

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 14th January, 2013 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; K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty;
P. Kavanagh; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella;
G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien;
M. Sheehan; O. Walsh.
- Officials: Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager,
Messrs 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. T. Dempsey, Cllr. P. Reck.

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following recently bereaved:

- The family of the late Larry Mitten who worked for over 40 years with Wexford County Council and whose loss to the Local Authority and to the people of Wexford was acknowledged.
- The family of Thomas Colgan, father on Bernard Colgan, Mechanic, Machinery Yard.
- The family of Paddy Murray, Community and Political Activist, Ferns.

Best Wishes:

The Council asked that their best wishes to a speedy recovery be conveyed to Cllr. P. Cody and Cllr. P. Reck.

Presentation on the Grid Link Project by Eirgrid:

Mr. John Lowry, Eirgrid's Project Manager, in the company of Mr. Michael Donnelly briefed the Elected Members on the Grid Link Project an estimated €500m electricity transition project that will deliver a wide range of benefits to the national and regional economy. The development will involve the construction of a new power line linking Leinster and Munster as part of Grid 25, a €3.2 billion investment in developing and upgrading Ireland's electricity transmission grid. The Council were informed that Eirgrid had carried out a detailed analysis of the national transmission grid to identify the level of reinforcement required to ensure and secure electricity supply and to enable the country achieve its renewable energy targets. The analysis had identified a capacity shortfall in the south and east. The meeting was informed that the project is a vital development strengthening the electricity supply across the south and east

of the country that will help ensure and secure electricity supply to the future needs of the region and will enable Ireland to meet its renewable energy targets and help empower economic growth.

He further added that a strong energy infrastructure is key to the success of Wexford's large industries and suppliers such as Wexford Creamery and international companies such as Coca Cola and Waters Technology. The Grid Link Project will be a platform for economic growth in Wexford by providing existing businesses with a secure future supply of electricity and to attracting new indigenous and foreign investment. It will help Ireland to shift from a heavy reliance on imported fossil fuels to more sustainable sources of energy and will ensure the most efficient electricity generators in the south and east are utilised in the most effective way.

Mr. Lowry advised the meeting that the Project Team will continue to undertake detailed studies and extensive public consultation over the coming years to determine the factors that will influence the eventual route that the line will take. Eirgrid does not expect to submit an application to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval before 2015 and public consultation will form an important part of all stages of the project over the coming years. Members of the public are encouraged to engage with the project team through the New Ross Information Centre open every Wednesday from 12 noon to 6pm, and through a dedicated phone line 1890 422 122, email to gridlink@eirgrid.com or in writing to The Grid Link Project Manager, PO Box 12213, Glenageary, Co. Dublin.

Following his presentation and the circulation of an information booklet Mr. Lowry responded to various questions on the project raised by the Elected Members. Mr. Lowry and his colleagues at Eirgrid were also invited to attend a future meeting of the Local Authority as the project advances. Mr. Lowry and Mr. Donnelly then withdrew from the meeting having been thanked by the Cathaoirleach for a most informative presentation and for attending the meeting.

Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 10th December, 2012.

On the proposal of Councillor T. Howlin, seconded by Councillor O. Walsh, the Council approved the minutes of the Statutory Budget Meeting held on on 10th December, 2012.

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

On the proposal of Councillor K. Doyle, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council resolved to dispose of the following lands in accordance with notice circulated:

- Proposed disposal of lands at St. Coleman's Park, Coolcarney, Ballindaggin, County Wexford to Bridget Dempsey, St. Coleman's Park, Coolcarney, Ballindaggin, County Wexford.

Rates Incentive Scheme:

Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance, made a presentation to the meeting on the Wexford Local Authorities Rates Incentive Scheme 2013. The meeting was advised by Ms. O'Neill that the purpose of the Rates Incentive Scheme was,

- To ease the burden on Local Rate Payers.
- Reduce Cost Pressures on businesses striving to control costs.
- Support the competitiveness of local enterprises and assist in protection of local jobs.
- Assist in stabilising struggling local businesses.
- Demonstrate the serious commitment of Wexford Local Authorities to economic regeneration.
- Provide a clear indication that Wexford Local Authorities are committed to supporting local businesses and local employment.

The meeting was further advised that Wexford Local Authorities have provided over €300,000 in their 2013 budgets to assist ratepayers and to stimulate economic activity and development within the county.

The initiative takes the form of a Commercial Rates Incentive Scheme and while it is available to all ratepayers, the primary focus of the Local Authority led initiative is to help Small to Medium enterprises in the county, which total over 75% of County Wexford ratepayers.

Following discussion by the Members on the workings of the scheme and its terms and conditions on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. P. Kavanagh, the Council recommended the adoption of the Rates Incentive Scheme in accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001 and the promotion of interests of local community.

Following a ballot all Members voted in favour of the adoption of the Rates Incentive Scheme.

Manager's Report under Section 179 (3) of the Planning & Development Act 2000:

LAC0512 – Proposed Link Road at Gort na Síliní, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

The Members considered report of Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2013 and on the proposal of Cllr. P. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. O. Walsh the Members approved to proceed with this development.

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:

- St. Martin's Court, Rosslare Harbour, Co. Wexford.
- The Moorings, Rosslare Harbour, Co. Wexford.
- Thorndale, Rosslare Harbour, Co. Wexford.
- The Haven, Rosslare Strand, Co. Wexford.
- Mill Road, Bunclody, Co. Wexford.
- Blackstoops Drive, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Urrin Valley, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Oulart Court, Oulart, Co. Wexford.
- Tinteskin Close, Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford.
- New Haven, Glenrichards, Ardamine, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Access to Gorey Shopping Centre, off R741, displaying Start Coordinates E315252 N159086 and Finish coordinates E315469 N159180, for a distance of 238 metres.

The Members considered the report of Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2013, and on the proposal of Cllr. J. Moore, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne, 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 Acts 2000-2010.

Capital Assistance Scheme Wexford Mental Health at Oylegate, Co. Wexford

The Members considered report of Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, dated 7th January, 2013, on the proposal of Cllr. T. Howlin, seconded by Cllr. D. Kennedy the Members resolved to authorize payment of the increased grant of €32,082 to Wexford mental Health Association in respect of the Capital Assistance Scheme at Oylegate, in accordance with Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1992 and Section 106 of the Local Government Act 2001.

VEC Committee Staff Representatives – Mr. Matthew O’Connell, Ms. Nessa Murphy.

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Moore, seconded by Cllr. D. Kennedy the Members approved Mr. Matthew O’Connell and Ms. Nessa Murphy as Staff Representatives on VEC Committee.

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 the Members on the content of the report. The importance of a Local Improvement Scheme to assist in improving private lanes was again emphasised by the Members and the Director undertook to consider such a scheme with a view to developing realistic partnerships with community groups. The Director also confirmed that negotiations were ongoing with some developers in relation to the completion of Unfinished Estates. The County Manager also commented on the issue of Unfinished Estates which he considered to be a major issue that would have to be addressed by the Local Authority with a view to resolving the issue to the satisfaction of the Members and house purchasers who were in effect tax payers who paid levies and stamp duty on completion of sales in some of these estates. It was also acknowledged that where developers were gone and bonds insufficient the resolution of this problem would require the application of public funding.

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 on the content of the report. This issue of illegal dumping was again raised by a number of Members and the Director undertook to view the Council’s activities in this area with a view to introducing a more effective anti-littering campaign, the use of the Council’s Warden Service, the media and other surveillance measures. The importance of involving the wider community in combating litter pollution was again emphasised by the Members.

The meeting complimented the Director and Staff for the work carried out in the Ferrybank area of Wexford Harbour. The meeting was also advised that the domestic water metering survey campaign would commence shortly and the meeting requested that the media and local radio be used to convey the details of this survey to the general public.

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 preparation of a strategic review of Rosslare Europort was raised by a number of Members who expressed an interest in the views and roll of the Council being taken into consideration in the preparation of this review. The Members commented on the current poor infrastructure in Rosslare Harbour and asked that the Consultants preparing the report and review be invited to address the County Council at the earliest opportunity with a view to allowing the Council make a positive contribution to the ongoing review of the Port activities and future.

The meeting congratulated Eishtec on their recent announcement to locate in Wexford and on the provision of much wanted employment.

Draft County Development Plan 2013-2019:

Following the advice of the Director of Services on the number of submissions received on the amendments to the Draft County Development Plan on the proposal of Cllr. P. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. M. Kinsella, the Council agreed to further consider this matter at the next County Council Meeting.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor M. Murphy, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 17th December, 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 30th November, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Kinsella, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Special Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 13th November, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor O. Walsh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 14th December, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Moore, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Wexford Electoral Area Committee held on 3rd January, 2013.

Sealing of Documents:

On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 39/2013, 40/2013, 61/2013.

Notice of Motion:

Proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton:

"That Wexford County Council strongly opposes the decision of the Minister for Justice and the Garda Commissioner to downgrade Gorey Garda Station and calls for its retention as a full Garda District Station."

Following discussion an amended motion was approved by the Council with the amendment

""That Wexford County Council strongly opposes the decision of the Minister for Justice and the Garda Commissioner to downgrade Gorey Garda Station and calls for its retention as a full Garda District Station not to the detriment of other Garda Stations in the district in the County".

Retirement Function – County Manager:

The Council congratulated all of those involved in the preparation of the successful retirement event held recently for the former County Manager Mr. Eddie Breen. The Council also congratulated LAMA on bringing the conference to Gorey and the AMAI who are holding their conference at the Brandon Hotel in New Ross.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Feabhra, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 11th February, 2013 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; P. Kavanagh; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; D. Kennedy; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; L. O'Brien; P. Reck; M. Sheehan; O. Walsh.
- Officials: Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager,
Messrs T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary;
Mr. Diarmuid Houston, Senior Planner;
Ms. Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian;
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner.
- Apologies: Cllr. P. Cody, Cllr. M. Murphy, Cllr. J. Moore.

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Billy Colfer, Teacher and Author, Slade
- The family of Detective Garda Adrian Donohoe
- The family of Jimmy Ryan, Father-in-Law of Councillor Padge Reck.
- The family of Kathleen Doyle, Mother-in-Law of Hugh Maguire, Administrative Officer, Environment.
- The family of Gerry Forde, father of Gerry Forde, Senior Executive Engineer, Water Services.
- The family of Margaret Walsh, Aunt of Geraldine Tobin, Housing Dept

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated the following:

- Declan Lowney on his success at the IFTA Awards.
- Charlie Murphy on winning Best Actress at the IFTA Awards.
- Enniscorthy Castle on winning a LAMA Award

Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 14th January, 2013.

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

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

- Proposed disposal of lands and derelict house on 1 acre of land at Clonee Lower, Camolin, Co. Wexford to Paul Earle, Clonee Lower, Camolin, Co. Wexford.

'Manager's Report on the submissions and observations on the proposed amendments to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019':

Mr. Diarmuid Houston, Senior Planner, informed the meeting that the Council had made the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 on the 25th May 2012. He further advised that the draft plan was on public display from 11th June to 20th August 2012 and that the County Manager had prepared a report on the submissions and observations received on the draft plan. He continued that the Council having considered the report decided at a Special Meeting held on 12th November 2012 to make the proposed amendments to the draft plan. The proposed amendments were then placed on public display during which time submissions and observations in relation to the proposed amendments only were invited from the public and other interested parties.

The report now before the Council had been prepared in accordance with the requirements of Section 12 (8) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 and provided a summary of the issues raised in the submissions and observations received on the proposed amendments and outlined the Manager's response to and recommendations on the issues raised. The report was submitted to the Members of the County Council for their consideration as part of the process of preparing the Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019.

Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner, in a presentation to the meeting advised that the report was presented in four Sections providing an overview of the current stage of the plan preparation process, a summary of the issues raised in submissions and observations and sets out the Manager's response to and recommendations raised therein in addition to providing an overview of the next stage of the planning preparation process which is making the plan with or without the proposed amendments.

Ms. Kearns informed the meeting that the planning authority had received 12 submissions and observations within the statutory consultation period and a list of

persons and bodies who had made submissions were outlined by Ms. Kearns. The Members were advised that in accordance with Section 12 (10) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended the Members shall by resolution having considered the Manager's Report make the Development Plan with or without amendment.

Having discussed with the Senior Planner Mr. D. Houston and the Senior Executive Planner Ms. D. Kearns the submissions and observations received on the proposed amendments on the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien the Council approved of the County Manager's recommendations in response to the submissions made by the National Roads Authority to modify Objective T18 Page 20/21 of the document titled Proposed Amendments to the Draft County Wexford Development Plan 2013-2019.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck seconded by Cllr. T. Dempsey the Council approved of the Manager's recommendation to modify the text and maps of T20 on Page 21-24 and pages 49-57 of the document titled Proposed Amendments to the Draft County Wexford Development Plan 2013-2019. The Members expressed their concern about the limit on access onto national roads for rural houses. The Manager stated that it was national policy and that the Members could make a submission to Government in relation to this issue.

The Council also recommended that the Strategic Policy Committee consider the issue of access to national primary roads countywide and make recommendations to the Council on policy changes required in this area.

Following further consideration and discussion on the Manager's Report on submissions and observations received on the proposed amendments to the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 the Council approved of the County Manager's recommendations in relation to the following submissions:

- Submission (10) Department of Environment, Community & Local Government. The County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton and approved by the Council.
- Submission (01) South East Regional Authority. The County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien and approved by the Council.
- Submission (03) Keep Ireland Open, the County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty and approved by the Council.
- Submission (06) Mervyn Jones, the County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. R. Ireton seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty and approved by the Council .
- Submission (07) Geological Survey of Ireland, the County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. P. Reck seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty and approved by the Council .
- Submission (08) RGDATA, the County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. P. Reck seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and approved by the Council .

- Submission (09) Environmental Protection Agency, the County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. D. MacPartlin seconded by Cllr. P. Codd and approved by the Council with provision that the wording of the EPA with regard to "a safe and secure potable water supply" be accepted.
- Submission (11) GVA on behalf of Tesco Ireland, the County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. L. O'Brien seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and approved by the Council .
- Submission (12) Irish Wind Energy Association, the County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. R. Ireton seconded by Cllr. P. Reck and approved by the Council.
- Submission (13) Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, the County Manager's recommendation on this submission was proposed by Cllr. L. O'Brien seconded by Cllr. D. Kennedy and approved by the Council.

