

**WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council  
Held Monday 11 January, 2021**

**Attendance:**

**In the Chair:** Cllr. Ger Carthy, Cathaoirleach.

**Councillors:**

<b>BARDEN</b>	PAT	<b>FARRELL</b>	MARY	<b>MOORE</b>	JIM
<b>BELL</b>	MAURA	<b>FLEMING</b>	JOHN	<b>MURPHY</b>	BARBARA- ANNE
<b>BOLGER</b>	ANDREW	<b>FORDE</b>	TOM	<b>MURPHY</b>	BRIDIN
<b>BREEN</b>	PIP	<b>HEGARTY</b>	JOHN		
<b>BROWNE</b>	AIDAN	<b>HYNES</b>	DAVID	<b>O'SUILLEABHAIN</b>	FIONNTAIN
<b>BYRNE</b>	CATHAL	<b>KAVANAGH</b>	WILLIE	<b>OWENS</b>	JACKSER
<b>CODD</b>	JIM	<b>KELLY</b>	LEONARD	<b>SHEEHAN</b>	MICHAEL
<b>CODD-NOLAN</b>	KATHLEEN	<b>KENNY</b>	DONAL	<b>STAPLES</b>	FRANK
<b>CONNICK</b>	ANTHONY	<b>LAFFAN</b>	GARY	<b>SULLIVAN</b>	JOE
<b>DEVEREUX</b>	DIARMUID	<b>LAWLOR</b>	GEORGE	<b>WALSH</b>	OLIVER
<b>DONOHUE</b>	ANTHONY	<b>MCDONALD</b>	LISA	<b>WHELAN</b>	MICHAEL

**Officials:**

Mr. T. Enright, Chief Executive  
 Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services  
 Mr. E. Hore, Director of Services  
 Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance  
 Ms. A. Byrne, A/Director of Services  
 Ms. C. Godkin, A/Director of Services  
 Mr. D. Minogue, County Secretary

**Apologies:** Cllr. J. O'Rourke

### **Votes of Sympathy:**

The Council expressed sympathy to the families of the following recently deceased:

- Mrs. Nell Aspell, Terrarath
- The Katus, Byrne and Murphy Families, New Ross
- Mr. Seamus Swan, Fishers Row, Wexford
- Mrs. Mary Doyle, Ballyhogue
- Mr. Jimmy O'Neill, Ballyhogue
- The Very Reverend Noel Canon Hartley, Kilmuckridge and New Ross
- Mr. Barry O'Rourke, Enniscorthy
- Mr. Michael Jordan, Boolavogue
- Mr. Michael Devereux, Lr. Bride St, Wexford
- Mrs. Maire O'Shea, New Ross
- Mr. Stephen Flood, Maudlintown, Wexford
- Sr. Anne Harpur, Blackwater and Duncormick
- Ms. Anne (Nan) Fanning, Coolgreaney, Gorey
- Mr. Liam Fanning, Ballytegan Road, Gorey

### **Votes of Congratulations**

The Council congratulated the following:

- Mr. James Kehoe, from the Boley Tug-of-War Club, on being nominated as "one of the greatest athletes of all time"
- Wexford Members of the Oireachtas for their efforts in helping to secure improvements to services at Rosslare Europort
- Jockey Jonathan Moore, Adamstown, following his recent Grade 1 success
- Mr. Will Doyle, following his appointment at FAI High Performance Regional Officer
- Mr. Festy Ebosele, former Moyne Rangers soccer player, following his debut for Derby County
- All villages in County Wexford who were recently awarded funding in the 2020/21 Town Renewal Scheme
- The Wexford Families taking part in Ireland's Fittest Family competition
- Mrs. Maggie Sullivan, mother of Cllr. Joe Sullivan, on the occasion of her 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday
- The many support groups throughout County Wexford who are continuing to offer services despite the difficulties presented by the Covid-19 pandemic
- Ms. Madison Roche, Winner, Wexfactor Contest

**1. Confirmation of Minutes:**

*1.1. County Council Meeting – 14 December, 2020*

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Breen, seconded by Cllr. J. Moore and agreed unanimously the Council resolved to adopt the above Minutes.

Matters Arising:

Amendments: Cllr. Kathleen Codd-Nolan asked that Item 13.4 of the Minutes be amended to reflect that she had voted for the amended proposal.

Standing Orders It was agreed that existing arrangements as set out in Standing Orders for the holding of remote or partially remote meetings of the Council will continue to apply until 30 June 2021 and will be reviewed by the elected members after that date.

The decision to hold further meetings of the Council remotely will be guided by the level of Covid-19 restriction in place at the time of the meeting.

In the meantime, the Protocol Committee together with those Councillors who represent the Council on LAMA and AILG will develop draft Standing Orders to further regulate remote / partially remote meetings of the Council

Budget 2021 A/DoS Ms. Carolyn Godkin responded to Cllr. Sheehan regarding funding by Wexford County Council to Ozanam House

Covid-19 Chief Executive Tom Enright addressed the members and highlighted the efforts of the Council to support the fight against Covid-19. The Chief Executive also advised that the Council would be happy to assist the HSE in the identification of venues suited to the rollout of the Covid 19 vaccination programme

In response to a query from Cllr. Owens, Mr. Enright advised that a suitable premises was available as a Covid 19 test center in Enniscorthy, but as the HSE is satisfied that current test demand can be managed using the Wexford test center, the HSE has therefore not sought use of an Enniscorthy facility.

