

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL**Minutes of Meeting of Wexford County Council
Held in the Street, County Hall, Wexford Monday 13th December 2021 at 2.30pm****Attendance:****In the Chair:** Cllr. B. A. Murphy Cathaoirleach.**Councillors:**

BARDEN	PAT	DONOHUE	ANTHONY	MCDONALD	LISA
BELL	MAURA	FARRELL	MARY	MOORE	JIM
BOLGER	ANDREW	FLEMING	JOHN	MURPHY	BRIDIN
BREEN	PIP	FORDE	TOM	O'ROURKE	JOHN
BROWNE	AIDAN	HEGARTY	JOHN	O'SUILLEABHAIN	FIONNTAIN
BYRNE	CATHAL	HYNES	DAVID		
				SHEEHAN	MICHAEL
CODD	JIM	KELLY	LEONARD	STAPLES	FRANK
CODD-NOLAN	KATHLEEN	KENNY	DONAL	SULLIVAN	JOE
		LAFFAN	GARY	WALSH	OLIVER
DEVEREUX	DIARMUID	LAWLOR	GEORGE	WHELAN	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. C. Godkin, Director of Services
 Ms. Liz Hore, Director of Services
 Mr. D. Minogue, County Secretary

Apologies: Cllrs: G. Carthy, A. Connick, W. Kavanagh, J. Owens

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Council Meeting 08.11.2021 – 2.30pm

On the proposal of Cllr. J. O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr. Kathleen Codd Nolan, the Minutes of the Meeting of Wexford County Council of 8th November 2021 (2.30pm) were adopted by the Council.

1.2 County Council Meeting 08.11.2021 – 4.30pm

On the proposal of Cllr. J. O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr. Kathleen Codd Nolan, the Minutes of the Meeting of Wexford County Council of 8th November 2021 (4.30pm) were adopted by the Council.

1.3 Budget Meeting 29.11.2021

On the proposal of Cllr. J. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. P. Breen, the Minutes of the Budget Meeting of Wexford County Council of 29th November 2021 were adopted by the Council.

2. Part XI of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended):

2.1 LAC2107 – Proposed Development at Adoration Convent, Bride Street, Wexford Town.

Having considered the report of the Chief Executive in relation to the proposed development, and on the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Cllr. L. Kelly, the Council unanimously resolved that the proposed development proceed as recommended in the Chief Executive's report.

2.2 L AC2108 - Proposed demolition of an existing derelict dwelling and the proposed construction of a 2-storey duplex containing 2 no. 1 bed units and a bungalow style 3 bed special needs house with associated site works at 15 Bullawn, New Ross, Co. Wexford.

Having considered the report of the Chief Executive in relation to the proposed development, and on the proposal of Cllr. M. Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. P. Barden the Council unanimously resolved that the proposed development proceed as recommended in the Chief Executive's report.

3. Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001:

3.1 Proposed disposal of land at Patrick Mernagh Park, Daphne View, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

Having considered the statutory S. 183 Notice in respect of the proposed disposal as circulated and on the proposal of Cllr. J. O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr. A. Browne, the Council unanimously resolved that the disposal proceed in accordance with the terms of the Notice.

3.2 Proposed intention to lease land at Mannix Place, Wexford.

Having considered the statutory S. 183 Notice in respect of the proposed lease as circulated and on the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Cllr. L. Kelly, the Council unanimously resolved that the lease proceed in accordance with the terms of the Notice.

3.3 Proposed intention to lease two parcels of land in Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford.

Having considered the statutory S. 183 Notice in respect of the proposed lease as circulated and on the proposal of Cllr. A. Browne, seconded by Cllr. J. O'Rourke, the Council unanimously resolved that the lease proceed in accordance with the terms of the Notice.

4. Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive and members of the Management Team responded to the queries of the Members in relation to the following matters:

- Technological University for Southeast
- Provision of compost bin services
- Timeline for Broadband delivery throughout Wexford
- Housing for all – delivery programme
- Enniscorthy Sports Hub – Phase 2
- Enniscorthy Flood Relief Scheme – Ministerial approval
- Town First Initiative - Funding to support New Ross in mapping out its future development – opportunities to consult with the public
- Provision of Natural Gas in New Ross
- New Ross - Redevelopment of Courthouse and John Street Grainstore
- Winter Maintenance Programme
- Windfarm Policy
- Planning enforcement and delays by applicants in replying to further information requests
- Pyrite / Mica Redress Scheme
- Min Ryan Skatepark – delays in completion

- Housing Grant funding
- Assistance to victims of domestic abuse
- Allocation of vacant houses at Belvedere Road
- Members Portal – delay in response to queries raised
- Advertising – additional use of social media platforms
- Costs of Antigen Testing

5. Minutes of CPG

5.1 Meeting 6th December, 2021

The Members noted the Notes of the CPG of 6th December, 2021.

