

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY BUILDINGS, WICKLOW ON MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2017,  
COMMENCING 2PM**

**PRESENT:**

COUNCILLOR E.TIMMINS, CATHAOIRLEACH, COUNCILLORS T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, T.CULLEN, S. CULLEN, P. DORAN, G. DUNNE, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, C. FOX, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, N. LAWLESS, S. MATTHEWS, M. MCDONALD, G. MCLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, M. MURPHY, M. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN, J. SNELL, O. O'BRIEN, B. THORNHILL, P. VANCE, G. WALSH, J. WHITMORE AND I. WINTERS.

**APOLOGIES:**

COUNCILLORS, D. NOLAN AND O. O'BRIEN.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

MR. FRANK CURRAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
MR. D. O'BRIEN, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. S. QUIRKE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. T MURPHY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. M. GEANEY, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. B. GLEESON, HEAD OF FINANCE  
MS. L. GALLAGHER, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR  
MS. B. KILKENNY, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MR. M. FLYNN, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MS. S. WALSH, SENIOR PLANNER  
MS. H. DENNEHY, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MS. T. O'BRIEN, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MR. D. O'BRIEN, EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
MR. D. FORDE, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR  
MS. L. EARLS, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
MR. D. PORTER, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
MS. M. HALVEY, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

**Suspension of Standing Orders**

1. Cllr. N. Lawless in referring to the recent 'RTE Investigates' Programme requested a suspension of standing orders to discuss private rental accommodation and to see how County Wicklow is performing in this area. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Behan. Following a short discussion the request for the suspension of standing orders was put to a vote and following a roll call was defeated by a margin of 11 votes for, 17 against and 4 not present viz:-

<b>FOR (11)</b>	<b>CLLRS J. BEHAN, T. CULLEN, T. FORTUNE, M. KAVANAGH, N. LAWLESS, M. MCDONALD, M. MURPHY, M. O CONNOR, B. THORNHILL, E. TMMINS AND J. WHITMORE</b>
<b>AGAINST (17)</b>	<b>CLLRS T. ANNESLEY, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, S. CULLEN, P. DORAN, G. DUNNE, P. FITZGERALD, C. FOX, P. KENNEDY, S. MATTHEWS, G. MCLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, G. O NEILL, J. RYAN, J. SNELL, P. VANCE AND G. WALSH</b>
<b>NOT PRESENT (4)</b>	<b>CLLRS. D. NOLAN, O O BRIEN, G. O NEILL AND I. WINTERS</b>

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Vance, it was agreed to have the matter listed on the agenda for the December meeting.

2. Cllr. J. Behan requested a suspension of standing orders to discuss the decision by St. Vincent's Hospital, Dublin, in the recent couple of weeks to cease all spinal services referrals to public health visits and outpatients visits for the residents of County Wicklow and south Dublin. This was seconded by Cllr. C. Fox and agreed to discuss same at 4.30 p.m.
3. Cllr Cllr. T. Fortune requested a suspension of Standing Orders to discuss the situation which he said continues to pertain at the Rocks in Priestnewtown and which he considered to be unfair to the residents there. This was seconded by Cllr. G. McLoughlin and agreed to discuss same at 4.30 p.m. Cllr. T. Fortune also advised that he had a second request submitted to suspend standing orders but that he had some additional information on the matter and was willing to postpone same.

Cllr. T Cullen asked that the Council consider writing to the Minister for Education and Skills regarding the KWETB. He said that there was an emergency meeting call that morning in the Department of Education and that a Special Investigator had been appointed, Mr. Richard Thorn. He said that no report has been provided to the elected members in respect of what is happening with regard to the issues under investigation.

The Cathaoirleach advised that as there was an ongoing investigation into the matter he considered it unwise to discuss the matter. He also stated that he along with four other elected members were members of the KWETB, he therefore would excuse himself from the meeting while this matter was being discussed. Cllr. P. Vance, Leas Cathaoirleach took the Chair. The following elected members excused themselves from the discussion and left the chamber while this matter was being discussed:- Cllrs E. Timmins, T. Annesley, J. Whitmore, N. Lawless , J. Ruttle and G. Dunne.