Landscape Character Assessment - The Members were referred to a map on page 42 of the Manager's Report and were advised that this showed the proposed "landscape of greater sensitivity at Lacken Hill" which had been included in the text of the plan at the proposed amendments stage. This was proposed by Cllr. L.O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan and approved by the Council.

Retail Strategy – following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. D. MacPartlin seconded by Cllr. P. Reck the Council approved of the County Manager's recommendations in relation to minor modifications to the retail strategy as outlined in pages 43, 44, 45 and 46 of the report circulated at the meeting.

Adoption of Draft County Wexford Development Plan 2013-2019:

Having considered the proposed amendments and the Manager's Report on the submissions and observations on the proposed amendments to the Draft County Wexford Development Plan 2013-2019 on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck seconded by Cllr. T. Dempsey and in accordance with Section 12 (10) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 as amended, the Members resolved to make the Development Plan 2013-2019. The Cathaoirleach, Councillors and County Manager thanked the Planning Staff and other Council Officials for their co-operation, assistance and work in the preparation of the plan and related activities

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

LAC0511 – Piercestown, Construction of a pumping station that will pump wastewater from Piercestown to the Wexford Main Drainage Foul Sewage Collection System at Sinnottstown, Wexford.

The Members noted correspondence regarding the above from Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services, dated 31st January 2013. On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. T. Howlin the Members approved to proceed with this development.

Submission on Rosslare Europort:

Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, presented a report on Wexford County Council's submission to the public consultation for competition in the Irish Ports Sector by the Competition Authority. The report supported the Competition Authorities focus on improving the efficiency of the operation of Irish Ports in the interests of consumers. The basis of the report with specific reference to Rosslare Europort suggested the ending of the current ownership by Iarnród Éireann and the creation of an independent Port Authority with a mandate to develop the range and extent of business activity in Rosslare Europort given its primary focus on RoRo and Passenger traffic.

Following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. T. Dempsey seconded by Cllr. P. Codd the Council approved and endorsed the report and its content which clearly identified the potential to grow RoRo business, improve tourism throughput and enhance the passenger experience in the Port. The report also identified the potential for significant employment in areas such as wind energy logistics, cruise shipping and the Council again outlined its commitment to doing whatever is necessary in order to encourage investment and expansion in the Port and its activities which would be supported by the County Council in planning, zoning and the provision of improved infrastructural services.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The Members noted and approved the contents of the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 4th February, 2013.

Progress and Other Reports:

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 on the content of the report. The Council requested that Community Clean Ups be supported by the Local Authority and the issue be given appropriate media coverage.

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by the Members on the content of the report and in particular the implications for improvement and maintenance of the County Road Network in the light of reduced funding allocation.

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner. The Senior Planner advised that Staff were now assigned to progress with a Village Plan for Riverchapel which will be listed for discussion at Gorey Electoral Area Committee Meeting.

Libraries, Archives and Arts Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Archives and Arts Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian. On the proposal of Cllr. Michael Sheehan seconded by Cllr. D. Kennedy the County Council resolved to write to the Minister for Environment seeking funding for the provision of a new library in New Ross.

Community Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. Niall McDonnell, County Secretary.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor L. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 21st January, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor L. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 21st December, 2012.
- On the proposal of Councillor L. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 18th January, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor L. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Transportation SPC Meeting held on 27th November, 2012.

- On the proposal of Councillor L. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Planning SPC Meeting held on 1st November, 2012.

Sealing of Documents:

On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor M. Sheehan, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 132/2013, 141/2013, 144/2013.

Notice of Motion:

The following motions were deferred to the next meeting of the Council:

Cllr. D. MacPartlin:

Having regard to:

- the acknowledgement in the Final Report of the Local Government/Local Development Alignment Steering Group that 'the Leader approach has been implemented with notable success since its introduction as a community initiative two decades ago'
- the fact that 'considerable care should be taken to maintain the integrity of this model'
- the fact that 'the Council's may find themselves short of the essential skills required to assume an enhanced role in the co-ordination and oversight of local and community development programmes'.

And having regard to the fact that the current method of delivering the Leader programme in Ireland has been cited as the best practice template to be followed by other EU countries:

Wexford County Council opposes the proposal to bring Leader activity under the control of Local Authorities as:-

- to do so would be contrary to EU subsidiarity policy,
- cannot show such change would result in a better performance than the current structure, and
- could result in the loss of many proven effective deliverers of the jobs which are vital to the economic and social viability of rural areas.
- would effectively eliminate the very successful role played by the voluntary sector in the success of Leader up until now.

Cllr J Hegarty and Cllr J Moore:

“That Wexford County Council call for the immediate reinstatement of the Arts Council annual funding to Bui Bolg, for the year 2013 and beyond”.

Cllr. D. MacPartlin:

In view of the State’s obvious dereliction of duty in regard to those who were mistreated and abused in the Magdalene Laundries, Wexford County Council calls on the Government to unreservedly apologise for this dereliction, provide appropriate compensation, and where appropriate enjoin in the paying of compensation the operators of the laundries who benefited so substantially from exploiting very vulnerable women in the period from the establishment of the State up to 1996.

Cllr. J. Hegarty:

In the context of the proposed downgrading of Gorey Garda station and the amalgamation of the Gorey and Enniscorthy Garda districts, Wexford County Council calls on Chief Superintendent Roche to explain the rationale behind this decision, given the recently released figures on crime rates, population and budgets.

Correspondence and Communications:

The Members noted correspondence from Dr. James Reilly, T.D., dated 28th January 2013 concerning the closure of a surgical theatre at Wexford General Hospital for 11 weeks.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Marta, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

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

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Martin Mimmagh, husband of Siobhan O'Neill, Research Officer.
- The family of Michael O'Neill, father of Helen O'Neill, Environment Department.
- The family of Jimmy Ryan, Father-in-Law of Councillor Pádraig Reck.
- The Council also expressed their support for the Furlong family of Curraclloe in this difficult time following the tragic loss of their daughter Nicola.

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated the following:

- Adam Maher, Darren Redmond, Jordan Doyle who were European U18 Pool Champions.
- Mr. James Ryan, New Ross & St. Mary's Secondary School on their successful championship participation.
- New Ross Town Council and all those involved in the redevelopment of the new quayside.
- The New Ross Students who were successful in the camogie championship.

Presentation by Mr. Paul Bradley and Mr. Jim Outram, Eircom, on the broadband fibre network rollout in County Wexford.

Mr. Paul Bradley, Eircom, circulated documentation and made a presentation to the meeting on the broadband fibre network rollout throughout County Wexford. In the presentation Mr. Bradley highlighted the investment plans of Eircom for its customers in County Wexford by Ireland's leading provider of fixed and mobile telecommunications. He referred to the 2.4m fixed and mobile customers, the extensive telecommunications network in Ireland, the employment of approx 6,500 staff and contractors with an investment of approx €1m every working day in Ireland.

Future investment plans for Ireland and Eircom customers would involve the installation of fibre broadband to 1.2m premises by June 2015 in addition to building capacity, continued construction and the modernisation of business with continue efficiency. The meeting was also advised of the broadband footprint in County Wexford, the timetable for the extension of the fibre network rollout throughout the county in addition to the benefits for home users and benefits for businesses arising from the proposed fibre network rollout and installation. The meeting was also informed of the increased usage of the internet with annual average usage of GBs increasing from 40 in 2010 to 90 in 2013. Plans for the Wexford fibre footprint rollout were Wexford (Live Pilot) December 2013, Wexford Anne St (Live Pilot) December 2013, Enniscorthy December 2013, Gorey December 2013, Drinagh December 2014, New Ross December 2014, Barntown June 2015, Bunclody June 2015, Courtown Harbour June 2015.

In conclusion Mr. Bradley and Mr. Outram sought the Council's co-operation and assistance in order to help Eircom achieve the fibre plans for the county including the installation of 56 cabinets in the first phase with the building of fibre and power to each cabinet. This would enable 14,000 premises in the area to have super fast broadband and he emphasised the importance of working with the Local Authority to ensure the insulation happens efficiently and quickly. The Eircom Officials suggested that the best process for approval of cabinet locations would be by dealing with bulk applications, having a single point of contact and speedy turnaround times. In conclusion both Eircom representatives thanked the Council for the opportunity to make the presentation and looked forward to working successfully with the Local Authority and its Officials. The co-operation of Mr. Tony Larkin, Director of Services, and Mr. Pádraig O'Gorman, Administrative Officer, was also acknowledged during the presentation.

Mr. Bradley and Mr. Outram responded to a number of questions in relation to various technical aspects of the fibre rollout programme. It was agreed that each electoral area district committee would be further advised of plans for each area. Following discussion and having dealt comprehensively with the questions raised by the Members both Eircom Officials were thanked by the Cathaoirleach for attending and withdrew from the meeting.

Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 11th February, 2013.

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the Special Meeting of Wexford County Council held on 12.11.12 to consider the Manager's Report on the Submissions and Observations received on the Draft Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019

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

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

- Proposed disposal of 1.24 hectares of land at Crossabeg, County Wexford to Ken Foley, Crossabeg, Co. Wexford and Desmond Kehoe, Crossabeg, Co. Wexford.

Sealing of Documents:

On the proposal of Councillor M. Sheehan, seconded by Councillor P. Codd, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 197/2013, 191/2013, 192/2013.

Deferred Notices of Motion:

Following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders in order to allow for debate and discussion on the deferred Notices of Motion and the Notices of Motion listed for discussion on the agenda for this meeting.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. D. MacPartlin and seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan.

Having regard to:

- the acknowledgement in the Final Report of the Local Government/Local Development Alignment Steering Group that 'the Leader approach has been implemented with notable success since its introduction as a community initiative two decades ago'
- the fact that 'considerable care should be taken to maintain the integrity of this model'

- the fact that ‘the Council’s may find themselves short of the essential skills required to assume an enhanced role in the co-ordination and oversight of local and community development programmes’.

And having regard to the fact that the current method of delivering the Leader programme in Ireland has been cited as the best practice template to be followed by other EU countries:

Wexford County Council opposes the proposal to bring Leader activity under the control of Local Authorities as:-

- to do so would be contrary to EU subsidiarity policy,
- cannot show such change would result in a better performance than the current structure, and
- could result in the loss of many proven effective deliverers of the jobs which are vital to the economic and social viability of rural areas.
- would effectively eliminate the very successful role played by the voluntary sector in the success of Leader up until now.

Following a discussion and lengthy debate on the contents of this motion the motion was put to the meeting where 3 voted in favour and 16 against. This motion was defeated.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr J Hegarty and seconded by Cllr J Moore:

“That Wexford County Council call for the immediate reinstatement of the Arts Council annual funding to Bui Bolg, for the year 2013 and beyond”.

Following discussion the motion was put to the meeting where all voted in favour and it was agreed unanimously.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. D. MacPartlin seconded by Cllr. M. Kinsella:

Following the apology of An Taoiseach to the victims of the Magdalene Laundries Wexford County Council calls for appropriate financial compensation to be made to all who suffered in those laundries and in other similar institutions of all denominations.

Following discussion this motion was put to the meeting where all voted in favour and it was agreed unanimously.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. J. Hegarty seconded by Cllr. M. Kinsella:

In the context of the proposed downgrading of Gorey Garda station and the amalgamation of the Gorey and Enniscorthy Garda districts, Wexford County Council calls on Chief Superintendent Roche to explain the rationale behind this decision, given the recently released figures on crime rates, population and budgets.

Following discussion the motion was put to the meeting where 18 voted in favour and one against, the motion was carried.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan:

"That Wexford County Council expresses its opposition to the current property tax proposals of the Government. The Council believes that

- (a) any model of such taxation should be based on a site valuation rather than market value of a property
- (b) any charges levied should reflect ability to pay."

Following discussion this motion was put to the meeting where 6 voted in favour and 13 against, the motion was defeated.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The Members noted and approved the contents of the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on 4th March, 2013.

Progress and Other Reports:

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Housing Allocations 2013:

The Director of Services circulated a report to the meeting advising of notifications received and grant allocations for 2013 for Local Authority Housing Projects, CAS Projects, Traveller Accommodation, Improvement Works in Lieu and Disabled Persons Grants in addition to Mobility Aid Grants and Housing Grants for people with a disability or seeking housing aid for the elderly. The meeting discussed the allocations as outlined in the Director's report and following clarification on a number of matters raised by the Members at which concern was expressed on the reduction in grant allocations for the year on the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by

Cllr. J. Moore the Council resolved to write to the Minister seeking a reversal of the reduction of 55% on the 2012 allocation.

The Council acknowledged the excellent work of the Housing Staff in dealing with the many applications for assistance under the various housing headings in these times of reduced financial allocations.

Presentation by Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services – Water Services Capital Programme:

The Director of Services for Water, Environment and Emergency Services Mr. E. Taaffe in a presentation to the meeting outlined details of expenditure under the Water Services Capital Programme on small water schemes on the Water Services Investment Programme. Details of major schemes costing approximately €73m in Waste Water Infrastructure was outlined in addition to capital expenditure of approximately €60m on water supply improvements. The Director referred to current balance of €14.8m in planning levies which would be needed to supplement future financial commitments of approximately €16.7m on a number of significant waste water schemes countywide. He also reminded Members of expenditure incurred over the past 10 years which exceeded €200m on various schemes throughout the county. The Director also referred in his report to the urgency of progressing the design with a number of schemes namely Camolin, Ferns, Ballycanew and Kilmore Quay.

Following discussion on the Directors report on which Members acknowledged the progress made and welcomed the planned schemes the Council asked that the small scheme programme works for other villages such as Oylegate, Clonroche be catered for in due course. The Council approved of the Programme of Capital Expenditure as presented to the meeting by Mr. E. Taaffe, A/Director of Services.

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 on the reports content. The Director responded to specific questions raised in relation to the usage of Civil Defence Volunteer Staff at public events.

Suspension of Standing Orders:

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow deal with the outstanding matters on the agenda and to complete proceedings by 6pm.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by the Members on the content of the report. The Members welcomed the reintroduction of the Local Improvement Scheme but concern was expressed at funding being taken from the Discretionary Grant towards these works. Following discussion the Council recommended that a letter issue to the Minister for Transport seeking the reallocation and necessary funding of up to 7% of the Discretionary Grants to fund the Local Improvement Scheme without reducing the Discretionary Fund Grant as already notified to the Local Authority.

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

Libraries, Archives and Arts Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Archives and Arts Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian. Ms. Hanrahan advised the meeting of proposals to reduce opening hours of the public library at Bunclody.