6. Minutes of Meetings (For Noting)

6.1 New Ross Municipal District Meeting – 13.10.2021

6.2 Rosslare Municipal District Meeting – 18.10.2021

6.3 Borough District of Wexford Meeting – 18.10.2021

6.4 Enniscorthy Municipal District Meeting – 18.10.2021

6.5 Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District Meeting – 19.10.2021

6.6 Transportation & Water Services SPC – 24.03.2021

6.7 Economic Development & Enterprise SPC – 23.09.2021

The Members noted the above Minutes

7. Correspondence and Communications

7.1 Letter from Sean Fleming TD re motion Insurance to Community Groups dated 3rd November, 2021.

7.2 Letter from Waterford City and County Council re motion (RICO) dated 25th November, 2021.

7.3 Letter from Waterford City and County Council re motion (visual communication boards) dated 25th November, 2021.

7.4 Letter from Galway County Council re motion (goods from occupied territories) dated 29th November, 2021.

7.5 Letter from Breda Cahill, President, Wexford Federation ICA dated 28th November, 2021

The Members noted the above items of correspondence

8. Councillors Conferences and Training

- 8.1 Report of Cllr. John Fleming - Housing for All - How will it help people find homes?, held in Carlingford, Co. Louth.**
- 8.2 Report of Cllr. Barbara Anne Murphy - IPI Conference "Delivering Plan Led Development", held in Clayton Whites Hotel on 17/18 November.**
- 8.3 Report of Cllr. John O'Rourke - Celtic Conferences - Mental Health & Wellbeing, Carlingford, Co. Louth.**

The Members noted the above conference reports

9. Notices of Motions

9.1 Cllr. Tom Forde

"I ask for Wexford County Council's 'Severe Weather Protocol' to be activated and become operational in the event of any weather alert or weather warning that could put the health and well-being of our rough sleepers and homeless at risk."

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. Forde and seconded by Cllr. O'Suilleabháin

The Members noted the following response of Executive:

This arrangement is already in place.

Following debate, the Motion was amended to read as follows:

"I ask for Wexford County Council's 'Severe Weather Protocol' to be activated and become operational in the event of any orange or red weather alert and otherwise be activated at the discretion of the Director of Housing Services.

The amended Motion was put to the meeting and agreed unanimously.

The meeting having sat for 1 Hour 55 Minutes, the Cathaoirleach closed the meeting and joined with the Chief Executive in wishing the Members and officials a Very Happy Christmas.

The following agenda items were deferred to the January meeting of the Council.

9.2 Cllr Davy Hynes

“This council calls on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, to scrap the RAS scheme or remove the discriminatory criteria and allow tenants to remain on the Housing Transfer list as is the case in the HAP scheme.

Response of Executive:

9.3 Cllr. Michael Sheehan

“That this Council reaffirms our commitment and support for the local Greyhound and Equine sports industry; we commend the Government for its continued financial support and calls on the Minister to guarantee the level of grants for the life of the government so that the organising bodies can continue to invest in the sport locally and the standards of aftercare for retired animals. Furthermore, we call on our Oireachtas members to state their position on this issue and commit to oppose any moves to reduce the support.”

Response of Executive:

If the Motion is passed, the County Secretary will arrange for a copy of the Motion to be forwarded to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Mr. Charlie McConalogue TD for consideration, and will also arrange for the Motion to be forwarded to the six Wexford members of the Oireachtas as outlined in the Motion.

9.4 Cllr. Andrew Bolger

“Wexford County Council undertake to increase its use of Irish Sign Language (ISL) in public communications. Irish Sign Language is the first and/or preferred language of 5,000 Deaf people in Ireland and approximately 40,000 people in general will communicate in ISL.

Response of Executive:

Wexford County Council currently offers services in ISL at it’s headquarters at Carricklawn, Wexford. ISL service will be available in all public libraries by the end of Qtr 1 2022 and in all Municipal District Offices by end of Qtr 4 2022.

If Motion is passed, Wexford County Council proposes that any new public-facing Council-made videos will also be made available in ISL. We will also consider the provision of ISL at all public events where Council members or Council officials are making an address.

9.5 Cllr. Tom Forde & Cllr. George Lawlor

“We ask that this council allow for the representation of all parties and none on the Corporate Policy Group.”

Response of Executive:

Section 133 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended) provides the following:

“The elected council of each local authority shall form a committee, to be known as the corporate policy group and in this section referred to as the ‘policy group’, consisting of:

- (a) the Cathaoirleach of the local authority who shall chair the policy group,
- (b) the chairpersons of the strategic policy committees of the local authority, and
- (c) where for any period of time, a policy group does not contain a member from a municipal district to whom paragraph (a) or (b) relates, a municipal district member for each municipal district concerned”

As only the members identified at (a) (b) and (c) above can be members of the CPG, it is not be possible to comply with this Notice of Motion.

9.6 Cllr. Andrew Bolger and Cllr. L. Kelly

“We propose that Wexford County Council considers piloting the Space-Finder App or similar technology in County Wexford to assist disabled drivers in the identification of vacant disabled parking spaces and to provide real-time navigation to the nearest available disabled space”.

Response of Executive:

Wexford County Council has been in contact with relevant staff of Limerick City and County Council (where such a system has been recently installed) with a view to the provision of a similar service to users of disabled parking facilities in County Wexford.

Any Other Business

The Cathaoirleach and members offered the sympathy of the Council to the families of the recently deceased:

- Ms. Catherine Roche, sister of Maria Farrell, Procurement Office
- Mrs. Philomena Doyle, mother of Catherine Culleton, Planning Department
- Mr. Joe Ellis, husband of Geraldine Ellis, Planning Department

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Daingithe ar an lá de Eanáir, 2022.

Cllr Barbara-Anne Murphy
Cathaoirleach

David Minogue,
County Secretary