Cllr. T. Cullen asked that the Council write to the Minister for Education and Skills to provide Wicklow County Council with a report on what is happening with regard to the investigation that is ongoing into the KWETB, following a brief discussion on the matter wherein Cllr. T. Cullen's request was seconded by Cllr. T. Fortune, it was agreed to issue the letter to the Minister.

### **Votes of Sympathy**

Elected members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of the late Mr. John Donnelly Kilmacanogue, Ms. Rose Hatton, Ms. Bridget Flanagan, Mr. Brendan Keogh, Mr. Mervyn Morrison, former Wicklow Town County Councillor and Mr. Simon Fitzmaurice. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

### **Votes of Congratulations**

Votes of Congratulations were extended to the following Ms. Katie Taylor on achieving another world boxing title, Rathnew GAA Club on their success in the County Wicklow Senior Football Championship in progressing through the first round of Leinster , to Ashford GAA Club on winning the Junior C and Glenealy for winning the Intermediate Championships. To Baltinglass Under 17s on winning the minor championship and to Vallemount on the junior win yesterday. To Jason Smith on boxing internationally at the Danish 52kg championship. And to Conor and Sean Price, wishing them continued success in the X Factor.

**Housing SPC Meeting:** Cllr. J. Snell, Chair of the Housing SPC advised that there is a Housing SPC meeting scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> of November at 2.30 p.m. and that all elected members were welcome to attend if they wished to do so.

### **ITEM NO 1**

**To confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.**

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

#### **ITEM NO 2**

**To confirm and sign minutes of Special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.**

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Snell seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of Special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

#### **ITEM NO. 3**

**To confirm and sign Ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2017.**

It was proposed by Cllr. G. McLoughlin seconded by Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 2017.

#### **ITEM NO. 4**

**To consider the disposal of 2.29 acres (or thereabouts) consisting of a site of 1.78 acres plus half an acre of former roadbed to be reserved for the possible construction of a roundabout in the townland of Ballywaltrim, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Nechouka in accordance with statutory notice previously circulated**

Elected Members were circulated with the following documents

1. Report to the members of Wicklow County Council Re: NECHOUKA LTD from the Director of Services, Enterprise and Corporate Services Mr. T. Murphy dated the 29<sup>th</sup> of August, 2017
2. Lease dated the 13<sup>th</sup> of June, 2008 between Wicklow County Council and Bray Town Council in the one part and Nechouka Ltd in the other part
3. Letter dated the 26<sup>th</sup> of June, 2017 from Knight Frank to Mr. T. Murphy, DOS, Enterprise and Corporate Services
4. Legal opinion of Ms. Sunniva McDonagh, SC dated the 5<sup>th</sup> of April, 2017 Re: Nechouka Ltd., Site at Southern Cross Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow, Folio 53941. County Wicklow – Querist: Wicklow County Council
5. Legal Opinion of Lyndon MacCann SC dated 21<sup>st</sup> of November, 2017 Re: Property at Ballywaltrim, Bray, County Wicklow; Agents William Fry, Querist: Nechouka Ltd.
6. Letter dated the 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2017 from Mr. David Sweetman, Law Agent, Wicklow County Council to Ms. Sunniva McDonagh SC- Re Site at Southern Cross Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow Folio 5394L Co. Wicklow.

Mr. T. Murphy, DOS, Enterprise and Corporate Services advised in relation to the documents circulated and outlined the history and background to the matter to date. He referred to copy of letter dated the 6<sup>th</sup> of October, 2017 from David Sweetman, Law Agent and to legal opinion dated the 11<sup>th</sup> of October, 2017 from Mr. Esmonde B. Keane, SC, which legal advice sets out that the matter is in his opinion a reserved function and one for the elected members to consider. He advised that the elected members had been circulated with the appropriate Section 183 disposal notice and the proposed variations to the lease include

1. That the arrears of rent of €778,219 be discharged in full
2. That the rent be abated to €1 per annum for a further period ending on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December, 2022
3. In the event that the lessee fails to develop the site to the stage of substantial completion by the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2021 the rent abatement would cease and in addition the rent for the period from 31<sup>st</sup> December up to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December, 2022 will become fully payable which would amount to approximately €500,000.

