

Planning & Building Control SPC Minutes of Meeting of 24th June 2020

In the Chair: Cllr John Hegarty

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

Apologies: Jer O'Mahony

Minutes and Matters Arising

Covid 19 – Implications and Update from the Planning Department

Mr. Tom Banville, Senior Executive Officer, gave a presentation on the impact Covid 19 has had on the Planning Department. The Department recommenced services on Monday 25th May with all services now returned to near normal activity. At the request of Cllr. Garry Laffan, a copy of the presentation will be circulated to the members. Cllr, John Hegarty asked about the use of Microsoft Teams for pre-planning meetings. Mr. Diarmuid Houston said he was using the Major pre-planning meetings to refine the process. In the coming weeks there are a number of decisions to be made on applications and then the focus will move to pre-planning meetings.

County Development Plan – Update on Timeframes

Mr. Diarmuid Houston and Ms. Deirdre Kearns gave an update on the County Development Plan. The draft plan is in the final stages and will be going to the Chief Executive and Director of Service shortly. The draft plan will be brought to the July Council meeting and back for discussion at the September meeting.

Cllr. John Hegarty said the Council Members are eager to work on the County Development Plan with Mr. Diarmuid Houston confirming the Members would be taken through the main parts of the document. Ms. Deirdre Kearns gave the timeframes for the different processes of the County Development Plan with a completion date of July 2021. Cllr. Garry Laffan asked when the last County Development Plan finished but Ms. Deirdre Kearns informed him that the plan had been extended.

Mr. Anthony Neville enquired about densities on residential developments and a general discussion ensued regarding same.

Licensed Events – Health & Safety Implications

Mr. Tom Banville gave a presentation on Licensed Events noting there were no applications on hand for an event and the Wexford Festival Fireworks were postponed until 2021. Cllr. John Hegarty enquired about public demonstrations and

are the Council liable for anything. Mr. Diarmuid Houston confirmed that Planning law only relates to performances and not public demonstrations.

Marine Plan

Mr. Diarmuid Houston gave a presentation on the Marine Planning and Development Management Bill. Cllr. John Hegarty noted that a good job was being made of the Marine Planning with Ms. Deirdre Kearns adding that in the future there may be more localised plans with the involvement of Council's and communities.

AOB

- Cllr. John Hegarty asked about the design of roads, he noted infrastructure being built but Engineers giving conflicting views on road design. Mr. Anthony Neville agreed that there were inconsistencies in the interpretation of the guidelines of cycle lanes shared with roads. He stated there was a need for a consistent policy both nationally and locally.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: John Hegarty

Dated: 11/3/21