Community Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were addressed by Mr. Niall McDonnell, County Secretary.

Director of Services, Eamonn Hore, gave a comprehensive report in relation to the queries posed by Cllr. Sheehan regarding the procurement of the public relations element of the Gathering Year in County Wexford. Director of Services, Tony Larkin, further clarified the matter in relation to the procedure and appointment.

A prerequisite of the significant funding secured for the events was that the events and Gathering Year be properly advertised and marketed to secure the funding which is contingent on attracting an agreed number of visitors.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Wexford Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 7th February, 2013.

- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 18th February, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 25th January, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Water, Environment and Emergency Services SPC Meeting held on 4th February, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Transportation SPC Meeting held on 12th February, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Protocol Committee Meeting held on 20th February, 2013.

Correspondence and Communications:

The Members noted correspondence from Senator David Cullinane regarding consultation meetings across the South East to produce a detailed Jobs Action Plan for the South East.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Aibreán, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 8th April, 2013 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; P. Kavanagh; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck; M. Sheehan; O. Walsh.

Officials: Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager,
Messrs T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary;
Mr. Diarmuid Houston, Senior Planner;
Ms. Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian;
Ms. Lynda Lacey, Financial Accountant;
Mr. Padraig O'Gorman, Administrative Officer;
Ms. Katriona Byrne, Conservation Officer;
Ms. Jackie Hynes, 1798 Centre, Enniscorthy;

Apologies: Cllr. D. Kennedy, Cllr. P. Cody.

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Mary Hyland, sister of Cllr. Denis Kennedy.
- Clinton Donovan on the death of his uncle and aunt-in-law.
- The family of Gary Comerford, former Council employee, husband of Bernie Doyle.
- The family of Patrick Shalloe brother of Martin Shalloe, GSS Roads Dept, New Ross Town Council.
- The family of Pat McGill former Chairman of County Wexford VEC

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated the following:

- New Ross who won the Towns Cup
- Philip Doyle, Manager of the Irish International Ladies Rugby Team
- Wexford County Council who assisted in the hosting of the successful LAMA Conference in Gorey

Presentation – Built Heritage Presentation and Built Heritage Grants – Ms. Katriona Byrne, Conservation Officer:

Ms. Katriona Byrne, Conservation Officer, made a presentation to the meeting on the Built Heritage and Built Heritage Grants in County Wexford and advised the meeting on the role of the Conservation Officer in the Local Authority, the statutory duties of the Council under Part IV Planning & Development Act 2000 and outlined the Heritage Assets in the ownership of the Local Authority and the strategy for dealing with their valuable and historic properties. Ms. Byrne was assisted in the presentation and in dealing with numerous queries by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner. Questions raised by the Members referred to the

1. Ownership and maintenance of graveyards,
2. The display of artifacts recovered in County Wexford
3. The repair and maintenance of significant historical properties in the ownership of the Local Authority.
4. Education, training and public involvement.

It was also agreed to prepare a report on the current condition of New Ross Courthouse and report to the New Ross Electoral Area Committee on the matter.

Conservation Grants Scheme for Priorities for Protected Structures for 2013:

A copy of the Council's Conservation Grants Scheme of Priorities for Protected Structures was circulated to the meeting for their consideration. The Conservation Grants Scheme proposed was a model on the former National Conservation Grants and the Local Authority were now being requested to adopt a scheme of priorities in order to ensure a fair and speedy consideration of applications and maximum transparency. Following a discussion of the proposals and the details of the criteria outlined in the scheme on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. P. Codd the Council approved and adopted the scheme of priorities contained in the report circulated.

Presentation on the Re-opening of the National 1798 Rebellion Centre, Enniscorthy:

Mr. Pdraig O'Gorman, Economic Development Officer, and Ms. Jackie Hynes, Manager 1798 Centre, jointly made a presentation on the reopening of the National 1798 Centre in Enniscorthy. Mr. O'Gorman advised the meeting that the centre which was officially opened in 1998 illustrated the significance of the rebellion and received substantial national media coverage. The centre was developed through the combined efforts of Comhairle 98, Wexford County Council and Enniscorthy

Town Council with the support of the local community. The exhibitions in the centre had now become dated since the launch in 1998 and was now in need of an upgrade and redevelopment in order to provide increased appeal to a wider tourist audience both countrywide and internationally. Mr. O’Gorman continued that the reopening and revitalisation of the centre would ensure its ongoing sustainability and viability, provide visitors to the county with a worthwhile and valued tourism product which would complement the other tourism related projects in the Enniscorthy area and throughout County Wexford. In the presentation Mr. O’Gorman acknowledged the support and funding by Wexford Local Development to the value of €178,000. The redevelopment of the 1798 Centre as a tourist attraction and the specific plans to upgrade and enhance the existing displays was welcomed by the meeting and it was agreed that the improved facilities at the centre would now add to the variety and diverse tourist attractions within the county and region.

Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Councillor T. Howlin, seconded by Councillor B. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 11th March, 2013.

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:

- Westbury Woods, The Moyne, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Rock of Bree, Bree, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Riverwood, Carley’s Bridge, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Meadowgate (Phase 3), Knockmullen, Gorey, Co. Wexford.

The Members considered the report of Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, dated 26th March, 2013, and on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton, 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.

Road Works Programme 2013:

A copy of the Road Works Programme for 2013 inclusive of an expenditure allocation summary for maintenance works and improvement works on both national and non-national roads was circulated to the meeting. Following discussion and examination of the report on the proposal of Councillor M. Sheehan seconded by Councillor M. Byrne, the Council approved of the Road Works Programme 2013 as circulated to the meeting.

2012 Annual Financial Statement:

The 2012 Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December was circulated to the meeting and Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance, presented a summary of its contents. Ms. O'Neill advised that the income and expenditure account (revenue account) showed a deficit position of €136,207 at the year end. Ms. O'Neill also highlighted a number of key factors that had impacted on the Council's finances during the year.

In conclusion the Head of Finance stated the reported Revenue deficit for 2012 and the cumulative deficit in the revenue account is a cause of concern. The short-term objective is to protect the Council's financial position so that it is in a position of relative strength to face future challenges.

The Members noted the Council's financial position and its reflection of the current difficult economic climate. The Cathaoirleach thanked the Financial Accountant for her presentation and acknowledged the efforts made to manage the Council's finances.

Following discussion on the content of the Annual Financial Statement on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd and in accordance with Section 104 of the Local Government Act 2001 the Council approved of the additional expenditure outlined in tables 2.1 and 2.2 of the report circulated as well as for budget adjustment in respect of road grants of €2.856m. Following discussion on the collection levels of revenue and the efforts made in striving to manage financial matters in these difficult times the Manager advised the meeting that a presentation on Irish Water and its implications for Wexford County Council would be presented at the July County Council Meeting.

Following discussion by the meeting on the implementation of the proposed water charges and the possible privatisation of Irish Water at which a number of Members sought the delay in the introduction of water charges or their indefinite deferment it was agreed that a motion on this matter be submitted for discussion at the next County Council Meeting.

Oylegate to Rosslare Harbour Bypass:

The Members again discussed the question of the urgent allocation of funding to provide for the final design of the above corridor and on the proposal of Cllr. T. Dempsey seconded by Cllr. P. Codd the Council resolved to write to both the Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government and the NRA seeking the provision of adequate funding to provide for the final design of the Oylegate to Rosslare Harbour bypass.

3 Year Capital Programme (2013-2015):

A Capital Programme for 2013-2015 was circulated and it detailed the major projects proposed by the Council over the next 3 years.

The County Manager emphasised the Council's commitment to maintain and develop local services and infrastructure in order to stimulate economic recovery in the County. The Programme gives details of major investment in the areas of Housing, Roads, Water, Environment and Library Services. The projects included in the programme are based on the assumption that all the required funding will be available to complete the proposed developments.

While welcoming the publication of the Capital Programme the Members noted that the level of funding may not be achievable in the current economic climate.

Following discussion on the content of the capital programme at which the Members contributed on the proposal of Cllr. J. Moore seconded by Cllr. P. Kavanagh the Council approved of 3 Year Capital Programme (2013-2015) as circulated to the meeting.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The Members noted and approved the contents and the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on the 2nd April 2013.

Progress and Other Reports:

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 on the reports content.

Suspension of Standing Orders:

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders in order to allow completion of the business on the agenda by 6pm.

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report. Arising from a discussion on the Housing Assessment Process and in particular the income limits applying on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck seconded by Cllr. T. Howlin the Council resolved to write to the Minister of State for Housing seeking the reexamination of the revised income limits now being used in assessing eligibility for social housing.

Economic Development Report:

The monthly report on economic development was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were addressed by Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by the Members on the content of the report. In response to a number of questions raised on the need to carry urgent improvement works on various roads in the county Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, advised that it had been necessary because of the difficult and cold weather to suspend surfacing and strengthening in a number of areas but these works would commence shortly. The Director again responded to a number of questions raised by the Members on unfinished housing estates countywide. The Director also responded to questions raised on progress in commencing works on both the Enniscorthy and New Ross bypasses.

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian.

Community Monthly Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were addressed by Mr. Niall McDonnell, County Secretary.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor J. Moore, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Wexford Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 7th March, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Sheehan, seconded by Councillor L. O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 25th March, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Hegarty, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 22nd February, 2013.

- Housing SPC Meeting – this matter was deferred
- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Rents Committee Meeting held on 27th March, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor O. Walsh, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 15th March, 2013.

Sealing of Documents:

On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor O. Walsh, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 261/2013, 262/2013, 264/2013, 276/2013.

Notice of Motion

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne:

"Recognising the significant number of unfinished estates in Co. Wexford and the difficulties that have been faced for a number of years by the residents of these estates, that Wexford County Council resolves to

- (i) demand payment of all outstanding development levies due prior to 31st December 2012, and that such payment must be made by 31st December, 2013 and pursues such payment by whatever legal means necessary
- (ii) utilise such payments to complete works left unfinished by same developers
- (iii) cease any 'softly, softly' approach toward developers who fail to substantially co-operate with the County Council in the completion of estates
- (iv) publish the names of companies and their directors against whom the Council is forced to take court action and the reasons for such actions, on the County Council website and in monthly reports to Members."

In response the County Manager rejected the softly softly approach to developers referred to by Cllr. Byrne in the motion and disagreed with the suggestion of the protection of certain developers and he also advised the Council that payments made in respect of levies could not be utilised to complete works on unfinished housing

estates. The Manager considered that the motion was most inappropriate and ill timed.

Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, advised the meeting on enforcement proceedings taken against developers with resultant responses. He also outlined the difficulties in attempting to collect outstanding levies from individuals in these difficult and challenging times.

Following discussion the County Manager indicated that he would arrange for a presentation on outstanding levies to be made to the May County Council Meeting which would assist Members in finally establishing the current level of indebtedness and determine the policy to be pursued by the Council in resolving this matter

The following motions were deferred to the next meeting of the Council.

Cllr. M. Sheehan:

“That this Council expresses our opposition to the 55% cut in the Disability Grants and Housing Adaptation Grants and call on the Minister for their immediate restoration to enable residents to live in their own homes with dignity and as a jobs activation measure to ensure the viability of local contractors. Furthermore, we congratulate the efficiency of the officials in dealing with the applications, this Council agrees to continue to accept applications as per normal”.

Cllr. M. Sheehan:

“That this Council calls on the Minister for Social Protection to decentralise the assessment and application procedures to allow Local Health Clinics and Health Nurses assess medical/ social service applications such as Disability Allowance, Benefit, Carers Allowance and the associated Appeals as a means to ensure those in need receive the grant without undue delay, backlogs and distress”.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Bealtaine, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 13th May, 2013 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; P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien; P. Reck; M. Sheehan; O. Walsh.
- Officials: Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager,
Messrs T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary;
Ms. Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian;
- Apologies: Cllr. P. Cody.

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following recently bereaved:

- The family of Bridget Crean, mother of Jim Crean, Library Service.
- The family of Jim Moore, father of Caroline O'Mara, Planning Dept
- The family of Margaret Flynn, sister of Gerard Keegan, Library Service
- The family of Patsy Whelan, former Wexford Borough Council employee and father of Breda Driscoll and Bernie Flood, Wexford Borough Council Staff.
- The family of John Stafford, brother of Fr. Stafford, Glynn, and uncle of Fionn Stafford, Water Charges.
- The family of Mary Cullen, mother of Margaret Cullen, General Purposes.
- The family of Ben Markey who died following an accident at Enniscorthy Rugby Club.

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated the following:

- Mr. Jim Bolger, Horse Trainer, on his success in breeding and training the winner of the 2000 guineas Dawn Approach.
- The Staff of the Local Authority who were involved in promoting the Bio Diversity Programme.
- Mr. Colm Tóibín who was nominated for a Grammy Award.
- Shamrock Rovers who defeated North End in the Spinglo Wexford Cup Final.
- Bridge Drama in their success on the National Stage.

Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor O. Walsh, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 8th April, 2013.

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 site at Dunishall, Gorey, Co. Wexford (0.0040 hectares) to Margaret Carton, Dunishall, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Proposed disposal of land (6 sq metres) at Blackstoopes, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford to the E.S.B., 27 Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin by way of Deed of Transfer to facilitate the placement of an E.S.B. substation on this site.

Part 8 Planning and Development Act 2000 and the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended):

LAC0513 – Cherryorchard Sportsground Facility

Proposed development of Cherryorchard Sportsgrounds, a proposed multi-sports facility consisting of a natural playing pitch surrounded by an all-weather athletics track/facilities, floodlighting and security fencing, at Cherryorchard, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

The Members noted correspondence regarding the above from Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager, dated 8th May 2013. On the proposal of Cllr. J. Moore seconded by Cllr. K. Doyle the Members approved to proceed with this development under Part 8 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Filling of vacancy on the board of Wexford Local Development following the resignation of Cllr. J. Hegarty.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Codd seconded by Cllr. J. Moore the Council agreed that Councillor J. Hegarty be reappointed to the board of Wexford Local Development.

Proposed variations to the Wexford, Enniscorthy and New Ross Town and Environs Development Plans to incorporate the Joint Housing Strategy 2013-2019:

In a report circulated to the Members they were advised that it was now necessary to carry out a variation to the Enniscorthy Town & Environs Development Plan 2008-2014, Wexford Town & Environs Development Plan 2009-2015 and the New Ross Town & Environs Development Plan 2011-2017 to accommodate the Joint Housing Strategy for areas of those plans and to make a number of changes to the written statements of the plans to accommodate the variation.

