

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: M. Byrne; P. Codd; K. Codd-Nolan; P. Cody; T. Dempsey;  
K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton;  
P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor;  
D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck;  
M. Sheehan.

Officials: Messrs: E. Breen, County Manager,  
A. Doyle, T. Larkin, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;  
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;  
Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner;  
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services.

**Expression of Sympathy:**

The Council extended sympathy to the families of the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Suzanne Webb, mother of Councillor Colin Webb, Gorey Town Council.
- The family of Sean Kavanagh, father of Sean Kavanagh, Senior Staff Officer, Planning Dept.
- The family of Betty Ennis, sister of Catherine White and Esther Lanney, employees Wexford County Council
- The family of Walter Rahilly, former County Architect
- The family of Andy Cullen, former employee Courts Service

The Council observed a minute's silence.

Tributes were paid to the late Mr. Walter Rahilly, former County Architect by a number of Members who referred to Mr. Rahilly's service to the people of County Wexford and his professionalism in dealing with the public, contractors, department officials and Council Staff. The Manager also acknowledged the contribution made by the late Mr. Rahilly and on behalf of the staff also referred to the significant contribution made by Mr. Rahilly during his lengthy employment with Wexford County Council.

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor B. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2011.

On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor T. Dempsey, the Council approved the minutes of the Statutory Budget Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December, 2011.

**County Manager's Report:**

The monthly report of the County Manager on the Strategic Roads Programme, Water Services Programme and Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the meeting and discussed. The Manager confirmed that further funding will not be made available to advance the Oilgate to Rosslare Harbour Project to final design for the foreseeable future and he also indicated that applications for developments along the route may be granted within the flexibility that the 300 metre corridor allows. The Manager also advised of the progress being made on the acquisition of land for the N11 Clough to Oilgate and the N25 New Ross By –Pass and he briefed the Members on the N11 Arklow/Rathnew road project and Gorey Service Area which is due to commence this year at a PPP. Questions raised on various aspects of the Strategic Roads Programme were dealt with by the Manager.

The meeting was also advised by the Manager of ongoing developments in relation to the cessation of the Council's Refuse Collection Service since the last meeting and he was joined by a number of Members in complimenting the staff who had helped advance the matter and assisted in the completion of refuse collection service disposal to AES Ltd. The support of the serviced customers of the Local Authority throughout the years was also acknowledged. Whilst complimenting the operational staff who worked on the service for many years the Manager again confirmed that the staff would be reassigned to other duties with the Local Authority with no job losses arising and resulting improvements to the Council's services in other areas. In response to a question raised on the matter the Manager confirmed that there was no question of disposing of the Council's landfill at Holmestown. Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, confirmed that the redeployment of the refuse personnel may result in the reorganisation of road crews throughout the county and he undertook to brief the Elected Members further on this matter at Electoral Area Committee Meetings.

The County Secretary confirmed that invitations had issued to the Court Service, the IDA and FÁS to attend at the next meeting of the County Council in order to discuss a number of matters of concern to the Council which had been the subject of ongoing debate and discussion in recent times.

### **Household Charge:**

A report of the application of the Household Charge and an information sheet on the matter was circulated to the meeting and discussed with Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance. Ms. O'Neill confirmed that the Council had established a structure within Wexford County Council to deal with the anticipated volume of queries from callers, implemented a process in the Town Council offices to facilitate customers with easy access to the service throughout the county and will include a specific section on the Council's website providing a direct link to the [www.householdcharge.ie](http://www.householdcharge.ie) website together with access to relevant registration forms, contact details and additional information to assist customers in understanding the charge.

### **Strategic Infrastructure Gas Pipeline to Great Island Power Station, Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 as amended Section 37E.**

In accordance with the Planning and Development Acts and the Strategic Infrastructure Act 2006 a report on the proposal by Bord Gáis to provide a gas pipeline to Great Island Power Station was circulated to the meeting.

The County Secretary advised the meeting that in accordance with Section 37E of the Planning and Development (Strategic Infrastructure) Act 2006 the Council may decide by resolution to attach further recommendations and additions to the report which summarised the Planning Authorities view in Section 18 of the report. The report and any additional recommendations should be submitted to An Bord Pleanála who are responsible for determining strategic proposals such as the proposed Gas Pipeline to Great Island Power Station. Cllr. L. O'Brien left the meeting having disclosed a beneficial interest in the subject for discussion.

Following discussion of the report and its content on the proposal of Cllr. J. Moore, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd, the Council unanimously resolved to approve the content of the report dated 4<sup>th</sup> January 2012 as circulated to the meeting.

### **Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor J. Hegarty, seconded by Councillor M. Kinsella, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2011.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Cody, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2011.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor K. Codd-Nolan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the meeting of Transportation SPC held on 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2011.

### **Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor T. Howlin, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting.

### **Progress and Other Reports:**

#### **Housing, Library & Arts Services Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, responded to queries raised by the Members on the content of the report.

Following discussion on the housing need in the county and ones eligibility for inclusion on the housing needs list on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan the Council resolved to ask the Minister to introduce the necessary flexibility in the assessment process and criteria to ensure needs applicants were not unnecessarily excluded.

The Members agreed that consideration be given to arranging an appropriate commemoration to those who served in the 1<sup>st</sup> World War during the centenary of the Great War in 2014. The Director of Services undertook to prepare a report of the issue and to further discuss the matter.

#### **Road Services Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting. Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, responded to a number of questions raised by the Members.

The Director of Services advised the meeting of the current position and ongoing discussion with the Department of Environment in attempting to fill general operative posts currently vacant throughout the county. He also agreed to discuss with the Electoral Area Committees the proposed Road Works Programme for 2012.

#### **Local Improvement Scheme:**

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. P. Reck, the Council resolved to seek assurances from the Minister that financial provision be made for the retention of the Local Improvement Scheme countywide this year.

#### **Water, Environment & Emergency Services Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, A/Director of Services, dealt with questions raised by the Members.

**Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an 1<sup>la</sup> de Feabhra, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: M. Byrne; P. Codd; K. Codd-Nolan; P. Cody; T. Dempsey;  
K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton;  
P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor;  
J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck; M. Sheehan.

Officials: Messrs: E. Breen, County Manager,  
T. Larkin, E. Hore; E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;  
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;  
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Mr. A. Doyle, Director of Services and Cllr. Declan MacPartlin.

**Representatives from FÁS:**

Councillor Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach, welcomed Mr. Jim Wadden, Area Training Director and Mr. John Cassidy, Area Training Manager, to the meeting. Both Mr. Wadden and Mr. Cassidy had been invited to attend the meeting as representatives of FAS, the training and employment authority following a debate at an earlier County Council Meeting on the need to address the issue of training to assist those unemployed back into the workforce particularly in light of the recent job losses at Talk Talk in Waterford and various job losses in the construction sector and other areas in both the south east and County Wexford.

Mr. Wadden on behalf of FAS thanked the Council for the invitation to address the meeting. He outlined the extent of the area covered by FAS, referred to the role of FAS in the co-ordination and funding of further education and training. He also referred to the staff reductions of approximately 400 in an organisation that was now undergoing significant change with the employment services formally controlled by FAS now being transferred to the Department of Social Protection.

In response to questions raised by the Members the meeting was informed by the FAS representatives that €17m had been spent in the area on a wide range of services and training in 2011 in addition to the development of local I.T. Programmes, training for early school leavers, long term unemployed and disabled in addition to the employment of special training advisors and developing community training centers. Approximately €3m had been spent in the county on training in 2011 with a similar provision provided for this year, the numbers in training each year being approximately 150. Though not a job creation agency FAS were working through Enterprise Ireland encouraging the development of digital competence and providing ongoing training for companies with employment potential and responding to other market led initiatives. The meeting also noted the changing profile of the

unemployed with many professionals now seeking assistance towards a complete change of career. The dramatic change in the type of training needed and the profile of trainees was acknowledged by the FAS representatives who indicated that the local training centre managers were developing and promoting a range of course options including high end electronics and improving the skill sets and qualifications of trainees.

Following a comprehensive response by Mr. Wadden and Mr. Cassidy to various other issues raised by the Members Mr. Wadden thanked the Council for their invitation to the meeting, indicated that the staff from FAS would be available to meet again with the Local Authority Members and would ensure that a focused response would be forthcoming from FAS in addressing the many issues of concern to the Local Authority Members. The representatives from FAS then left the meeting having been thanked by the Chairman for attending.

### **Expression of Sympathy:**

The Council extended sympathy to the families of the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Larry Fitzharris, former Rate Collector, Wexford County Council.
- The family of Rhona Furlong, daughter of Ronan Furlong, Chairman, Audit Committee.
- The family of Michael Farrell, father-in-law of Maria Farrell, General Purposes and grandfather of Tara Farrell, Finance and Jamie Doyle, Planning.
- The family of Mr. Anthony O'Rourke, father of Cllr. John O'Rourke, Enniscorthy Town Council

The Council observed a minute's silence.

### **Congratulations:**

The Council congratulated the following:

- Wexford County Council on winning the 'Best Public Building' at the LAMA Awards 2012.
- Kilmore Quay and Community on winning 'Best Public Playground Facility', at the LAMA Awards 2012.
- The Community & Enterprise Department and Leinster Rugby Union on the launch of the Leinster Rugby Sports Partnership.
- Gorey Community School on their success in the MacMullen Cup.
- Enniscorthy Castle on its development as a tourist attraction following refurbishment and completion.
- Mr. Adam Nolan who was successful in the National Senior Boxing Championships.

### **Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor P. Codd, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2012.

### **County Manager's Report:**

The monthly report of the County Manager on the Strategic Roads Programme, Water Services Programme and Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the meeting and discussed. The Manager's Report again advised of progress being made on the acquisition of land for the N11 Clough to Oilgate and the N25 New Ross Bypass. Progress on plans to develop the Ballast Office were outlined by the Manager and he also responded to questions raised on the current position with regard to the Gorey Main Drainage Scheme which would be a Design, Build and Operate Project.

### **Proposal to Declare Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000**

- Meadowgate (Phase 2), Knockmullen, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- I.D.A. Business Park Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- I.D.A. Business Park Road, Butlersland, New Ross, Co. Wexford.
- I.D.A. Business Park Road, Courtown Rd, Gorey, Co. Wexford.

The Members considered report of Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, dated 30<sup>th</sup> January, 2012, and on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. D. Kennedy, the Members approved the roads listed above be declared to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 (4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

### **Part 8 Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2010 and Part 11 Planning & Development Acts 2000-2010:**

LAC0508 – Erection of 2 no. houses for Traveller Specific Accommodation with associated site works at Castlemoyle TD, New Ross E.D.

Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, advised the meeting that this project was being withdrawn with a view to redesigning the accommodation in order to reduce or lower the cost of the project. Mr. Larkin confirmed that the revised project would be subject to the public consultation process and would be progressed in due course.



### **Council Representation on the Board of Wexford Local Development:**

The County Secretary advised the meeting the Councillor P. Codd and Councillor K. Codd Nolan were elected as representatives of Wexford County Council to the board of Wexford Local Development at the Annual Meeting held on 19.06.09. It was also agreed between the parties concerned that Councillor Robert Ireton and Councillor Jim Moore would replace these Councillors for the duration of this Council.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Codd, seconded by Cllr. K. Codd Nolan, Councillor R. Ireton and Councillor J. Moore were elected as representatives to the board of Wexford Local Development.

### **Manager's Report on the Submissions and Observations received on the Proposed Alterations to the Draft the Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane Local Area Plan and approval to make the Plan with the material alterations in accordance with S. 20(3)(n) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).**

Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, confirmed that the public display period for material alterations to the Draft Local Area Plan for Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane had been completed and following the adoption by the Members of the Wexford Electoral Area Committee at their meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> February it was now proposed to proceed with the Manager's Report and recommendations on the submissions and observations received. Following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd, the Council approved the content of the Manager's Report on the submissions and observations received following the public display period of the Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane Local Area Plan and approved the making of the plan with the material alterations in accordance with Section 20 (3)(n) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

### **Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted the content of the Minutes of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February, 2012.

### **Local Improvement Scheme:**

Following a discussion on the content on the Roads Monthly Report as discussed at the CPG and having received confirmation from the Director of Services that the Local Improvement Scheme was being discontinued countrywide for the current year, On the proposal of Cllr. M. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. J. Moore the Council recommended that a letter be forwarded Mr. Leo Varadkar, Minister for Transport, seeking the inclusion and restoration of the Local Improvement Scheme in 2013.

### **Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor M. Murphy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Area Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2011.

- On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor P. Cody, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor P. Codd, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Wexford Electoral Area Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2011.
- On the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor M. Murphy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Planning Strategic Policy Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2011.

### **Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting.

### **Correspondence and Communications:**

The County Secretary advised the meeting of receipt of the following correspondence and summarised the content of each:

- Correspondence from Mr. Gerry Nugent, Regional Manager, Courts Service, dated 17.01.12
- Correspondence from Mr. Eddie Kiernan, Private Secretary to Mr. Phil Hogan, TD, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government, regarding the NPPR Charge dated 17.01.12
- Correspondence from Mr. Barry O'Leary, I.D.A. Ireland, dated 19<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

The Council discussed the correspondence from Mr. Barry O'Leary, I.D.A. Ireland and Mr. Gerry Nugent, Courts Service. The response from Councillors to the correspondence was generally one of disappointment, dissatisfaction and concern and in the circumstances the Council requested that the Courts Service and the I.D.A. be asked to reconsider their decision, meet with the Local Authority with a view to addressing a number of issues of concern to the Local Authority and in order to progress matters to a satisfactory conclusion.