It was agreed that the expanded CPG Covid-19 Committee would meet to allow the Members to be updated regarding the on-going Covid -19 situation

Legal Fees

Cllr. J. Fleming sought information regarding cost of conveyancing as currently charged by the Council's legal advisors. The A/DoS Housing agreed to revert to the Councillor on this matter.

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

*2.1 Proposed disposal of land at St. Ibar's Villas, Ballyboggan Lower, Castlebridge, Co. Wexford*

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor seconded by Cllr. J. Hegarty the Council resolved that the proposed disposal should be carried out in accordance with the Notice as circulated.

**3. Proposed intention to lease land under Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001:**

*3.1 Proposed intention to lease land at Baile Eoghan, Gorey, Co. Wexford.*

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Sullivan seconded by Cllr. P. Breen the Council resolved that the proposed lease should be carried out in accordance with the Notice as circulated.

**4. Audit Committee Reports**

*4.1 Audit Committee commentary on the contents of the 2019 Accounts and audit findings in accordance with the Local Government Act 2001 as amended*

On the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. J. Fleming, the Members noted the report and commentary of the Committee.

*4.2 Overview of Audit Committee work programme completed during 2020 in accordance with section 15 of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014*

On the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. J. Fleming, the Members noted the details of the completed work programme as circulated

**4.3 Audit Committee's proposed work programme for 2021**

On the proposal of Cllr. B.A. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. J. Fleming, the Members noted and approved the proposed work programme as circulated.

**5. Return of Annual Declaration - Public Register of Interests (Ethics Register)**

The County Secretary advised the Members of the imposed on each member under section 171 of the Act to prepare and furnish an annual declaration to the Ethics Registrar (County Secretary). He advised the necessary paperwork would be emailed to each member in the coming days.

**6. Chief Executive's Report**

The Chief Executive presented the Report and together with the members of the Management Team responded to a range of queries from the Members, including the following:

- Rosslare Harbour Access Road
- Winter Maintenance (Gritting/ Salting) Programme
- Proposals for upgrade of Old Dublin Road, Enniscorthy
- Oilgate to Rosslare Road Improvement Scheme
- Improvements to New Ross Courthouse
- Enforcement of Parking Charges
- Litter Management / Spring Clean Initiative
- Templeshannon Enhancement Capital Scheme
- Gorey Town Park Capital Scheme
- Housing Adaption Works
- Skatepark at Min Ryan Park
- Provision of Covid Test Centre in Enniscorthy
- Provision of broadband in rural areas
- Town & Village Scheme 2021
- Courtown Leisure Centre
- Gorey Market House

**7. List of Councillors' Conferences and Training**

7.1 15/22/29 January Effective Social Media (Lunchtime) Series: 15, 22 & 29 January 2021 (LGIU) £168

The Members noted the above course and on the proposal of Cllr Lawlor, seconded by Cllr. Breen approved it for attendance.

**8. Protocol Meeting Date**

It was suggested that a meeting of the Protocol Committee would take place on the same day as the next meeting of the Council i.e. Monday 8 February 2021 – County Secretary to arrange with the Cathaoirleach and confirm.

**9. Minutes of Meetings (For Noting)**

- 9.1 *New Ross Municipal District Meeting 11.11.2020*
- 9.2 *Borough District of Wexford Meeting 16.11.2020*
- 9.3 *Gorey Kilmuckridge Municipal District Meeting 17.11.2020*
- 9.4 *Rosslare Municipal District Meeting 16.11.2020*
- 9.5 *Transportation and Water Services SPC 22nd June, 2020*

The Members noted the Minutes of the above meetings

**10. Correspondence and Communications**

- 10.1 *Letter from Simon Coveney TD, Minister for Defence and Minister for Foreign Affairs dated 10th December, 2020.*
- 10.2 *Email from Department of Social Protection dated 22nd December, 2020*

The Members noted receipt of the above correspondence

**11. Notices of Motion**

**11.1 Cllr. Davy Hynes**

*“That this council calls on the Minister for Health to enact it’s own legislation The Public Health (Alcohol) Act 2018 contains plans for MUP to be introduced in Ireland, but the section of the Act that sets out the law on MUP has not been commenced. The increase of alcohol sale by at least 30% has played a part in the increase in infections. This move should also be followed up by a public awareness campaign to educate the public on the misuse of alcohol and the subsequent lack of awareness of measures such as social distancing etc.*

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. Hynes, seconded by Cllr. Forde and agreed.

**12. Any Other Business**

The Council agreed to write to the Department of an Taoiseach to express its disappointment at the manner in which the Final Report of the Commission of Investigation into Mother and Baby Homes was leaked to media. Cllr. Bridín Murphy asked that she be noted as abstaining from this resolution.

It was agreed that an update on the Council's efforts to support a Technological University for the South East will be presented to the February 2021 monthly meeting of the Council

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.**

**Daingithe ar an      lá de Feabhra, 2021.**

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***Cathaoirleach***

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***County Secretary***