

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY BUILDINGS, WICKLOW ON MONDAY 3RD FEBRUARY, 2020 COMMENCING 2PM

PRESENT:

COUNCILLOR I. WINTERS, CATHAOIRLEACH, COUNCILLORS T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, A. CRONIN, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, S. CULLEN, G. DUNNE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN KENNEDY, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, S. MATTHEWS, G. MCMANUS, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS, G. WALSH AND J. WHITMORE.

APOLOGIES:

COUNCILLOR M. MURPHY.

IN ATTENDANCE:

**MR. F. CURRAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MR. T. MURPHY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. C. LAVERY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. B. GLEESON, HEAD OF FINANCE
MR. L. FITZPATRICK, HEAD OF IS
MS. B. KILKENNY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. L. GALLAGHER, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR
MS. C. FLOOD, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MR. M. FLYNN, SENIOR ENGINEER
MR. D. MARNANE, SENIOR ENGINEER
MR. J. BOWES, SENIOR ENGINEER
MS. M. HARTNETT, SENIOR RESIDENT ENGINEER
MS. H. DENNEHY, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MR. D. KEYES, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MS. A. MINION, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MS. K. BOYLE, ANALYST DEVELOPER
MS. G. LANG, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER**

VOTES OF SYMPATHY: Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of Mr. Phil Doyle, Mr. Eugene McCann, Mr. Henk Dijkman, Mr. Tom Finucane and Ms. Alice Gethings. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

Suspension of standing orders

1. It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed to suspend standing orders to discuss the issue of public lighting around the county.

2. It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. T. Fortune and agreed to suspend standing orders to discuss the crisis arising from a lack of secondary school places in Kilcoole for next September

Elected members agreed to discuss these issues at 4.30 p.m.

ITEM NO. 1

To confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 13th January, 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr. R. O'Connor, seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 13th January, 2020.

ITEM NO. 2

To consider the disposal of 171 meters squared (1,840 sq. ft.) at Unit R4, First Floor, Bridgewater Shopping Centre, Arklow, Co. Wicklow by way of a 25 year lease to Arklow Maritime Heritage Museum.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed to dispose of 171 meters squared (1,840 sq. ft.) at Unit R4, First Floor, Bridgewater Shopping Centre, Arklow, Co. Wicklow by way of a 25 year lease to Arklow Maritime Heritage Museum.

ITEM NO. 3

To consider the disposal of 1.3086 hectares of land at Lugduff, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow for a period of 10 years to Tinahely Community Area Projects Company Ltd.

Cllr. J. Mullen advised that he was a member of the Tinahely Community Area Projects Company Ltd., and left the chamber for consideration of this item. It was proposed by Cllr. V. Blake, seconded by Cllr. P. Glennon and agreed to dispose of 1.3086 hectares of land at Lugduff, Tinahely, Co. Wicklow for a period of 10 years to Tinahely Community Area Projects Company Ltd.

ITEM NO 4

To consider report in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended; Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 – 2006 as amended: Development of an Enterprise Hub at Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow.

Elected members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Report on the Development of an Enterprise Hub at Wicklow County Campus, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow on 29th January, 2020.

Ms. L. Healy, Senior Enterprise Development Officer gave a brief presentation to the Elected Members covering the following areas.

A Screen Content Enterprise Hub for the Mid East Region

What will the Hub achieve

- Provide a central one stop shop where all the necessary supports are available for both start-up and established screen content businesses.
- Leverage the skills and expertise already present
- To support and strengthen screen sector in the Region resulting in a strong regional level enterprise ecosystem & cluster.
- Contribute to the positioning of Ireland as a global Hub in screen content creation.

Proposed works – timeframe

- Appointment of Architects Q3 2019
- Grant approval of €1.4m received from Enterprise Ireland Q1 2020

- Completion of Part 8 Planning process – February 2020
- Construction Tender Q1 – Q2 2020
- Construction Q3 2020
- Appointment of Manager Q1 2021
- **Opening Q3 / Q4 2021**

Closing Date for receipt of submissions was 6th January 2020

4 submissions received:-

- An Taisce – Welcoming the project
- Gerry Johnston – Interested in establishing a training facility for film & TV technicians within the proposed facility.
- Irish Water - Applicant advised to engage with IW via the submission of a pre-connection enquiry.
- Dept of Culture, Heritage & Gaeltach – Request for a Bat Survey & An Archaeology Impact Assessment be carried out.