### **Notice of Motion:**

The following motion was proposed by Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh and agreed by the Council.

"That Wexford County Council hold an Annual Open Day where members of the public will be shown how the Council provides its services"

## **Progress and Other Reports:**

### **Housing, Library & Arts Services Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, responded to queries raised by the Members on the content of the report. The Members again discussed the matter of unfinished housing estates and were advised that a letter had issued to the Department of Environment seeking an updating of a schedule of housing estates already circulated which did not reflect the actual situation countywide.

### **Road Services Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting. Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, responded to a number of questions raised by the Members. In reference to the issue of taking in charge of housing schemes the Director of Services advised that staff were working through ongoing problems in this area and Members would be updated on progress.

### **Water, Environment & Emergency Services Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, A/Director of Services, dealt with questions raised by the Members.

The County Manager referred to the reduction in employee numbers countywide in 2011 and 2012 and confirmed that with the support and flexibility of remaining staff, services would continue to be provided without any adverse impact on the community.

### **Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Marta, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday, 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: M. Byrne; P. Codd; K. Codd-Nolan; P. Cody; T. Dempsey;  
K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton;  
P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor;  
J. Moore; L. O'Brien; P. Reck; M. Sheehan.

Officials: Messrs: E. Breen, County Manager,  
T. Larkin, E. Hore; E. Taaffe, A. Doyle, Directors of Services;  
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;  
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary.  
Ms. N. Lennon and Ms. C. Kelly, Planning Dept

An apology for inability to attend was received from Cllr. M. Murphy

**Expression of Sympathy:**

The Council extended sympathy to the families of the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Ben Wadding, son of Bernard Wadding, Housing Department.
- The family of Austin McDonald, father of Peadar McDonald, Motor Tax Department.
- The family of Jimmy Lacey, father of Lynda Lacey, Finance Department.
- The family of John Treacy, Enniscorthy, long established businessman in Enniscorthy.
- The family of Jimmy Furlong, Kilmuckridge, a former stalwart of the amateur dramatic society in Kilmuckridge.

The Council observed a minute's silence.

**Congratulations:**

The Council congratulated the following:

- Oulart the Ballagh Senior Camogie Team on their success in the All Ireland Club Championship.
- Colaiste Brid Enniscorthy on their success in the Senior B All Ireland Championship.

- Gorey U-19 Rugby Team
- St. Mary's Secondary School
- Charlene Murphy
- The County Senior Hurlers and Footballers on their recent successes.
- Camross Community for their wonderful presentation and performance of The Passion Play

### **Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor T. Howlin seconded by Councillor P. Codd, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> February, 2012.

### **County Manager's Report:**

The monthly report of the County Manager on the Strategic Roads Programme, Water Services Programme and Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the meeting and discussed. The Manager's Report advised of progress being made on the acquisition of land for the N11 Clough to Oilgate and the N25 New Ross Bypasses. Questions raised by Members in relation to the following issues were addressed by the County Manager:

- Commencement of the N11 Arklow/Rathnew including the Gorey Service area
- Restoration of the Ballast Office building and its development for tourism purposes
- Progress on the New Ross and Wexford Libraries
- Use of the Old Courthouse at Enniscorthy by the Mental Health Services

### **Progress and Other Reports:**

#### **Housing, Roads, Arts Services and Library Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by Members on the content of the report. The Director responded to questions raised on the Road Strengthening Programme, the completion of work on Unfinished Estates and related matters, the progressing of the County Speed Limit Review with particular emphasis on "the introduction of a 30mph speed limit at" schools in the county. The Director and Staff of the Library Service were complimented by the Members for the excellent service provided and the quality buildings now available to library users throughout the county. The Members noted that the new Library at Mallin St was likely to be open to the public in October of 2012.

## **Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report and Irish Public Water Utility:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, A/Director of Services, dealt with questions raised by the Members. The Director responded to questions raised by the Members on the proposed upgrading of septic tanks and a recent study carried out on the matter, addressed the issue of illegal dumping countywide, confirmed that staff numbers had been reassigned from refuse collection to either Road Services or Water Services duty. The Director also confirmed that work was also progressing on the Civic Amenity Site at Gorey with likely completion by end of the year.

## **Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services. The Director again responded to questions raised on the matter of unfinished housing estates and confirmed that the bonds in place were not adequate to deal with the works identified as being necessary to complete these unfinished estates to a satisfactory standard. He also outlined the action proposed in dealing with this matter and related enforcement issues.

The Director acknowledged the compliments and congratulations of the Members to the Community & Enterprise Department in particular its work in developing the Bursary and Ambassador Programme.

## **Draft County Wexford Biodiversity Plan 2012-2017:**

A copy of the Draft County Wexford Biodiversity Plan 2012-2017 was circulated to the meeting. The Director advised that the content of the plan was discussed and approved at a meeting of the CPG held on 5<sup>th</sup> March. The plan had also been discussed at each Electoral Area Committee and approved. The Director summarised the aims and content of the plan for the meeting and responded to various questions raised by the Members on the implications of the plan for the county.

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd, the Council resolved to adopt the Draft County Wexford Biodiversity Plan 2012-2017.

## **Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted the content of the Minutes of the Corporate Policy Group Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2012.

**Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor K. Codd Nolan, seconded by Councillor P. Codd, , the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Transportation SPC Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2011.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Sheehan, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the New Ross Electoral Area Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> February, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Cody, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor R. Ireton, seconded by Councillor M. Kinsella, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2012.

It was agreed that the Gorey Minutes be amended to show the attendance of Cllr. M. Kinsella.

**Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor K. Codd Nolan, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting.

**Notice of Motion:**

**Cllr. M. Sheehan proposed the following motion:**

“That this Council recognising the economic realities of our people hereby requests the Minister of Environment introduce a series of exemptions and reliefs to the calculation of Household/ Property Charges that fairly reflects people's ability to pay, their outgoings and the size of the property being charged”.

Following debate and discussion of the motion proposed by Cllr. M. Sheehan the following amended motion was proposed by Cllr. T. Dempsey seconded by Cllr. K. Doyle:

“That this Council recognising the economic realities of our people hereby requests the Minister of Environment to consider introducing a series of exemptions and reliefs to the calculation future property charges that fairly reflects people's ability to pay, their outgoings and the size of the property being charged”.

This motion was then put to the meeting and agreed unanimously.

**The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Kinsella, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd and agreed by the Council:**

“That Wexford County Council supports a yes vote in the upcoming referendum on the fiscal treaty and respectfully encourages the people of the county to do the same”.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Aibreán, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach



***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: P. Codd; K. Codd-Nolan; P. Cody; T. Dempsey;  
K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton;  
P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor;  
J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck; M. Sheehan.

Officials: Messrs: E. Breen, County Manager,  
T. Larkin, E. Hore; E. Taaffe, A. Doyle, Directors of Services;  
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;  
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Cllr. M. Byrne

**Expression of Sympathy:**

The Council extended sympathy to the families of the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Jean Carberry, sister of Henry Rochford, Town Foreman, New Ross Town Council.
- The family of Liz Byrne, mother of Trish Murphy, Finance Department.
- The family of Mick Codd, uncle of Cllr. Kathleen Codd-Nolan.

The Council observed a minute's silence.

**Congratulations:**

The Council congratulated the following:

- Helen and Jim O'Connor, Gorey and Cois na hAibhainn Garden Centre, Camolin for their success in the nationally organised Bord Bia Awards.
- The Wexford Senior Footballers on achieving promotion.

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> March, 2012.

### **County Manager's Report:**

The monthly report of the County Manager on the Strategic Roads Programme, Water Services Programme and Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the meeting and discussed. The Manager's Report advised of good progress being made on land acquisition on the N11 Clough to Oilgate route and the N25 New Ross Bypass. To date over €35m has been paid to landowners along the two routes with cases concluding numbering 137. Questions raised by Members were addressed by the County Manager on the following matters:

- Deferred commencement of the N11 Arklow/Rathnew including the Gorey Service area
- The Enniscorthy and Gorey Main Drainage Scheme.
- New Ross and Wexford Libraries

### **Proposal to Declare Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000:**

- Bellefield Springs, Bellefield Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

The Members considered the report of Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, dated 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2012, and on the proposal of Cllr. K. Codd Nolan, seconded by Cllr. P. Cody, the Members approved the roads listed above be declared to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 (4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

### **Road Works Programme 2012:**

A copy of the Road Works Programme for 2012 was circulated to the meeting. Following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. P. Codd seconded by Cllr. P. Kavanagh the Council approved of the Draft Road Works Programme as circulated for 2012.

### **Annual Financial Statement 2011:**

The Annual Financial Statement 2011 was circulated to the meeting and discussed. The Head of Finance outlined the main aspects of Part 1 of the 2011 Statement including

- Income and Expenditure Account
- Performance against Budget 2011
- Capital Account
- Fixed Assets
- Indebtedness
- Funds Flow Statement

Part 2 of the Statement deals with Expenditure above the adopted budget for 2011.

The Head of Finance advised that the Revenue Account showed a surplus of €36,128 for the year. Net expenditure variances against the adopted budget were reported as a €950,397 debit requiring formal approval of the Council in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001. Following discussion of the report on the proposal of Cllr. J. Hegarty seconded by Cllr. J. Moore the Council approved of the over expenditure as outlined and adopted the Annual Financial Statement for 2011.

Arising from a discussion on the collection of the recently introduced Household Charge on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck, seconded by Cllr. D. MacPartlin the Councillors resolved to write to the Minister for the Environment advising that the Local Authority was not any way responsible for the delays in collecting this new charge and the problems arising with the collection campaign.

#### **Nomination of Wexford County Council representative to the Board of Directors of the JFK Trust:**

The County Secretary advised the meeting of correspondence received from the JFK Trust inviting Wexford County Council to formally nominate a Member to its Board of Directors.

Following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. L. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Moore the Council agreed to nominate Cllr. D. Kennedy as its representative on the Board of the Directors of the JFK Trust.

#### **Takeover of Monamolin Group Water Scheme:**

A report on the proposed takeover of Monamolin Group Water Scheme was circulated to meeting.

Following discussion and having noted that the Gorey Electoral Area Committee approved of the proposed takeover at its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, on the proposal of Cllr. M. Kinsella seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty the Council approved of the formal takeover of Monamolin Group Water Scheme.

#### **Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted the contents of the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012.

## **Progress and Other Reports:**

### **Housing, Roads, Arts Services and Library Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by Members on the content of the report. The Director undertook to discuss at the next meeting of the Transportation SPC the issue of inequity of distribution of funds for road works countywide.

### **Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, A/Director of Services, dealt with questions raised by the Members on the content of the report. The Director responded to questions raised on the establishment of a new water company and he also outlined the procedures to be followed where one was dealing with a review of discharge licenses. The issue of illegal dumping countywide and in particular littering of the N11 was raised by Members and responded to by both the County Manager and the Director of Services. It was agreed that the issue of illegal dumping and how the matter might be addressed should be the subject of discussion at the next meeting of the Environment Strategic Policy Committee.

### **Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services.

### **Community Grants 2012:**

A schedule of the projects that have been recommended for allocation of a community grant were circulated as part of the monthly report. Following discussion on the matter on the proposal of Cllr. L. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd the Council approved of the grants as outlined in the Director's Report.

### **Gorey Showgrounds:**

Following a discussion on plans for the phased development of the Gorey Showground the County Manager advised the meeting that efforts would be made to maximise the support from the sports capital grants scheme and then to address any shortfall in order to commence work on the planned development.

### **Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor K. Codd Nolan, seconded by Councillor K. Doyle, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Moore, seconded by Councillor T. Howlin, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Wexford Electoral Area Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor K. Codd Nolan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Transportation SPC Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor L. O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Water, Environment & Emergency SPC Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March, 2012.

### **Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor L. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor P. Codd, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting.

### **Correspondence and Communications:**

The County Secretary advised the meeting of correspondence received from the following:

- In response to the confirmation received from the Industrial Development Authority an official would attend at either the May or June County Council Meeting. The Council requested that the IDA Official be invited to attend at the May Meeting at 12 noon.
- The members also noted that Ms. Orla Nolan from Connect Ireland.Com would make a presentation at the May County Council Meeting at 4pm on the companies activities.

### **National Spatial Strategy:**

Arising from a discussion on the application of the national spatial strategy and in particular its adverse effect on Enniscorthy Town and the potential for employment on the proposal of Cllr. K .Doyle, seconded by Cllr. D. MacPartlin asked that a letter be issued to the appropriate Minister asking for a review of the National Spatial Strategy and its implications for towns of medium population such as Enniscorthy, Gorey and New Ross.

**Court Service:**

- In response to its correspondence from the Courts Service the Council on the proposal of Cllr. M. Kinsella seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan asked that a letter be written to the Minister for Justice outlining the Council's concerns at the response from the Courts Service in relation to the Council's request for funding to protect, improve and enhance the old New Ross Court building which had been used as a Courthouse until recent times.

