

Planning & Building Control SPC

Minutes of Meeting of 1st December 2021

In the Chair: Cllr John Hegarty

Present: Cllr. Garry Laffan, Anthony Neville, Zeno Winkens, Tom Doyle, Tony Larkin, Tom Banville, Diarmuid Houston, Deirdre Kearns, Craig Innes, Roberta Gordon

Apologies: Cllr Bridin Murphy

Minutes and Matters Arising

Minutes proposed by Cllr. Garry Laffan and seconded by Anthony Neville
No matters arising

A welcome was extended to our new member Mr. Tom Doyle and a round of introductions followed

Organisational Chart of Planning

Mr. Tom Banville explained the Chart and noted Planner vacancies and the new Heritage Officer position.

Cllr. John Hegarty expressed his concern about the shortage of staff. Mr. Diarmuid Houston confirmed the positions had been advertised. Mr. Anthony Neville noted that Largescale Residential Developments (LRD) are moving from An Bord Pleanala to the Planning Department and how will these be dealt with. Mr. Tony Larkin shared these concerns but Mr. Diarmuid Houston confirmed that a lot more is being asked of the Planning Department, but we have always met our deadlines.

A general discussion ensued regarding how to increase staff numbers.

County Development Plan Update

Ms. Deirdre Kearns gave an update on the County Development Plan. There were changes made by the members and these were agreed in September. The Plan was ready to go on public display and will go back to the members for consideration. Cllr. John Hegarty asked if it could go to the members before Christmas but Ms. Deirdre Kearns confirmed that was not possible due to the public display period. Mr. Tony Larkin suggested it could go to the members in January for possible adoption by the members in late April.

CDP Guidelines

Mr. Diarmuid Houston confirmed a submission has been made on the Guidelines. Ms. Deirdre Kearns said the Guidelines don't provide a fix to the Development Plan, it addresses issues they're interested in only.

Taking in Charge

Mr. Tom Banville gave a presentation on the draft Taking in Charge policy and Cllr. John Hegarty stated it was an important piece of work and should be supported by the SPC when it goes to the Council meeting for adoption.

Mr. Tony Larkin suggested a working group consisting of Council staff, members of the construction industry and Architects and Engineers to work together on the policy.

Pre-planning

Mr. Tom Banville gave a presentation. Mr. Diarmuid Houston said that pre-planning was very effective and reduced the number of repeat applications. Mr. Zeno Winkens said pre-planning was a good idea and works well for applicants.

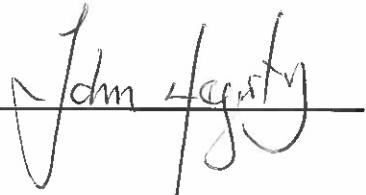
AOB

Mr. Diarmuid Houston circulated information on the Marine Bill, the National Development Plan and Largescale Residential Developments.

Cllr. John Hegarty and the SPC thanked Mr. Liam Bowe, Executive Planner, for his hard work and wished him well in his new role.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____



Dated: _____

