

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL**Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held Monday 14 June, 2021 (via MS TEAMS)****Attendance:****In the Chair:** Cllr. G. Carthy, Cathaoirleach.**Councillors:**

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

Officials:

Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Services and Deputy Chief Executive

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

Mr. D. Houston, Senior Planner

Public: Several members of the public attended remotely**Oireachtas:** Ms. V. Murphy, T.D.**Apologies:** Mr. T. Enright, Chief Executive

Votes of Sympathy:

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

- Mr. Paul Martin, Cromogue, Bunclody
- Ms. Maureen Willoughby, Tara Vie Hotel, Courtown
- Mr. Tom Moorehouse, Enniscorthy – former Member of Enniscorthy Town Council
- Mr. Bob Cowman, former employee Wexford County Council
- Mr. Ben Mulhall, father of Ger Mulhall, Customer Services Unit
- Ms. Elizabeth (Lily) White, mother of Eileen Whitty, Housing Department.

Votes of Congratulations:

The Council expressed their congratulations to:

- Ms. Teresa Grant, former employee Wexford County Council, on being awarded an OBE
- Rev. Fr. Gerard Nash, on being named as Bishop-elect for the diocese of Ferns
- Rugby player Paul Boyle, Gorey
- Murrintown Village – winner of Today FM Soundtown competition for May 2021
- Taghmon/Camross GAA following their fundraising efforts to provide a defibrillator in the community
- To Government following extension of the Covid Business Support Scheme to small businesses
- The Wexford Senior Football Team
- Wexford County Council staff for their efforts over recent months to manage the litter-related challenges of outdoor dining and increased staycations
- The Glynn-Barntown Rounders Team

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 County Council Meeting – 10th May, 2021

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Moore, seconded by Cllr. B.A. Murphy and agreed by all the Council resolved to adopt the above Minutes.

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. F. Staples and agreed by all the Council resolved to adopt the above Minutes.

2.2 Proposed disposal of a plot of land at property at Butlersland, New Ross, Co. Wexford.

On the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Cllr. F. Staples and agreed by all the Council resolved to adopt the above Minutes.

3. Proposed Material Contravention of Courtown & Riverchapel Local Area Plan 2015 – 2021 (extended) - (Section 34 (6) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (As Amended))

Reference Number in Register 20201528 - Permission for an extension consisting of 30 No. units to Mobile Home Park with connections to existing services on site and to carry out all associated ancillary site works

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Breen, seconded by Cllr. O. Walsh and agreed unanimously the Council resolved to require that a decision to grant permission be made.

4. Chief Executive's Report

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

- Gorey Town Park
- Toilet Facilities at Carrigfoyle and Country Walk Enniscorthy
- Members Portal
- Bus Services to Curracloe Beach
- New Ross Advance Factory
- New Ross Ambulance Centre
- Housing Energy retrofit scheme
- Housing Adaption Grants
- High Hill New Ross Capital Project
- Acquisition of houses in rural villages
- Remediation of Oil Tanks Site New Ross
- Carparking at Duncannon Beach
- Circulation of LCDC Minutes
- Town & Village Scheme 2021
- Sewerage Treatment Schemes for Fethard and Ramsgrange
- Additional public convenience in Wexford Town
- Closure of Wexford Tourist Office
- Appointment of Walking / Cycling Officer
- Affordable Housing Survey
- Oilgate to Rosslare – preferred route
- Vacant local authority houses
- Funding for housing repairs
- “set down” area for fishermen at Kilmore Quay

- Position of Housing Officer, Enniscorthy
- Road traffic safety considerations at St. Senan's School, Enniscorthy
- Tenant Purchase Scheme – income considerations
- Anti-social behaviour at Gorey Town Park
- Unauthorised parking of camper vehicles at Kilmore Quay
- The provision by other local authorities of HAP support to tenants seeking to locate in County Wexford
- Application of S.254 licence requirements to outdoor dining proposals

5. Minutes of CPG

5.1 Minutes of CPG of 8th June, 2021

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. P. Breen and agreed by all, the Council resolved to adopt the above Minutes

6. Minutes of Meetings (For Noting):

The Council noted the following Minutes:

- 6.1 New Ross Municipal District Meeting – 14.04.2021
- 6.2 Rosslare Municipal District Meeting – 19.04.2021
- 6.3 Special Rosslare Municipal District Meeting – 13.05.2021
- 6.4 Borough District of Wexford Meeting – 19.04.2021
- 6.5 Enniscorthy Municipal District Meeting – 19.04.2021
- 6.6 Gorey Kilmuckridge Municipal District Meeting – 20.04.2021

Suspension of Standing Orders

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. P. Breen and agreed by all, the Council resolved to suspend Standing Orders to allow the meeting to continue until 6.00pm.