The CE accepts the above submissions and recommends that the proposed development of an Enterprises Hub at Wicklow County Campus proceed with the modification that Swift Bricks be incorporated into the new build.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by a margin of 30 votes for and 2 not present that the Council proceed with the development as set out in the Chief Executives Report dated the 29th of January, 2020 and circulated to the elected members viz:-

FOR 30	CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAM, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, G. DUNNE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN-KENNEDY, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, S. MATTHEWS, G. MCMANUS, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS, G. WALSH, J. WHITMORE AND I. WINTERS.
NOT PRESENT 2	CLLRS. M. MURPHY AND G. O'NEILL.

ITEM NO. 5

To consider the Wicklow County Council Audit Committee Annual Progress Report.

Mr. Tom Gregan, Chairman of the Wicklow County Council Audit Committee presented to the Annual Progress Report to the members as follows: Mr. Gregan was accompanied by committee members Ms. Mary Savage and Mr. Noel Geraghty.

To the Cathaoirleach & Each Member of Wicklow County Council : Wicklow County Council Audit Committee – Annual Progress Report for the Year Ended 31st December 2019

3rd February 2020

Dear Councillor,

Thank you for the opportunity to address the Council here today on the work of the Wicklow County Council's Audit Committee for the twelve month period up to 31st December 2019.

The Audit Committee is a statutory committee established in accordance with Section 59 of the Local Government Reform Act 2014. The Audit Committee has five members who are as follows

- Mr. Tom Gregan, Chairman
- Mr. Noel Geraghty, Vice Chairman
- Ms. Mary Savage
- Cllr. Edward Timmins (To October 2019)
- Cllr Mary Kavanagh (From October 2019)
- Cllr. Gerry Walsh

The role of the Audit Committee is to support the elected members by providing an independent assessment of the corporate governance environment, the quality of the risk management, financial reporting, financial management and internal audit.

The committee is supported and assisted by Mr. Thomas Murphy, Director of Services, Mr. Brian Gleeson, Head of Finance and Mr. Derek Keyes. The Audit Committee meets on a formal basis 5/6 times per year. In addition to the formal meetings, the Audit Committee members also attend other meetings throughout the year in relation to the comprehensive annual work programme.

The functions of the Audit Committee are set out in the Local Government Audit Committee Regulations 2014 and include the following:

- To foster the development of best practice in the performance by the local authority of its internal audit function
- To review the financial and budgetary reporting practices and procedures within the local authority
- To review any audited financial statement, auditor's report or auditor's special report in relation to the local authority and assess any actions taken within that authority by its Chief Executive in response to such a statement or report and report its findings to the authority
- To review systems that are operated by the Local Authority for the management of risks
- To assess and promote efficiency and value for money with respect to the Local Authority's performance of its functions
- To review the findings and recommendations of the National Oversight & Audit Commission (NOAC) and the response of the Chief Executive to these and to take further actions as appropriate

Internal Audit Assignments for 2019

Following a tendering process in early 2018 CrowleysDFK were appointed in March by Wicklow County Council to provide internal audit services to the Council. The following Audit Reports were finalised and reported on to the Audit Committee during the year.

- Accounts Payable
- Stores & Machinery Yard Operations & Value for Money
- Pre-Letting Repair Costs
- Staff Travel & Subsistence
- Review of the Operation of Low Value Purchase Cards

All audits are assigned an "Assurance Rating" which represents an objective assessment of the control environment operating in the area under review. Further details on the audits are provided in Appendix 1 to this report.

Report to National Oversight & Audit Commission – Public Spending Code Quality Assurance Report

Internal Audit in collaboration with the Procurement Section completed the annual Quality Assurance Report as part of Wicklow County Council's compliance with the Public Spending Code (PSC).

