

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF WEXFORD BOROUGH DISTRICT HELD AT 2.30PM ON MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, BLOCK A, WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL, CARRICKLAWN, WEXFORD.**

**Presiding:** - His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. G. Laffan.  
**Councillors:** - J. Hegarty, G. Lawlor, M. Bell, D. Hynes, L. Kelly.

Apologies from Cllr. T. Forde for his inability to attend the meeting was noted.

**In Attendance:**

Mr. Tony Larkin, Director of Services  
Ms. Angela Laffan, District Manager  
Mr. Shay Howell, Senior Executive Architect, Housing  
Mr. Sean Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. Hugh Maguire, Administrative Office, Environment  
Ms. Helen Meehan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing  
Ms. S. Kehoe, Staff Officer  
Ms. Caroline Crowe, Assistant Staff Officer

On the proposal of his Worship the Mayor, Cllr. G. Laffan seconded by Cllr. D. Hynes, a minutes silence was observed as a mark of respect to Ashling Murphy R.I.P..

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

On the proposal of His Worship the Mayor, a unanimous vote of sympathy was extended to the family of the following:

- Mr. Larry Browne, Hillcastle Tagoat, RIP
- Mr. Nicholas Tennant, Upper John Street, RIP
- Mr. Liam Egan, Monageer, RIP
- Mr. John Coughlan, Crossbeg, former member of the Holy Family Confraternity Band, RIP
- Mrs. Lisa O'Connor Freeman, Enniscorthy, teacher Wexford CSB Secondary School, RIP.

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> December, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed, and signed on the proposal of Cllr. J. J. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. M. Bell.

## **MINUTES – MATTERS ARISING**

In reply to a query from Cllr. J. Hegarty regarding the ownership of the dangerous wall at Cromwellsfort, Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services confirmed that he would have an update on the matter for Members at the February meeting.

Ms. A. Laffan advised Members that the Parish Administrator, Fr. B. Swan apologised for his inability to attend today's meeting, however has confirmed his attendance at the February meeting accompanied by a Member of the Parish Committee, to address Members queries in relation to the sale of Dun Mhuire and a new parish hall.

## **IBAL ANTI-LITTER LEAGUE REPORT**

The final IBAL Anti- Litter League Report for 2021, copies which had previously been circulated, was discussed, and noted.

Ms. A. Laffan, District Manager, expressed disappointment that 2 privately owned sites had impacted on the towns overall ranking. Ms. Laffan confirmed that the Environment Section is engaging with the owners to have these sites cleaned up. Members acknowledged the excellent work carried out by Wexford Tidy Towns and all the volunteers, together with Council Clean-up crews, to keep Wexford litter free.

Following a lengthy discussion on littering and antisocial behaviour in some of the town laneways, it was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor seconded by Cllr. M. Bell to invite a representative of An Garda Síochána to the February meeting to discuss this issue.

## **DISABILITY AWARENESS & PARTICIPATION FUNDING 2021/2022**

The Disability Awareness and Participation Funding report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

Ms. A. Laffan, District Manager, reminded Members that nominations for funding must be submitted to the Access Officer by the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2022.

## **REPORTS**

### **DISTRICT ENGINEER**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was discussed and noted.

The following matters raised by Members were addressed by Mr. Sean Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer.

- Overgrown trees between Devereux Villas and St. Aidan's Crescent, obstructing street lighting.
- Overgrown trees at Kennedy Park.
- Request for additional public lighting between the Seamus Kelly roundabout and Carcur.
- Request for additional public lighting in Mulgannon
- Public lighting at R741 to Crosstown.
- Repairs to the public lighting on Wexford Bridge.
- Implementation of Residents Only parking in Carrigeen Street.
- Additional Disabled Parking Bays around the town.
- Update in relation to proposed Active Travel measures at Beechlawn / Clonard Avenue and engagement with residents.
- Additional safety measures for users of Min Ryan Park and Redmond Park.
- Policy on Outdoor Dining for 2022
- Update on Outdoor Regeneration Scheme for The Bullring area.
- Timeframe for the installation of the public convenience on Wexford Quay front.
- Update on derelict sites in the District, in particular the need for additional hoarding at the site in Westgate.
- Safety measures in Cluain Dara housing estate
- Update on works and reopening of the Westgate Heritage Centre.
- Replacement of the remaining wooden boards on the quay front.
- Review of the Outdoor Trading Licence Scheme.
- Relocation of a bin at Thomas Street.
- Installation of footpaths and infill lighting in Castlebridge.
- Intermittent water supply issues at Airfield Road, Castlebridge.
- Update on public consultation in relation to the proposed one way traffic system at School Street.
- Review of speed limits in the District.
- Connection of the Pedestrian lights at Lidl.
- Inadequate surface on the tunnel at play area in Redmond Park.
- Installation of litter bin at Wygram Place.
- Clean up of The Horse River.
- School Transport/Bus Parking at Talbot Green.
- Government funding to deal with drainage issues after recent flooding.
- Works on Carraigmannon Bridge and The Deeps Bridge.
- Repairs to potholes at St. Aidan's Crescent parking area and remarking the disabled parking bay
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Mr. Kavanagh advised Members that a full review of parking in the District is to be carried out shortly as part of the Transport Strategy which will be presented to Members in due course.

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. G. Laffan, on behalf of Members, thanked all the Council staff for their work in dealing with flooding in the District on Christmas Day.

It being 3.30pm, Cllr. J. Hegarty and Cllr. L. Kelly both gave their apologies and departed the meeting.

## **HOUSING**

### **“Housing for All” Presentation**

Mr. Shay Howell, Senior Architect, gave a presentation to Members on the “Housing for All” housing delivery action plan for County Wexford for the 5 year period 2022 to 2026.

During discussion, the following matters raised by Members were addressed by Mr. Howell.

- The gap in housing provision over the period of the plan
- Restrictive income thresholds.
- Unallocated housing units at Airhill, Belvedere Road.
- Overpriced housing.
- Options to downsize property
- Number of apartments proposed in the plan.

His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. G. Laffan thanked Mr. Howell, on behalf of members for the detailed presentation.

### **Housing General Report**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated was discussed and noted.

The following matters raised by Members were addressed by Ms. H. Meehan, Senior Staff Officer.

- Inspections for Disability Grants.
- Incorporation of transport considerations as part of the Council’s housing allocations policy e.g. proximity to schools, shops and other services.

Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services clarified that discussions with local transport providers will take place as part of the review of the Town Development Plan.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

The attached report, a copy of which has previously been circulated was discussed and noted.

The following matters raised by Members were addressed by Mr. Hugh Maguire, Administrative Officer.

- Access to Ballinesker public convenience at the weekend.
- Clean up after horses on the boardwalk access to the beach at Curracloe.
- Access to the Changing Places unit at Min Ryan Park.

Mr. Maguire was pleased to inform Members that the Christmas Tree Shredding Initiative proved effective, with 2,000 trees approx. shredded, providing mulch for parks and open spaces.

## **PLANNING**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

## **WATER SERVICES**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

## **COMMUNITY**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

## **LIBRARIES, ARCHIVES & ARTS**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

## **FIRE SERVICES**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

## **PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVES' CASES – DISTRICT REPORT**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

## **MOTION**

In the absence of the proposer, Cllr. L. Kelly, the following motion was again deferred to the February meeting.

“The Members of Wexford District request the provision of a public transport hub in Wexford Town. This should be a component of the Wexford Town Development Plan and should incorporate provision for School, Tourism and Public Transport Buses”.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

**SIGNED THIS DAY 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2022.**

**MAYOR OF WEXFORD.**