

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF WEXFORD BOROUGH DISTRICT HELD AT 2.30 P.M. ON TUESDAY 19TH MARCH, 2019 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, BOROUGH DISTRICT OFFICES, SPAWELL ROAD, WEXFORD.

Presiding:- Cllr. J Moore.

Councillors:- G. Carthy, D. Hynes, M. Roche, T. Walsh, T. Forde,
L. McDonald.

Apologies from His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. T. Dempsey, Deputy Mayor, Cllr. G. Lawlor, Cllr. F. Staples and Mr. Tony Larkin, Director of Services, for their inability to attend the meeting were noted.

In the absence of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, it was agreed on the proposal of the District Manager that former Mayor Cllr. Jim Moore would chair the meeting and Cllr. Moore assumed the Chair.

In Attendance:-

- Mr. Tom Banville, Acting Director of Services.
- Ms. Angela Laffan, District Manager.
- Mr. Sean Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer.
- Mr. Mark Collins, Executive Engineer.
- Mr. Ken Jones, Executive Engineer.
- Mr Padraig O' Gorman, Senior Executive Officer, Housing.
- Mr. David Minogue, Head of Communications and Customer Services.
- Mr Jim Owens, Energy & Broadband Officer.
- Mr. James Lavin, Senior Executive Planner.
- Ms. Joan Murphy, Staff Officer.

VOTE OF SYMPATHY:-

On the proposal of Cllr. J Moore and Cllr. T. Walsh, unanimous votes of sympathy were extended to the following:

- To the families who lost loved ones in the St Patrick's Day tragedy in Cookstown, Co. Tyrone.
- To the families of the victims who lost their lives in the attack on two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand.

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:-

- To Lisa Redmond, Tomhaggard, a member of the Wexford Special Olympics Club on winning 3 medals at the Special Olympics World Games in Abu Dhabi.
- To St. Martin's Senior Camogie Club on their excellent performance in their recent All-Ireland Club Camogie final in Croke Park.

- To Brian Byrne, organizer of Wexford Spiegel tent Festival on winning IMRO's Small Music Festival of the Year award.
- To Paul & Edwina Hynes, La Côte Restaurant, on winning the award for Best Restaurant and Best Restaurant Manager in the recent Leinster Regional Final of the Irish Restaurant Awards.

MINUTES

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 18th February, 2019 copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed and signed on the proposal of Cllr. L. McDonald, seconded by Cllr. T Walsh.

Through the Chair, and in the absence of Cllr. D. Hynes, Cllr. T. Walsh raised the matter of a joint motion submitted in the names of Cllr. Walsh and Cllr. Hynes and another motion in the name of Cllr. Hynes which did not appear on the Agenda for today's meeting.

The District Manager explained that the motions referred to had not been received for inclusion on the agenda as the motions had been submitted to an incorrect email address by Cllr. Hynes. The Manager advised that, in accordance with Standing Orders, only the Order of Business, including Notices of Motion, as set out in the agenda may be transacted at the meeting. In exceptional circumstances, a motion may be proposed without notice for the purpose of dealing with an emergency or urgent business related to a function of the elected members subject to the requirement that not less than half of the members vote in favour to allow.

The Chairman and the District Manager advised that neither motion were considered urgent and could be brought to the next full meeting of Wexford County Council or to the April Borough Meeting. This was accepted by Cllr. Walsh.

FIX DATE FOR ANNUAL MAY DAY WREATH LAYING CEREMONY.

On the proposal of Cllr. L. McDonald, seconded by Cllr. M Roche the date for the annual wreath laying ceremony at the Lock Out Gate, The Faythe, was fixed for Sunday, 5th May, 2019.

BROADBAND DELIVERY IN WEXFORD – PRESENTATION BY MR. DAVID MINOGUE, HEAD OF COMMUNICATIONS, CUSTOMER SERVICES AND BROADBAND OFFICER.

The attached report in relation to the delivery of high speed Broadband throughout the County was presented by Mr. David Minogue.

Questions raised by Members, were addressed by Mr. Minogue and Mr. Jim Owens.

Members thanked Mr. Minogue and Mr. Owens for their comprehensive presentation and requested that regular progress reports on the rollout of the National Broadband Plan be circulated to Members as and when available.

PROPOSED SALE OF LAND AT CARRICKLAWN TO SLANEY CLINIC LTD.

On the proposal of Cllr. L McDonald, seconded by Cllr. M. Roche, the sale of approx. 3.1 acres of land at Carricklawn, Wexford to Slaney Clinic Ltd. was unanimously agreed in accordance with the terms set out in Notice dated 27th February, 2019 as previously circulated.

