

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the March Meeting of Wexford County Council held on the 28th of March at
2.00pm
Held in the Council Chamber with some attendance via Microsoft Teams**

Attendance

In the Chair: Cllr. B. A. Murphy, Cathaoirleach.

Councillors:

Barden	Pat	Donohoe	Anthony	McDonald	Lisa (online)
Bell	Maura	Farrell	Mary	Moore	Jim
Bolger	Andrew	Fleming	John	Murphy	Brídín
Breen	Pip	Forde	Tom	O'Súilleabháin	Fionntáin (online)
Browne	Aidan	Hegarty	John (online)	Owens	Jackser
Byrne	Cathal	Hynes	David	Sheehan	Michael
Carthy	Ger	Kavanagh	Willie	Staples	Frank
Codd	Jim	Kelly	Leonard (online)	Sullivan	Joe
Codd-Nolan	Kathleen	Kenny	Donal	Walsh	Oliver
Connick	Anthony	Laffan	Garry	Whelan	Michael
Devereux	Diarmuid	Lawlor	George		

Officials:

Mr. T. Enright, Chief Executive
Mr. T. Larkin, Director of Service
Mr. E. Hore, Director of Service via Teams
Ms. A. O'Neill, Head of Finance via Teams
Ms. C. Godkin, Director of Service
Ms. L. Hore, Director of Service
Mr. D. Minogue, County Secretary
Ms. A. McLoughlin, Administrative Officer
Ms. D. Houston, Senior Planner
Ms. D. Kearns, Senior Executive Planner
Ms. P. Doyle, Executive Planner

Apologies: Cllr. J. O'Rourke

On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach a Minute's Silence was held to mark the sad passing of Wexford County Council staff member Mr. Billy Kinsella on the 18th of February. On behalf of the elected members and staff, An Cathaoirleach and Chief Executive offered condolences to Mr. Kinsella's wife Rita and son Conor.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 County Council Meeting 14.02.2022

On the Proposal of Cllr. M Sheehan, seconded by Cllr. A Donohue, the Minutes of the Special County Council Meeting of 14.02.2022 were adopted by the Council

1.2 Protocol Committee Meeting 01.11.2021

On the Proposal of Cllr. P Breen, seconded by Cllr. J Moore, the Minutes of the Protocol Meeting of 01.11.2022 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 LAC 2109

Proposed development – demolition of all existing structures on the old Tesco site and protection of adjoining remaining structures; a new temporary surface carpark with provision of circa 120 standard spaces; perimeter and internal footways; new 2 m wide footway to TK Maxx side of Oyster Lane, Corten steel architectural structure with infill planting on Crescent Quay frontage; public lighting; drainage and other miscellaneous services and associated works at Crescent Quay, Wexford, Co. Wexford.

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

2.2 LAC 2110

Proposed construction of 30 no. residential units at Wexford Street, Gorey, Co. Wexford

Having considered the report of the Chief Executive in relation to the proposed development, and on the proposal of Cllr. A. Bolger, seconded by Cllr. J. Sullivan, the Council unanimously resolved that the proposed development proceed as recommended in the Chief Executive's report.

2.3 LAC 2111

Proposed development of Public Realm Works to Create New Public Open Space at The Quay, 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 Whelan, seconded by Cllr. M Sheehan 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 intention to transfer air title of annex at the rear of 24 Lower George's Street, Wexford which overhangs the garden of the adjoining Council owned property at 1 & 2 Abbey Street, Wexford.*

Having considered the statutory S. 183 Notice in respect of the proposed intention to transfer air title of annex as circulated and on the proposal of Cllr. G. Lawlor, seconded by Cllr. M. Bell, the Council unanimously resolved that the transfer of air title proceed in accordance with the terms of the Notice.

3.2 *Proposed intention to lease Drumgoold Community Centre to Ferns Diocesan Youth Service Ltd.*

Having considered the statutory S. 183 Notice in respect of the proposed lease as circulated and on the proposal of Cllr. A. Bolger, seconded by Cllr. C. Byrne, the Council unanimously resolved that the lease proceed in accordance with the terms of the Notice.

4. Wexford County Development Plan Review

4.1 Strategic Environmental Assessment and Natura Impact Report on the Draft Plan and Proposed Material Alterations to the County Development Plan.

Before the decision on proceeding to the next stage of the Development Plan was discussed two notices of motions were put to the floor as follows:

4.2 Notices of Motion

4.2.1 It was proposed by Cllr J Fleming -

To amend Section 5.7 of Volume 10 Energy Strategy contained in the Draft Plan to require that Wind turbines are located a minimum of 400m from an adjoining landholding and a minimum of 6 times the tip height of the wind turbine or 900m (whichever is the greater) from a residential property.