The Public Spending Code requires that a number of projects are selected for review in accordance with the objectives of the Public Spending Code. The report submitted included the required "In-Depth Checks" on the following areas.

- Wicklow Port Access & Town Relief Road

- Coastal Erosion Protection Works
- Part V Agreement, Thorndale Delgany
- Housing Grant Schemes

Further details on the in-depth checks are also provided in Appendix 1 to this report.

Annual Audit Plan

The Annual Audit Plan sets out the proposed assignments for the coming year. The plan has been drafted following consultation with the Chief Executive, Directors of Service/Heads of Function and the list of assignments reflects the ongoing objectives of achieving efficiencies in our processes, adding value, assessing the control environment and contributing towards the organisations strategic objectives. Progress on these assignments will be reported to the Council in due course.

Meeting with the Local Government Auditor

We were pleased to welcome Mr Daragh McMahon, Local Government Auditor to our December meeting. The Members were circulated with a copy of the Statutory Audit Report 2018 from the Local Government Auditor in advance of the meeting. I am pleased to report to the Members that the Audit Report is “Unqualified” and in the opinion of the Local Government Auditor represents fairly the financial position of the Council as at the 31st of December 2018. Furthermore, no audit adjustments arose as a result of the audit. The Local Government Auditor outlined the main elements of his report to the Committee.

In keeping with best practice the Committee discussed the findings of the Audit Report with the Local Government Auditor in the absence of executive management. Part of this discussion focussed on the risk management environment. Management have recognised the requirement to develop this area of expertise and are aware of the constantly changing environment. To this end management are embarking on a series of training engagements which will provide the organisation with the appropriate skill set to update the risk register.

As required by Section 121 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended by Section 60 of the Local Government Act 2014, I have attached a report to the Council on the Committee’s consideration of the Local Government Auditor’s Report in Appendix 2.

Procurement

The Members will be aware that adherence to procurement regulations and the ongoing development and implementation of good procurement practices are crucial from the legal, value for money, and efficiency perspectives. Wicklow County Council’s Audit Committee has consistently been a strong advocate for the continued development of expertise in the Procurement function.

The December meeting received a report on developments in the Procurement Section and we note and welcome the on-going progress being made by the Council in this area. The Audit Committee will of course continue to maintain oversight and stress the importance of good procurement practices.

The Committee acknowledges the very positive audit report on the operation of the Low Value Purchase Cards. This report compliments the strong control and monitoring environment in the operation of the Low Value Purchase Cards which is resulting in improved payment times for our suppliers and reduced administration costs in invoice processing.

Training Day

Regulation 5 of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014, requires that the training needs of the Audit Committee are reviewed on an annual basis and reported to the Local Authority. I can advise the Members that a training day was held in October in collaboration with the Institute of Public Administration. The key themes addressed were

- Audit Committee functions
- Audit Committee appraisal
- Annual Operational Plans
- Risk Management
- The role of Audit Committees in corporate governance

Audit Committee Effectiveness

Regulation 13 of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014, states that the Audit Committee shall undertake annually a review of its own effectiveness and shall report to the Local Authority on its findings.

The Audit Committee has complied with this requirement through the use of an extensive evaluation questionnaire. The Audit Committee has reviewed its own performance and effectiveness in relation to

- The role of the Audit Committee
- Membership, Independence & Objectivity
- Relationship with the executive and other stakeholders
- Training & Development
- Annual Work Programme
- Member Contribution

I can confirm that the Audit Committee conducts its business in accordance with the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014.

Annual Work Programme

The Committee's annual work programme involves regular meetings throughout the year. The annual work programme may be summarised as follows.

- Periodic meetings as required by statutory regulation
- Consideration and approval of the annual internal audit plan
- Dedicated meetings with the members of the management team
- Annual training day
- Review of the proposed Risk Management System
- Consideration of internal audit reports including those prepared in connection with the Public Spending Code
- Consideration of reports issued by the National Oversight and Audit Commission (NOAC)
- Consideration of relevant Departmental Value for Money reports
- A review of the Annual Financial Statement
- Meeting with the Local Government Auditor and consideration of the Statutory Audit Report

The members of Wicklow County Council can be assured of the Committee's ongoing commitment to these important tasks.

