

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF WEXFORD BOROUGH DISTRICT HELD AT 2.30P.M. ON MONDAY 18TH JULY 2022 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL, CARRICKLAWN, WEXFORD.

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

In Attendance:

Mr. Brian Galvin, A/Director of Services
Mr. Ken Jones, Executive Engineer
Mr. Hugh Maguire, Administrative Officer, Environment
Ms. Helen Meehan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing
Ms. Siobhán Kehoe, Staff Officer
Ms. Caroline Crowe, Assistant Staff Officer

Apologies were noted from Cllr. T. Forde, Ms. A. Laffan & Ms. E. Furlong, for their inability to attend the meeting.

At the outset of the meeting, Her Worship the Mayor, Cllr. M. Bell requested those attending online to switch on their cameras for the duration of the meeting.

MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on Wednesday, 22nd June 2022, copies of which had been previously circulated, were confirmed and signed on the proposal of Cllr. D. Hynes, seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty.

MINUTES MATTERS ARISING

Following a query from Cllr. J. Hegarty on the status of the bollard system for the junction of Lower George's Street/Selskar, Mr. B. Galvin, A/Director of Services, confirmed that the bollard system has been delivered and will be trialled at Whitemill Depot to assess its suitability for this location.

Cllr. Hegarty also queried if a response had been received from the Senior Planner on concerns raised, at the previous meeting, about the current rate of planning refusals. Mr. Galvin, A/Director of Services agreed to follow up on this matter and revert to Members.

In response to a request from Cllr. L. Kelly for an update on the installation of the proposed Outdoor Performance Pavilion on the quayfront, Mr. Galvin, A/Director of Services, advised that a tender is awaited from the concrete subcontractor in order

to complete the tender process. Mr. Galvin indicated that additional funding might be required to complete the project. Cllr. Kelly requested that if additional funding is required that Members are informed in advance of the next Borough meeting.

Mr. Galvin, A/Director of Services, informed Members that a photo montage of the proposed design and location of the public convenience on the quay front will be circulated to Members shortly.

In response to Cllr. D. Hynes request for an update on the legal advice sought in relation to the outdoor dining facility at the Thomas Moore Tavern, Cornmarket, Mr. B. Galvin, A/Director of Services advised a report on the matter would be presented to Members at the September meeting

Members congratulated the Special Projects Team and the Contractors for their handling of the recent temporary Traffic Management system to facilitate the paving works on Monck Street / Commercial Quay.

MINUTES OF ANNUAL MEETING

The minutes of Annual Meeting held on Monday 27th June 2022, copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed, and signed on the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Cllr. D. Hynes.

REPORTS

HOUSING

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

The following matters raised by Members were addressed by Ms. Helen Meehan.

- The requirement for an increase in Housing Adaptation Grants.
- Clarification on penalties imposed on tenants who wish to be placed on housing list, following an eviction due to antisocial behaviour and damage to property.
- Mechanisms available to deal with private properties in a state of disrepair i.e., overgrown garden, vermin infestation.
- Completion date for the handover of The Ballagh Housing Scheme.
- Update on housing units at Bride Street.
- Engagement with property owners who might be eligible for funding under the Croí Cónaithe Initiative.
- Clarification on whether the details of a complainant can be made available.

Members broadly welcomed the long-awaited demolition of the two derelict houses on Bride Street.

PLANNING

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

Mr. B. Galvin, A/Director of Services, undertook to follow up with the Planning Section and revert to Members.

- Update report on legal advice regarding structure outside the Thomas Moore Tavern, Cornmarket.
- Improvements to Preplanning meetings

DISTRICT ENGINEER

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

In the absence of the District Engineer, the following matters raised by Members were addressed by Mr. Brian Galvin, A/Director of Services.

- Progress report on the removal of silt from the Crescent.
- Removal of overgrown vegetation from the Horse River which is encroaching on properties
- Clean up of The Knock Area, St. Aidan's Crescent.
- Update on upgrade of the ESB supply on the quayfront.
- Condition of road surface at the Cul-de-Sac at top of Whiterock Hill.
- Clean up of the Belvedere Road car park
- Traffic Management Plan for Whitemill Industrial Estate and Clonard Village.
- Installation of 'dangerous bend' sign at Carcur.
- List of proposed additional public lighting in the District to be circulated to Members.
- Power Supply to the quay for events.
- Advance Warning signs for "No Right Turn at Ferrycarrig" needed at Carcur, Park and at the Seamus Kelly roundabout.
- Flooding at layby area at Ferrycarrig at end of Codd's Lane.
- Incident involving a syringe found in a parking meter in Talbot Green.
- Replacement of old parking meters.
- Update on the closure of the laneway at Talbot Green.

Cllr. J. Hegarty thanked Mr. Galvin for his commitment to deal with Japanese Knotweed at Trinity Street.

WATER SERVICES

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

The following matters raised by Members were addressed by Mr. Ken Jones, Executive Engineer.

- Ongoing water supply issues at Airfield Road, Castlebridge
- Possible introduction of night-time water restrictions in Wexford Town
- Contact details for Irish Water Personnel.

Mr. Brian Galvin, A/Director of Services acknowledged Member's frustration in relation to the ongoing supply issues in Castlebridge but reiterated that any upgrades to public water supplies is a matter for Irish Water.

COMMUNITY

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

ENVIRONMENT

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

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

- Requirement for a footpath from the overflow car park to the beach at Curracloe.
- Cones on the Link Road from Ballinesker to Curracloe to prevent parking on both sides of the road.
- Installation of playground in Curracloe
- Effective date for the implementation of Beach Bye Laws.

Her Worship the Mayor, Cllr. M. Bell, congratulated Mr. Maguire and all involved in the completion of the accessibility works at the public convenience in Ballinesker stating it was a welcome asset for the community.

LIBRARIES

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

FIRE SERVICES

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

PUBLIC REPRESENTATIVE CASES

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

CONGRATULATIONS

Votes of congratulations were extended to the following:

- The organisers of the popular Bannow Rathangan Show held on the 14th July.
- The Committee of Relay of Life, who successfully raised €160,000, to date, for the Irish Cancer Society.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

On the proposal of Her Worship the Mayor, a unanimous vote of sympathy was extended to the family of Mr. Nicky Wallace, renowned tailor, St. John's Road, Wexford R.I.P.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEEETING

SIGNED THIS DAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2022

MAYOR OF WEXFORD