(Relevant submission WXF- C3-164)

Reason: To minimise impacts on adjoining residences and properties in the interests of the proper planning and development of the area.

Following discussion on this matter and advice from the Senior

Planner, Cllr J. Fleming withdrew this Motion.

4.2.2 It was proposed by Cllr J Fleming and seconded by Cllr C Byrne -

To not add the Farmhouse at the Mayne, Enniscorthy (RPS Reference 15702006) to the Record of Protected Structures. (Relevant submission WXF-C- 31).

Reason: The protected status of the house is not compatible with the zoning of the surrounding lands.

Following discussion on this matter and advice from the Senior Planner Cllr J. Fleming withdrew this motion.

At this point in the meeting Mr. D Houston advised the members that the specialist consultants engaged to carry out environmental assessments of the Draft Plan had completed their assessments and that these were circulated for the Members consideration in advance of the meeting.

Mr. Houston drew the Members attention to the conclusions of the assessments and stated that the proposed material alterations and the associated assessments could now proceed to the next stage and be placed on public display.

On the proposal of Cllr P Breen and seconded by Cllr Oliver Walsh the Council unanimously resolved to proceed to the next stage of the development plan process.

5. Extension of Duration of Gorey Local Area Plan.

In relation to the Gorey Town and Environs Local Area Plan 2017-2023, following a discussion, Cllr P Breen seconded by Cllr D Devereux requested that the Chief Executive provide a report on the acceptability or otherwise of extending the duration of that plan.

6. Section 200 (4) of the Local Government Act 2001 Wexford County Council Draft Beach Byelaws 2022

6.1 Consideration of submissions received on the Draft Byelaws

Ms. C Godkin, DOS referred to the Report to Wexford County Council on the 135 submissions which were received during the public consultation period for the draft WCC Draft Beach Byelaws 2022 which had been circulated to the members for their consideration

6.2 Making of Wexford County Council Beach Byelaws 2022

On the proposal of Cllr J Moore and seconded by Cllr M Farrell the Council resolved unanimously to make the Beach Byelaws 2022. The Council further agreed to undertake a review the 2022 Beach Byelaws within a period of 5 years of the Byelaws being made.

7. Invitation to London Wexford Association 66th Annual Dinner Dance - 23rd. April 2022

On the proposal of Cllr J Owens, seconded by Cllr M Farrell it was unanimously agreed to accept the invitation to the London Wexford Associations Annual Dinner Dance which would be attended by the Cathaoirleach and Municipal / Borough District Chairs.

8. Chief Executive's Report

The Chief Executive updated the members on the work that was being carried out nationally and locally, in particular at Rosslare Harbour, in response to the Ukrainian Displaced Persons crisis.

Mr. Enright further advised that it has been agreed nationally that the Community Response Forum (chaired by the Chief Executive of the Local Authority and including the membership of the Cathaoirleach) would be reconvened locally to coordinate the response of all relevant agency to this crisis. The support of the volunteers, agencies and the people of Rosslare in dealing with the situation to date was commended by a number of the Members

The Chief Executive and members of the Management team responded to queries of the Members on the following matters:

- Exit Strategy for Volunteers for the Ukraine Refugee Crisis
- Issues with Communication channels between members and planning staff
- Hospitality Sector vacancies – Opportunity for Refugees
- Issues with the Water Supply in Wexford Town and Environs – UV Filter
- NPPR – Proof of Residence
- Town and Village Renewal Funding
- Report on New Ross Port Operations
- Waterford Airport Update
- Jobs festival on the Quay in Wexford
- Emergency Accommodation Provision
- Derelict Sites – Old Tesco Site
- Update on Active Travel Positions
- Update IMaps to include Sewage and Water networks
- Housing Allocation in Gorey
- Advance Factory in New Ross
- Health Project Success
- Old Fire Station New Ross -Lease to HSE
- Public Lighting at the old N25 New Ross
- Proposed Developed at Murphy Floods Site Enniscorthy
- Resurfacing at Oylegate
- Boil Water Notice at Ballindaggin
- Resources for People effected by Floods – Rosslare Municipal District
- RTE Investigates Programme and Article – Wexford County Council Housing
- Retrofit Programme for Window and Door replacement

- Houses at Belvedere, Wexford
- Meetings of LTACC
- Water Issues in Castlebridge – Summer Season
- Success of the Wexford Remembers Event
- Update on New Premises for Wexford Women’s Refuge

9. Minutes of CPG

9.1 Minutes of CPG Meeting 7th February 2022

The Minutes of the CPG Meeting held on the 7th of February 2022 were approved on the proposal of Cllr P Breen and seconded by Cllr O Walsh.