The Annual Work Programme as outlined above is submitted for adoption by the Local Authority in accordance with Section 9 of the Local Government (Audit Committee) Regulations 2014.

Conclusion

On behalf of the members of the Audit Committee I would like to thank you, the Members of Wicklow County Council for your ongoing support and assistance. We would also like to acknowledge the continuous support of the Chief Executive, Mr. Frank Curran, along with the members of his Management Team.

In addition, we would like to express our appreciation to Mr Daragh McMahon, Local Government Auditor, for his continued cooperation.

We would like to assure the Members of our ongoing commitment to the work of the Committee and that we will continue to focus our attentions on significant areas such as value for money, promoting good accounting practices, information management and monitoring the control environment.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity, on behalf of the Audit Committee to wish the Chief Executive his Management Team, every success in their efforts in the year ahead and we look forward to working with you all, constructively, towards the achievement of your objectives.

Tom Gregan
Chairman
Wicklow County Council Audit Committee

ITEM NO 6**To adopt the Wicklow County Council Audit Committee Charter, 2020.**

Elected members were circulated with the Wicklow County Council Audit Committee Charter, 2020 on the 29th January, 2020. L. Gallagher advised that the Charter is based on Statutory Instrument no. 244 of 2014, Audit Committee Regulations 2014, the statutory obligations within relevant Local Government legislation, Audit Committee Guidance June, 2014 as well as guidance and good practice as outlined in various professional and authoritative codes and reports. It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. V. Blake and agreed to adopt the Wicklow County Council Audit Committee Charter, 2020.

Retirement of Mr. T. Murphy, Director of Services, Enterprise and Corporate Services: It was agreed to proceed to item 9 pending the arrival of representatives from the NTA. Prior to proceeding with Item 9, the Cathaoirleach paid tribute to Mr. Thomas Murphy, Director of Services, Enterprise and Corporate Services who is due to retire from Wicklow County Council after some 41 years services on the 7th of February next and that this was his last Council meeting. The Chief Executive also paid tribute to Mr. Murphy on his own behalf and on behalf of the entire staff making reference to his enormous contribution to the Council and his professionalism, work ethic, courteous manner and the support he gave to the staff and elected members over the years. The elected members wished him well in his retirement.

ITEM NO 9**To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, January 2020.**

Elected members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, January 2020 on 29th January, 2020. The Chief Executive referenced some highlights in the report advising that roads grants totalling €11.6m had been received, 114 housing units were official opened in Ballybeg the previous week and contracts have been signed for the Fitzwilliam Scheme and Bray Harbour improvements. He advised that Wicklow has seven projects nominated in the All Ireland Council Awards including the new VR Gates of Hell experience, The Cliff Walk in Wicklow and the eco trail. Elected members raised the following questions which were responded to by the Chief Executive and relevant Director of Services.

- What is the position in relation to the proposed transport study for Arklow
- Can progress be made in relation to the allotment project at Blessington
- Reference made to the proposed new 40 house scheme for Dunlavn and how many of them will be turnkey.
- Has Wicklow County Council any business arrangement with private owned quarries in County Wicklow.
- Reference made to the community of West Wicklow who were unsuccessful in applying for funding for the swimming pool and what are the next steps in the process
- Query as to why the national grant aid scheme to upgrade older council houses appears to be moving slowly in County Wicklow. Reference made to housing estates in Arklow (Glendale) and in Bray (Wolfe Tone Square)
- Reference made to the homeless figures included in the report and query as to the numbers in direct provision centres in Wicklow, are they included in the figures.
- Reference made to the Strategic housing development in Greystones and query as to the elected members role in the process and concern that this development will have a major impact on Greystones.
- What is the current status in relation to the Greenway project, Blessington

- Reference made to the Kilmacanogue parallel service road and submission from the Bray Wheelers Cycling Club, have the Roads Department met with groups like the Bray Wheelers.

It was agreed to proceed with the suspension of standing orders pending the arrival of representatives from the NTA.