Following discussion and consideration of the report on the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan seconded by Cllr. T. Dempsey the meeting approved of the proposed variations to the Wexford, Enniscorthy and New Ross Town and Environs Development Plans to incorporate the Joint Housing Strategy 2013-2019.

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:

- The Orchard, Rosslare, Co. Wexford.
- Millpark, Castlebridge, Co. Wexford.
- Rectory Grove, Duncormick, Co. Wexford.
- Rosetown Village, Rosslare, Co. Wexford.
- Glendale, Rosslare, Co. Wexford (to exclude tennis courts & playground)

The Members considered the report of Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, dated 1st May, 2013, and on the proposal of Cllr. J. Moore, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd, 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.

Presentation by Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance – Development Contributions – Debtors Project:

The Head of Finance gave a presentation on the Development Contributions – Debtors Project to the meeting. The Head of Finance advised that the focus of this joint Finance/Planning Project is to establish the exact level of Planning Levies due for payment to the council, to categorise monies due to either short term or long term debt and to ensure a robust but flexible collection regime.

The Head of Finance also highlighted the ongoing level of collection of planning levies, a total of €6.4m has been collected from 2010 to 2012. Ms. O'Neill also outlined that a significant portion of the current balance on the planning debtors records will not fall due as developments either failed to be fully completed and/or planning permissions expired before any development takes place. This trend is reflected in the Council's Annual Financial Statements showing a drop from €23.2m

in 2011 to €17.7m in 2012. The Head of Finance confirmed that the current project will continue until all the debtor accounts have been fully reviewed. The Head of Finance responded to questions raised by the Members in relation to the payment of levies by installment, the calling in of bonds to complete unfinished developments and processes being followed in dealing with Receivers, Liquidators and NAMA in pursuance of development levies due. The County Manager also advised the Members of the tradition in Wexford where developers paid levies as dwellings were sold and that in general levies due on houses sold were paid in full.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the Head of Finance for her presentation and the Members welcomed the clarity of the presentation and emphasised the need for a flexible collection system.

Deferred Notices of Motion:

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Sheehan and seconded by Cllr. P. Reck:

“That this Council expresses our opposition to the 55% cut in the Disability Grants and Housing Adaptation Grants and call on the Minister for their immediate restoration to enable residents to live in their own homes with dignity and as a jobs activation measure to ensure the viability of local contractors. Furthermore, we congratulate the efficiency of the officials in dealing with the applications, this Council agrees to continue to accept applications as per normal”.

Following discussion it was agreed that the motion be amended with the reference to “continuing to accept applications as per normal” be removed. The amended motion was agreed by the Council.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Sheehan and seconded by Cllr. K. Doyle:

“That this Council calls on the Minister for Social Protection to decentralise the assessment and application procedures to allow Local Health Clinics and Health Nurses assess medical/ social service applications such as Disability Allowance, Benefit, Carers Allowance and the associated Appeals as a means to ensure those in need receive the grant without undue delay, backlogs and distress”.

Following discussion the motion was put to the meeting where 10 voted in favour and 8 against, the motion was carried.

Draft Annual Report 2011:

A copy of the Draft Annual Report 2011 was circulated to the meeting. On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. P. Codd the meeting formally approved the adoption of the 2011 Draft Annual Report.

New Ross Port in the 2013 National Ports Policy:

The Director of Services for Housing & Economic Development Mr. Tony Larkin circulated a report to the meeting indicating that New Ross Port had been designated as a Port of regional significance in the National Ports Policy issued by the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport. The policy envisaged the transfer of control of New Ross Port to Local Authority Control. The report also confirmed that the Department of Transport will initiate discussions with the Local Authorities, Port Company and other relevant Stakeholders to determine the most suitable method of transfer within the framework set out in section 2.7.7 of the policy document.

In conclusion the Director advised that it is expected that discussions will take place between Wexford County Council, New Ross Port Company and the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport in the coming months.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The Members noted and approved the contents and the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on the 7th May 2013.

Date of Annual Meeting:

Following discussion on the recommendation of the Corporate Policy Group on the holding of the Annual General Meeting of the Council it was agreed that the meeting would be held on Friday 28th June at 12 noon.

Progress and Other Reports:

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 on the reports content.

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

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

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian.

Community Monthly Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were addressed by Mr. Niall McDonnell, County Secretary.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor J. Moore, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Wexford Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 2nd May, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Moore, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 22nd March, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Moore, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee held on 19th April, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Moore, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor the Council approved the minutes of the Planning Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 21st February 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor J. Moore, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 22nd April, 2013.

Sealing of Documents:

On the proposal of Councillor J. Hegarty, seconded by Councillor P. Codd, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting as outlined in Manager's Order No 344/2013, 345/2013, 347/2013, 349/2013.

Correspondence and Communications:

The County Secretary informed the meeting of correspondence received from Mr. John Fowler, Chairman, Commodore John Barry Branch Wexford, advising that the Organisation of National Ex-Service Men & Women were holding their National Convention and AGM in Wexford Town between 7th and 9th June with an invitation to the Elected Members to join the parade at 11am on the 9th June from Selskar to Rowe Street to be followed by mass.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Meitheamh, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 10th June, 2013 at 2.30 p.m. 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;
P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; M. Kinsella;
G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; L. O'Brien;
P. Reck; M. Sheehan;

Officials: Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager,
Messrs T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;
Ms. M. Melia, Chief Fire Officer
Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary;
Ms. Fionnuala Hanrahan, County Librarian;
Mr. S. Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer

Apologies: Cllr. P. Cody; Cllr. O. Walsh, Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following families who were recently bereaved:-

- The family of Shirley O'Connor, wife of Philip O'Connor, Foreman, Courtown Area
- The family of Pat Brazzill, father of Michael Brazzill, Resident Technician, Water Services
- The family of Mrs. Plunkett, Ballyprecus, Bunclody, Mother of Ian Plunkett, Environmental Technician
- The family of George Fenlon, Brother of Joe Fenlon, Traffic Warden and Brother-in-law of Councillor Anna Fenlon
- The family of Fr. Matt Wallace, brother of former Social Worker, Ms. Eileen Wallace
- The family of Mr. Martin Breen, Father of Fran Breen, Enniscorthy Town Council
- The family of Ellen Sinnott, Mother of John Sinnott, General Operative, New Ross District.

Presentation by Ms. M. Melia, Chief Fire Officer – Keeping Community Safe

The Chief Fire Officer, Ms. M. Melia made a presentation to the meeting on keeping the community safe, a framework for fire safety in Ireland which arose from a government policy document which was published in February 2013. The Chief Fire Officer outlined the main aspects of keeping communities safe and also referred to the following:-

- Fire services roles for society
- Review of fire services response
- Priorities and targets
- Implications for Wexford
- Implementation and timescales

The main aspect of keeping communities safe in the area of risk management was prevention, protection and response time in addition to the reform of fire service delivery units which will result in the reduction from 13 to 21 fire services delivery units caring for population broadly in the range of 120,000 to 200,000 and improvement in the co-ordination of response in the new eight regions.

While highlighting the fire safety roles for society the Chief Fire Officer referred to community fire safety, technical fire safety, dangerous substances, major emergency management and the operational response of the Fire Service in the County. The Chief Fire Officers also outlined priorities and targets both national and local for the fire services in addition to outlining the details of the new fire service delivery units county wide. The Chief Fire Officer advised that it would be necessary to draw up a fire and emergency operation plan in compliance with Section 26 of the Fire Services Act which necessitated each fire authority to prepare plans for fire and emergency operations showing the provisions made for dealing with operations of a emergency nature. This matter was a reserved function and it was proposed that the plan be adopted by the Council in April 2014. The implementation timescales for the adoption of the plan were outlined in the presentation by the Chief Fire Officer.

The Chief Fire Officer responded to various questions raised by the members on the contents of the presentation at which the importance of carrying out regular fire safety checks on buildings was emphasised by many members. The meeting acknowledged the excellent work carried out by the Chief Fire Officer, her colleagues and the members of the fire service who are continuing to provide an important service to the people of Wexford and responding competently to many emergency issues that have to be addressed.

Presentation on Unfinished Housing Estates – Mr. Sean Kavanagh

Mr. Sean Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer, Building Control made a presentation to the meeting on unfinished housing estates in County Wexford. The presentation outlined progress made since the national housing development survey carried out in October 2010 which identified 177 unfinished housing estates within County Wexford. The housing estates identified included 39 rural clusters and were distributed county-wide as follows:-

Gorey Area	59 housing estates
Wexford Area	49 housing estates
New Ross Area	38 housing estates
Enniscorthy Area	31 housing estates

The presentation advised that to-date twenty developments had been taken in charge and there were presently 106 applications including 21 unfinished housing developments currently being dealt with by the local authority with the break down of applications as follows:

Awaiting initial inspection	21
Remedial works by developer required and/or documentation required	29
Awaiting re-inspection/or recommendation	2
Wexford County Council engaging in works funded by bond or other	21
Planning enforcement	17
Ready for taking in charge	16
Total:	106

Mr. Kavanagh also confirmed that 14 other housing estates not on the unfinished housing development list had been brought to the local authorities attention through complaints from the public, representations from elected members, enforcement, site inspection and the water services department. The meeting was advised that the local authorities had a dedicated unfinished housing estates team in place which have highlighted and rectified public safety issues, developed site resolution plans and in addition to meeting developers, residents, liquidators and the health & safety authority and financiers had in a number of cases secured bonds where these were available to assist with the completion of developments. Mr. Kavanagh's presentation also contained photographs and evidence of improvements works carried out on various unfinished estates throughout the county.

Cash bonds approved and released to fund works in 2012 exceeded €290,000 and in 2013 €574,000. The estimate expenditure to date on approved works was of the order €460,000. In conclusion Mr. Kavanagh noted that the challenges now facing the council were financial constraints, running out of time to deal with the developers before they go into receivership or liquidation, renewal of bonds, calling in of security bonds, resources, waste water treatment plants and pumping stations not functioning, problems with public lighting and insufficient bonds to complete works. The Cathaoirleach Councillor Kathleen Codd-Nolan and the County Manager Mr. A. Doyle complimented Mr. Kavanagh and the Director of Services Mr. E. Hore on an excellent presentation which clearly demonstrated the issues that the Council would have to deal with in financing and dealing with the completion of unfinished housing estates county-wide.

Mr. Kavanagh also responded to various questions raised by the members on the content of the report where it was accepted that this was a matter that would have to be addressed again and on a regular basis by the local authority to conclusion.

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated the following:

- The council congratulated the senior footballers and hurlers on their recent successes and the Ferns Development Association on their successful gathering event.
- Mr. Billy Walsh on his success with the national boxing team at the European Championships
- Mr. Aidan O'Brien on his recent success in the Epsom derby

Confirmation of minutes:

On the proposal of Councillor P. Reck, seconded by Councillor M. Sheehan the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 13th May 2013

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

On the proposal of Councillor Malcolm Byrne, seconded by Councillor Michael Sheehan the Council resolved to dispose of the following lands in accordance with notice circulated:

- Proposed disposal of lands (circa 18.4 meters) at Marshmeadows, New Ross, Co. Wexford to the E.S.B., 27, Lower Fitzwilliam Street, Dublin by way of Deed of Transfer to facilitate the placement of an E.S.B. substation on this site.

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:

The Members considered the report and on the proposal of Councillor Malcolm Byrne seconded by Councillor Michael Sheehan, the members approved the roads listed below be declared to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180(4) of the Planning & Development Acts 2000 – 2010.

- Ballagh Cove, Slievenagora, Ballyhuskard, Co. Wexford

Student Grant Scheme 2013/2014:

A report on the student grant scheme 2013 recently published by the Department of Education and Skills on the 14th May 2013 was circulated to the meeting. Questions raised on the contents of the report were dealt with by the County Secretary. Concerns were expressed by the Members on the delays in meeting payment of new grant applicants that had arisen in the past year since new grant applicants were dealt with centrally.

Notices of motion:

It was agreed to defer these matters to later in the meeting.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The Members noted and approved the contents and the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group held on the 4th June 2013.

The Council noted in particular the report of the County Manager on the final account for the county hall and welcomed the trust and content of the Manager's report and approved that the Council proceed in accordance with the recommendations of the Manager's report.

Housing Allocation:

The members again discussed the issue of the annual financial housing allocation and its implications for applicants seeking housing countywide and following a discussion on the proposal of Councillor P. Reck, seconded by Councillor Michael Sheehan asked that a review of housing policy on a national basis be considered with a view to making provision for constructing additional units countrywide.

Progress and other reports:

Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. Ed. Taaffe, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by the Members on the reports content.

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

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

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian.

Community Monthly Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were addressed by Mr. Niall McDonnell, County Secretary.

Correspondence:

The County Secretary advised the meeting of receipt of correspondence from the private secretary to the Minister for Justice and Equality in response to a letter issued by the Council regarding Gorey garda station on the 24th May 2013. The correspondence advised that the revised district arrangements for the Wexford division are aimed at freeing up garda personnel from desk duties so that they are out with communities and engaging in frontline policing. The letter further advised that the amalgamation of the Gorey and Enniscorthy garda districts will continue as planned and will be implemented on the 11th November 2013.

Following a discussion on this correspondence at which concerns were expressed by the meeting at the nature of the response, on the proposal of Councillor Malcolm Byrne, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton the council agreed to send a deputation to the Minister seeking a deferral of the commissioners proposals.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor M. Sheehan, seconded by Councillor Larry O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 27th May, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor Tony Dempsey, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of The Joint Policing Committee held on 11th March 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor Malcolm Byrne, seconded by Councillor B. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 26th April 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor Kathleen Codd-Nolan the Council approved the minutes of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 24th May 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor Larry O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Pat Codd, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Transportation SPC Meeting held on 7th May 2013.

Sealing of Documents:

On the proposal of Councillor Pat Codd, seconded by Councillor Ted Howlin, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting.

Notice of Motion:

The following motion was proposed by Councillor Paddy Kavanagh.

