

Comhairle Chontae Chill Mhantáin

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL JOINT POLICING COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY BUILDINGS, WICKLOW ON
MONDAY 2nd JULY 2018.**

PRESENT:

MEMBERS OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNCILLORS PAT VANCE, VINCENT BLAKE, GAIL DUNNE, TOM FORTUNE, JIM RUTTLE, TOMMY ANNESLEY, GERRY WALSH, STEVEN MATTHEWS, DAIRE NOLAN, GERRY O'NEILL, JOE BEHAN.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY SECTOR

MS. LIZ FERRIS , MR. SEAN MALONE, MS. ALICE O'DONNELL AND MR. BRENDAN GILROY.

GARDA REPRESENTATIVES

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT JOHN P. QUIRKE, SUPERINTENDENT FRANK FERRY, SUPERINTENDENT PAUL HOGAN SERGEANT JOHN FITZPATRICK AND SERGEANT RHONA BARKER.

OFFICIALS WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

MR. FRANK CURRAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MS. LORRAINE GALLAGHER, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS. DIONNE DIXON, BALTINGLASS MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR
MS. LISA MOORE, BALTINGLASS MUNICIPAL DISTRICT

IN ATTENDANCE

MS KAREN SHELLY, POLICING AUTHORITY
MS. MAEVE SHANLEY, EAST COAST REGIONAL DRUGS AND ALCOHOL TASK FORCE

APOLOGIES

COUNCILLORS IRENE WINTERS, SHAY CULLEN, BRENDAN THORNHILL AND MARY MCDONALD.
MS. ANN HALPIN,

At the outset of the meeting The Chair extended a welcome to Superintendent Frank Ferry, Blessington/Baltinglass and to Ms. Karen Shelly and Maeve Shanley present in the chamber.

1. Confirmation of minutes of Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee meeting held on Monday 5th February, 2018.

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. G. Walsh and agreed to confirm minutes of Joint Policing Committee meeting held on Monday 5th February, 2018.

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2. Matters arising from the minutes / actions agreed

There were no matters arising not included in the agenda.

3. To receive presentation from Chief Superintendent John P. Quirke YTD figures 2018

Chief Superintendent John P. Quirke gave a power point presentation on the Wicklow Division 2018 YTD figures (difference and % change) covering the following areas:

- Property Crime – Divisional Overview
- Robbery of an Establishment/Institution
- Robbery from a person
- Aggravated Burglary
- Burglary (not aggravated)
- Theft from a person
- Theft from Vehicle
- Theft of other property
- Theft/Unauthorised taking of vehicle
- Theft/Unauthorised taking of pedal cycle
- Theft from shop
- Crimes against the person – divisional overview
- Rape of a male or female
- Assault causing harm
- Minor assault
- Criminal damage
- Public order and other social code offences
- Possession of drugs for personal use
- Possession of drugs for sale or supply
- Cultivation or manufacture of drugs
- Traffic – Divisional overview
- Other issues.

Following the presentation the Committee expressed views and raised queries which were responded to by the Chief Superintendent.

4. Cyber Bullying: Presentation from (1) An Comhairle Na Nog and (2) An Garda Síochana.

L. Gallagher advised that apologies were received by Mr. Dermot O'Brien on behalf of An Comhairle Na Nog advising they were unable to attend the meeting. Sergeant John Fitzpatrick gave a very comprehensive presentation on Cyber Bullying covering the following areas:-

What is Cyber bullying ?

- Spreading rumours and gossip
- Posting pictures of someone without consent
- Posting inappropriate pictures of others without thinking

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- Stealing passwords to assume someone else's identity
- Threatening or harassing with offensive language

Signs that may indicate Cyberbullying

- Quickly switch screens or close programs when you walk by
- Use the computer at all hours of the night
- The Child may get unusually upset if they cannot use the computer
- Laugh excessively while online
- Children will avoid discussions about what they are doing
- Use multiple online accounts or use accounts that are not their own
- May no longer wish to attend school

Consequences of Cyberbullying

- Erin Gallagher 13 Yrs old, from Ballybofey, Co Donegal committed suicide after sustained cyberbullying.
- Erin's death came just six weeks after Ciara Pugsley (15) took her own life in Dromahair, Co Leitrim, after being cyberbullied on the ask.fm social networking site
- Phoebe Prince an Irish schoolgirl living in the US committed suicide in 2010 after sustained cyberbullying

Garda Schools Programme

- Primary Level "**Respectful Online communication**"
- Primary Module integrates with Strand 5 of Social Personal and Health Education curriculum "Myself and others"
- Focus on the following key points
 1. We Identify what activities are illegal
 2. Explain that not everyone online is who they claim to be
 3. We discuss meeting in person people that they have first met online