Suspension of standing orders

1. It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed to suspend standing orders to discuss the issue of public lighting around the county. Elected members were advised that this matter had been discussed at the Wicklow Municipal District meeting and that MD members had asked that this matter be raised at the next council meeting. He referred to the number of lights out in areas of the County and asked that Airtricity be requested to attend a meeting of Wicklow County Council. Mr. C. Lavery, Director of Services advised that there are approximately 15,000 public lights in the County, 700 of which were out representing 4% and while it is a small percentage of public lighting he understood the frustration around the length of time to get them fixed. He updated the elected members in relation to the national energy retrofit contract with Airtricity and that it was anticipated that a S85 agreement would be brought to the elected members at their meeting in March and to borrow for the project. At the conclusion of the discussion it was agreed that the Council would write to Airtricity and invite representatives from the company to attend the March meeting of the Council.
2. It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. T. Fortune to discuss the crisis arising from a lack of secondary school places in Kilcoole for next September. The elected members were advised of the concern for students and pupils in Kilcoole primary school about the fact that their local school is not in a position to accept enrolment applications for September. Cllr. J. Behan proposed that the Council write to the Department of Education and ask them to urgently move to provide temporary accommodation for the pupils to allow them enrol in the School. The discussion broadened and elected members expressed concern in relation to the rise in the number of families living in new developments across County Wicklow including Newtownmountkennedy, Roundwood, Greystones, Bray and Enniskerry.

Ms. Breege Kilkenny, Director of Service, Planning and Environment advised the elected members of the extensive engagement between the planning staff and staff of the Department of education in relation to the Department's capital programme and the review of the County Development Plan. At the conclusion of the discussion the elected members asked that the Council write to the Department of Education and request a meeting with relevant officials and a cross party delegation from Wicklow County Council to discuss the issue further.

ITEM NO 7

To receive a presentation: Ms. Anne Graham, NTA.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Anne Graham, Chief Executive Officer of the National Transport Authority and Mr. Hugh Creegan, Deputy Chief Executive Officer to the meeting, both of whom presented to the elected members as follows:-

What We Do

Statutorily responsible for a wide range of functions including:

- Delivery of public transport services nationally
- Regulation of commercial bus routes nationally
- National taxi regulation
- National public transport information and ticketing

- Transport planning and capital investment in public transport in Greater Dublin Area

Key Strategies & Plans

National Development Plan 2018 - 2027

Key Project Allocations

- BusConnects €2.4bn
- DART Expansion €2bn
- Metrolink €3bn
- Cycling Infrastructure

Park and Ride

- Bus-based Park & Ride will supplement the network of rail-based Park & Ride sites.
- A number of potential locations have been identified along the key radial road routes in Dublin & Wicklow - more locations may be added linked to bus priority
- Park & Ride Office now established in NTA to accelerate plans

Cycling

- Construct the Greater Dublin Area Cycle Network
- Key routes will be, to the extent practicable, segregated routes, where the cyclist is safely separated from motorised vehicular traffic
- Cycle Design Office now established in NTA to accelerate delivery of schemes

Next steps in delivery of BusConnects

Bus Network

- Consultation on Dublin bus network completed
- Final Network to be published in Q2 2020
- Commence implementation of new network in 2021

Bus Corridors

- Second round of consultation on 16 bus corridors will commence in Q1 2020
- Planning applications for bus corridors will commence in Q3 2020

Next steps in delivery of NDP

Metrolink

- Planning application in Q4 2020

DART Expansion

- Complete procurement of a combination of fully electric and bi-mode fleet for expansion of rail services
- Develop electrification programme
- Enhanced DART service to Greystones

Improving funded public transport services

Direct Award Contracts with Bus Éireann, Dublin Bus and Irish Rail since 1st Dec 2009.