The meeting also requested that the IDA in their proposed visit and presentation to the Council should clearly outline what the IDA can do for the County for the foreseeable future in order to create employment.

**Any Other Business:**

The Cathaoirleach Cllr. Oliver Walsh advised the meeting of correspondence received from Senator Jim Walsh. Senator Walsh's correspondence referred to a meeting of interested nominees from each Local Authority in County Wexford along with Oireachtas Members with a view to setting up a Task Force to see what efforts can be made to deal with the major social and economic difficulties arising from the issue of unemployment in County Wexford. Having discussed the possibility of support for this initiative the Council agreed to await the Minister's response on the future of Local Government and Enterprise Boards before formally responding to Senator Walsh's correspondence and initiative.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Bealtine, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: M. Byrne; P. Codd; K. Codd-Nolan; P. Cody; T. Dempsey;  
K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton;  
P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor;  
D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; M. Sheehan.

Officials: Messrs: E. Breen, County Manager,  
T. Larkin, E. Hore; E. Taaffe, A. Doyle, Directors of Services;  
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;  
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary.

An apology for inability to attend was received from Cllr.P. Reck

**Expression of Sympathy:**

The Council extended sympathy to the families of the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Una Walsh, mother of Ann Walsh, Partnership Facilitator.
- The family of Paddy Byrne, Father-in-Law of David Codd, Road Safety Officer.

The Council observed a minute's silence.

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April, 2012.

**Matters arising from Minutes:**

The Council referred to the vote of sympathy at the last meeting of the Council and asked that the minutes be amended to show that the deceased was Nicholas Codd, Uncle of Councillor K. Codd Nolan.

The County Secretary advised the meeting that no response had yet been received to the letter issued requesting a review of the National Spatial Strategy.

### **County Manager's Report:**

The monthly report of the County Manager on the Strategic Roads Programme, Water Services Programme and Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the meeting and discussed. The Manager's Report confirmed that in excess of €36m had been paid to date in cases settled with landowners providing for the continuation of land acquisition along the N11 Clough to Oilgate and the N25 New Ross Bypass routes. The Manager responded to questions raised by Members on the following matters

:

- N11 Arklow/Rathnew Motorway
- The awarding of contracts to contractors based outside County Wexford.
- Progress on the Enniscorthy and Courtown Main Drainage Schemes
- Update and progress on the Wexford Library with contract due to finish in July of this year.

The Manager's Report also advised that the following Capital Projects and works ongoing in the County by Local Authorities had created 255 jobs:

New Ross Swimming Pool 130  
Wexford Library 60  
Enniscorthy Civic Centre 40  
New Ross Quays 15  
Main Street, Wexford 10

It was noted that these contracts were being undertaken by Wexford based contractors.

The Manager also advised that the Council were restricted under the Data Protection Act from divulging certain information in relation to contracts awarded and details of unsuccessful tenderers.

### **Proposed disposal of land under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001:**

On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council resolved to dispose of the following lands in accordance with notice circulated:

- Proposed disposal of lands at Ballinatray Upper, Riverchapel, Gorey, County Wexford – Lease Agreement to Riverchapel Community Complex Ltd



**Proposal to Declare Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000**

- Village Gate, Ballycanew, Gorey, Co. Wexford

The Members considered the report of Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, dated 1<sup>st</sup> May, 2012, and on the proposal of Cllr.M. Kinsella, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne, the Members approved the road listed above be declared to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 (4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000.

**Section 85 Agreement between Kildare County Council and Wexford County Council – Bridge remedial works at Jones Cross Roads Bridge Cross (WX-N25-003.00)**

The Members considered report by Mr. Noel O'Driscoll, Senior Executive Engineer, dated 24<sup>th</sup> April and on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. J. Moore approved the above Section 85 Agreement in accordance with the provisions of Section 85 of the Local Government Act 2001 for the Leinster Bridges Rehabilitation Contract No. 1 – 2012.

**Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted the contents of the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 8<sup>th</sup> May 2012.

**Annual Meeting:**

It was agreed to hold the annual meeting of Wexford County Council on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2012 at 2.30 p.m. and it was also agreed to hold the meeting of the Corporate Policy Group at 12 noon on that day.

**Efficiency Presentation:**

In a formal presentation to the meeting Mr. A. Doyle, Director of Services, outlined measures and initiatives carried out at organisational level throughout the Wexford Local Authorities during the past 3 years which had resulted in significant cost savings in the various service provision areas. Savings and economies were highlighted by the Director in the following areas:

- Payroll Cost Deductions
- Non filling of permanent and temporary vacancies
- Reduction in employee numbers between the years 2008 and 2012 from 1,084 to 950
- Reduction in overtime from €2.56m to approximately €1m.
- Redeployment and reassignment of staff
- Cumulative savings in advertising over a 3 year period of €320,000

The Director also highlighted other significant savings in areas of travelling expenses, economies in telephone usage of both landline and mobile and savings in the area of printing and stationery with the introduction of managed print services.

In addition savings have been achieved in payroll administration, the non employment of consultants, the review of ICT Costs and licences and procurement, the reorganisation of cleaning and maintenance of the public buildings and the privatisation of the canteen services.

The Director also highlighted the ongoing activities of the Efficiency Review Group which meets on a monthly basis and is continuing the work in progress to identify where further potential savings and economies can be achieved and maintained without adversely effecting customer service.

Ms. Annette O'Neill advised the meeting that the operational spend of the Local Authority had been reduced between 2008 and 2012 from €118.7m to €99.3m. The Head of Finance also highlighted for the meeting the reduction in the levels of income from the core income services being the Local Government Fund, Road Grants and Rates Income. The Director of Service and the Head of Finance responded to various questions raised by Members on the content of the Efficiency Presentation.

In conclusion the Cathaoirleach Councillor Oliver Walsh and the other Council Members complimented both the Director of Services and the Head of Finance for the excellent presentation and information briefing on the efficiency measures, initiatives and considerable savings achieved and also ongoing throughout the Local Authorities in the County.

#### **Connect Ireland.Com – Presentation by Ms. Orla Nolan:**

The business development and communications Manager for ConnectIreland.Com Ms. Orla Nolan attended and made a presentation to the meeting on the activities on ConnectIreland.Com. Ms. Nolan's presentation informed the meeting that the agencies intention was to create 5000 jobs over a 5 year period mainly through encouraging foreign direct investment and creating employment countrywide. Those introducing potential employers and foreign direct investors to Connect Ireland.Com who employed from 3 to 100 people would receive payment of €1500 per employee paid over 3 year period. In order to create the employment and foreign direct investment Councillors, Officials and other interested parties would be encouraged to make contacts with potential investors in Ireland and abroad with a view to encouraging those people interested in investing in employment in Ireland. Ms. Nolan dealt with a number of questions raised by the Members and was complimented on her presentation and for the initiative Connect Ireland.Com and in particular the investment by Mr. Terry Clune of approximately €5m.

## **Progress and Other Reports:**

### **Housing, Roads, Arts Services and Library Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by Members on various aspects of the report. Mr. Larkin also responded to a question raised on the completion of the roadway at Pearsons Brook Gorey and it was agreed following discussion to give this matter further consideration at the Electoral Area Committee Meeting. The Director also circulated a report on the awarding of the Public Lighting Contract to Airtricity Utility Solutions for a period of 3 years that may be renewed on an annual basis up to a maximum of 5 years. The Director further advised that the contract is for the repair and maintenance of public lighting equipment and related services in the South East Region on behalf of 6 Local Authorities including Waterford City Council, South Tipperary, Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford and Waterford County Councils and their associated Town Councils. The contract also provides for an on-call emergency service 24 hours per day, 365 days of the year and faults may be reported by the public to Airtricity Utility Solutions using the free phone number 1800 372 772. In response to a question raised on solar energy and public lighting the Director undertook to investigate this matter and report further to the County Council.

### **Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, A/Director of Services, dealt with questions raised by the Members on the content of the report. The Director advised the meeting that because of inadequate funding it would not be now possible to proceed with the small water scheme planned for Oulart. The Members expressed disappointment at lack of progress in the matter and were advised that an application for funding to complete the work would be made in 2013.

In a response to a question raised in dealing with the lime content in water supplied from Fardystown Water Supply Scheme and obtaining funding from the DOE to address the matter it was agreed following discussion of 'Notice of Motion' tabled on the matter that it should be dealt with at a later meeting of the Council. Mr. E. Taaffe, DOS, also responded to questions raised regarding dumping and littering throughout the county and he outlined the level of fines and penalties applicable against offenders. The importance of maintaining Blue Flag status on beaches throughout the county was emphasised by the Members and acknowledged by the Director.

The Director also advised that there was not any funding available to deal with an application for the development of a Group Sewage Scheme for the Mountgarrett area and similarly there was a lack of funding to deal with the provision of a harbour wall at St. Kieran's, Saltmills. The Director undertook to pursue these matters through making an application for funding to the DOE. The Director also advised the meeting as to the current situation with regard to the provision of sewerage infrastructure under the Village Bundle Scheme.

## **Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services. In response to questions raised on the difficulties in making significant progress with 'unfinished' estates the meeting was advised that site resolution plans were being prepared with regard to a number of unfinished estates in the county with a view to preparing work as early as possible subject to funding and other related matters..

Following discussion it was agreed to defer a matter in connection with the completion of a roadway at Pearsons Brook, Gorey to the next meeting of the Electoral Area Meeting.

The meeting also agreed to hold a Special Meeting to consider the Pre Draft County Development Plan 2013-2019 on 21<sup>st</sup> May 2012 at 9.30 a.m. in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford.

## **Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor M. Sheehan, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Committee Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Sheehan, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Committee Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Cody, seconded by Councillor K. Codd Nolan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Kinsella, seconded by Councillor J. Hegarty, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor R. Ireton, seconded by Councillor T. Howlin, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Planning SPC Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2012.

## **Matters arising from the Minutes of New Ross EAC 23.04.12:**

Cllr. D. Kennedy requested that the reference in the Engineer's Report of this meeting should read the bridge at the Ballagh Clonroche and not Grallagh.

### **Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor L. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor M. Kinsella, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 354/2012, 355/2012, 356/2012 and 360/2012.

### **Notice of Motion:**

**Cllr. M. Byrne**

"That in the circumstances of major infrastructure works being carried out by or on behalf of Wexford County Council and where a commercial business can show that as a result of such work that their turnover has decreased by at least 20%, that Wexford County Council shall halve the total due in commercial rates owing for the period of those works."

It was agreed to defer consideration of the above motion to the next meeting of the County Council.

### **Correspondence and Communications:**

The County Secretary advised the meeting of a reply received from the IDA advising that Mr. Ray O'Connor would attend the June Meeting of the County Council. Mr. O'Connor was unable to attend the meeting as he had been away on annual leave.

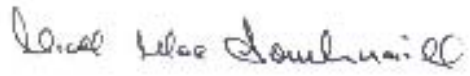
The County Secretary also advised the meeting of correspondence received from the Irish League of Credit Unions in response to an earlier letter issued to lending institutions in the county on the issue of tax compliance in circumstances where contractors were engaged in building works and home extensions.

### **Congratulations:**

The Meeting asked that their congratulations be conveyed to the following who were successful in either national or county competitions in recent times

- Colaiste Bride, Enniscorthy
- Arklow Rowing Club
- The New Ross Celtic Under 16 Soccer Team
- Menapia Area Network
- Enniscorthy Rugby Club with their success in the Towns Cup
- Campile United who won the Senior Soccer Trophy

This concluded the business of the meeting.



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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an 14 de Meitheamh, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Special Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2012 at 9.30 a.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: M. Byrne; P. Codd; K. Codd-Nolan; P. Cody; T. Dempsey;  
A. Fenlon; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; D. Kennedy; G. Lawlor;  
J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck; M. Sheehan.

Officials: Messrs: E. Breen, County Manager,  
E. Hore; E. Taaffe, T. Larkin, Director of Services;  
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary.  
D. Houston, Senior Planner;  
D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
P. Doyle, Executive Planner,  
F. Fenlon, Assistant Planner,  
N. Lennon, Executive Planner,  
N. Curran, Assistant Planner,

**Pre Draft County Development Plan 2013-2019:**

Mr. E. Breen, County Manager, in launching the Draft County Development Plan 2013-2019 outlined the County Council's proposals for the future development of land including measures for the improvement of the natural and physical environment and the provision of infrastructure. He confirmed that the review process and preparation of the plan would have had regard to key recent development trends and national, regional and local policy developments in particular the increased emphasis on flooding, climate change, renewable energy and the need to support economic development. In his address he acknowledged that activity in the planning control area was down on recent years and he also referred to policy documents which controlled the population growth of towns, commented on flood risk assessment, wind energy strategy and changes in the retail strategy. The Manager complimented staff on the preparation of the Pre Draft County Development Plan and advised that the only work being done by Consultants related to work on the appropriate assessment process.

Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, stated that the policies in the plan encouraged a positive approach to development and that new development opportunities would not be restricted unless there are strong persuasive justification for doing so having regard to European, national and regional policies. The plan also recognised that prudent long term planning would help mitigate the unacceptable adverse impact of development and that the plan seeks to recognise the need to protect the environment with the demand for necessary developments to meet the needs and aspirations of the people of County Wexford. The Director also referred to the 37 guidance documents which had been issued by the Department of Environment

which were reflected in the policies enshrined in the draft plan and he complimented the Planning Staff who had worked in the preparation of the draft plan.

Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner, in a summary of the content of the written statement advised that the plan will provide for

1. A sustainable spatial development strategy to guide the location of the development.
2. Clear guidance on the future use of land and the pattern of development over the next 6 years.
3. A framework for the future investment in physical and social infrastructure.
4. A framework for developing the county's economy.
5. Management and control by indicating standards to be achieved in new developments.
6. Ways to conserve and enhance the urban and rural environment and to protect the diversity of the natural and cultural landscape.
7. Guidance for public and private investors in relation to land use and development.

The Senior Planner also confirmed that the draft plan had been prepared following extensive consultations where there were a series of public consultation evenings where members of the public and interested groups submitted their views and suggestions and also written submissions were received following the carrying out of a wide range of consultations with other stakeholders and service providers. The Senior Planner also advised of the legislative context in which the draft plan was developed and prepared. The introduction to the plan advised that the Local Authority had a duty to make a development plan for its functional area every 6 years and that the plan covered the entire county with the exception of Wexford Town, Enniscorthy Town and New Ross Town which are covered by their respective development plans. The development plan is required to set out an overall strategy for the proper planning and sustainable development of the area and must consist of a written statement and a plan or plans indicating the development objectives for the plan area.

The Senior Planning Staff then made a presentation to the Council on the following contents of the Draft Plan:

1. Demographic and Social and Economic Profile of County Wexford
2. Core Strategy
3. Housing
4. Climate Change
5. Employment Economy and Enterprise
6. Tourism
7. Transportation
8. Infrastructure

Questions raised by the Members on the introduction and presentation made by the Senior Planning Staff were addressed by Mr. E. Breen, County Manager, Mr. T. Larkin and Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner, and Ms. D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner.



Following discussion and consideration the Council recommended that the following changes be made to the Draft County Wexford Development Plan 2013-2019 and accordingly recommended and resolved to include an objective or reference to:

- The development of an Educational Gateway with European Educational Establishments
- Support conferencing facilities as a means of attracting business and tourism
- Recognise the tourism potential associated with horse racing, greyhounds racing, 'glamping' and the development of a 'castle trail'
- Support the private provision of broadband in the provincial towns
- Require a special financial contribution for town centre improvements where retail development is permitted outside the town
- Cycle parking/infrastructure at beaches
- Accessibility for persons with disabilities to harbours, marinas etc.

The Council agreed to meet again on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 9.30 a.m. in the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Meitheamh, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Special Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2012 at 9.30 a.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

- In the Chair: Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach.
- Councillors: P. Codd; K. Codd-Nolan; P. Cody; T. Dempsey;  
A. Fenlon; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella;  
G. Lawlor; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien;
- Officials: Messrs: E. Breen, County Manager,  
E. Hore; E. Taaffe, Director of Services;  
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary.  
D. Houston, Senior Planner;  
D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner,  
P. Doyle, Executive Planner,  
F. Fenlon, Assistant Planner,  
N. Lennon, Executive Planner,  
N. Curran, Assistant Planner,
- Apologies: Cllr. J. Hegarty, Cllr. D. MacPartlin, Cllr. P. Kavanagh.

**Pre Draft County Development Plan 2013-2019:**

Following introduction by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner, the Council continued with their consideration of the Pre Draft County Wexford Development Plan 2013-2019. The Director of Services Mr. E. Hore, Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner and Ms. D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner, addressed the meeting on the contents of the plan covering the following areas:

1. Environmental Management
2. Flood Risk Assessment
3. Heritage
4. Recreation, Sport and Public Rights of Way
5. Social Inclusion and Community Facilities
6. Design
7. Development Management Standards

Questions raised by the Members were responded to by the County Manager, Director of Services and Planning Staff. The Members also discussed the following summary of amendments "Proposed Changes to Draft Wexford County Development Plan":

- New text is identified in **bold and underlined**
- Deleted text is identified in ~~strikethrough text~~

#### **Amend Objective ED41 in Chapter 6- p143**

To ensure that all proposed **plans** or projects relating to retail development (including retail warehouses, factory outlets, shopping centres, convenience shops etc) and any associated improvement works or associated infrastructure (i.e. car parking), individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment to ensure that there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any Natura 2000 site(s) and that the requirements of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied **Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any Natura 2000 site(s) and that the requirements of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where the plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura 2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The plan or project will only proceed after it has been ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan or project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.**

#### **Insert new Objective Chapter 7 Tourism (after TM05)**

**To support the development of conferencing facilities in appropriate locations as a means of attracting business and tourism subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.**

#### **Amend Objective TM15 in Chapter 7 Tourism (Section 7.4.3 Inland Waterways)**

To promote increased linkages **which are universally accessible** to the County's rivers which do not detract from the visual amenities or have a negative impact on the environment or on Natura 2000 sites.

#### **Amend Objective TM29 in Chapter 7 (Section 7.4.8 Caravan Parks)**

To **generally** restrict the development of new **camping/Glamping and** caravan parks to built up areas ~~unless it can be demonstrated that the development would have limited visual impact and~~ subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.

#### **Amend Objective T03 in Chapter 8 Transport**

To ensure that all proposed **plans or** projects relating to transportation (including walking, cycling, rail, bus, airports, ports and roads) and any associated improvement works, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, are subject to Appropriate Assessment Screening to ensure there are no likely significant effects on the integrity (defined by the structure and function) of any Natura 2000 site(s) and that the requirements of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive are fully satisfied. Where the **plan or** project is likely to have a significant effect on a Natura

2000 site it shall be subject to Appropriate Assessment. The **plan or** project will only proceed after it has been ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site or where in the absence of alternative solutions, the plan or project is deemed imperative for reasons of overriding public interest, all in accordance with the provisions of Articles 6(3) and 6(4) of the EU Habitats Directive.

**Amend objective BB01 (Chapter 9-Section 9.3.1)**

To encourage and facilitate the co-ordinated development and extension of broadband infrastructure throughout the County, **in particular in the Hub, Larger Towns and District Towns, by state or private operators** as **a** means of improving economic competitiveness and social inclusion subject **to compliance** with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.

**Amend Objective CZM25 in Chapter 13 Coastal Zone Management**

To maintain and upgrade facilities in coastal areas through the provision of appropriate support facilities such as car parking, **cycle parking**, public toilets and refuse disposal facilities, subject to **compliance with** normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.

**Amend Objective CZM28 in Chapter 13 Coastal Zone Management**

To encourage **universally accessible** extensions of the use of harbours where appropriate to include elements of active and passive leisure, tourism and service enterprises to create vibrant, attractive focal points for existing coastal settlements subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.

**Amend Objective CZM29 in Chapter 13 Coastal Zone Management**

To encourage the development of **universally accessible** marinas, jetties and facilities for maritime leisure developments where the siting of such installations will **not** detract from the visual amenity, the environmental quality of the area or public access to beaches and subject to compliance with normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards contained in Chapter 18.

**Amend Objective CZM33 in Chapter 13 Coastal Zone Management**

To provide car parking, **cycle parking**, toilet and waste facilities at suitable locations at the County's bathing areas, where possible, subject to **compliance with** normal planning and environmental criteria and the development management standards in Chapter 18.

**Insert new objective in Chapter 16 Social Inclusion and Community Facilities (after CF18)**

**To further develop educational linkages with European Education Institutions in order to enhance Wexford as Educational Gateway to Europe.**

## **Chapter 18 Development Management Standards**

### **Section 18.10.8 Private Open Space**

Typing Error: Should read:

“In general a minimum distance of 24 **22m** should be achieved between opposing first floor windows at the rear of dwellings”

**Insert new sub-section after Section 18.10.15 p 419**

#### **Taking in Charge**

**The Wexford County Council policy document ‘Taking in Charge of Private Residential Developments’ was adopted on the 14 July 2008. Applicants for permission should incorporate the requirements of this policy, and any future updated version of the document, when designing and laying out residential developments.**

### **Section 18.12.1 One-off rural housing p421**

Insert the following text in the fourth bullet point after 5 or more houses **in a row over 250m of road frontage**

### **Section 18.32 On-site wastewater treatment facilities p456**

#### **Insert additional text**

Where it is proposed to serve a dwelling house with such a system, the planning application shall be accompanied by details which demonstrate that the proposed on-site wastewater system can safely and adequately dispose of effluent in accordance with the Code of Practice: Wastewater Treatment and Disposal Systems Serving Single Houses, Environmental Protection Agency (2009). **These details shall include a site suitability assessment carried out by a suitability qualified person who is registered with Wexford County Council to carry out such assessments. The Council has a register of these agents; a copy of the register is available from the Planning Department or on the Council’s website.** The wastewater treatment facilities should be within the site edged red and on lands within the applicant’s ownership.

### **Section 29.7 Car parking standards p 447**

Second bullet point: Insert a revised standard for reserved parking for people with disabilities as follows:

~~**Delete:** Car parking proposals shall include at least 1 accessible car parking space per 5 car parking spaces.~~

**Replace with the following text:**

**The number of parking spaces to be designated for people with disabilities will depend on the building type. The recommended provision of reserved parking for people with disabilities is as follows:**

- **Buildings not normally visited by the public: Minimum one space of appropriate dimensions in every 25 standard spaces, up to the first 100 spaces; thereafter, one space per every 100 standard spaces or**

- part thereof.
- Shops and other buildings to which the public has access: Minimum one space of appropriate dimensions in the first 25 standard spaces; minimum three in 25–50 standard spaces; minimum five in 50–100 standard spaces; and additional three per every 100 standard spaces in excess thereof.
- Premises used by a high proportion of people with disabilities will require a larger than average number of designated spaces. The parking requirement for such building types should be calculated in relation to the anticipated demand.

**Fourth bullet point: change text as follows**

Where the provision of on-site parking is not possible or desirable for design reasons, the Council will may, where appropriate, ~~require~~ consider the payment of a financial contribution ~~to be~~ towards the provision of car parking nearby.

**Amend Objective 10 in Retail Strategy**

Retail developments on edge of centre sites or out of town centre sites will be considered when it has been clearly demonstrated that all viable, available and suitable sites in the town centre have been fully investigated and considered in accordance with the Retail Planning Guidelines and in particular the Sequential Test. A special financial contribution will be applied to retail developments on edge of centre or out of town centre sites. This contribution will be used by the Council to carry out town centre improvements and/or to enhance access arrangements from the town centre to the subject site. Provisions in this regard will be set out in the respective Development Contribution Schemes.

**Changes to Draft Wind Energy Strategy 28/5/12**

Page 27      Paragraph three. Insert the following footnote after sentence “Map No. 1 shows the location of existing and permitted wind farm developments in County Wexford and in adjoining counties up to 15km from the County boundary.”

Footnote: At the time of preparing the Draft Plan it was not possible to map existing and permitted wind farms in County Carlow.

Page 37      Omit word “minimum” from Objective WE02

Page 41      Replace bullet point 2 in Section 5.2.1 with new Section 5.2.2 (re-numbering all subsequent sections) as follows:

**5.2.2 Consultation with Local Community**

- The developer of a wind energy project shall engage in active consultation and dialogue with the local community at an early stage in the planning process and this must be demonstrated in the planning application. The developer

shall identify the nature and extent of the communities affected by the proposed development and shall consult with all such communities. Methods of consultation include workshops, public open evenings, distribution of information leaflets, meetings/seminars with stakeholders or focus groups or another form of consultation appropriate to the area identified and the stage of the project. Developers should have regard to the advice contained in Guidelines for Planning Authorities on Wind Energy Development (Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government, 2006) and Best Practice Guidelines for the Irish Wind Energy Industry (IWEA, 2012) in relation to community consultation.

The developer shall engage in early consultation (prior to submitting a planning application) with local residents and the communities identified as being affected by the proposed development regarding the following issues:

- Design and layout of the proposed wind farm
  - The various stages of the project including planning, construction, commissioning, operation and decommissioning
  - Anticipated project timetable (including any public exhibitions)
  - Scoping of Environmental Impact Statement and identification of likely significant impacts
  - Analysis of findings in relation to shadow flicker and noise
  - Traffic expected to be generated during the construction and operational phases of the development and the routes proposed
  - Identification of mitigation measures
  - An outline of environmental and social benefits that the development will affect both locally and globally, including any planning gain for the local community.
- Consultation shall continue throughout the construction, commissioning and operation phases of the development. The developer should appoint an individual to be accessible to the local community during these stages to allow for dialogue and communication and to keep the public informed about the progress of the project. Contact details should be made available to neighbouring residents and community groups. The operator should

investigate any complaints from individuals and, where appropriate, work with the relevant authorities to address any issues raised.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Codd, seconded by Cllr. D. Kennedy, the Council agreed to proceed to the publication of the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 and to the invitation of submissions on its contents.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an 14 de Meitheamh, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach



***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair:	Cllr. Oliver Walsh, Cathaoirleach.
Councillors:	M. Byrne; P. Codd; K. Codd-Nolan; P. Cody; T. Dempsey; K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck, M. Sheehan
Officials:	Messrs: A. Doyle, D/County Manager, E. Hore; E. Taaffe, Directors of Services; Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance; Ms. M.O'Brien, A/Director of Services Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary.