“That this Council calls on Junior Minister Kathleen Lynch, Minister for Housing to bring forward new rules for tenants and landlords availing of rent allowance

- a) That rent allowance be suspended if the tenant engages in anti-social behavior within the housing estate in which they live
- b) That rent allowance be withdrawn indefinitely if they continue to engage in anti social behavior
- c) That the landlord whose property is consistently involved in such behavior also be excluded from rent allowance schemes”

Following a discussion of the motion the following amended motion was agreed by the meeting:

“That this Council calls on Minister Joan Burton and Junior Minister Jan O’Sullivan to find a mechanism for tenants and landlords availing of rent allowance to provide that:

- a) Rent allowance be suspended if the tenant engages in anti social behavior within the housing estate in which they live.
- b) That rent allowance be withdrawn indefinitely if they continue to engage in anti social behavior.
- c) That the landlord whose property is consistently involved in such behavior also be excluded from rent allowance schemes”

The following motion was proposed by Councillor John Hegarty, seconded by Councillor Jim Moore.

“This Council notes the adverse effect on Wexford hauliers of the changes in 2010 to EU law regarding cabotage, and calls on the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport to support an EU level greater liberalisation of the haulage industry in Europe and, in particular, the opening up of cabotage within all member states. If change at EU level is not possible we call on the Minister to explore the potential of a bi-lateral agreement with the UK in this matter”.

Following discussion the council approved of the motion.

Any other business:

It was noted that Wexford Day would take place on 23rd June and JFK celebrations on the 22nd June.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Meitheamh, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Annual Meeting of Wexford County Council

Held on Friday 28th June, 2013 – 12 noon

In the Council Chamber, Carricklawn, Wexford.

Attendance:

In the Chair: Councillor Kathleen Codd-Nolan, Cathaoirleach.
Later Councillor Ted Howlin

Councillors:

M. Byrne; P. Codd; T. Dempsey; A. Fenlon; J. Hegarty; T. Howlin; R. Ireton; P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; P. Reck; M. Sheehan; O. Walsh; P. Cody.

Officials:

Messrs: A. Doyle, County Manager, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services; A. O'Neill, Head of Finance; N. McDonnell County Secretary, M. McDonald, S.E.O. Finance, M. O'Brien, S.E.O. Housing, F. Hanrahan, County Librarian, D. Kearns, Senior Planner, P. Knight, ASO.

Apologies:

An apology for inability to attend was received from Councillors K. Doyle; L. O'Brien and M. Kinsella.

Welcome:

Councillor Kathleen Codd-Nolan, Cathaoirleach welcomed the Members and officials to the meeting. In an address to the meeting Councillor Codd-Nolan advised of her appreciation on being elected Cathaoirleach and outlined a busy schedule of events and activities representing the Council over the past year. The Cathaoirleach referred to the opening of the new library at Mallin Street which was the first major event the Cathaoirleach had attended and which has since been an outstanding success and a hive of activity and a wonderful space for the children and young people of Wexford. The Cathaoirleach acknowledged the work of the County Librarian, Fionnuala Hanrahan and staff.

The Cathaoirleach complimented the works of the Arts Office who were continually working and promoting the arts in the community throughout the county. A highlight of the year was the launching of the book "Climbing Mountains in our Minds" and the very recent unveiling of the sculpture Solstice by renowned artist Mr. Ronan Gillespie which was the donated by the Harrington and Goltz families.

Councillor Codd-Nolan acknowledged the many years of public service given by the former County Manager, Mr. Eddie Breen who retired in November 2012 and whose activities invigorated the development of the county and who has now been succeeded by Mr. Adrian Doyle who will no doubt bring new ideas to the role of County Manager and whose efforts and activities will bring benefits to the county and its people.

The Cathaoirleach also acknowledged the work carried out by the Enterprise and Community Sections of the local authority, and paid tribute to the environment section on the holding of the annual environmental awards in addition to highlighting two very special events which were held during the year, the hosting of the Wexford Olympian Athletes and the Honouring of the Wexford All Ireland Senior Camogie Team who achieved success three years in a row.

In conclusion the Cathaoirleach highlighted the JFK celebrations held in New Ross last week end and the interaction with the wider Kennedy Family and the many guests invited to New Ross for the celebrations.

The Cathaoirleach acknowledged the support given by Mr. Adrian Doyle, County Manager and by the Directors of Services and the various staff members throughout the organisation who had been very supportive of the Cathaoirleach and the Council over the past year.

Councillor Codd-Nolan thanked the Vice-Chairman, Councillor Robbie Ireton and the Members for their support and looked forward to working with the incoming Cathaoirleach and the Council in the final year of the present Council.

The County Manager and Members thanked the Cathaoirleach for her positive contribution during the year and looked forward to working together in continuing to promote the county and in facing positively into the challenges arising from the changes in the local government structures now being implemented.

Election of Cathaoirleach:

Councillor G. Lawlor proposed and Councillor Robbie Ireton seconded that Councillor Ted Howlin be elected Cathaoirleach. There being no other proposals, Councillor Ted Howlin was elected Cathaoirleach of the County Council.

Councillor Ted Howlin, Cathaoirleach, thanked the Council for their support and stated that he was honoured and privileged to be elected Cathaoirleach and thanked his proposed Councillor George Lawlor and seconder Councillor Robbie Ireton.

Councillor Howlin referred to the considerable time since a labour member held office and he was honoured to be following in the distinguished footsteps of members such as Tommy Byrne, Nick Corish, Andy Doyle and many others who have graced the office in former times. He also hoped to live up to the high standards created by the former office holders. The Cathaoirleach referred to the challenging and changing times and looked forward to working with a much expanded Council in the years ahead which would involve the new four municipal district councils and a Council with 34 members.

He looked forward over the next twelve months in preparing for change and working to ensure that the new structure best served the people of County Wexford. The Cathaoirleach referred to the important role that the local authority has to play in making the County attractive for inward investment, tourism, and to help sustain jobs that we have in agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing services and retail. The enormous amount of positives was outlined by the Cathaoirleach and the importance of improving the road link to Dublin, Cork and Limerick in addition to driving the development of Rosslare Europort was emphasised by Councillor Howlin. The attractiveness of the arts as a driver of visitor numbers was highlighted by the Cathaoirleach who had been involved for many years with Wexford Festival Opera.

In conclusion the Cathaoirleach paid tribute to the outgoing Cathaoirleach Councillor Kathleen Codd-Nolan and the Leas Cathaoirleach Councillor Robbie Ireton for their work during the year.

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

Election of Leas-Cathaoirleach:

Councillor Robbie Ireton proposed and Councillor George Lawlor seconded that Councillor Pat Cody be elected Leas-Cathaoirleach.

As there were no further nominations Councillor P. Cody was unanimously elected Leas Cathaoirleach of the County Council.

Councillor P. Cody thanked the Members for their support.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Meitheamh, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 8th July, 2013 at 2.30 p.m. the Council Chamber,
Carricklawn, Wexford.***

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. T. Howlin, Cathaoirleach.

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

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

Apologies: Cllr. P. Cody; Cllr. P. Reck, Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following families who were recently bereaved:-

- The family of Richard Martin, former employee of Wexford County Council, brother of Dave Martin and brother in law of Patrick Kavanagh, Wexford Borough Council.
- The family of William Whitty, father of Anna Whitty, Motor Taxation Department.
- The family of Bridget O'Reilly, sister of Tina O'Sullivan, Gorey Area Office.

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated the following:

- The New Ross Pipe and District Band on their success in national competition.
- Monsignor Joe McGrath who celebrated his Golden Jubilee
- Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services and Staff involved in planning and implementing the JFK celebrations in New Ross.
- Wexford Light Opera and St. Michael's Theatre New Ross on success in the National A.I.M.S. awards.

Presentation – Irish Water:

A presentation on Irish Water and Wexford County Council's Water Services Operations was made to the meeting by Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services. The Director summarised the activities of Wexford County Council's water and waste water services serving a population countywide in excess of 104,000. The major public water supply schemes in the county in addition to serving the county's population supplied over 40m cubic meters of water per day through 1800 km of public water mains, the nine major supply schemes meeting 92% of the county's demand.

The water supply is further supplemented through a number of small schemes countywide.

The Director in his presentation also advised that there were 67 public waste water treatment systems operational in the county with a collection network of 580km of public sewer. Significantly 83 employees were working on the operational services in both water and waste water services, inclusive of administrative staff and engineering professionals in this area. It was noted that the water service budget for 2013 exceeded €18.1m which is approximately 19.6% of the revenue budget of €92.4m. In his presentation the Director also referred to Government policy on water reform, clearly indicated the timescale for the implementation of the programme for Irish Water and he also confirmed that after March 2013 Bord Gais would have legal responsibility to establish a new company Irish Water and to provide for the installation of water meters countywide.

The metering programme which was now underway had a target of the installation of 27,000 meters countrywide per month with the installation of meters taking place very early throughout County Wexford. It was likely that metering in the county would commence in July and August 2013 commencing in the county's main towns. The Director confirmed that there were approximately 46,000 domestic connections in County Wexford in addition to 8000 non domestic connections. He also confirmed that Wexford was a pilot county along with Fingal, Kerry and Kildare and that its customers would be given prior notification in advance of metering installation and that all customer contact would be via the Irish Water Call Centre. Domestic water charges were set to be introduced in January 2015. The Director also advised that Wexford County Council would operate water functions by way of service level agreement on behalf of Irish Water for a period of approximately 12 years.

The Director of Services Mr. E. Taaffe responded to questions raised by Members on the content of the presentation and was thanked by the Cathaoirleach for a very informative and helpful presentation on the activities of the Local Authority and its water and waste water services.

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 10th June 2013.

On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton the Council approved the minutes of the Annual Meeting of Wexford County Council held on 28th June 2013.

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:

The Members considered the report of Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, dated 1st July 2013 and on the proposal of Councillor Jim Moore seconded by Councillor Larry O'Brien, the members approved the roads listed below be declared to be a public road in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180(4) of the Planning & Development Acts 2000 – 2010.

- St. John's Court, Wellingtonbridge, Co. Wexford.
- South Beach, Duncannon, Co. Wexford.
- Beechfields, Fethard on Sea, Co. Wexford.
- Ard Aoibhinn, Rosslare Strand, Co. Wexford.
- Ard na Ba, Kilmore Quay, Co. Wexford.

Proposed Variation No. 1 (Joint Housing Strategy) of the:

- Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2008-2014
- Wexford Town and Environs Development Plan 2009-2015
- New Ross Town and Environs Development Plan 2011-2017

The County Manager's Report on the submissions and observations received in relation to the proposed variations No. 1 of each of the above plans were circulated to the meeting and discussed with Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

Having considered the proposed variation and Manager's Report on the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty the Council resolved to adopt the Housing Strategy and approved of the proposed variations in the plans as outlined above.

Appointment of 2 Nominees to the Board of Fethard Castle:

On the proposal of Cllr. L. O'Brien seconded by Cllr. P. Kavanagh, Councillors M. Murphy and D. Kennedy were appointed as the Council's nominees and Directors to the Board of Fethard Castle.

Adoption of South East Homelessness Action Plan 2013-2016:

A copy of the South East Homeless Action Plan setting out the regional strategy to deal with homelessness within the region was circulated to the meeting by the Director of Services. The core objective of the current plan is to adopt a regional approach to the management of homelessness services. The plan also acknowledged the valuable groundwork already within the region and states that this will be further complimented by a planned review process. The plan sets out how and where to access services and sets out strategic aims and objectives of the plan to assist in preventing homelessness, eliminating the need to sleep

rough, eliminating long term homelessness, meeting long term needs of persons moving out of homelessness, provides more effective homeless services and implements better co-ordination of funding arrangements. The meeting noted that the plan was discussed and approved by the Housing Strategic Policy Committee at a meeting held on 26th June.

Following the welcoming of the report and a discussion and general debate on the South East Homeless Action Plan on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. T. Dempsey, the Council resolved to adopt the South East Homelessness Action Plan 2013-2016 as circulated.

Wexford County Council Draft Noise Action Plan 2013:

The Draft Noise Action 2013 which had been prepared by Wexford County Council as required by and in accordance with EU Directive was circulated to the meeting. The aim of the Action Plan was to manage the existing road noise within the plan area and help avoid, prevent and reduce on a prioritised basis the harmful effects including annoyance due to exposure to environmental road noise. A summary of the Noise Action Plan was outlined to the meeting by the County Manager who also advised that the plan had been presented to each Electoral Area Committee and had been advertised for public consultation. It was also noted that no submissions had been received during the period allowed for public consultation and consequently the Plan is recommended for adoption to the Council.

Following discussion on the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton the Council approved of the adoption of the Draft Noise Action Plan 2013 as circulated.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The report of the Corporate Policy Group was noted by the meeting.

Non Use of Motor Vehicles 2013:

In response to questions raised by the Members the Head of Finance Ms. A. O'Neill undertook to further inform Members on clarifications sought on the potential loss to road haulers' on the implementation of the non use of motor vehicles legislation as outlined by the Head of Finance.

Notices of Motion:

Proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty:

"Given the significant decline in Garda numbers in Co. Wexford and the fact that this County has now one of the lowest number of Gardai per capita in the country, that Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for Justice and Defence to recommence Garda recruitment and to ensure an adequate number of Gardai are allocated to police Co. Wexford."

Following discussion and debate, the notice of motion and content was unanimously agreed by the meeting.

Progress and other reports:

Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report

The monthly report of the Director of Services was circulated to the meeting and Mr. Ed. Taaffe, Director of Services, responded to questions raised by the Members on the reports content.

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

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

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian.

Community Monthly Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were addressed by Mr. Niall McDonnell, County Secretary.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor J. Moore, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Wexford Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 6th June, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor K. Doyle, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 21st June, 2013 with an amendment to the reference of Local Improvement Schemes in that O'Neill of Clone Ferns was selected as Number 1 Priority to be followed by O'Regan's of Davidstown at Number 2.

- 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 31st May, 2013. Having noted that the Draft Parking Places Bye Laws (Gorey) 2013 had been discussed and approved at this meeting. On the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne the Council approved of the adoption of the Draft Parking Places Bye Laws (Gorey) 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor M. Murphy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 24th June, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Kinsella, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Water, Environmental & Emergency Services SPC Meeting held on 4th June, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor D. MacPartlin, seconded by Councillor K. Codd Nolan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Protocol Committee Meeting held on 10th June 2013.

Sealing of Documents:

On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the sealing of documents as submitted to the meeting.

Correspondence and Communications:

The Members noted the following correspondence:

- Letter from Mr. John Lowry, Senior Project Manager, Eirgrid regarding request for Council Meeting attendance.
- Letter from Mr. Chris Smith, Private Secretary to Minister Varadkar, regarding the Oylegate to Rosslare Harbour Bypass.

