

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
held on Monday 9th April, 2018 – 2.30 p.m.
in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Wexford.**

Attendance:

In the Chair: Cllr. J. Hegarty, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors:

P. Breen;	M. Byrne;	G. Carthy;	K. Codd-Nolan;
A. Connick;	T. Dempsey;	A. Donohoe;	K. Doyle;
M. Farrell;	T. Forde;	W. Fitzharris;	J. Fleming;
D. Hynes;	R. Ireton;	P. Kavanagh;	G. Lawlor;
J. Moore;	B.A. Murphy;	O. O'Connell;	M. Murphy;
J. Mythen;	L. O'Brien;	J. O'Rourke;	F. Ó Súilleabháin;
M. Roche;	M. Sheehan;	F. Staples;	J. Sullivan;
O. Walsh;	T. Walsh;	M. Whelan.	

Officials: Mr. T. Enright, Chief Executive;
Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services;
Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services;
Mr. J. Carley, Director of Services;
Mr. E. Taaffe, Director of Services;
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance;
Mr. P. O'Gorman, Senior Executive Officer;
Mr. T. Nolan, Administrative Officer;
Mr. P. Collins, County Secretary.

Apologies: Councillors: W. Kavanagh; L. McDonald.

At the outset the Cathaoirleach welcomed a number of visitors to the Council Chamber.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 County Council Meeting – 12th March, 2018.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. B.A. Murphy and agreed by all the Council approved the minutes of the meeting as outlined above.

Expressions of Sympathy:

The Members expressed their sympathy to the families of the following recently deceased:

- Michael Wadding, father of Bernard Wadding, Housing Dept
- The Kelly family, Belvedere Grove,
- Willie Doyle, Ballycogley
- The O'Brien family, Killegney, Clonroche

- Dunphy Family, Irishtown, New Ross
- The O'Connor family, St. Aidan's Villas, Enniscorthy
- A vote of sympathy was also passed in respect of Cllr. Fergie Kehoe whose anniversary occurs around this time.

Vóta Comhghairdeas

Déan na Comhairleoirí comhghairdeas ar na ghrúpaí/dhaoine liostaithe thíos:

- The 5 drama groups who qualified for the All Ireland Finals both in the confined and open competitions – it was agreed to write to each of the groups to wish them good luck in the competition.
- Foster Moran for Rugby 7's
- To North End United who have secured a place in the FAI Junior Cup Final.
- Wexford Jockey Daryl Jacob who took part in the Aintree Grand National
- Ballycullane Ploughing Association 60th Anniversary
- Organisers of the event that took place in Rosslare Harbour to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the St. Phelan's air disaster which was attended by 150 family members
- Wexford Wanderers who won the Leinster League Division 2B
- Breege Cosgrave and the LEO Staff for staging the Youth Enterprise Awards in the Opera House
- Organisers of the Hope and Dream Foundation 10K in Enniscorthy
- Fr. Murphy's GAA Club, London which celebrates its 60th Anniversary this year and it was noted that a set of huris would be presented from WCC to the club.
- The Kilmuckridge drama group for reaching the All Ireland Finals.
- The organisers of the Garda Youth Awards held recently in County Hall.
- The organisers of the 3 day cycling race in Gorey held at Easter which attracted 250 cyclists.

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

2.1 Proposed transfer of property known as the National 1798 Centre at Mill Park Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

The Council considered the Notice circulated under Section 183 of the Local Government Act.

The proposed transfer of property known as the National 1798 Centre at Mill Park Road, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford was proposed by Councillor M. Byrne, seconded by Councillor P. Kavanagh. An amended proposal was made by Cllr. J. Mythen and seconded by Cllr. O'Connell to the effect that the sale would be postponed until a permanent site for the 1798 Centre was located and pending a plan for a long term home for the contents of the 1798 Centre.

Following a wide ranging discussion the amended proposal was then put to the Council with 8 voting in favour and the remainder voting against. This proposal was declared defeated.

The original proposal to transfer the land, which had been proposed and seconded earlier in the meeting, was then put to the Council which was approved by all with the exception of 8 Councillors voting against, and one abstention – Cllr. K. Doyle.

3. Roadworks Programme 2018

Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services, presented the Roadworks Programme 2018 which had already been circulated to the Members and had been approved in the four districts.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne the Programme was agreed.

4. Development Planning Contribution Scheme 2018

The Development Planning Contribution Scheme 2018 was proposed by Cllr. M. Byrne seconded by Cllr. W. Fitzharris.