**Expression of Sympathy:**

The Council extended sympathy to the families of the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Tom Colfer, brother of John Colfer, Dog Warden.
- The family of Willie Redmond, former Road Overseer and brother of Sean and Markie Redmond, Foremen.
- The family of Theresa Wade, Cleaner, Wexford County Council
- The family of Nicola Furlong, Curracloe
- The family of Laurence Nolan, brother of Cllr. Paddy Nolan

The Council observed a minute's silence.

**Best Wishes:**

The Council expressed their best wishes be forwarded to:

- Former Councillor Maurice Roche who was presently ill

**Congratualtions:**

The Council congratulated the Senior Football Team and the U21 Hurlers on their recent successes.

**Progress Update – “Positioning Wexford for the Upturn”:**

Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, and Ms. A. Byrne, Administrative Officer, made a presentation to the Council Meeting on progress on “Positioning Wexford for the Upturn”. The presentation outlined the issues highlighted in the report and the measures taken to address them. Members commented on many aspects of the report and agreed that much had been achieved and that the work should continue. Questions raised by the Members were addressed by Mr. E. Hore and Ms. A. Byrne.

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor T. Howlin, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.

On the proposal of Councillor P. Reck, seconded by Councillor P. Cody, the Council approved the minutes of the Special County Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2012.

On the proposal of Councillor P. Reck, seconded by Councillor P. Codd, the Council approved the minutes of the Special County Council Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.

**Matters arising from Minutes:**

It was noted that the apologies of Councillors M. Byrne, P. Reck and M. Sheehan were omitted from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2012 and the Council requested that the minutes be amended accordingly.

Arising from a query in relation to access and information on tenderers for Council works the Deputy County Manager agreed to examine the matter and report further on the type of information that could be given to Councillors.

The Council also requested that the reference in the minutes of the May Meeting to the success of Courtown Rowing Club should read Arklow Rowing Club and that the minutes of that meeting be amended accordingly.

### **County Manager's Report:**

The monthly report of the County Manager on the Strategic Roads Programme, Water Services Programme and Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the meeting and discussed. The Manager's Report confirmed that in excess of €36m had been paid to date in cases settled with landowners providing for the continuation of land acquisition along the N11 Clough to Oilgate and the N25 New Ross Bypass routes. The Manager responded to questions raised by Members on the following matters

:

- N11 Arklow/Rathnew Motorway
- The awarding of contracts to contractors based outside County Wexford.
- Progress on the Enniscorthy and Courtown Main Drainage Schemes
- Update and progress on the Wexford Library with contract due to finish in July of this year.

The Manager's Report also advised that the following Capital Projects and works ongoing in the County by Local Authorities had created 255 jobs:

New Ross Swimming Pool 130  
Wexford Library 60  
Enniscorthy Civic Centre 40  
New Ross Quays 15  
Main Street, Wexford 10

It was noted that these contracts were being undertaken by Wexford based contractors.

The Manager also advised that the Council were restricted under the Data Protection Act from divulging certain information in relation to contracts awarded and details of unsuccessful tenderers.

### **Proposed disposal of land under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001:**

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor M. Kinsella, the Council resolved to dispose of the following lands in accordance with notice circulated:

- Proposed disposal of lands (0.136ha) at Borleagh & Killinierin, Co. Wexford to Kilanerin Sheltered Housing Association Limited, Tomathone Upper, Gorey, Co. Wexford.

## **Part 8 Planning and Development Regulations 2001 – 2010:**

**LAC0509 – Proposed Erection of 2 No. Houses for Traveller Specific Accommodation with associated site works. (1 No. single storey detached house and 1 No. two storey detached dwelling) at Castlemoyle TD, New Ross ED. (An Caislean Maol, New Ross), Co. Wexford.**

The Members considered the report of Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2012. On the proposal of Cllr. D. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. P. Cody, the Members approved the proposed development as circulated in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 to 2010 and Part 11 of the Planning & Development Acts 2000-2010.

## **Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted the contents of the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 5<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.

## **Progress and Other Reports:**

### **Housing, Roads, Arts Services and Library Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Ms. M. O'Brien, A/Director of Services, responded to questions raised by Members on various aspects of the report.

### **Road Safety:**

The Council asked that a report on the School Traffic Warden Scheme be discussed at each Electoral Area Committee as early as possible with a view to extending the scheme to schools seeking the service.

### **Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, A/Director of Services, dealt with questions raised by the Members on the content of the report.

Following a discussion and concern expressed by the Members at the removal and vandalising of Life Rings on Wexford Bridge and the offer by a local security company to monitor the situation following replacement, on the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Cllr. T. Howlin, the Council recommended availing of this offer as a temporary measure with a view to achieving a satisfactory conclusion to a difficult problem.

The Council were most appreciative and supportive of this civic minded offer of assistance.

## **Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services. Following discussion on the Annual Allocation of Amenity & Community Support Grants on the proposal of Cllr. D. Kennedy seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan the Council recommended that the Grants Scheme be discussed at each Electoral Area Committee with a view to introducing any necessary amendments to the Scheme for 2013.

## **Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor T. Howlin, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Wexford Electoral Committee Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Kinsella, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Sheehan, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the New Ross Electoral Area Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor K. Codd Nolan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Transportation SPC Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.

## **Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor K. Codd Nolan, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 383/2012, 384/2012, 385/2012 and 389/2012.

## **Deferred Notice of Motion:**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne:

### **Cllr. M. Byrne**

"That in the circumstances of major infrastructure works being carried out by or on behalf of Wexford County Council and where a commercial business can show that as a result of such work that their turnover has decreased by at least 20%, that Wexford County Council shall halve the total due in commercial rates owing for the period of those works."

Following discussion the Deputy County Manager agreed to examine the legal issues raised on the question of reduction in rates due and to report further to the Local Authority on the matter. It was agreed in the circumstances to defer consideration of the motion.

### **Notices of Motion:**

It was agreed to defer consideration of the following motions to the next meeting of the County Council.

#### **Cllr. Martin Murphy**

“That Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for Finance to introduce a minimum fine of €10,000 on conviction, for cigarette smuggling or illegal cigarette selling”.

#### **Cllr. M. Sheehan**

“That this Council calls on the Government to boost the local economy and employment by ensuring any stimulus packages are channeled through local authorities first”.

#### **Cllr. D. MacPartlin**

“Having regard to the continued failure of state agencies to deliver jobs for County Wexford, the members of Wexford County Council believe that the Council should appoint a development officer to seek new business for the county. In order to fund this initiative the members resolve to create a fund consisting of the allocations to the Chairs of the 5 SPC's and funding to attend conferences. This fund to be focussed on direct marketing of Co. Wexford as a desirable location for investment leading to better prospects for jobs creation than exists under current national policy”.

### **Correspondence and Communications:**

The Members noted the following correspondence:

- Acknowledgement letter dated 15<sup>th</sup> May from Private Secretary to the Minister for Justice & Equality.
- Letter dated 17<sup>th</sup> May from Eddie Kiernan, Private Secretary to Mr. Phil Hogan TD, in connection with the household charge.
- Letter dated 21<sup>st</sup> May from Jim O'Keeffe, Head of Home Mortgages, AIB, regarding lending policies.
- Letter dated 23<sup>rd</sup> May from Aisling Glynn, Private Secretary to Ms. Jan O'Sullivan, TD, Minister for Housing and Planning, regarding the National Spatial Strategy.
- Email from Mr. Ray O'Connor, IDA, - The Members expressed dissatisfaction at the response of the IDA and again requested that the representatives of the IDA meet the Local Authority.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an 1<sup>la</sup> de Iúil, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

**WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Annual Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2012 – 12 noon  
In the Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford.**

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr.O. Walsh, Cathaoirleach.  
Later Cllr. K. Codd Nolan

**Councillors:**

M. Byrne; P. Codd; P. Cody; T. Dempsey; K. Doyle; A. Fenlon;  
J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor;  
D. MacPartlin; J. Moore, M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck; M. Sheehan;

**Officials:**

Messrs: E. Breen, County Manager, A. Doyle, E. Hore, T. Larkin, E. Taaffe,  
Directors of Services; A. O'Neill, Head of Finance; N. McDonnell County  
Secretary.

**Welcome:**

Cllr. O. Walsh, Cathaoirleach welcomed the Members and officials to the meeting. In an address to the attendance Cllr. Walsh thanked the County Manager, Council Staff and Members for their support, co-operation and assistance given to him over the past year. The Cathaoirleach looked on the past year as enjoyable, challenging and satisfying and expressed particular satisfaction on officiating at the completion and opening of the County Council Buildings, accepting the numerous awards received and in helping to promote the County through the Ambassadors Programme and other Council sponsored events. He acknowledged the support given to him by Cllr. D. Kennedy, Leas Cathaoirleach and the positive attitude of the Press and Media. In conclusion he thanked his wife and family for all the support and assistance and wished Grainne Murphy and Adam Nolan the very best in their efforts to bring honour to County Wexford and Ireland at the forthcoming London Olympics.

The County Manager and the Members thanked the Cathaoirleach for his positive contribution during the year and looked forward to working together to promote the County in future years.

**Election of Cathaoirleach:**

Cllr. P. Kavanagh proposed and County M. Kinsella seconded that Cllr. K. Codd Nolan be elected Cathaoirleach.

There being no other proposals, Cllr. K. Codd Nolan was elected Cathaoirleach of the County Council.



Cllr. K. Codd Nolan, Cathaoirleach, thanked the Council for their support and was honoured to be elected Cathaoirleach. In an address to the meeting Cllr. Codd Nolan outlined her family's history and involvement in the political life of the County and paid special tribute to her late parents John and Kitty and thanked her husband Jim, family and friends for their ongoing support, encouragement and assistance. The Cathaoirleach acknowledged the political contribution of former Councillors and looked forward to working with the Council in meeting the challenges to deliver a high quality local service to the people of Wexford in this difficult economic climate.

The Members and County Manager on behalf of Staff complimented and congratulated the Cathaoirleach and looked forward to working together in meeting the challenges facing the Council and the County over the next year.

**Election of Leas Cathaoirleach:**

Cllr. P. Cody proposed and Cllr. T. Howlin seconded that Cllr. Robert Ireton be elected Leas Cathaoirleach.

As there were no further nominations Cllr. R. Ireton was unanimously elected elected Leas Cathaoirleach of the County Council.

Cllr. Ireton thanked the Members for their support.

**This concluded the business of the meeting.**

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County Secretary

**Daingithe ar an      ú la de Iúil, 2012.**

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Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Kathleen Codd Nolan, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: M. Byrne; P. Codd; P. Cody; T. Dempsey;  
K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; R. Ireton;  
P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor;  
D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck,  
M. Sheehan; O. Walsh.

Officials: Mr. E. Breen, County Manager,  
Messrs A.Doyle, T. Larkin, Directors of Services;  
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;  
Mr. B. Galvin, A/Director of Services;  
Mr. Diarmuid Houston, A/Director of Services,  
Mr. G. Forde, Senior Executive Engineer,  
Mr. M. O'Reilly, County Secretary.

Apologies: Cllr. T. Howlin

**Expression of Sympathy:**

The Council extended sympathy to the families of the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Mr. Shane Fenlon, son of Andy Fenlon, A/General Services Supervisor, Machinery Yard.
- The family of Mrs. Banville, mother of Helen Brady former Enniscorthy Town Council Development Officer.
- The family of Patrick (Paddy) Sinnott, Campile, Co. Wexford.
- The family of Andy Doyle, Chapel Street, Taghmon

The Council observed a minute's silence.

**Congratulations:**

The Council expressed their congratulations to:

- New Ross and District Pipe Band on winning the All Ireland Band Title

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor M. Kinsella, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor M. Kinsella, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Annual Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2012.

### **County Manager's Report:**

The County Manager's monthly report on the Strategic Roads Programme, Strategic Water/Drainage Schemes and the Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the meeting and discussed. The report advised that in excess of €37m has been paid to date in compensation to landowners in respect of the N11 Enniscorthy and the N25 New Ross Bypasses. The County Manager answered questions from Members on the following:

- Enniscorthy and Gorey/Courtown Main Drainage Schemes
- Updates with respect to New Ross and Wexford Libraries

### **Enniscorthy Flood Protection Scheme:**

The Manager's Report informed the Members that the revised Flood Protection Scheme has now been received from the Office of Public Works. A presentation was made to a Joint Meeting of Enniscorthy Town Council and Enniscorthy District Area Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2012. An information day is scheduled for the 17<sup>th</sup> July 2012.

Following a lengthy discussion on the matter, the Council, having regard to its obligations under Part II, Section 5 of the Arterial Drainage Act 1945, on the proposal of Cllr. P. Cody, seconded by Cllr. O. Walsh, approved the amended proposals for the River Slaney (Enniscorthy) Flood Relief Scheme as presented by the Office of Public Works.

The County Manager's Report also outlined a total of 230 jobs still being maintained by the Council's Capital Programme.

### **Proposal to Declare Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2010:**

- The Meadows, Killenagh, Gorey, Co. Wexford

The Members considered the report of Ms. M. O'Brien, A/Director of Services, dated 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2012, and on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. P. Kavanagh, the Members approved the road listed above be declared to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 (4) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2010.