Any other business:

It was agreed that a meeting should be held to discuss the Local Government Reform proposals.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an lá de Mean Fómhair, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 9th September, 2013 at 2.30 p.m. the Council Chamber,
Carricklawn, Wexford.***

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. T. Howlin, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: M. Byrne; P. Codd; K. Codd Nolan; T. Dempsey; K. Doyle; A. Fenlon;
J. Hegarty; P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy; R. Ireton; M. Kinsella;
G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; J. Moore; M. Murphy; P. Reck;
M. Sheehan; O. Walsh.

Officials: Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager,
Messrs T. Larkin, E. Taaffe, E. Hore, Directors of Services;
Ms. L. Lacey, A/Head of Finance;
Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian;
Ms. D. Kearns, A/Senior Planner;
Ms. Grainne Doran, Archivist;
Mr. P. O’Gorman, Economic Development Officer;
Ms. C. Godkin, Economic Development Officer;
Mr. N. McDonnell, County Secretary;

Apologies: Councillor L. O’Brien.

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following families who were recently bereaved:-

- The family of Councillor Pat Cody, Member of Wexford County Council and Leas Cathaoirleach, Wexford County Council.
- The family of Tom O’Connor, former Town Clerk Gorey and former Civil Defence Officer.
- The family of Eileen Kelly, mother of Grainne Kelly, Local Sports Partnership
- The family of Hazel Hickey, mother of Ann Hickey, Library Service.
- The family of Patrick Walsh, former General Operative, Enniscorthy Town Council
- The family of Michael Lynch, father of Sam Lynch, Machinery Yard, Enniscorthy.
- The family of Marie Murphy, wife of Joe Murphy, former County Councillor.

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated the following:

- Gorey Comhaltas Ceoltoiri and Caoláin Power on their success in national competition.
- Ms. Carrie Kenny who rated successfully in the 600metres national athletic championships.

- Darragh McDonald on his success in the European swimming championships.
- Mark Birney a pupil of Gorey Community School who achieved outstanding results in his leaving certificate.
- New Ross and District Pipe Band on their success in the World Championships.
- Wexford Junior Ladies Football Team on reaching the All Ireland Final.

Confirmation of minutes:

On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor P. Codd the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 8th July 2013.

Filling of Casual Vacancy created following the passing of the late Councillor Pat Cody:

The County Secretary Mr. N. McDonnell informed the meeting of notification received from the Labour Party in compliance with Section 19 (3) of the Local Government Act 2001 advising that Mr. Martin Storey, Glenagark, The Ballagh, Enniscorthy, had been selected as a replacement to fill the casual vacancy on Wexford County Council created by the untimely passing of the late Councillor Pat Cody. The County Secretary also informed the meeting that due notice had been circulated to the Members of the Local Authority regarding the procedures to be followed in order to fill the casual vacancy. Following the advice of the County Secretary that the proposal to fill the vacancy was in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Local Government Act 2001 and that the candidate proposed for co-option complies with the act as regards eligibility for membership to the Council Mr. Martin Storey was co-opted to fill the casual vacancy.

Councillor Martin Storey was congratulated by the Cathaoirleach Councillor Ted Howlin following his co-option and the congratulations of the Cathaoirleach were also mirrored in a number of congratulatory wishes from Councillors in attendance. The County Manager Mr. A. Doyle also asked to be associated with the best wishes expressed to Councillor Storey and he reassured the Council Meeting and Councillor Storey that he would do everything possible to assist Councillor Storey in his work as a new Member of the Local Authority.

Election of Leas Cathaoirleach:

The Council had been notified by way of notice dated 27th August 2013 of the proposed filling of the casual vacancy of Leas Cathaoirleach at the September meeting. Councillor Robert Ireton was nominated to fill the position of Leas Cathaoirleach on the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor seconded by Councillor M. Storey.

As there were no other nominations for the position of Leas Chathaoirleach Councillor Robert Ireton was elected Leas Chathaoirleach of the Local Authority. Councillor Ireton was congratulated by the Members on his election as Leas Chathaoirleach and the County Manager asked that he also be associated with the congratulations and best wishes expressed to Councillor Ireton.

Filling of vacancy to the Housing SPC:

The County Secretary informed the meeting of notification issued on 27th August 2013 advising the Council of the proposal to fill the casual vacancy on the Housing Strategic Policy Committee.

On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor seconded by Councillor K. Doyle, Councillor M. Storey was nominated to fill the vacant position on the Housing Strategic Policy Committee. This proposal was agreed unanimously by the Council.

Filling of vacancies on the following committees:

- County Wexford VEC
- County Enterprise Board
- South East Regional Authority
- Local Traveller (Accommodation) Consultative Committee
- Regional Health Forum (South)
- Joint Policing Committee
- Library Association of Ireland

Having been advised by the County Secretary of notification issued advising of the filling of the vacancies on the above committees on the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor seconded by Councillor P. Codd, Councillor R. Ireton was nominated to fill the vacancy on County Wexford VEC and Councillor M. Storey filled the vacancies on the remaining committees outlined above.

Ms. Grainne Doran, Archivist, and online online access to Wexford County Council's Minutes, 1899-1997:

In a powerpoint presentation to the meeting Ms. Grainne Doran, Archivist, demonstrated to the Members how one accesses online the County Council Minutes for the period 1899-1997. The technical details on accessing these records were comprehensively outlined by the Archivist and Ms. Doran also responded to a number of questions raised by the meeting arising from the demonstration. Both the Archivist Ms. Doran and the County Librarian Ms. Hanrahan were congratulated by the Members on arranging for the access to the records which now created an important source of material for our students and members of the public seeking this information.

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:

- Cuil Na Tire, Monamolin, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Glenbay, Poulshone, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Glenrichards Cove, Poulshone, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- The Lask, Gorey Hill, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Silverdale, Tinteskin, Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford.
- Thornbrook, The Ballagh, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Maderia Grove, The Moyne, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Maderia Wood, The Moyne, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Beechpark, Bellefield Rd., Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Hillview Court, Oulart, Co. Wexford.

The Members considered the report of Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, dated 2nd September 2013 and on the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne seconded by Councillor M. Kinsella, 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 & Development Acts 2000 – 2010.

Capital Assistance Scheme 2013:

A report seeking a resolution of the Council in respect of authorised payments in accordance with Section 6 of the Housing Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1992 and Section 106 of the Local Government Act 2001 was circulated to the meeting. The funding under the Capital Assistance Scheme 2013 was required for the Kilanerin Sheltered Housing Association Ltd in the amount of €687,875, Ramsgrange Senior Citizens Concern Ltd in the amount of €177,250 and Rathangan Senior Citizens Housing Association in the amount of €949,900.

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd seconded by Councillor M. Sheehan the Council approved the authorisation of payments to the above associations in accordance with the report circulated dated 3rd September 2013.

Draft Audit Report 2012:

A copy of the Statutory Audit Report 2012 prepared by Mr. Gerard McMorrow, Local Government Auditor for the period ended 31st December 2012 was presented to the meeting. In the report the Auditor had drawn attention to the following areas:

- Revenue Deficit
- Wexford County Council's Headquarters
- Debit balances on capital accounts
- Commercial water charges collection

Ms. Lynda Lacey, A/Head of Finance, advised the meeting that the Manager had responded to the issues raised by the Auditor and his responses were contained in the report. The meeting was also informed that the Auditor had acknowledged his appreciation for the courtesy and co-operation extended to himself and his staff during the course of the audit. The A/Head of Finance responded to questions raised by the Members on the Auditor's report in addition to responding to question raised by the Members on the yields from revenue sources including commercial water charges, clarification on the likely yield from the insurance bond to subvent the deficit arising from the provision of the new Council headquarters and the use of the debt collection agency Stubbs Gazette in pursuing revenue long outstanding to the Local Authority. The Members also asked questions with regard to the recovery of development bonds and development contribution debts. In response the County Manager also outlined for the meeting the efforts made by the Local Authority Staff in trying to conclude the collection of debts outstanding to the Local Authority by various house holders, business people and developers in the County. He understood the difficulties people were experiencing in meeting financial demands from the Local Authority but emphasised that the County Council would always have a policy of assisting people through to an agreeable resolution to the problems encountered and that the Council would do all possible and were obliged to collect outstanding debts due countywide.

Pre-draft Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2014-2020:

A report on the proposed amendments to the pre-draft Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2014-2020 was circulated to the meeting. Ms. D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner, in a report circulated to the meeting advised that having considered the pre-draft Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2014-2020 the Members of Enniscorthy Town Council and Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee at a joint Special Meeting held on 11th July 2013 approved of the draft plan subject to the amendments set out in the attached documents. The pre draft development plan and the proposed amendments were now before the Council for approval.

On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh seconded by Councillor K. Doyle the Council formally approved of the Pre-draft Enniscorthy Town and Environs Development Plan 2014-2020 and the proposed amendments to the pre draft plan as circulated to the meeting.

Manager's Report on Pre-draft Consultations on the Review of the Wexford Town and Environs Development Plan 2009-2015:

The County Manager's Report on the pre-draft consultations on the Review of the Wexford Town and Environs Development Plan 2009-2015 and preparation of a new plan for the area and the report to the Members of Wexford Borough Council and Wexford County Council prepared in accordance with Section 11(4) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended was circulated to the meeting.

The report confirmed that in accordance with Section 11(1) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended, Wexford Borough Council and Wexford County Council commenced the review of the Wexford Town and Environs Development Plan 2009-2015 and preparation

of a new plan for the area. The first stage of this process consisted of the pre-draft consultation with the public, prescribed bodies, interested groups, stakeholders and infrastructural providers. This stage has now been completed and the report circulated contained the outcome of the pre-draft consultation stage with recommendations to the Members on the policies to be contained in the draft plan. Ms. D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner, confirmed that the report is submitted to the Members for their consideration and that the Members following consideration of the report may issue directions to the Manager regarding the preparation of the draft plan.

A summary of the issues raised in the submissions and observations during the public consultation period and the Manager's opinion on these issues were discussed by the meeting.

Following discussion on the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor seconded by Councillor P. Codd the meeting approved the Manager's Report on the pre-draft consultation and recommended that the Manager prepare the Draft Wexford Town and Environs Development Plan 2015-2021.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The report of the Corporate Policy Group was noted by the meeting. The County Manager Mr. A. Doyle and the A/Head of Finance Ms. L. Lacey responded to questions raised by the Members on the quarterly Financial Report to 30th June 2013 and in particular on the revenue and capital income and expenditure summaries circulated. The Manager also responded to Members questions arising from the Local Government transition proposals and its implications for current rating authorities in the county. The County Manager advised that the 2014 budget would be prepared and presented as in previous years and he advised that he was not in a position at this point in time to give any assurances as regards rate variations arising from questions raised on the equalisation on the county rate. Following discussion it was agreed to give these matters further consideration following the finalisation of the draft legislation when the impacts on the County Council and Municipal Districts will be more easily determined.

Presentation – Economic Development Section 2013-2014:

A report of the Director of Economic Development Mr. T. Larkin entitled "Supporting Enterprise, Local Development and Economic Growth" was presented to the meeting. The Deputy County Manager advised that the Economic Workplan 2013-2014 is the latest in a succession of plans prepared and approved by the County Council beginning with the "Wexford Enterprise Initiative Report" and most recently the "Positioning Wexford for the Upturn" plan. This current plan will replace previous plans when adopted. The meeting was advised that previous plans had placed a heavy emphasis on inter-agency progress but the current proposal is focused entirely on Wexford County Council's Actions which can be dealt with by the Council's own Economic Development Team with a high degree of certainty. The meeting noted that the plan has a short focus of 2 years as the Local Authority is now

entering a time of significant change in Local Government with the abolition of the Town Authorities, the merging of County Enterprise Boards into Local Government and the formation of new socio-economic committees to replace existing County Development Board structures at the interface of Local Government and Local Development. The Director also envisaged a review of economic planning in the 2nd half of 2014 following the integration of these new structures where the incoming Council can establish its agenda for economic development. The aim of the plan is to maximise the impact the County Council can have on growth in the County given the resources and measures available at the present time.

In the report presented to the meeting the Director of Services also referred to the enhanced role in economic development for the Council, highlighted the success of previous economic plans and emphasised that the current plan would primarily focus on actions to be delivered by the County Council through the Economic Development Unit. The report presented also referred to the significant shortage of land and buildings, suggested the strategic disposal of Council lands in order to realise capital for re-investment and welcomed the provision of broadband and natural gas in addition to the upgrading of the electricity supply system through GridLink in addition to Port developments at Rosslare and New Ross which would enhance the enterprise infrastructure within the county. Other specific actions to support Enterprise, Local Development and Economic Growth in County Wexford in the areas of Tourism Development, Economic Promotion and Business Networking were also presented to the meeting.

Following discussion of the Economic Workplan and the report prepared by the Director of Services, the Council acknowledged the importance of the Council and its efforts in promoting economic development in order to combat the high levels of unemployment in the current climate and recommended the adoption of the Economic Workplan 2013-2014 as presented to the meeting by the Director of Services Mr. T. Larkin.

Notices of Motion:

Proposed by Councillor M. Byrne seconded by Councillor M. Sheehan:

"That Wexford County Council establish a cross-party sub-committee, advised by relevant Council personnel, to prepare the Annual Budget of the Council for presentation to a full Council at the Annual Budget meeting."

Following discussion the motion was put to a vote where it was defeated by 13 votes to 7.

Proposed by Councillor M. Byrne seconded by Councillor D. MacPartlin:

"That Wexford County Council, recognising the changing nature of work and life and to encourage more people into politics, resolves to hold monthly meetings of the County Council during the evening rather than the working day."

Following discussion this motion was put to the meeting where it was defeated by 17 votes to 3.

Proposed by Councillor T. Dempsey seconded by Councillor P. Codd:

“The 9% VAT rate for restaurants is under extreme threat in the October Budget. We need your help by contacting your local councillors and asking them to Submit a Motion for the Sept Council Meeting. This Local Authority supports the campaign of the Restaurants Association of Ireland to keep the VAT rate for tourism and hospitality at 9% into 2014 and beyond”.

This motion was unanimously agreed by the Council.

Proposed by Councillor G. Lawlor seconded by Councillor M. Kinsella:

“That this Council endorses the principle of the right to water and sanitation as a fundamental core value within Irish society and this should be reflected as a central pillar in national water policy. As citizens of the EU we believe in the right of all inhabitants to enjoy this right and that we oppose any attempt to include water in legislation aimed at market liberalisation. This Council supports the call for the full national political commitment to ensuring that water and sanitation are publicly owned, democratically run and that all in the sector are fully accountable”.