9.2 Minutes of CPG Meeting 7th March 2022

The Minutes of the CPG Meeting held on the 7th of March 2022 were approved on the proposal of Cllr P Breen and seconded by Cllr O Walsh.

10. Minutes of Meetings (For Noting):

- New Ross Municipal District Meeting - .08.12.2021 & 12.01.2022 & 09.02.2022
- Rosslare Municipal District Meeting-15.12.2021 & 19.01.2022
- Borough District of Wexford Meeting 20.12.2021 & 17.01.2022
- Enniscorthy Municipal District Meeting -20.12.2021 & 17.01.2022
- Gorey-Kilmuckridge Municipal District Meeting - 21.12.2021 & 18.01.2022
- Climate Change, Biodiversity & Environment SPC 27.05.2021 & 14.10.2021 & 02.12.2021
- Economic Development & Enterprise SPC 02.12.2021

These minutes were noted by the members.

11. Correspondence and Communications

- Letter from Waterford City & County Council re: motion dated 17.01.2022
- Letter from Galway County Council re: motion dated 25.01.2022
- Email from Senator Malcolm Byrne re local greyhound and equine sports industry dated 01.02.2022
- Letters from Paul Kehoe TD re: local greyhound and equine sports industry dated 02.02.2022 & 24th February 2022.
- Email from Brendan Howlin TD re: local greyhound and equine sports industry dated 7th February 2022
- Email from Johnny Mythen TD re motion equine and greyhound industries dated 09.02.2022
- Email from James Browne TD re: motion equine and greyhound industries dated 11.02.2022
- Letter from Tipperary County Council re: motion dated 17.02.2022
- Letter to Minister Ryan re: N24/N25 from Southeast First Citizens Forum.

- Letter to Minister Naughton re: Rescue 117 from Southeast First Citizens Forum.
- Letter from Mayor Peter Kavanagh, South Dublin County Council re condolences received on 23rd February 2022.
- Email from Cathy Lee, Staff Journalist, Gorey Guardian/Wexford People dated 28th February 2022.
- Letter from Bandon Kinsale Municipal District re condolences dated 24th February 2022
- Letter from Lord Mayor of Cork re condolences dated 18th February 2022.
- Email from Cllr. Patricia Roe, Chairperson, North Central Area Committee, Dublin City Council re condolences dated 2nd March 2022.
- Email from John Doyle re: support for Ukraine dated 3rd March 2022 & Memo from County Secretary dated 10th March 2022
- Letter from Westmeath County Council re: motion dated 10th March 2022
- Letter from Castlecomer Area Office, Kilkenny County Council re: condolences dated 8th March 2022.
- Letter from Ballygamesduff Municipal District, Cavan County Council re: condolences dated 9th March 2022
- Email from Brendan Howlin, TD re: Commemoration dated 21st March 2022

The Members noted the above correspondence.

12. Votes of Sympathy

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

- The family of Billy (William) Kinsella, employee Wexford County Council
- The family of Seamus Walsh, Ballyboro, Clonroche, Wexford (Former employee - Roadman, Enniscorthy Area)
- The family of Matthew (Mattie) Stafford, father of Fiona Wadding (Gorey Library) and recently retired Dympna Shanahan (Internal Audit).
- The family of Liam Nolan, brother-in-law of Tom Enright, Chief Executive.
- The family of Helen O'Reilly, mother of Ciara O'Reilly, HR Section
- The Family of Ms. Emma Quigley, Partner of Mr. David Lobby, Journalist People Paper

13. Votes of Congratulations

- Charlie Tector U-20 Rugby for Ireland v France
- Killowen Yogurts Courtnacuddy on winning the Love Ireland Awards

14. Any Other Business

This being the final meeting to be attended by retiring Director of Service Mr. Tony Larkin, an Cathaoirleach congratulated Mr. Tony Larkin on his 42 years of local authority service and on his impending retirement. Many members asked to be associated with the Cathaoirleach's comments and expressed their good wishes to Mr. Larkins on the occasion of his upcoming retirement.

The Chief Executive Mr. Enright also congratulated Mr. Larkin on his retirement and on his exemplary service to Wexford County Council and outlined some of the many achievements that Mr. Larkin was involved in during his 42 years' service.

Mr. Larkin expressed his sincere appreciation of the kind remarks offered.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Daingithe ar an

lá de Aibreán, 2022.

Cllr Barbara-Anne Murphy
Cathaoirleach

David Minogue,
County Secretary