### **Housing SPC Chairperson – Filling of Vacancy:**

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. T. Dempsey, Councillor M. Murphy was elected as the Chair of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee, to replace outgoing Chairman Cllr. T. Dempsey.

### **Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted the contents of the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2012.

### **Progress and Other Reports:**

#### **Housing, Roads, Arts Services and Library Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by Members on the report.

#### **Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. B. Galvin, A/Director of Services, responded to items raised by the Members.

#### **Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, A/Director of Services.

An initiative taken by Meath County Council to ban smoking in public parks and playgrounds was raised. Following a discussion it was agreed that the SPC would examine the matter and revert to the Council in due course.

### **Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor J. Moore, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Wexford Electoral Committee Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Cody, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.

- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor L. O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Water, Environment & Emergency Services SPC Meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.

### **Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor D. MacPartlin, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 466/2012, 467/2012, and 469/2012.

### **Deferred Notice of Motion:**

The following Notice of Motions were considered:

#### **Cllr. M. Murphy:**

"That Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for Finance to introduce a minimum fine of €10,000 on conviction, for cigarette smuggling or illegal cigarette selling".

Following discussion by the Members this motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. K. Doyle and agreed by the Council.

#### **Cllr. M. Sheehan**

"That this Council calls on the Government to boost the local economy and employment by ensuring any stimulus packages are channeled through local authorities first".

Following discussion by the Members this motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. K. Doyle and agreed by the Council.

#### **Cllr. D. MacPartlin**

"Having regard to the continued failure of state agencies to deliver jobs for County Wexford, the members of Wexford County Council believe that the Council should appoint a development officer to seek new business for the county. In order to fund this initiative the members resolve to create a fund consisting of the allocations to the Chairs of the 5 SPC's and funding to attend conferences. This fund to be focussed on direct marketing of Co. Wexford as a desirable location for investment leading to better prospects for jobs creation than exists under current national policy".

Following discussion on the motion, during which the County Manager advised the Members that the Minister for Environment, Community & Local Government, has plans to create a local development office, it was agreed to defer full consideration of the motion.

**Notices of Motion:**

**Cllr. M. Byrne:**

"That Wexford County Council expresses its strong opposition to any proposal by An Garda Siochana and the Minister for Justice to downgrade or merge any of the Garda Divisions in Co. Wexford."

Proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan. Following a lengthy discussion the motion was amended to read

"That Wexford County Council expresses its strong opposition to any proposal by An Garda Siochana and the Minister for Justice to downgrade or merge any of the Garda Districts in Co. Wexford."

The amended motion was agreed and it was further agreed that the matter be raised as a priority at the next meeting of the Joint Policing Committee.

**Correspondence and Communications:**

The Members noted the following correspondence:

- Letter dated 25<sup>th</sup> June 2012 from Mr. Damien Brennan, Private Secretary to the Minister for Justice & Equality, in connection with the condition of the former Courthouse in New Ross, Co. Wexford.
- Letter dated 6<sup>th</sup> July 2012 from Ms. Aisling Glynn, Private Secretary to the Minister for Housing and Planning in relation to the National Spatial Strategy (NSS).

**Any Other Business:**

**Student Grant Scheme 2012/2013**

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. T. Dempsey the Council resolved to adopt the Student Grant Scheme for 2012/2013.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an lá de Meán Fómhair, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Kathleen Codd Nolan, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: M. Byrne; P. Codd; P. Cody; T. Dempsey;  
K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton;  
P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore;  
M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck, M. Sheehan; O. Walsh.

Officials: Mr. E. Breen, County Manager,  
Messrs A.Doyle, T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe,  
Directors of Services;  
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;  
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary;

Apologies: Cllr. M. Kinsella

**Expression of Sympathy:**

The Council extended sympathy to the families of the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Maurice Roche, former Councillor, Wexford County Council.
- The family of Michael Roche, former Water Services Inspector and Firefighter of Wexford County Council.
- The family of Johnnie Roche, father of Mark, Therese and Tricia Roche, County Council employees.
- The family of Joe Power, father-in-law of John Maher, Fire Services.
- The family of Georgina Willis, mother of Gabrielle Willis, Civil Defence Officer.
- The family of Tom Williams, Taghmon, Co. Wexford.
- The family of Kevin Stack former teacher at the Vocational School, Enniscorthy,

The Council observed a minute's silence.

**Congratulations:**

The Council expressed their congratulations to:

- Darragh McDonald, Gorey, and Catherine O'Neill, New Ross, medal winners at the Paralympics and all Wexford Olympians.



- St. Kearns Rowing Club on their recent success in the All Ireland Rowing Championship.
- St. Patrick's Pitch and Putt team, Enniscorthy, on their success in the All Ireland Pitch and Putt Championship.
- The Kennedy Summer School on holding the Inaugural Summer School last week in New Ross.
- The countywide tidy towns groups. The Wexford Tidy Towns Committee and Volunteers on winning a bronze medal in the competition.
- The U12 Girls football team from Taghmon in winning a county title.
- Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services, and the other officials who progressed to completion the improvement works at South Main Street, Wexford.
- The Wexford Newfoundland Association and Wexford Conference.
- The organisers of the National Ploughing Championships
- JFK Trust in preparing to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the late President JF Kennedy's visit to New Ross and Ireland.
- Enniscorthy Town Council in their support and sponsorship of the National Pitch and Putt Championships.
- The Leinster Champions Galway on an outstanding performance in the All Ireland Hurling Final.

### **Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2012.

### **County Manager's Report:**

The County Manager's monthly report on the Strategic Roads Programme, Strategic Water/Drainage Schemes and the Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the meeting and discussed. The report informed Members that land acquisition for the N11 Clough to Oilgate and the N25 New Ross Bypasses was continuing and approximately €41m has been paid to date in compensation to landowners along both routes. The County Manager or relevant Director of Service responded to questions raised by Members on the following matters:

- Enniscorthy and Gorey/Courtown Main Drainage Schemes
- Progress on New Ross Library
- Flood Protection Works and New Bridge Enniscorthy
- Water Services Improvements Gorey
- Likely contractual arrangements for the N11 Clough to Oilgate and N25 New Ross Bypasses
- Progress on the N11 Arklow/Rathnew including Gorey Service Area
- Advancement on the Oylegate to Rosslare route to final design stage

The Members also welcomed the allocation to complete the Oulart Water Scheme improvements. The County Manager's Report also confirmed that 176 jobs were still being maintained under construction of the Council's Capital Programme.

**Proposed disposal of land under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001:**

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor O. Walsh, the Council resolved to dispose of the following lands in accordance with notice circulated:

- Proposed disposal of lands at Coolcotts, Wexford to Cumann Tithiochta Socialta An Bhreacadh Nua Teo, Ard Aoibhinn, Belvedere Road, Wexford.

**Proposal to Declare Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2010:**

- Dun na Ri, Clongeen, Co. Wexford.
- Riverchapel View, Ballintray Upper, Ardamine, Courtown, Co. Wexford.
- The Paddocks, Ramstown Lower, Gorey, Co. Wexford.

The Members considered the report of Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, dated 24<sup>th</sup> August, 2012, and on the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne, the Members approved the roads listed above be declared to be a public roads in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 (4) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2010.

**2012 Capital Allocation for House Purchase and Improvement Loans:**

The Members considered report of Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance, advising of notification from the Department of Environment, Community & Local Government, of the 2012 Capital Allocation for House Purchase and Improvement Loans amounting to €950,000.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Cody, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan, and in accordance with Section 106 (7) of the Local Government Act 2001 the meeting approved the borrowing of €950,000 for the purpose of funding the Housing Purchase Improvement Loan Programme for 2012.

Following discussion on the notification of the 2012 Capital Allocation for House Purchase and Improvement Loans and having been advised by the Director on details of housing loan applications received by the Local Authority on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan, the Council resolved to ask the Minister to extend the closing date for House Purchasers under the Tenant Purchase Scheme Applicants.

### **Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted the contents of the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September, 2012.

### **Matters arising from Corporate Policy Group Meeting:**

Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services, advised that it was necessary to issue boiled water notice in Clonroche arising from a malfunctioning of the chlorine dosing system. The matter had been resolved within a few days.

### **Road Improvements Camolin:**

Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, confirmed that approval had been received from the NRA to a tender for the Camolin Pavement Improvement Scheme with completion of the works likely to be in November 2012.

### **Local Government Fund:**

Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance, outlined the difficulties facing the Council in managing finances in the circumstances of the financial grant reductions and confirmed that the Local Government Fund had been reduced by 31% since 2008. The Head of Finance also confirmed that €3.279m had been collected under the Household Charge Scheme, a collection in excess of 60%.

The Head of Finance Ms. A. O'Neill advised the meeting of notification received from the Department of a reduction in the General Purposes Grant from the Local Government Fund for Quarters 3 and 4 of 2012. The immediate impact had been a reduction of €481,697 in the Quarter 3 payment of the grant which was received at the end of July 2012. The Head of Finance confirmed that the reduction has serious financial implications for the Local Authority and it would be necessary to review options for immediate actions to minimise the effects of the proposed reductions which on an annual basis could exceed €1.9m.

Following a discussion on the reduction in the local government fund on the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne the Council resolved to write to the Mr. Phil Hogan, Minister for Environment, Local Government & Community, seeking the reimbursement of the funding reduction as already notified and a guarantee that the balance of the funding will not be withheld from the Local Authority for Quarter's 3 and 4.

### **Progress and Other Reports:**

#### **Housing, Roads, Arts Services and Library Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by Members on the content of the report. The Director confirmed that 87 units of accommodation had been provided to families under the RAS Scheme so far this year with the likely

outcome for the year providing approximately 140 units. The Director also responded to questions raised in relation to taking in charge of housing estates countywide and in his monthly report confirmed that 112 applications are currently being dealt with by the Local Authority. He also confirmed that in many cases the assistance of the Bondsman or the Developer is essential in leading to a satisfactory resolution of ongoing problems with estates.

The Director of Services for Planning also confirmed that the issue of unfinished estates countywide was being treated seriously by various sections of the Local Authority but in many cases the inadequacy of funding to address the problems identified was preventing a speedy resolution.

### **Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by the Members. The Director confirmed that 2,368 applicants had registered septic tanks and there were approximately 26,000 of these tanks in the county. The Director also responded to questions raised on specific problems with single tanks serving private dwelling houses and outlined what action may be taken to resolve problems. He also confirmed that an application for funding for the Mountgarrett Small Sewerage Scheme would be submitted for 2013.

### **Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services. The Director informed the meeting that the Draft County Development Plan 2013-2019 which had been on public display would be further considered by the Council late in the year following the County Manager's Report on the numerous submissions received. He also confirmed that there had been no write off's of Planning Levies and Contributions due to the Local Authority.

### **Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor M. Murphy, seconded by Councillor M. Sheehan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Murphy, seconded by Councillor M. Sheehan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee AGM Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor J. Hegarty, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2012.

- On the proposal of Councillor P. Cody, seconded by Councillor K. Doyle, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor T. Howlin, seconded by Councillor J. Moore, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Economic & Social Development SPC Meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Hegarty, seconded by Councillor J. Moore, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Economic & Social Development SPC Meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor B. Ireton, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Planning SPC Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.

### **Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor O. Walsh, seconded by Councillor T. Howlin, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 607/2012, 606/2012, 605/2012.

### **Notices of Motion:**

#### **The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr. P. Cody:**

"That, recognising Parents and Adults as the most important role models for children, Wexford County Council will adopt a policy, to ensure that all of its childrens playgrounds, will be smoke-free areas, in future"

This will give a clear message to everyone that every effort is being made, to safeguard our children, from both the effects of secondary smoke inhalation and to discourage children from smoking in later life. In order for this to be absolutely clear, proper and clearly worded signs should be erected in each of the Co. Councils Playgrounds.

Following discussion by the Members this motion was proposed by Cllr. P. Cody, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and agreed by the Council.

#### **The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr. D. MacPartlin:**

"Wexford County Council demands that the proposal by Bus Eireann to discontinue its stop at Camolin and St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin be not implemented. Similarly Wexford County Council demands that the bus service starting point on the Dublin route be retained at Rosslare Harbour. These are important social as well transport services funded by the tax payer".

Following discussion by the Members this motion was proposed by Cllr. D. MacPartlin, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and agreed by the Council.

**Any Other Business:**

**Post Office Closures:**

Following discussion on the proposed closure of a number of rural Post Offices Countywide on the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. M. Murphy the Council resolved to ask the Public Affairs Manager of An Post Mr. Angus Lafferty to an early meeting of the Council in order to discuss this matter of concern to the Local Authority arising from the implications of a reduced service to rural dwellers in the county.

**Irish Rail:**

Following discussion the Council asked that Irish Rail be requested to provide additional carriages to facilitate the travelling public to All Ireland Football and Hurling Finals from Rosslare Harbour.

**Change of Venue County Council Meetings:**

Following discussion on the practical issues of holding County Council Meetings in venues other than in the new premises at Carricklawn on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan the Council requested that this matter be given consideration for 2013.

**Best Wishes:**

The Cathaoirleach Cllr. K. Codd Nolan and the other Members of the Local Authority wished the County Wexford Senior Camogie Team the very best in the forthcoming camogie final against Cork on Sunday.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Deireadh Fómhair, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Cllr. Kathleen Codd Nolan, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: P. Codd; P. Cody; T. Dempsey; K. Doyle; J. Hegarty;  
T. Howlin; R. Ireton; P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella;  
G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien;  
P. Reck, M. Sheehan; O. Walsh.