This motion was unanimously agreed by the Council. The Council also requested that this motion be circulated to all Local Authorities.

Proposed by Councillor P. Reck seconded by Councillor T. Dempsey:

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

This motion was agreed by the Council.

Progress and other reports:

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 on the reports content.

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

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

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by Members were dealt with by Ms. D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner.

Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian.

Community Monthly Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were addressed by Mr. Niall McDonnell, County Secretary.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor J. Moore, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Wexford Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 4th July, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor J. Moore, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Special Wexford Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 24th July, 2013
- On the proposal of Councillor K. Codd Nolan, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh, the Council approved the minutes of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 29th July, 2013.
- 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 26th June, 2013.

- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor M. Sheehan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 15th July, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 20th June, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor G. Lawlor, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 24th July, 2013.

Sealing of Documents:

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

Correspondence and Communications:

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

- Letter from Mr. Michael Clohessy, Assistant Principal Officer, regarding revised allocation to the 2013 Rural Water Programme.
- Letter from Mr. Ivan Grimes, Principal Officer, Water Services Policy Section, regarding the Water Services (Amendment) Act 2012 and associated regulations.
- Letter from Mr. Leo Varadkar, T.D., Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, regarding Centralisation of Driver Licensing.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Deireadh Fómhair, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 14th October, 2013 at 2.30 p.m. the Council Chamber,
Carricklawn, Wexford.***

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. T. Howlin, Cathaoirleach.

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

Officials: Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager,
Messrs T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;
Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian;
Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner;
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Economic Development Officer;
Mr. M. O'Reilly, Personnel Officer.

Presentation by Eirgrid:

The Chairman welcomed Mr. Michael Moore (Eirgrid) and Mr. John Shalloe (RPS) to the meeting. They gave a joint presentation to the Council on the Grid Link Project – a significant electricity infrastructural project involving the construction of a new pylon network from Cork to Kildare. One of the potential corridors for this multi-million euro network is through the western and northern sections of County Wexford.

They advised the Council that once an extensive public consultation process is completed it is anticipated that planning permission for the project will be sought in 2016, with construction expected to last from 2017 to 2020.

Mr. Moore and Mr. Shalloe then responded to a variety of questions from the Elected Members following which the Chairman thanked them for their presentation and they left the meeting.

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the family of Mr. Denis Roche, father of Maria Farrell, General Purposes Department.

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated St. Joseph's GAA Club on their success in the County Junior Football Final.

Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Councillor R. Ireton, seconded by Councillor P. Codd the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 14th October, 2013.

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

- Proposed disposal of lands at St. Colemans Park, Coolcarney, Ballindaggin, County Wexford to Bridget Dempsey (Folio EX21350)

On the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton seconded by Cllr. O. Walsh the Council resolved to dispose of lands at St. Coleman's Park, Coolcarney, Ballindaggin, Co. Wexford to Bridget Dempsey (Folio EX21350) under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Section 48 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) – Report on submissions received on the Draft Development Contribution Scheme and Making of the Scheme:

The Senior Planner, Mr. D. Houston outlined details of the submissions received in respect of the Draft Development Contribution Scheme as follows:

- Department of Environment, Community & Local Government
- IWEA – Irish Wind Energy Association
- GVA – GVA Planning & Regeneration Ltd on behalf of Tesco Ireland Ltd

During the lengthy debate that followed on the proposal of Cllr. D. Kennedy seconded by Cllr. P. Kavanagh it was agreed to amend the Draft Scheme to include an exemption for agricultural developments of less than 500 square meters.

Following a further discussion on the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien the Council resolved to make the Development Contribution Scheme 2013 and that the provisions within the Scheme, as adopted, relating to contributions in respect of pylons be reconsidered in January 2014.

Presentation – Strategic Development Plans for Industrial and Business Plans in County Wexford:

Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services and Mr. P. O’Gorman, Economic Development Officer, gave a joint presentation on proposed development plans for identified business parks in County Wexford. The presentation outlined details of Business Parks in Wexford Town, New Ross, Enniscorthy, Gorey, Rosslare and Taghmon. The Director of Services advised that this initiative was in line with the Economic Workplan 2013-2014 adopted by the Council at its September 2013 meeting.

During the discussion that followed the Members welcomed this initiative in promoting further economic development and combating the high level of unemployment across the county.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The report of the Corporate Policy Group was noted by the meeting. The Head of Finance, Ms. A. O’Neill outlined the reasons for the proposed increase in the Council’s overdraft provision from its current level of €13.5m to €15m for 2014. Following a discussion on the matter on the proposal of Cllr. M. Kinsella seconded by Cllr. L. O’Brien the Council resolved to increase its capacity to borrow by way of temporary overdraft accommodation to €15m to 31st December 2014 in accordance with the provisions of Section 106 of the Local Government Act 2001.

Notices of Motions:

Proposed by Cllr. D. MacPartlin seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne:

“Having regard to the relatively small numbers of children with life limiting health conditions - the relatively high cost, financially, on the State and the pressures on parents caring for children in a hospitalisation situation - the enhanced quality of life which home caring would bring for children and parents, Wexford County Council urges the Minister for Health and the Minister for Children to develop an appropriate home care package in the interests of children with life limiting health problems and their parents who are under severe pressure dealing with that situation”.

Following a discussion the motion was unanimously agreed by the Council.

Proposed by Cllr. M. Kinsella seconded by Cllr. J. Moore:

"That Wexford Co. Council calls upon Minister of Environment and Local Government Phil Hogan to reconsider his recent announcement that he will not go ahead with either a packaging levy or a container deposit and return scheme, with particular emphasis on disposable plastic bottles."

The motion was agreed by the Council.

Proposed by Cllr. M. Kinsella seconded by Cllr. P. Kavanagh:

"To call on the Minister of Justice Alan Shatter to consider introducing the Scandanavian model of law, whereby a person convicted of rape on a minor is subject to an automatic sentence of seven years and after this time is elapsed, they are given the the choice of castration or life imprisonment"

Following a discussion the motion was agreed by the Council with a number of the members abstaining from the vote.

Proposed by Cllr. M. Murphy seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan:

"We call on the Department of the Environment Community & Local Government to review the 2011 Social Housing Regulations and its impact on vulnerable families".

This motion was unanimously agreed by the Council.

Suspension of Standing Orders:

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. M. Kinsella it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow consideration of the remaining items on the agenda.

Progress and other reports:

Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report

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

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Economic 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

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

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian.

Community Monthly Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were addressed by Mr. Adrian Doyle, County Manager.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor J. Moore, seconded by Councillor P. Codd, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Wexford Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 3rd October, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor K. Codd Nolan, seconded by Councillor K. Doyle, the Council approved the minutes of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 20th September, 2013.
- 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 held on 26th July, 2013.

- On the proposal of Councillor M. Murphy, seconded by Councillor M. Sheehan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 16th September, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor D. Kennedy, seconded by Councillor L. O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the annual meeting of New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 15th July 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor K. Codd Nolan, seconded by Councillor P. Codd, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Transportation Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 17th September, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Murphy, seconded by Councillor T. Dempsey, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee Meeting held on 1st October, 2013.

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.

Correspondence and Communications:

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

- Letter from Mr. Gerard M. Murphy, CEO, National Transport Authority, regarding consultation on proposals to directly award contracts for public bus services from December 2014

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Samhain, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 11th November, 2013 at 2.30 p.m. the Council Chamber,
Carricklawn, Wexford.***

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. T. Howlin, Cathaoirleach.

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

Officials: Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager,
Messrs T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;
Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian;
Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner;
Ms. N. Lennon, Executive Planner;
Mr. P. Collins, County Secretary.

Apologies: Cllr. J. Hegarty

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following families who were recently bereaved:-

- The family of Nellie Forde, mother of Gerry Forde, A/Senior Engineer, Wexford County Council, Environment Department.
- The family of Billy Buckley, father of Liam Buckley, IT Section and retired member of the Machinery Yard Staff.
- The family of Mogue Lawless, former employee Machinery Yard, Wexford County Council

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated the following:

- Councillor John Hegarty and his wife Karina on the birth of their baby girl.
- Raparees/Starlights on their recent success.
- Oulart the Ballagh and Martin Storey on their victory in the Leinster Club Quarter Final against Kilkenny Champions Clara.
- A.P. McCoy on his 4000th win bred by the Tector family of Rathnure.
- Ferns U21 and Ferns Minor Teams on their recent success.
- Sofrimar Fish Company on being the only Wexford Company shortlisted for the Ernst & Young Business Awards 2013.
- Wexford County Council on Pride of Place nomination.

- Wexford County Council on Chambers Awards nominations.
- Opera Festival on its success in 2013.
- Peggy Nolan, Camolin, on her nomination for “Career of the Year” Award.

Confirmation of Minutes:

Councillor M. Sheehan raised a query that a motion proposed by him was not recorded in the minutes of the October County Council Meeting Minutes.

Following discussion with the Meeting Administrator at a later stage in the meeting a vote was taken to determine if the minutes should be amended. This was proposed by Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. P. Reck and a vote was taken with 7 voting in favour and 13 against, the motion was defeated.

A further vote was taken to confirm the minutes of 14th October 2013 as circulated with 16 voting in favour and 4 against, the minutes as circulated for 14th October 2013 were adopted by the Council.

Takeover of Askamore Private Group Water Scheme:

A report dated 11th November 2013 on the proposed takeover of Askamore Private Group Water Scheme was circulated to meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd, the Council approved of the formal takeover of Askamore Private Group Water Scheme.

Date of Budget Meeting 2014:

It was agreed to hold the December County Council meeting at 10.00a.m. to be followed by the Budget Meeting at 11.00 a.m. on Monday 9th December.

Draft Annual Report 2012:

The Members noted the Draft Annual Report as circulated. On the proposal of Cllr. P. Reck, seconded by Cllr. R. Ireton the Members adopted the 2012 Annual Report.

County Wexford Biodiversity Action Plan:

The Members noted memo dated 6th November 2013 and on the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan the Council adopted The County Wexford Biodiversity Action Plan 2012-2017. The Members acknowledged and thanked the Planning Staff for their work and efforts in producing the plan.

Capital Assistance Scheme 2013 – Cuman Soisialta Tithiochta An Breacadh Nua Teo (Ard Aoibhinn) to construct special needs accommodation units:

The Members noted correspondence from Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services and on the proposal of Cllr. L.O'Brien seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan the Council approved the borrowing of the sum of €1,708,842 to facilitate this project in accordance with the conditions of the scheme in accordance with Section 6 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1992 and Section 106 of the Local Government Act 2001.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The report of the Corporate Policy Group was noted by the Members.

Progress and other Reports:

Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report

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

The Members expressed an interest in Irish Water making a presentation to the Council in the near future. Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services, recommended that Irish Water be invited to make a presentation to the Council after the legislation has been published.

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

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

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian.

Community Monthly Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were addressed by Council Officials in attendance.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor K. Doyle, the Council approved the minutes of the Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 18th October, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Kinsella, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Gorey Electoral Area Committee held on 20th September, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor L. O'Brien, seconded by Councillor D. Kennedy, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 21st October, 2013.

Sealing of Documents:

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

Notices of Motions:

The Chairman proposed to take all 5 motions regarding Eirgrid together. The County Manager circulated a report which recommended a composite motion be taken. Following discussion it was agreed that Wexford County Council make a composite submission to Eirgrid. On the proposal by Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan it was agreed also that the proposed motions be taken today and influence the submission to Eirgrid.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. K. Codd Nolan and seconded by Cllr. M. Sheehan:

“That Wexford County Council write to Mr. Pat Rabbite, T.D., Minister for Communications, to request that Eirgrid extend the closing submission date from 26th November 2013 to 31st January 2014”.

Following a discussion of the motion the following amended motion was agreed by the meeting:

"That Wexford County Council write to Mr. Enda Kenny, Taoiseach, Mr. Pat Rabbitte, T.D., Minister for Communications, and to Eirgrid, to request that Eirgrid extend the closing submission date from 26th November 2013 to 31st January 2014".

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Kinsella and seconded by Cllr. K. Codd Nolan:

"That Wexford Co Council objects to the proposed Eirgrid D2 Grid Link Route on the basis that North and West Wexford have already contributed enough to the nation's electricity infrastructure through the proliferation of wind farms in the same area. To add pylons would be abominable to the scenery of the area and the people have had enough"

Following a discussion of the motion the following amended motion was agreed by the meeting:

"That Wexford Co Council objects to the proposed Eirgrid D2 Grid Link Route on the basis that County Wexford has already contributed enough to the nation's electricity infrastructure through the proliferation of wind farms in the same area. To add pylons would be abominable to the scenery of the area and the people have had enough"

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Sheehan and seconded by Cllr. K. Doyle:

"That this Council is opposed to the Eirgrid proposal of installing over ground cables and pylons in County Wexford".

The County Manager advised the meeting that the above motion is contrary to the County Wexford Development Plan 2013-2019.

Suspension of Standing Orders:

On the proposal of Cllr. L. O'Brien seconded by Cllr. D. Kennedy it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders to allow consideration of the remaining items on the agenda.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Sheehan and seconded by Cllr. K. Doyle:

"That this Councils calls on Eirgrid to drop any route from its Gridlink plans that is located anywhere in the vicinity of schools".

Following discussion all Members present voted in favour of this motion.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. K. Doyle and seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne:

"That this Council calls on Eirgrid to remove any routes near or including any areas of sensitivity, protected landscape or areas of conservation in the Gridlink plans".

Following discussion all Members present voted in favour of this motion.

Following discussion it was agreed that Wexford County Council hold a Special Meeting of the Council on Friday 22nd November at 2.30 p.m. in the Council Chamber to consider the Council's submission to Eirgrid.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. T. Dempsey:

"That Wexford County Council, noting the decisions to downgrade Gorey District Garda Station and the continuing reduction in the number of Gardaí in Co. Wexford, expresses no confidence in the Minister for Justice, Alan Shatter, in his ability to adequately understand and support policing in Co. Wexford."

Following discussion the motion was put to the meeting where 4 voted in favour and 14 against, the motion was defeated.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. M. Kinsella:

"That Wexford County Council opposes proposals in the Local Government Bill currently before the Oireachtas of a process of commercial rates equalisation lasting up to ten years and supports the principle being included in legislation that similar commercial properties be rated in similar manners in each County Council area."