7. Correspondence & Communications

- 7.1 Letter from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council re: Motion dated 7th May, 2021.
- 7.2 Letter from Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage re: Housing Assistance Payment (Gorey- Kilmuckridge Local Electoral Area) dated 10th May, 2021.
- 7.3 Letter from Leitrim County Council re motion tenant purchase scheme dated 12th May, 2021.
- 7.4 Letter from Clare County Council re motion maximum household income thresholds dated 17th May, 2021.
- 7.5 Letter from Limerick City & County Council re Rural Development Policy dated 17th May, 2021.
- 7.6 Email from Patrick McCabe, Private Secretary to the Minister for Justice re motion GDPR dated 28th May, 2021.
- 7.7 Letter from Sligo County Council re motion bereavement allowance dated 1st June, 2021.
- 7.8 Letter from Sligo County Council re motion legislation on stalking dated 2nd June, 2021.

The members noted the above correspondence.

8. Deferred Notices of Motion from Council Meeting 10th May 2021

- 8.1 Cllr. F. Ó Súilleabháin

Procurement

That Wexford County Council notes the long overrun in the completion period for some of our major projects, as well as the high overspend for some of our projects in comparison to the original projected cost.

As a solution, this Council will:

- (a) endeavour to insert a Sunset-type clause to tie developers to an agreed completion date on projects and*
- (b) that we will insert a Social Inclusion Contract to ensure a higher percentage of local labour get employed and (c) that we will look at the model of Community Wealth Building as introduced in some local authority areas abroad. (CWB seeks to leverage existing local and regional resources to*

provide workers, families and communities with greater control over their own economic development and ensure money is kept in the local economy)

As an example, in Co.Wexford this could entail the breaking down of a contract into smaller parts i.e. on Gorey Town Park project, one local company could be employed to do the soft landscaping; another the hard surface works and another the building works, playground etc.

This alternative model is more beneficial to the local economy and local businesses than the current e-tendering model which would appear to favour a single larger company.

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. F. Ó Súilleabháin and seconded by Cllr. J. Codd.

Following discussion, it was agreed to defer this Motion to the July meeting of the Council for further consideration

8.2 Cllr. T. Forde

"We also call on the minister of agriculture to intervene in the current impasse that Wexford scallop fishers are facing due to the British Brexit ruling banning them from landing their catch at any British Port."

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. T. Forde, seconded by Cllr. J. Codd and agreed unanimously.

8.3 Cllr. J. Moore

'Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to facilitate a meeting with the Council and the National Coastal Management Strategy Steering Group to highlight the immediate concerns of Wexford County Council and secure the responses required to address the coastal erosion issues in Wexford.'

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. J. Moore, seconded by Cllr. M. Farrell and agreed unanimously.

8.4 Cllr. G. Carthy, Cathaoirleach

"That we the Members of Wexford County Council request that the Minister for the Environment, Climate and Communications and Transport, Mr. Eamonn Ryan TD prioritises the planning, design and construction of the N24 Waterford to Limerick Corridor road project within the Review of the National Development Plan.

This project is critical to the development of the South East region and to the achievement of national targets on addressing regional imbalance by connecting the cities of Waterford and Limerick, the South East, South West and Mid West Regions, Rosslare Europort, the

Port of Waterford and existing strategic transport corridors including the M7(Dublin – Limerick), M8 (Dublin- Cork) and M9 (Dublin-Carlow-Kilkenny-Waterford) motorways.

It is further requested that this Notion of Motion be sent to the Minister for Finance, Mr Paschal Donoghue TD and Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Mr. Michael McGrath TD. “

At the request of the Cathaoirleach, this Motion was deferred to the July meeting of the Council.

8.5 Cllr. F. O Súilleabhain

“Wexford County Council should examine the Community Wealth Building model with a view to incorporating it into their Local Economic Community Plans (LECP).

Community Wealth Building has emerged as a powerful approach to local economic development and has been particularly successful in Preston, England, North Ayrshire, Scotland and Cleveland, United States.