GENERAL MUNICIPAL ALLOCATIONS (GMA) 2019- FESTIVAL/EVENTS

The Calendar of Festivals/Events for 2019 together with the proposed level of funding to be allocated to each, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was presented by the District Manager for consideration of Members and unanimously adopted on the proposal of Cllr. T Walsh, seconded by Cllr. L McDonald.

AMENITY/ARTS GRANTS 2019

Funding allocated by Members to applicants under the Amenity/Arts Scheme 2019, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was presented by the District Manager for consideration of Members and unanimously adopted on the proposal of Cllr. L. McDonald, seconded by Cllr. M. Roche.

REPORTS:

HOUSING

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was presented by Padraig O' Gorman Senior Executive Officer, Housing, and noted.

Questions raised by Members in relation to the 4-stage approval system for the delivery of social housing and the provision of secure longer-term accommodation with extensive wrap-around supports for people with complex housing needs were addressed by Mr. O'Gorman.

Mr. O'Gorman also confirmed that the recently introduced "Appointment based Housing Clinic" system was working well in all Districts resulting in an improved service to the customer.

Cllr. D. Hynes and Cllr. T. Forde then joined the meeting.

PLANNING

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was presented by Mr. James Lavin, Senior Executive Planner, and noted. The following matters raised by Members were addressed by Mr. Lavin.

- The availability of statistics on Planning applications on a month to month basis as opposed to on a year to year to basis.

- Built Heritage Scheme 2019 and indication when successful applicants under the scheme would be notified.
- Waiting time for pre-planning meetings - Mr. Lavin confirmed that the waiting time had been reduced from 3 months to 4/6 weeks.
- Kilmannon Castle and Graveyard -
Mr. Lavin advised that should the Council fail to secure funding in 2019 under the "Buildings at Risk" programme, Wexford County Council may seek to fund the essential maintenance and restoration works from its own resources.
- Current status of the Great Southern Hotel, Rosslare Harbour and the imposition of the 3% derelict sites levy -
Mr. S. Kavanagh, SEE, confirmed that further notices had been issued and an update on progress should be available before the next monthly meeting.
- Historic Structures - Repair and restoration of Wexford's Old Town Wall.
Mr. Lavin confirmed that a programme of restoration is underway, with sections of the wall at St. Patrick's Graveyard already completed and patching work done where required on other sections. The next priority is the section linking Rowe Street and Mary Street.
Mr. Lavin advised that, while much of the remaining sections are currently concealed, the aim is to open up these areas to improve visibility for the public and enhance the cultural and heritage appeal of Wexford Town.

ENGINEERING

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was then presented by Mr. Sean Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer, and noted.

Particular areas of concern raised by members included the following and were addressed by Mr. Kavanagh:

- Poor condition of the Burrow Road and Maytown Road, Rosslare Strand.
- Repair of road at Hodgesmill, Murrintown damaged during the execution of works by Irish Water.
- Sinnottstown Lane Junction.
- Policy with regard to rollout of charging points for electric vehicles.
- Roll out of Age Friendly Parking in Wexford.
- Status of Bus Shelter for Rosslare Harbour and other areas.
- Provision of Disabled Parking Space in King Street.
- Parking Bay issue at Kennedy Park/Corish Park.
- Issue with rising water outside No's 1 - 4 Kennedy Park.
- Progress on the implementation of a one way traffic system or other possible solutions to address traffic issues at Whiterock View.
- Replacement of Finger Post signage in Barony of Forth.

COMMUNITY

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted. Cllr. T. Walsh referred to the need for further information to educate the public in relation the Refugee Resettlement Programme.

Mr. P. O’Gorman, Senior Executive Officer, Housing, confirmed that the Council had met its targets with 47 families, comprising 215 adults and children, resettled by the local authority in a 20-month period.

Mr. O’Gorman confirmed that the Resettlement Officer will be retained until the end of 2019 and will continue to provide the supports that have been put in place.

ENVIRONMENT

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

LIBRARIES /ARTS / ARCHIVES

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

FIRE SERVICE

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

MEMBERS SUPPORT SYSTEM

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

MOTIONS:

Cllr. D. Hynes raised the matter of a joint motion submitted in the names of Cllr. Walsh and Cllr. Hynes and another motion in the name of Cllr. Hynes which did not appear on the Agenda for today’s meeting.

The Chairman and District Manager advised that this matter had already been raised by Cllr. Walsh and dealt with earlier in the meeting prior to Cllr. Hynes late arrival.

The Chairman reiterated the position with regard to Standing Orders and again suggested that the motions could be brought to the April meeting of Wexford County Council or the April Borough meeting.

Cllr. Hynes then left the meeting.

PROVISION OF SERVICES / FACILITIES FOR HOMELESS.

The following joint motion was proposed by Cllr. T. Forde and Cllr. M Roche, seconded by Cllr. T. Walsh.