Officials: Mr. E. Breen, County Manager,  
Messrs A.Doyle, T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe,  
Directors of Services;  
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;  
Mr. M. O'Reilly, A/County Secretary;

**Suspension of Standing Orders:**

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan, it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow debate on reports that one of the operating theatres at Wexford General Hospital is to close for a period of 11 weeks. Following discussion it was agreed to seek clarification from Wexford General Hospital of the veracity of these reports.

**Presentation on The Gathering – Ireland 2013:**

Mr. Fionnan Nestor made a presentation on The Gathering Ireland 2013. Mr. Nestor informed the Members that preparations for The Gathering were well advanced and that this initiative has a number of key objectives:

- To develop a strategic relationship with Irish Diaspora
- To contribute to the country's economic renewal
- To develop the initiative beyond a tourism event
- To promote and encourage local events countrywide

The initiative's target is to attract an additional 325,000 visitors into the country during 2013, generating an estimated €170 million in income. It is hoped that a range of local events will add to key headline events, e.g. St. Patrick's Day, etc across the country and spread throughout the year. The Council's Community & Enterprise Department have been designated to coordinate activities in County Wexford.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Nestor on behalf of the Members and following a discussion on the matter the Director of Community & Enterprise advised that he will keep the Members informed of developments in this regard.

### **Congratulations:**

The Council expressed their congratulations to:

- All involved in the organisation and running of the National Ploughing Championships at Ballinaboola, New Ross.
- Wexford Senior Camogie Team on their success in the All Ireland Camogie Final.
- St. Anne's, Starlights and Naomh Eanna Football Teams on their respective success in the County's Football Finals.

### **Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor T. Howlin, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2012.

### **County Manager's Report:**

The County Manager's monthly report on the Strategic Roads Programme, Strategic Water/Drainage Schemes and the Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the Members. The report informed the meeting that land acquisition for the N11 and N25 Bypasses was progressing with a total of approximately €43m now spent.

The County Manager and the Director of Services responded to questions raised by Members on the following matters:

- Enniscorthy Flood Protection Scheme – removal of Seamus Rafter Bridge
- Progress on New Ross and Wexford Libraries
- Enniscorthy Main Drainage Scheme

The County Manager's Report advised that 180 jobs were being maintained under the Council's Capital Programme.

### **Manager's Report on Pre-Draft Submissions – Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 and Preparation of a New Plan for the Area:**

The Director of Services Planning & Development advised the Members that the Manager's Report on Pre-Draft Submissions of Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014 had been considered and adopted by a joint meeting of the Enniscorthy Town Council and Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee. On the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck seconded by Cllr. P. Cody the meeting approved the preparation of the draft Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014.



**Proposal to Declare Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 – 2010:**

- Middletown Valley, Ballinatrav Upper, Courtown, Gorey, Co. Wexford.

The Members considered the report of Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, dated 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2012, and on the proposal of Cllr. M. Kinsella, seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton, the Members approved the road listed above be declared to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 (4) of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2010.

**Takeover of Belmont Group Water Scheme:**

The Members considered report of Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services, dated 8<sup>th</sup> October 2012 and on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck, seconded by Cllr. T. Howlin, the Members approved the takeover of the Belmont Group Water Scheme.

**Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted the contents of the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 1<sup>st</sup> October, 2012.

**Matters arising from Corporate Policy Group Meeting:**

The Director of Water Services, Mr. E. Taaffe responded to questions in relation to the registration and inspection of septic tanks. He advised the Members that the programme of inspections under the Septic Tank Registration Scheme is not due to commence until the second half of 2013. However inspections under the 1977 Water Pollution Act are ongoing and will continue in cases where pollution is suspected.

**Local Government Fund:**

Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance, informed the Members that the collection rate for the Household Charge now stands at 62%. A copy of the mailshot to be issued to all householders highlighting the range of services provided by the Council was circulated to the Members.

The Members welcomed the fact that almost two thirds of those liable to pay the Household Charge have now paid it.

**Suspension of Standing Orders (Wexford General Hospital):**

The County Secretary informed the Members that he had received confirmation from the General Manager of Wexford General Hospital that one of its surgical theatres is to close for a period of 11 weeks. He advised that the General Manager of Wexford General Hospital had also stated that there is no question of a downgrading of the hospital and that similar closures had occurred in 2011 and 2010.

Following a discussion on the matter on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan, it was agreed to write to the Minister for Health, Dr. James Reilly, TD, seeking to have the decision to close the operating theatre reversed. It was further agreed to seek support in this matter from all of the County's Oireachtas Members.

### **Progress and Other Reports:**

#### **Housing, Roads, Arts Services and Library Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting. The Director confirmed that to date 104 of the 140 units of accommodation targeted for 2012 have been provided under the Rental Accommodation Scheme (RAS). He also confirmed that the 2012 allocation for Grants for People with a Disability has been spent in full. Consideration can be given to further applications when the 2013 allocation is known.

The Director also responded to queries in relation to roadworks at Tagoat/Kilrane and Camolin and updated Members in relation to the public consultation process on speed limits on roads across the county. He also updated the Members in relation to Unfinished Estates.

#### **Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by the Members in relation to

- Village Bundle
- Gorey Regional Water Supply Scheme
- Wexford Sewerage Scheme
- Piercestown Sewerage Scheme

#### **Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services.

The Director advised that 129 written submissions and observations have been received in respect of the Draft County Wexford Development Plan 2013-2019 during the public consultation period. Following a discussion on the matter it was agreed to hold a Special County Council Meeting at 10.00 a.m. on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012 to consider the submissions in relation to the County Development Plan.

The Director of Services responded to questions raised by the Members in relation to Protected Structures.

### **Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor L. O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Hegarty, seconded by Councillor D. MacPartlin, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Special Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor D. MacPartlin, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Joint Policing Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor R. Ireton, seconded by Councillor P. Reck, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Planning SPC Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Moore, seconded by Councillor L. O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Transportation SPC Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2012.

### **Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 663/2012, 665/2012, 666/2012, 673/2012.

### **Correspondence & Communications:**

#### **Vacancy HSE South Forum:**

Cllr. M. Murphy's resignation from his position on HSE South Forum was noted.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. P. Reck, it was unanimously agreed that Cllr. T. Dempsey fill this vacancy on HSE South Forum.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Samhain, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2012 at 2.30 p.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.***

**Attendance:**

In the Chair:	Cllr. Kathleen Codd Nolan, Cathaoirleach.
Councillors:	M. Byrne; P. Codd; T. Dempsey; K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck, M. Sheehan; O. Walsh.
Officials:	Mr. E. Breen, County Manager, Messrs A.Doyle, T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services; Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance; Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary;
Apologies:	Cllr. P. Cody, Cllr. P. Kavanagh.

**Congratulations:**

The Council expressed their congratulations to:

- Simon Doran who won the World Youth Sailing Championship.
- Simon Kirwan, Wexford Town, Union Secretary for many years recently retired.
- Best wishes and a speedy recovery were conveyed to Cllr. Pat Cody who has been ill recently.

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2012.

**Votes of Sympathy:**

- The family of Anthony Fenlon, brother of Joe Fenlon, Firefighter, Wexford Fire Service
- The family of Mgt (Peggy) Reck, mother of Geraldine Redmond, Planning Dept, and mother in law of Geraldine Reck, Housing Dept.
- The family of Brigid O'Neill, mother of Niall O'Neill Town Gardner, New Ross Town Council and mother in law of Mairin O'Neill, New Ross Area Office.
- The family of Willie Birney.
- The family of David Black, Northern Ireland Police Service.

### **Retirement of County Manager:**

Cllr. K. Codd Nolan, Cathaoirleach, informed the meeting that the County Manager would be retiring on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2012 following 45 years service in Local Government. Cllr. Codd Nolan acknowledged the County Manager's role in the development and completion of a number of significant projects countywide over the past 9 years and thanked him for his courtesy, kindness and professionalism in addition to his commitment to help progress development in his native county during his term as County Manager. The Members present also thanked the County Manager for his support, assistance and acknowledged the respect and esteem in which he held the Elected Members of County and Town Councils.

In response the County Manager thanked the Cathaoirleach and Members for their kind words and said he was honored to work as County Manager in Wexford with an excellent team of Councillors and Officials. He attributed the successful completion of many projects to the team effort prevalent in the county between Members and Officials and indicated he was fortunate to complete his public service as Manager in a great county.

In conclusion Cllr. K. Codd Nolan thanked the Manager and wished him and his family many happy, healthy and contented years in retirement.

### **County Manager's Report:**

The County Manager's monthly report on the Strategic Roads Programme, Strategic Water/Drainage Schemes and the Civic Buildings Programme was circulated to the Members. The report informed the meeting that land acquisition for the N11 and N25 Bypasses was progressing with a total of approximately €44m now spent.

The County Manager and the Director of Services responded to questions raised by Members on the following matters:

- Enniscorthy and New Ross Bypasses
- Enniscorthy Main Drainage Scheme
- N11 Arklow/Rathnew Project
- New Ross Library

The County Manager's Report advised that 180 jobs were being maintained under the Council's Capital Programme.

### **Proposed disposal of land under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001:**

On the proposal of Councillor T. Howlin, seconded by Councillor P. Reck, the Council resolved to dispose of the following lands in accordance with notice circulated:

- Proposed disposal of property at No. 1 Glens Terrace, Spawell Road, Wexford.

### **Takeover of Ballyhit Group Water Scheme:**

A report on the proposed takeover of Ballyhit Group Water Scheme was circulated to meeting.

Following discussion and having noted that the Wexford Electoral Area Committee approved of the proposed takeover at its meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> November, on the proposal of Cllr. T. Dempsey, seconded by Cllr. G. Lawlor, the Council approved of the formal takeover of Ballyhit Group Water Scheme.

### **Date of Budget Meeting:**

It was agreed to hold the December County Council meeting from 9.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. to be followed by the Budget Meeting at 11.30 a.m.

### **Defer Notices of Motion:**

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Kinsella, seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien it was agreed to defer the Notices of Motion listed for discussion on today's agenda.

### **Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted and approved the contents of the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2012.

### **Progress and Other Reports:**

#### **Housing, Roads, Arts Services and Library Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting. Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services advised the meeting that

- The Council had received an added allocation of €100,000 for distribution under the Disabled Persons Grant Scheme.
- Construction had commenced on 2 houses for accommodation for Traveller Families in New Ross.

The Director responded to questions raised by Councillors on applications for short term income support and rent supplement. Following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck, seconded by Cllr. D. MacPartlin it was agreed to write to Ms. Joan Burton, Minister for Social Protection and Mr. Phil Hogan, Minister for Environment, Community & Local Government, seeking clarification on matters of concern raised by the Members in this area.

The Director responded to questions relating to ongoing issues of anti social behavior in the Riverchapel/Courtown Harbour area and outlined the willingness of the Local Authority to participate in a multi agency approach in order to address the issues raised by the Members. He also confirmed that Anti Social Behaviour in Local Authority Housing Stock was regularly monitored and that the Housing Department would follow up all complaints of anti social behavior notified to them. He also responded to questions raised on the inspection of private rented dwellings.

### **Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by the Members in relation to

- Village Bundle
- Fire Service Charges
- Water Improvements in Clonard Area
- Defective Septic Tank Systems

### **Planning, Community & Enterprise Report:**

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services.

The Director undertook to report on the maintenance costs of playgrounds countywide.

It was noted that the Ferns Gathering would take place on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2013 and Cllr. J. Hegarty asked that countywide groups assisting in promoting The Gathering be financially supported wherever possible.

### **Minutes of Meetings:**

- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor L. O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor R. Ireton, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor O. Walsh, seconded by Councillor K. Doyle, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2012.



- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor T. Howlin, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Wexford Electoral Area Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Murphy, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Housing SPC Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Hegarty, seconded by Councillor L. O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Economic & Social Development SPC Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor L. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor T. Howlin, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Protocol Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2012.

### **Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 736/2012, 747/2012 and 762/2012.

### **Correspondence & Communications:**

The Members noted the following correspondence:

- Correspondence from Ms. Lauri Walsh, Courts Service, regarding New Ross Courthouse.
- Correspondence from Aisling Glynn, Private Secretary to Ms. Jan O'Sullivan, T.D., Minister for Housing & Planning regarding the Tenant Purchase Scheme.
- Correspondence from Mr. Stephen Doran, Private Secretary, to Dr. James Reilly, T.D., Minister for Health, regarding the closure of one of Wexford General Hospital's surgical theatres.
- Correspondence received from Mr. Michael Ring, T.D., Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, regarding supporting The Gathering Ireland 2013.
- Correspondence from Mr. Colm Lavery, Principal Officer, Local Government Finance, regarding 2013 Budget Meetings and related matters.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Nollaig, 2012.

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Cathaoirleach

**Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 9.30 a.m.  
In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.**

**ATTENDANCE:**

**In the Chair:** Cllr Kathleen Codd Nolan, Cathaoirleach

**Councillors:** M. Byrne; P. Kavanagh; P. Codd; T. Dempsey; K. Doyle;  
A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; D. Kennedy;  
M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy;  
L. O'Brien; P. Reck; O. Walsh.