Following discussion the motion was put to the meeting where 4 voted in favour and 14 against, the motion was defeated.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Kinsella seconded by Cllr. P. Reck:

"That Wexford Co. Council calls on the Minister for Environment and Local Government to put in place a ban on the supply, use and possession of Sky Lanterns, as they are a dangerous fire hazard as well as litter".

All Members present voted in favour of this motion.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. J. Moore seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien:

“ Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for the Environment and the Minister for Transport Tourism and Sport to delay the implementation of legislation to create ECA's, Emission Control Areas, which will create very serious financial and operational difficulties for all ferry companies and exporters operating from Rosslare Europort directly to mainland Europe”.

Following a discussion of the motion the following amended motion was agreed by the meeting:

“ Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for the Environment and the Minister for Transport Tourism and Sport to delay by 3 to 5 years the implementation of legislation to create ECA's, Emission Control Areas, which will create very serious financial and operational difficulties for all ferry companies and exporters operating from Rosslare Europort directly to mainland Europe”.

Correspondence and Communications:

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

- Letter from Adrian Cummins, Chief Executive, Restaurants Association of Ireland.
- Letter from Mr. Eddie Kiernan, Private Secretary to Mr. Phil Hogan, T.D., Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government.
- Letter from Private Secretary to the Minister for Justice & Equality
- Letter from Dave O'Connor, Private Secretary to Dr. James Reilly, T.D., Minister for Health.

Any Other Business:

Unlocking the Barrow River:

The Members noted correspondence from Mr. Declan Rice, Chief Executive Officer, Kilkenny Leadership Partnership, regarding Unlocking the Barrow River. On the proposal of Cllr. D. Kennedy seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien and agreed by the Council the Members approved of the Unlocking of the Barrow River.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Nollaig, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Special Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Friday 22nd November, 2013 at 2.30 p.m. the Council Chamber,
Carricklawn, Wexford.***

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. T. Howlin, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors: M. Byrne; P. Codd; K. Doyle; A. Fenlon; P. Kavanagh; D. Kennedy;
R. Ireton; M. Kinsella; G. Lawlor; D. MacPartlin; M. Murphy;
L. O'Brien; M. Sheehan; M. Storey; O. Walsh.

Officials: Mr. A. Doyle, County Manager,
Messrs T. Larkin, E. Hore, Directors of Services;
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;
Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian;
Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner;
Ms. D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner;
Ms. F. Fenlon, Assistant Planner;
Ms. P. Doyle, Executive Planner;
Mr. P. Collins, County Secretary.

Apologies: Cllr. K. Codd Nolan
Cllr. J. Moore

Wexford County Council's Submission to Eirgrid:

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd, the Members thanked the Planning Team for their excellent report within the time limit given.

The Planning Staff then allowed Members and public who were present at the meeting time to view the maps on display. Cllr. M. Kinsella advised the meeting that he supported the submission but had to leave due to a prior commitment.

Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner, introduced Wexford County Council's submission to Eirgrid which was then presented to the meeting by Ms. D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner. The Chairman proposed that the meeting discuss the report section by section.

The Members raised questions with the officials in attendance on the various sections and made various amendments to the submission as attached. The amended submission to Eirgrid was proposed by Cllr. D. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien, and agreed by the Members.

It was agreed that the amended submission would be available for members of the public on the Council's website

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Nollaig, 2013.

Cathaoirleach

***Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held on Monday 9th December, 2013 at 2.30 p.m. the Council Chamber,
Carricklawn, Wexford.***

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. T. Howlin, Cathaoirleach.

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

Officials: Messrs T. Larkin, E. Hore, E. Taaffe, Directors of Services;
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;
Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian;
Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner;
Mr. P. Collins, County Secretary.

Apologies: Cllr. M. Murphy

Votes of Sympathy:

The Council sympathised with the following families who were recently bereaved:-

- The family of Joseph Millar, Firefighter, Enniscorthy Fire Brigade.
- The family of Kathleen Kinsella, mother of Noel Kinsella, Planning Department.
- The family of Maureen Murphy, mother of Ray Murphy, Fire Services.
- The Members expressed their sympathy on the passing of Nelson Mandela and noted that a Book of Condolences will be available for signing in the Book Centre for the next week.

Congratulations:

The Members congratulated the following:

- Munster, Leinster, Ulster and Connaught on their rugby wins at the weekend.
- Farmers Co-Op on the sale of Wexford Creamery to Glanbia.
- John Banville on receiving his Life Achievement Award.

Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the County Council Meeting held on 11th November, 2013.

On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor K. Codd Nolan, the Council approved the minutes of the Special County Council Meeting held on 22nd November, 2013.

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

- **Proposed disposal of site (59 acres) at Kilgibbon, Edermine, Co. Wexford to Nicholas and Mary Doran, Edermine, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.**

The Members noted correspondence from Mr. Tony Larkin, Director of Services dated 18th November regarding sale of lands at Edermine. On the proposal of Cllr. P. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and agreed by the Members the Council resolved to dispose of lands at Edermine, Enniscorthy to Nicholas and Mary Doran, Edermine, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

- **Proposed disposal of land at Ballinclay, Leskinfere, Gorey, Co. Wexford to Mr. Mark Symes, Ballyhast, Leskinfere, Gorey, Co. Wexford.**

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and agreed by the Members the Council resolved to dispose of land at Ballinclay, Leskinfere, Gorey, Co. Wexford to Mr. Mark Symes, Ballyhast, Leskinfere, Gorey, Co. Wexford.

- **Proposed disposal of lands at Ballinavoughran, Bunclody, Co. Wexford (0.03 acres) to Walter Skelton, Ballinavoughran, Bunclody and Patrick Skelton, Ballinavoughran, Bunclody, Co. Wexford.**

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and agreed by the Members the Council resolved to dispose of lands at Ballinavoughran, Bunclody, Co. Wexford to Walter Skelton, Ballinavoughran, Bunclody and Patrick Skelton, Ballinavoughran, Bunclody, Co. Wexford.

- **Proposed disposal of 0.015 hectares of land at Killagoley, Enniscorthy, County Wexford, to James & Geraldine Mullett, Killagoley, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.**

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and agreed by the Members the Council resolved to dispose of land at Killagoley, Enniscorthy, County Wexford, to James & Geraldine Mullett, Killagoley, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

Takeover of Ballymoney Group Water Scheme:

A report dated 9th December 2013 on the proposed takeover of Ballymoney Group Water Scheme was circulated to the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd, the Council approved of the formal takeover of Ballymoney Group Water Scheme.

Takeover of Ramsfort Park, Clonattin & Coolbawn Group Sewerage Schemes:

A report dated 9th December 2013 on the proposed takeover of Ramsfort Park, Clonattin & Coolbawn Group Sewerage Schemes was circulated to the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. P. Codd, the Council approved of the formal takeover of Ramsfort Park, Clonattin & Coolbawn Group Sewerage Schemes.

Date of Budget Meeting 2014:

It was agreed to hold the January County Council meeting at 10.00 a.m. to be followed by the Budget Meeting at 11.00 a.m. on Monday 13th January 2014.

Wexford County Council (Gorey) (Courtown) Appointed Stands Bye-Laws 2013:

The Members noted the Wexford County Council (Gorey) (Courtown) Appointed Stands Bye-Laws 2013. On the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and agreed by the Members the bye-laws were adopted.

Cllr. M. Byrne raised the issue whereby it stated in the Memo from Amanda Byrne, Town Clerk, dated 25th November that "It was agreed to defer the removal of the appointed stand at the top of Main Street in the short term, in order to find a suitable location for a second stand and loading bay at the centre of Main Street" – Cllr. Byrne stated that this was not agreed at the Gorey District Meeting.

Wexford County Council (Gorey) Bye-Laws for Regulating the Use and Enjoyment of Open Spaces 2013:

The Members noted the Wexford County Council (Gorey) Bye-Laws for Regulating the Use and Enjoyment of Open Spaces 2013. On the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and agreed by the Members the bye-laws were adopted.

Wexford County Council (Gorey) Bye-Laws with respect to the Regulation and Control of the Consumption and Possession of Intoxicating Substances in Public Places 2013:

The Members noted the Wexford County Council (Gorey) Bye-Laws with respect to the Regulation and Control of the Consumption and Possession of Intoxicating Substances in Public Places 2013. On the proposal of Cllr. R. Ireton, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne and agreed by the Members the bye-laws were adopted.

The Members then discussed the matter of drinking intoxicating substances in public places.

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:

- Fairgreen, Ballycullane, New Ross, Co. Wexford.
- Kings Bay Park, Kilhile, Arthurstown, Co. Wexford.
- Rathroe Meadows, Rathroe, Ramsgrange, Co. Wexford.
- Whitewater Estuary, Ballyhack, Co. Wexford.
- Ardbeg, Newbawn, Co. Wexford.
- Beechbrook Park, Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford.
- Seaview Court, Kilmuckridge, Co. Wexford.
- Grattan Court, Carnew Rd, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Newborough, Hollyfort Rd, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Oakgrove, Ballinatray, Courtown, Co. Wexford.
- Chestnut Grove, Hollyfort, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Crosstown, Ballycogley, Co. Wexford.
- Rosehaven, Rosslare Strand, Co. Wexford.
- Laurel Grove, Tagoat, Co. Wexford.
- Glor na Gaoithe, Cleariestown, Co. Wexford.
- Sliabh Amharc, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Tulach Gael, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Seaview, Poulshone, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Ballycanew Court, Ballycanew, Gorey, Co. Wexford.
- Lakeside, Our Lady's Island, Co. Wexford.
- Rectory Walk, Castlebridge, Co. Wexford.
- Barryville Court, Rosslare Harbour, Co. Wexford.
- Ashfield, Blackwater, Co. Wexford (Phases 1&2)
- Cluain Aiteann, Knocknagross, Ballyhogue, Bree, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Ard na Greine, Glentire, Bolaboy, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.
- Fairfield Close, Adamstown, Co. Wexford (Phase 1)

The Members considered the report of Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, and on the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne seconded by Councillor P. Codd, 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 & Development Acts 2000 – 2010.

The Director of Services advised the meeting that it was expected that Wexford County Council will have taken 62 estates in charge in 2013. The Members congratulated the Roads Staff for their work in this regard.

Report of Corporate Policy Group:

The report of the Corporate Policy Group was noted by the Members and the following matters were discussed:

- Bond for County Buildings.
- Fire Call Outs.
- Advertising for Water/Sanitary Services.
- Noted the success of the Procurement Information Evening held at County Buildings and congratulated all involved.

Progress and other Reports:

Water, Environment and Emergency Services Monthly Report

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

The Members expressed concerns at the lack of communications with Irish Water with regard to the changeover. On the proposal of Cllr. D. MacPartlin, seconded by Cllr. P. Reck, the Members asked that Irish Water attend a meeting of the Council early in the New Year.

Housing 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 the Members on the content of the report.

Cllr. P. Reck congratulated the PRTB Inspection Team on their output for 2013. The Director of Services stated that a full report regarding Disabled Grants will issue to the Members in the New Year.

Transportation & Building Control Monthly Report:

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

Planning Monthly Report:

The Planning Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by Members were dealt with by Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner.

Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report:

The Libraries, Arts and Archives Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and questions raised on the content of the report were dealt with by Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian.

Cllr. J. Hegarty congratulated the Library on winning a Chambers Ireland Excellence in Local Government Award recently.

The Members congratulated New Ross Town Council on the success of the JFK50 Kennedy event in "The Gathering Events" held in 2013.

The Members congratulated the 1798 Centre, Enniscorthy, for Rebellion on winning a Chamber Ireland Excellent in Local Government Award recently.

The Members congratulated Dr. Edward Culleton on the recent launch of his excellent book "On Our Own Ground".

Community Monthly Report:

The Community Monthly Report was circulated to the meeting and a number of questions raised by the Members were addressed by Council Officials in attendance.

Cllr. G. Lawlor noted that for the past 12 months Wexford Marine Watch reported no loss of life at Wexford Quayfront for the first time in 12 years and he wished to thank Wexford County Council for their support on their behalf.

The Members expressed their congratulations for the recent community works at the Old School in Glenbrien and Community Centre in Killanerin.

The Members congratulated the local groups nominated to take part in Pride of Place which was held in Derry recently.

Conferences:

The Members noted the list of conference as submitted to the meeting.

Minutes of Meetings:

- On the proposal of Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor R. Ireton, the Council approved the minutes of the Gorey Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 25th October 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor G. Lawlor, the Council approved the minutes of the Wexford Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 7th November 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor M. Sheehan, seconded by Councillor L. O'Brien, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the New Ross Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 18th November, 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Kavanagh, seconded by Councillor K. Doyle, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of Enniscorthy Electoral Area Committee Meeting held on 15th November 2013.
- On the proposal of Councillor P. Codd, seconded by Councillor M. Sheehan, the Council approved the minutes of the meeting of the Housing SPC Meeting held on 25th November 2013. Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services, notified the Members of an issue with differential rents where tenants moving from social welfare to back to work are subject to excessive rents and that this policy may need to be reviewed.
- 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 19th November 2013.

Sealing of Documents:

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

Correspondence and Communications:

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

- Letter from Sarah Doyle, Private Secretary to Mr. Jimmy Deenihan, T.D., Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, regarding National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) of County Wexford.
- Letter from Mr. Eddie Kiernan, Private Secretary to Mr. Phil Hogan, T.D., Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government regarding the introduction of a packaging levy and container deposit and return scheme.
- Letter of acknowledgement from Mr. David King, Assistant Private Secretary to Mr. Enda Kenny, Taoiseach.
- Letter of acknowledgement from Linda Heffernan, Minister Pat Rabbitte's Office.

- Correspondence from Mr. John Tierney, Managing Director, Irish Water, regarding Irish Water engagement with Local Elected Representatives.
- Correspondence from Mr. Fintan Slye, Chief Executive, Eirgrid.
- Letter from Mr. Eddie Kiernan, Private Secretary to Mr. Phil Hogan, T.D., Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government regarding the possible ban on sky lanterns.
- Letter from Chris Quattrociocchi, Private Secretary to the Minister for Justice & Equality, regarding sentencing.
- Letter from Dave O'Connor, Private Secretary to the Minister for Health, Dr. James Reilly, T.D., regarding the proposal of a home care package for children with life limiting health problems.

The Members agreed that copies of correspondence be circulated to the Members in future.

Any Other Business:

Following a query raised by Cllr. M. Byrne, Ms. F. Hanrahan, County Librarian, informed the meeting of events Wexford County Council would hold to commemorate the World War.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an la de Eanáir, 2013.

Cathaoirleach