Cllr Griffin asked if locals can make contact with contractors re hedge cutting to make it easier and raised concerns about housing documents going missing and extending the homeless services after 5pm. I. Grimes, DOS said that he would be very concerned if documents had gone missing and asked Cllr Griffin to speak to him directly. He said that he would provide a briefing on homeless services, that the majority of HAP inspections were satisfactory and that those that don't are followed up directly with landlord. P. McCarthy, SE said he will revert on the continuation of the concrete channels and it can be discussed at district meetings, that the winter plan can be brought to appropriate forum, hedges are cut on national routes but that the sight lines at junctions are the responsibility of landowners but we do work to identify risk areas.

Cllr Cummins asked for an update on the SDZ on North Quays, enquired about listed buildings, concurred with Cllr Reinhardt regarding the HNA letters, distressed mortgages and welcomed the SEAI decision to restore grants. Cllr J. O'Leary raised the road markings and shrubbery on the roundabout at Kilmeaden. Cllr Kelly mentioned the continuation of VLM at Waterford Airport, enquired about responsibility for bus stop areas, pinch points on the Quay for emergency services, emergency accommodation and toilet facility arrangements for the Greenway.

I. Grimes, DOS said that registered post was not a viable option for the HNA and that various other methods were deployed to encourage returns. P. McCarthy, SE said that he would revert in relation to the Kilmeaden roundabout and the Quay. The CE said that it will take 2 years to conclude draft scheme on the SDZ and suggested a workshop to update Council in 3 months and said that toilet facilities will be provided on the Greenway. He also said that VLM are in receivership and that the Airport is trying to secure another carrier and extension of runway. Cllr Roche asked can the Art SPC carry out an exercise to establish our funding in comparison to other cities and said that the signage needs to come down for 3 Sisters bid and asked again about Wild Atlantic Way. Cllr Hearne asked about sulkies, Community Support Officers update and said that a workshop on homeless services would be helpful. Cllr R. Murphy asked if the public could be invited to name landmarks on the Greenway. P. McCarthy, SE said that he would revert on sulkies. The CE said that the Greenway will be engaging with communities, the 3 Sisters process will be reviewed and some of the issues raised will be addressed and that the Ancient East is at the early stages and needs time. I. Grimes, DOS said he is examining the Community Support Officers and will report back. Cllr Pratt asked how many applications were received for the spick and span awards. Cllr Conway raised the homelessness increase and challenges facing Councillors since the amalgamation and reduction in their numbers and acknowledgement of the savings made. Cllr Hannigan asked about the Tramore refurbishment programme. L. O'Brien, AO said he would revert with numbers for the spick and span applications. L. Power, DOS said that the design for the Part 8 for Tramore is being considered. Cllr Quinlan asked about a definition on overcrowding. Cllr Nugent asked about signage for the Greenway and Japanese knotweed responsibility and budget. I. Grimes, DOS said he would look at the overcrowding definition and revert. P. McCarthy, SE said that the TII have carried out studies to tackle the Japanese Knotweed problem and have advertised for companies to eradicate it on national routes. The CE said there will be a charter of rules for users of the Greenway.

## **6. Finance**

- (a) Loan Approval €4 million (as set out in Business Case for Refinancing approved by WCCC July 2014) was proposed by Cllr Carey, seconded by Cllr Geoghegan and approved.
- (b) Audit Committee – Council approval for appointment of Nora Widger as replacement for Brendan Cummins was proposed by Cllr Cummins, seconded by Cllr Geoghegan and approved.

## **7. Draft Flood Risk Management Plans**

Noted having been the subject of a workshop prior to this meeting.

## **8. Waterford Age Friendly Alliance**

A nominee was sought for the Waterford Age Friendly Alliance Committee. Cllr Carey was proposed by Cllr Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr Tobin and agreed.

## **9. Draft Waterford City and County Arts Strategy 2016 – 2021**

M. Organ, Arts Officer presented the Arts Strategy and recommended its adoption. Cllr O'Neill asked for further workshops. Following some discussion it was proposed by Cllr Hannigan, seconded by Cllr Geoghegan and agreed.

## **10. Local Property Tax and Budget Meeting Dates**

It was agreed that the LPT Plenary meeting would be held on 26<sup>th</sup> September at 4pm and that the Statutory Plenary budget Meeting would be held on 29<sup>th</sup> November at 5pm.

## **11. Correspondence**

Cllr Carey proposed the training and conferences circulated as noted, seconded by Cllr O'Neill and agreed.

## **12. Notice of Motions**

As agreed at the outset of the meeting the emergency motion was taken first. The motion was put by Cllrs Roche and O'Neill, seconded by Cllr Kelly and agreed.

“That Waterford City and County Council mandates the Mayor to approach the Councils in Kilkenny, Wexford & South Tipperary to ascertain if there is the political will to pursue the case for 24/7 cardiac care for the South East at UHW and if such will exists to organise an apolitical regional campaign in pursuit of achieving same.

1. The following motion was put by Cllr Damien Geoghegan, seconded by Cllr Cummins and agreed.

“That Waterford City and County Council call on Minister Shane Ross (Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport) to put in place a Sports Capital Grant Scheme for 2016, and to ensure that it remains an annual allocation process.”

**Reg. No. 54** (dated 29<sup>th</sup> June, 2016)

2. The following motion was put by Cllr Liam Brazil, seconded by Cllr Tobin and agreed.

“Waterford City and County Council pledges to support the roll out of the #littlethings national mental health and wellbeing campaign developed by the HSE's National Office for Suicide Prevention.”

**Reg. No. 55** (dated 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2016)

3. The following motion was put by Cllrs Quinlan and Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr Fitzgerald and agreed.

“That this Council resolves to add to a notification distribution list, all public and private transport operators in order to notify them of all changes to traffic management in Waterford going forward.”

**Reg. No. 56** (dated 30<sup>th</sup> August, 2016)

<b>11.AOB</b>
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None.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

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