Strategies for dealing with online harassment and bullying

Our Advice To children

- Our Strategy and advice is the following 4 key points
 1. Don't reply
 2. Keep the message
 3. Block the sender
 4. Tell someone you trust
- Secondary Level Program "**Respect with connect**"
- Target group is 1st - 3rd Year also ties in "Belonging and Integrating" Module in the SPHE curriculum.
- Focus on key concepts
 1. Identifying types of Cyberbullying
 2. Detrimental effects of Cyberbullying

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3. Consequences of Cyberbullying
4. Seeking help and support when they become aware of Cyberbullying
5. We also Speak with Parents with regard to internet safety

Seeking Help and Support

- With the Secondary Level Program our advice is as follows

1. Don't reply to messages the harass or annoy you
 2. Keep the message you don't have to read it, but keep it
 3. Block the sender and report it
 4. Tell someone you trust; if you need help straightaway contact Childline 1800 66 66 66
- Almost all serious cyberbullying requires Adult intervention to get it stopped our key message is to ask for Adult Help
 - Talking to a parents, teachers, guidance counsellors, school principal
 - Teenagers can support the victim and each other.

- **Sharing of explicit self generated Images;**
- **Sharing of explicit self generated Images And the Law;**
- **LRC "harmful communications and digital safety" report 2016**
- **Cybercrime affecting young people and Children;**
- **Online Sexual Coercion and Extortion**
- **Coercion :**
- **Extortion :**
 - **Tips to protect yourself online:**
 - **Advice for Parents**
 - **Resources**

www.webwise.ie offers free information, advice and resources to help parents

www.npc.ie National parents council

www.spunout.ie Irelands Youth information website.

www.watchyourspace.ie Youth resource

www.hotline.ie Reporting any illegal content (can be done anonymously)

Following the presentation the Committee expressed views and raised queries which were responded to by Sgt Fitzpatrick.

5. Update from working groups.

Ms. Dionne Dixon, Baltinglass Municipal Administrator gave the following update on Tackling Rural Crime as follows:-

'I am happy to report that we are a very positive working group which has enjoyed strong collaboration and co-operation between all working group members across the board. We aim to meet every two months and so far this year we have held in meetings in February, April and June. This year we are working on 3 objectives from the Six Year Strategic Plan namely:-

- 1) Promote the benefit of the Community Text Alert System and Neighbourhood Watch Schemes,

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- 2) Pilot a programme in Wicklow that addresses isolation and security fears among older people, e.g. Operation Conversation” or “Befriending Programme” in a rural setting, and
- 3) Develop an awareness raising campaign around the importance of self vigilance and how to minimise risk to one’s own property and personal safety.

This year we have had the benefit of a presentation from TUS in relation to the Tourist Ambassador Scheme. We have also had the benefit of the attendance of the West Wicklow IFA chairman, Kevin Hanlon at our last meeting to discuss the particular problems faced by the farming community. We have also decided to hold our meetings in other parts of the County rather than stay in one location. For example, in April we went to Carnew and in September we plan to meet in Roundwood.

At our last meeting, we received an excellent presentation from John McLoughlin from SelectaDNA in relation to forensic property marking and we would like to consider whether it would be in order to explore the possibility of taking part in the pilot scheme as a crime prevention measure with a community group. We have put forward our working group’s request that an invitation from the JPC be extended to John from SelectaDNA to give a presentation at a future JPC meeting later on this year be placed on the agenda to be considered at the next JPC meeting.

Other Actions agreed from the working group which we would like to be considered by the Strategic JPC Meeting in the future include:-

- 1) CCTV Cameras in the Uplands area;
- 2) A review of the Community Text Alert Scheme;
- 3) Request from the Working Group to extend an invitation from the Strategic JPC Group to John McLoughlin of SelectaDNA to make a presentation at the autumn meeting of the JPC. (as discussed earlier)’

At the conclusion of the presentation the Committee agreed to invite Mr. McLoughlin to present at the December meeting of the JPC

6. Update from public meeting held on Wednesday 18th of April, 2018 in Arklow.

L. Gallagher advised of the public meeting held in the Arklow Library on Wednesday 18th April, 2018 which was well attended and outlined the issues raised viz:

- Crime
- Requirement for a Drugs Task Force to be set up in Arklow
- Multi-Agency approach on the M11 – hold up of cars going to work
- Query around the detection of crime and the rates
- Dog control
- Anti Social Behaviour on estates both private and local authority owned
- Difficulties experienced along a stretch of road at Magheramore Wicklow.

7. Set venue and date for October Public Meeting.

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It was proposed by Mr. Sean Malone, seconded by Cllr. Tommy Annesley and agreed to hold the next public Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee meeting in the RDA Hall, in Rathdrum. Date in October to be confirmed.

8. Any other business.

Submission of Annual Report for year ended 31st March, 2017.

The committee noted the submission of the 2017 year end annual report to the Policing Authority on 15th May, 2018.

The Cathaoirleach and committee extended a vote appreciation to Mr. John Smith for his work and commitment following his resignation from PPN.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____
COUNCILLOR JAMES RUTTLE
CHAIR.

DATE: _____