- renewed in Dec 2014 & 2019 (for bus services)
- Not competitively tendered

Periodic & Quarterly Performance reporting

- funding conditional on meeting performance targets
- Reports available for public examination

Reliability and **punctuality** targets continually strengthened for all operators
 Authority regulates the public transport fares

Bus Éireann

- Saw a 14% increase in passenger number across all their services in 2019
- This growth is not reflected in the 133 service
- 133 has consistently the highest number of complaints of all the services in the Dublin Commuter area
- Main issue is reliability of the services
- Despite Bus Éireann best efforts the punctuality of the service is poor
- New timetables have been designed and will be implemented by end of March

Rural Transport Services

- Locallink office service tendered – no changes in service provider for Wicklow
- 25 Demand-responsive & 5 evening services in Wicklow
- Locallink 183 Glendalough – Roundwood – Wicklow Town Scheduled Bus Service provided in 2019

Response to Challenges in Wicklow

- County's Geography makes service provision difficult
- Road Congestion
 - N11/M11 – Agreement now in place with TII and Wicklow Co Co to examine potential for widening of sections of hard shoulder to provide for bus priority
 - Within towns – bus priority where possible
 - BusConnects – Bray Corridor
- Single Rail track – feasibility study on track changes between Greystones and Bray to assess potential for 20 minute DART completed – some additional work required
- Additional rail services south of Greystones subject to availability of additional fleet
- NTA recognises that public transport to and from Wicklow is not optimal
- We will continue to work with our operators and the county council to raise the quality and frequency of services

At the conclusion of the presentation Elected Members raised the following queries which were responded to by Ms. Graham and Mr. Creegan:-

- Reference made to the agencies involved in the provision of transport and the lack of services and infrastructure in County Wicklow. Call for all of the authorities to come together to discuss a cohesive, well thought out plan for public transport for Wicklow.
- Reference made to the empty rail line south of Greystones with two trains in the peak period in the morning and a jammed N11. The two trains are the least of any services in any station in the greater Dublin area and something needs to be done about that. People have taken to cars on the N11 as there is no alternative and there is no strategy which is more concerning. Call for a study to be carried out so that these issues can be examined and fixed.
- Call for a shuttle service from Wicklow Town into Greystones to alleviate the congestion on the N11.
- Reference made to the multi billion investment programme in the presentation, for BusConnects and DART upgrade, however these measures will only benefit the north of the

County and at that will only be playing catch up. There are two requirements for County Wicklow, transport for commuters to get in and out of Dublin and also for communities.

- Reference made to a presentation received from Iarnrod Eireann in the Council Chamber previously, when asked if there was consideration to bringing the DART to Wicklow, the response was no. View expressed that a DART for Wicklow is essential.
- What work is being carried out to address some of the problems faced by commuters with disabilities
- Call for a park and ride facility to be provided in Arklow
- Reference made to the Cycle Network Plan for the greater Dublin area published in 2013 and is there any clear pathway , funding or timeframe to deliver this plan for north Wicklow.
- How quickly can change be implemented by the NTA
- Reference made to the 184 and 185 bus services in Bray and on some occasions complaints are made that the buses do not turn up. Query if the NTA has received complaints in relation to the 185. Also reports in relation to the 133 are that the disabled lifts cannot be used as parts of the footpaths are not suitable.
- People in West Wicklow are struggling, there is a bus service which needs to be improved and extra services provided. Reference made to the bus stop at Hollywood Cross which the bus drivers no longer stop at and call for it to be designated as an official bus stop.
- Can the NTA elaborate on the procurement of an additional fleet south of Greystones and the timescales.
- Reference made to a plan to bring the LUAS to Bray, which would have allowed for the development of a huge tract of land and an ideal opportunity for a park and ride facility connected with the LUAS and bus transport system in Bray, can the NTA comment on this

ITEM NO 10

To receive a presentation: Update on County Wicklow Age Friendly Strategy 2017-2022 (deferred from meeting of 2nd December, 2019 and 13th January, 2020).

This item was deferred to meeting of 2nd March, 2020.

ITEM NO 11

To receive a presentation: To consider the adoption of the Wicklow County Council Arts Strategy 2020-2025 (deferred from meeting of the 13th January, 2020).

This item was deferred to meeting of 2nd March, 2020.

ITEM NO 8

To discuss proposal circulated by Cllr. S. Matthews at Council meeting held on 13th January, 2020. It was agreed to defer to meeting of 2nd March, 2020.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

**CLLR. IRENE WINTERS
CATHOAIRLEACH
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MS. LORRAINE GALLAGHER
SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**