**Officials:** Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager  
Messrs. E. Hore, T. Larkin, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services  
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance  
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary.

**Apologies:** Cllr. Pat Cody, Cllr Michael Sheehan

**Congratulations:**

The Council expressed their congratulations to Oulart/The Ballagh Senior Hurling Team on their performance in the Leinster Club Senior Hurling Championship.

**Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Cllr P. Codd, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

**Votes of Sympathy:**

The Council sympathised with the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Frances Doyle, Mother of Kathy Frayne, Housing Department,
- The family of Florence Crosbie, Mother of Cllr. Bernard Crosbie, Vice-Chairman, Gorey Town Council.

**Proposed disposal of land under Section 183 of the Local Government Act 200:**

On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor P. Codd the Council resolved to dispose of the following lands in accordance with notice circulated.

- Proposed disposal of lands at Kilmore Quay, Co. Wexford to Maureen Power, Kilmore Quay, Co. Wexford to facilitate the construction of Phase 2 of public promenade.

**Proposal to declare Roads to be Public Roads under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 to 2010:**

On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor T. Howlin the Council resolved to dispose of the following lands in accordance with notice circulated.

- Castlewoods, Piercestown, Co. Wexford (excluding pumping station which is situated on the Castlepark development)

**Winter Service Plan 2012/2013:**

A report on the winter service plan prepared by Mr. Jim Power, Senior Engineer was circulated to the meeting. The purpose and scope of the document was to identify the process, procedures and key personnel employed by Wexford County Council in the delivery of winter maintenance services throughout County Wexford. The report advised that due to the length of the road network in County Wexford it would be not feasible to treat all roads in the County during the winter season and accordingly a form of prioritisation would be necessary with routes divided into three priority designations.

Questions on the content of the report referring to routes to be serviced, interaction with community and voluntary groups during severe weather, the availability of salt and grit county wide and co-operation with neighbouring counties were addressed by Mr. Tony Larkin, Director of Services.

Following discussion the Council agreed and approved of the policy and programme of works in the winter service plan as circulated.

**Report of Corporate Policy Group:**

The Members noted and approved the contents and minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2012.

The meeting discussed the report on the introduction of plastic card driving licences and category changes and its implications for staffing in the Motor Taxation Department which were addressed by Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager.

**Progress and other Reports:**

***Housing, Roads, Library & Arts Services Monthly Report***

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated at the meeting and Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services advised the meeting that the level of housing improvement grants would be maintained next year.

He also advised that a bridge survey had confirmed that the bridge at Saltmills was structurally sound. The Director also responded to questions raised on water run-off from lands adjoining the public roads, the gritting of various roads under the winter service plan and addressed other questions raised on matters contained in the monthly report.

***Water, Environment & Emergency Services Monthly Report:***

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated at the meeting and Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services responded to questions raised by Members on the content of the report. The Director again referred to questions raised on the village bundle and he undertook to make contact on this matter with the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government in advance of the February County Council meeting at which he hoped to have further information on this issue. The Council asked that their compliments be conveyed by the Director to the Environment Staff following a very satisfying and successful Environment Awards evening held recently.

***Planning, Community & Enterprise Report***

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services.

**Minutes of Meetings:**

New Ross Electoral Area Committee: 22 <sup>nd</sup> October 2012	Proposed by Cllr. M. Murphy Seconded by Cllr. D. Kennedy
New Ross Electoral Area Committee: 19 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	Proposed by Cllr. M. Murphy Seconded by Cllr. D. Kennedy
Gorey Electoral Area Committee: 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2012	Proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne Seconded by Cllr. B. Ireton
Wexford Electoral Area Committee: 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2012	Proposed by Cllr. T. Howlin Seconded by Cllr. G. Lawlor
Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee: 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2012	Proposed by Cllr. P. Kavanagh Seconded by Cllr. K. Doyle

**Sealing of Documents:**

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Managers Order No. 10/2013, 887/2012, 888/2012.

**Deferred Notices of Motion:**

**Cllr. M. Byrne**

The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor.

*"In the context of the forthcoming Constitutional Convention, Wexford County Council reaffirms its call to reduce the voting age for the 2014 local elections to 16"*

The notice of motion was unanimously agreed by the Council.

**Cllr. M. Byrne**

The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor.

*"In the context of the forthcoming Constitutional Convention, Wexford County Council supports equal access to civil marriage for all citizens of County Wexford, regardless of sexuality".*

Following a debate and discussion on this motion the motion was put to a vote where eight voted in favour and four against. The motion was carried.

**Cllr D. MacPartlin**

The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor D. MacPartlin, seconded by Councillor P. Codd

*"Where an incident occurs requiring the attendance of Fire or Ambulance services and where no fault is attributable to persons involved and where no request has been made by such persons for emergency services, no liability shall accrue to them to pay any costs arising from attendance by emergency services at the incident for which no blame attaches to them".*

Following a discussion and debate on this motion the motion was put to a vote where two voted in favour and five against. The motion was defeated.

**Cllr M. Kinsella**

The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor M. Kinsella, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne

*“That Wexford County Council supports the efforts of those in the National Sheep-Shearing Association, in their attempt to bring the 2013 World Sheep-Shearing Championships to Gorey and should they be successful, pledge it’s support to make the event a very successful one”*

The notice of motion was agreed by the Council.

**Cllr M. Kinsella**

The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor M. Kinsella, seconded by Councillor B. Ireton

*“That Wexford County Council contact Dublin City Council, South Dublin County Council, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council and Fingal County Council with the view of ascertaining what social housing stock they own, lease, rent or manage in County Wexford whether on their own behalf, through collaboration with the HSE or prison authorities”.*

Following discussion of this motion it was agreed to amend the motion by including Wicklow County Council and the Department of Social Protection. The amended motion was agreed by the Council.

**Cllr T. Dempsey**

The following notice of motion was proposed by Councillor T. Dempsey, seconded by Councillor K. Doyle

*“That Wexford County Council request the Minister for Transport to consider the re-introduction of the Local Improvement Scheme as soon as possible.”*

The notice of motion was agreed by the Council.

The meeting also requested that the Council write to the Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government advising them of the models of good practice developed with various community and rural groups in progressing work on rural lanes and roads county wide for many years with a view to encouraging the introduction of the Local Improvement Scheme.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary

Daingithe ar an      la de, Eanair 2013.

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Cathaoirleach



**WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL**

***Minutes of Statutory Budget Meeting of  
Wexford County Council  
Held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 11.30 a.m.  
In the Council Chamber, County Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford.***  
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**Attendance:**

In the Chair: Councillor K. Codd Nolan, Cathaoirleach.

**Councillors:**

M. Byrne;	P. Codd;	T. Dempsey;	K. Doyle;
A. Fenlon;	J. Hegarty;	T. Howlin;	R. Ireton;
P. Kavanagh;	D. Kennedy;	M. Kinsella;	G. Lawlor;
D. MacPartlin;	J. Moore;	M. Murphy;	L. O'Brien;
P. Reck;	M. Sheehan;	O. Walsh;	

**Officials:**

Messrs: A. Doyle, County Manager, T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;  
A. O'Neill, Head of Finance; N. McDonnell County Secretary,  
M. O'Brien, SEO Housing.

**Apologies:** Councillor P. Cody

**Budget 2013:**

The draft budget for 2013 was circulated to the Members. The County Manager Mr. A. Doyle advised the meeting that formalising the 2013 draft budget had again been a difficult task in these financially challenging times particularly in view of reduced central funding over the past 2 years and also a reduced income from the Council's own resources. He continued that in adjusting the 2013 budget it was necessary to reflect the reduction in central government funding and the focus had been to protect in so far as is possible the core principle of the Council to maintain and develop local services and infrastructure which are central to the economic recovery within the county. He noted that an important issue in the preparation of the budget was a reduction in the general purposes grant allocation from central government since 2008 from €23.4m to €18m, a reduction of approximately 23%. Also as a consequence of the collection level of the Household Charge and immediate reduction in the general purposes grant was notified in 2012 amounting to €0.481m. He also advised that any further variation or reduction in the local government fund grant for 2013 would require a post budget adjustment to the spending programmes of the Council to cater for any variation. He acknowledged the work and commitment of Staff in preparation of the Draft Budget 2013.

### **Budget 2013 Overview:**

In preparation for consideration of the Draft Budget for 2013 Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance, made a presentation to the meeting on the factors informing the Budget for 2013 and highlighted in particular the downturn in the economy, reduced central funding, reduced water charge accrual, final closure of refuse/landfill business, reorganisation of the Community Warden Programme, reduced costs activity in the Fire Service, staff early retirement scheme and the full annual costs for 2012 new initiatives. In addition to providing an analysis of these matters and the financial impacts Ms. O'Neill also highlighted a reduction in the Local Government Fund from €23.4m in 2008 to a projected €17.2m in 2013 and also a reduction in Road Grant Funding from €19.2m in 2008 to €12.8m in 2012. The Head of Finance also highlighted significant expenditure and income movements that were reflected in the Draft Budget for 2013. The Members were also advised that there was no increase in charges proposed for 2013 for commercial rates, housing rent and water service charges which in effect was the fifth year that the County Council did not apply any increase in these revenue areas. The Head of Finance also outlined to the meeting details of the Rates Incentive Scheme details of which were discussed with the Members and received enthusiastically. Following discussion on this item whereby the Members clearly recognised the need to adjust the burden of rates in order to encourage businesses flourish on the proposal of Cllr. T. Dempsey, seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien the Council resolved to adopt the Rates Incentive Scheme as detailed and presented by the Head of Finance.

### **Local Property Tax:**

A document informing the Members on the Local Property Tax and frequently asked questions was circulated to the Members for their consideration. The Head of Finance responded to questions raised on the contents of the document circulated.

Following a short break the Council considered detailed proposals of the budget and were taken through each programme group of Income and Expenditure by Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance.

### **Division A – Housing and Building**

The Members considered the expenditure and income provisions under services A 01 to A 11.

The Director of Services, Mr. T. Larkin, in response to questions raised advised:

1. Stronger efforts will be made to focus on the collection of revenue due and arrears collection.
2. Deductions from sources of payments would be increased.
3. An Arrears Management Process was outlined.

4. On the success of the household budget scheme in assisting families meet regular demands for payment.

### **Division B – Road Transport and Safety**

The Members considered the expenditure and income provisions under services B01 to B11.

The Director of Services responded to questions raised on the following matters by the Members:

1. Applications of the Council's own financial resources on contributing to Road Improvement Works Countywide.
2. Possible reduction in Road Grant Allocations for 2013.
3. Contribution to Capital Fund for Public Lighting.
4. Non Payment of parking fines.
5. Reduced level of manpower and plant on Road Improvement Works.
6. Reduced Road Strengthening Programme.
7. Increased use of patching units.
8. Increased use of Community Employment Schemes.
9. Roadside drainage works on county roads.

### **Division C – Water Services:**

The Members considered the expenditure and income provisions under services C 01 to C 07.

The Director of Services, Mr. E. Taaffe responded to a number of questions raised by the Members on the operation and maintenance of water supply and waste water treatment plants countywide.

### **Division D – Development Management:**

The Members considered the provisions under services D 01 to D 12.

Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by the Members on the following matters:

1. Planning Enforcement Costs.
2. Adequacy of Development Bonds.
3. Tourism Promotion.

**Division E – Environmental Services:**

The Members considered the provisions under services E 01 to E 14.

The Director responded to questions raised by the Members on the following matters:

1. Landfill Operation.
2. Capital Loans on Landfill Facilities.
3. Cost of Restoration Works on the Old Landfill at Killurin.
4. Possible leasing of Holmestown Landfill.
5. Staffing of Fire Service.

During a discussion on this programme the Members asked that their compliments be conveyed to all Staff who were involved in helping to restructure the County Council's Refuse Collection Operations.

**Division F – Recreation and Amenity:**

The Members considered the provisions under services F 01 to F 06. The Director responded to a number of queries raised with regard to the repair and replacement of playgrounds countywide.

**Division G – Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare:**

The Members considered the provisions under services G 01 to G 06. The Director of Services responded to questions raised on the Animal Welfare Service Operations of the Local Authority namely the Control of Dogs and the Control of Wandering Horses. Mr. E. Taaffe advised that re-tendering of the Horse Collection Service had been completed and this service would be operated throughout the County Council's functional area.

**Division H – Miscellaneous Services:**

The Members considered the provisions under services H 01 to H11. Arising from discussions under this heading the Members requested that consideration be given to substantially increasing the costs of Casual Trading Licenses in designated areas countywide.

**Adoption of Budget 2012:**

Following discussion by the Members it was proposed by Cllr. P. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien, that Wexford County Council adopt for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2013, the draft budget as set out in tables A to F of the prescribed form of Budget prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 and Local Government Financial Procedures and Audit Regulations 2002 and that Wexford County Council determine in accordance with the budget for the financial year ending 31 December 2013, the general annual rate on valuation as set out in tables A and C.

The proposal was unanimously agreed by the Members.

The Members present congratulated Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance, the Finance Officials and all other Staff Members who were involved in preparation of the Draft Budget for 2013.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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County Secretary.

Daingnithe ar an \_\_\_\_\_ la de Eanáir, 2013.

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Cathaoirleach