Discussion took place with regard to the detail in the scheme including the proposed charges for solar wind farms. Cllr. O. O'Connell left the meeting while this matter was being discussed.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Whelan seconded by Cllr. K. Doyle it was proposed to increase the charge per mw for wind and solar energy from €2,000 to €4,000 per mw. It was also proposed that the extra money raised would be allocated to developments for the communities. Following a vote, this amendment was defeated.

The original proposal was then put to the Council and the Development Planning Contribution Scheme 2018 was adopted.

5. Report of Corporate Policy Group

The Report of Corporate Policy Group of 3rd April 2018 was noted by the meeting.

With regard to the Ambassador Programme the Cathaoirleach advised that a review of nominations is currently taking place and the final list will be brought before the meeting in May 2018.

6. Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive's Report was considered by the Members. The Chief Executive and Members of the Management Team responded to Members queries arising from the report in relation to the following:

- Cleaning of chimneys to prevent chimney fires.
- Signing of the SICAP and measure to assess whether or not the programme is successfully tackling the social inclusion and deprivation issues in County Wexford

At 3.50 p.m. Cllr. D. Hynes left the meeting

- Update on the status of Third Level Campus in County Wexford - Cllr. M. Byrne left the meeting during discussions on this matter
- Women's Refuge
- Welcoming funding for Piers and Harbours in Co. Wexford
- Planning guidance with regard to local need
- Taking in charge process
- Greenway Regional Strategy
- Welcome for Farming and community scheme
- The process and timescales for Village Renewal Design Statements
- Traffic jam at Whitford roundabout
- Condition of roads following the recent bad weather and the need for extra funding to restore the roads to a reasonable standard
- National clean up month
- The current status of the two major by passes
- Carbon monoxide Alarms
- Review of County Development Plan
- Min Ryan Park
- The visit of Minister for Transport to Rosslare Harbour
- The Chinese Ambassador's visit to County Wexford
- The Redmond 100th anniversary on next Sunday to be attended by President Michael D. Higgins

7. List of Councillors' Conferences and Training

Leas-Cathaoirleach Barbara Anne Murphy gave a report on her recent visit to New York on behalf of Wexford County Council.

The Cathaoirleach advised that links with Savannah and the opening of a trade bridge office in Savannah and a similar office in the Enterprise Centre in Wexford were being worked on at present. It was agreed that a delegation including the Cathaoirleach and Mayor of Wexford and two staff members would travel to Savannah to forward the project.

It was further agreed that the Leas-Cathaoirleach B.A. Murphy would attend the International Architecture Exhibition in Venice.

The list of Councillors' Conferences and Training were agreed on the proposal of Cllr. M. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. L. O'Brien.

8. Minutes of Meetings:

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. M. Byrne, and agreed by all the Members present the following minutes were noted and approved.

8.1 Gorey Municipal District Meeting 20.02.18

8.2 New Ross Municipal District Meeting 14.02.18

8.3 Borough District of Wexford Meeting 19.02.18

8.4 Enniscorthy Municipal District Meeting 19.02.18

9. Sealing of Documents

The Sealing of Documents as submitted to the meeting was noted on the proposal of Cllr. K. Codd Nolan.

10. Correspondence and Communications

- Response from Transportation and Water SPC regarding motion.
- Acknowledgment from the office of Mr. Eoghan Murphy, TD, regarding Rosslare Europort
- Acknowledgement from the office of Mr. Shane Ross, TD, regarding a meeting regarding funding for roads.
- Acknowledgment from the office of the Minister for Justice and Equality.
- Response from Data Commissioner

The correspondence outlined above was noted by the Members.

11. Notices of Motion:

“This Council requests ESB Networks, the national electricity utility, provide details and a presentation to WCC and to confirm their development and upgrade plans for the network in our area which will support and assist the economic and infrastructure our County as detailed in our recent countywide ambitious development strategy.”

The above motion was proposed by Cllr. Jim Moore seconded by Cllr. Paddy Kavanagh and agreed by all

“That this Council calls on the Government to replace the failed ‘Rebuilding Ireland Programme’, due the continued escalation of homelessness that now stands at 6,052 adults and 3,755 children* who are homeless, and replace it with rent control, increased rent allowance, a large scale social building project and immediate use of vacant properties as emergency provision (*Dept of Housing Figures 2018).”

The above motion was proposed by Cllr. Tony Walsh seconded by Cllr. Johnny Mythen and agreed by all.

12. Any Other Business

Cllr. J. Mythen advised that a nuclear power plant in Somerset is set to commence operation in 2023. The closing date for submissions in relation to this development is 17th April 2018.

Cllr. M. Sheehan raised the issue of new funding available from the Department of Enterprise and T. Larkin, Director of Services, agreed to look into this matter.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

County Secretary

Daingithe ar an lá de Bealtaine, 2018.

Cathaoirleach