The model will allow counties to leverage existing resources, such as procurement, to meet local needs while creating quality employment and promoting equity and sustainability.

This Council will initiate dialogue with local public bodies and semi-state companies in the locality regarding their potential role in the strategy.

That we will bring local businesses, enterprises and community activists into the discussion around developing the project.

That we also engage with councils in Preston, North Ayrshire and elsewhere which have successfully developed this model.”

(A number of councils have already passed this motion.)

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. F. Ó Súilleabháin and seconded by Cllr. J. Codd.

Following discussion, it was agreed to defer this Motion to the July meeting of the Council for further consideration

8.6 Cllr. M. Bell

“I ask this Council to write to the Department of Health, Minister Stephen Donnelly, to help victims of domestic, sexual and gender -based violence access to free psychological support & counselling, noting that this is a free service for perpetrators while in prison.”

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Bell, seconded by Cllr. G. Lawlor and agreed unanimously.

8.7 Cllr. M. Sheehan

“Welcoming the agreement between the DPER and the DSPEA to resolve the longstanding issue of the CE Supervisors Pension entitlement, this Council calls for the speedy implementation of the agreement in full and to ask the Minister for Social Protection, Heather Humphreys to consider extending participant’s last year of their Community Employment Schemes by a further year in recognition of the lost time, training and contributions to the community due to Covid 19”.

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by C. Byrne and agreed unanimously.

8.8 Cllr. G. Carthy, Cathaoirleach

“That this Council calls on the Government in the light of Brexit and other market influences to recognise the strategic value of the South-East Ports in Rosslare and Belview, Waterford through Strategic investment in the Ports, in particular through the purchase of additional land for the expansion of Rosslare Europort and the advance construction of Rosslare Europort Harbour Access Road, Amalgamation of the ports structure and governance to create a Tier 1 port as a combined entity, Designation of the combined entity as the service port for off-shore renewables in The Irish and Celtic Seas. “

At the request of the Cathaoirleach, this Motion was deferred to the July meeting of the Council.

8.9 Cllr. T. Forde

"That Members receive an update at every monthly meeting of this council on the status of each motion that is passed by this council until the content of the motion has been followed through or reached its endpoint."

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Forde and seconded by L. Kelly.

The County Secretary pointed out that while most Motions are relatively straightforward to bring into effect, more complex Motions require detailed consideration by the Executive before being carried out, and of course the outcome of that consideration process should be advised to the Members in due course

The Motion was put to a roll-call vote and the outcome of that vote was as follows:

Monthly Meeting of WCC 14th June, 2021 - Motion 8.9 - Outcome of Roll Call Vote								
BARDEN	PAT	AB	FARRELL	MARY	F	MURPHY	BARBARA-ANNE	F
BELL	MAURA	F	FLEMING	JOHN	F	MURPHY	BRIDIN	AB
BOLGER	ANDREW	F	FORDE	TOM	F	O'ROURKE	JOHN	AB
BREEN	PIP	F	HEGARTY	JOHN	AB	O'SUILLEABHAIN	FIONNTAIN	F
BROWNE	AIDAN	F	HYNES	DAVID	AB	OWENS	JACKSER	AB
BYRNE	CATHAL	A	KAVANAGH	WILLIE	F	SHEEHAN	MICHAEL	F
CARTHY	GER	F	KELLY	LEONARD	F	STAPLES	FRANK	A
CODD	JIM	F	KENNY	DONAL	F	SULLIVAN	JOE	F
CODD-NOLAN	KATHLEEN	F	LAFFAN	GARY	F	WALSH	OLIVER	A
CONNICK	ANTHONY	F	LAWLOR	GEORGE	F	WHELAN	MICHAEL	F
DEVEREUX	DIARMUID	AB	MCDONALD	LISA	F			
DONOHUE	ANTHONY	A	MOORE	JIM	A			
F = For, A = Against, AB = Absent /Abstain								

The Motion was declared carried on a vote of 22 votes in favour and 5 against

The hour being past 6pm, the Cathaoirleach thanked all for their attendance and declared the meeting closed, with the remaining Agenda items deferred to the July meeting.

Daingithe ar an lá de Iúil, 2021.

Cllr. Ger Carthy
Cathaoirleach

Anita McLoughlin
A/County Secretary