

## **Planning & Building Control SPC**

### **Minutes of Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021**

**In the Chair:** Cllr John Hegarty

**Present:** Cllr. Bridin Murphy, Cllr. Garry Laffan, Cllr. Anthony Donohoe, Anthony Neville, Zeno Winkens, Jer O'Mahony, Tony Larkin, Tom Banville, Diarmuid Houston, Deirdre Kearns, Craig Innes, Peadar McDonald, Roberta Gordon

**Apologies:**

#### Minutes and Matters Arising

Minutes proposed by Cllr. Garry Laffan and seconded by Cllr. Bridin Murphy  
No matters arising

#### County Development Plan Update

Mr. Diarmuid Houston and Ms. Deirdre Kearns gave an update on the County Development Plan. The draft plan has been for public consultation where a number of responses were received. They are awaiting the response of the Chief Executive and hoped to present the Plan to the Council members shortly.

A lengthy discussion ensued where Cllr. John Hegarty expressed his concerns that the Council Members would not be pleased about the Plan in general. Ms. Deirdre Kearns advised that there were 170 submissions received and with the submission of the Planner Regulator, it constrained further what could be in the draft Plan and reduced the flexibility of the draft Plan.

The committee was advised that zoning in towns, densities levels in estates and the ability to build a house in your own village were some of the main issues concerns to be overcome in the draft Plan.

Mr. Tony Larkin informed the committee that there would be a special meeting held for Council members to present the Chief Executive's report and answer any questions. They would then bring the report to the District Committees and possibly break the members into smaller groups to discuss same before a second full meeting was held to propose any amendments.

#### Pre-Planning Process Review

Cllr. John Hegarty suggested that the SPC establish broad parameters for Pre-planning, what the members of the public need to bring to a meeting and what they should expect from the meeting. Cllr. Garry Laffan and Mr. Anthony Neville both agreed with Cllr. John Hegarty confirming a set of guidelines is needed and this will save time for the Planner's conducting the meeting also. Mr. Tony Larkin and Mr. Diarmuid Houston agreed to examine the pre-planning process.

### Taking In Charge Policy Update

Mr. Tom Banville gave a presentation on the Taking In Charge Policy. Cllr. John Hegarty confirmed the policy needs a review as it was written in 2008. It was agreed that the review would be in house but the SPC could bring their views. Mr. Tony Larkin agreed to take on the views of the Construction Industry Ireland (CIF) which will be represented by Mr. Anthony Neville. A draft review will be brought to the SPC and then the Council Members.

### Healthy County

Cllr. John Hegarty spoke about looking a planning through a healthy perspective. Awareness of the issue needs to be raised, a developer puts in a footpath to encourage people to walk and increase quality of life. Mr. Diarmuid Houston said he was trying to arrange for the Planner's to attend training on this topic in UCD and the DIT.

### AOB

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: John Hegarty

Dated: 1/12/21