In conclusion Mr. Murphy advised that Nechouka Ltd. had already paid the Council €14.4m for the site, has agreed to discharge all of the arrears due in the sum of €778,219 and that if the development is not completed within the five year period a further €500,000 will accrue to Wicklow County Council.

Cllr. J. Ryan proposed the variation of the lease as set out in the disposal notice. *‘that annual rent be abated to the sum of €1 for the period from 29<sup>th</sup> of September, 2019 to December, 2022, reverting to €100,000 per annum if the lessee fails to comply with the obligations to develop the*

site but that they will pay the abated amount of €500,000 to the Council. In addition that the outstanding monies currently owed will be paid immediately and that this money will be retained in the Bray Municipal District.’ This was seconded by Cllr. P. Vance.

Cllr. M. O Connor put forward the following proposal which was seconded jointly by Cllr. N. Lawless and Cllr. M. McDonald: ‘That Nechouka Limited be allowed a further 12 months to begin development on the site on the Southern Cross, failing any movement on development the penalty provision will kick in and Wicklow County Council will seek the payment of the outstanding penalties going back to 2010.’

Cllr. J. Behan proposed ‘that the variation in the disposal notice not proceed and that the money owed is immediately handed over to the Council. If this happens, the official come back with another disposal notice with a proposal for a two-year abatement period, not a five-year abatement period’. This was seconded by Cllr. M. Kavanagh.

Cllr. J. Whitmore proposed ‘that for the next meeting the Council official be furnished with the policy that relates to the collection of overdue rents.’

Cllr. T. Cullen proposed ‘that the Council adjourn the matter and instruct the officials to revert and renegotiate and come back to the elected members with a more lucrative deal for the Council.’

Following a lengthy discussion on the matter the Cathaoirleach advised that he would take a vote on the proposals. Ms. L. Gallagher read the proposals again to the meeting. Cllr. T. Cullen advised that he was happy to support Cllr. Behan’s proposal thereby withdrawing his own proposal

The proposal as put forward by Cllr. J. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. P. Vance was put to a vote and following a roll call was passed by a margin of 17 for, 13 against and 2 not present viz:-

<b>FOR 17</b>	<b>CLLRS T. ANNESLEY, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, S. CULLEN, G. DUNNE, P. FITZGERALD, C. FOX, P. KENNEDY, S. MATTHEWS, G. MCLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, M. MURPHY, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN, E. TIMMINS, P. VANCE AND G. WALSH</b>
<b>AGANST 13</b>	<b>CLLRS J. BEHAN, T. CULLEN, P. DORAN, T. FORTUNE, M. KAVANAGH, N. LAWLESS, M. MCDONALD, O. O BRIEN, M. O CONNOR, G. O NEILL, B. THORNHILL AND J. WHITMORE</b>
<b>NOT PRESENT 2</b>	<b>CLLRS D. NOLAN AND I. WINTERS</b>

#### **ITEM NO 5**

**To consider the disposal of Fee Simple Interest comprised in Leasehold Folio No. 2710L-Co. Wicklow being 38 Beechwood Park, Kilcoole, Co Wicklow to Mr. Peter Hayden and Mrs. Iris Hayden, 38 Beechwood Park, Kilcoole, Co Wicklow.**

It was proposed by Cllr. N. Lawless, seconded by Cllr. C. Fox and agreed to dispose of Fee Simple Interest comprised in Leasehold Folio No. 2710L – Co. Wicklow being 38 Beechwood Park, Kilcoole, Co Wicklow to Mr. Peter Hayden and Mrs. Iris Hayden, 38 Beechwood Park, Kilcoole, Co Wicklow.

#### **ITEM NO. 6:**

**To consider the Chief Executive's Report on submissions to the Draft Arklow and Environs Local Area Plan, 2017 and to consider making, not making or amending the Draft Plan as appropriate.**

**Elected members were circulated with the following documents:-**

1. Draft Arklow and Environs Local Area Plan – Chief Executive's Report on submissions made to the Draft Plan – Wicklow County Council, September, 2017
2. Chief Executive's Recommendations and Elected Members Proposed Amendments: Council meeting of 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 – Consideration of the First Chief Executive's Report on the Draft Local Area Plan 2018.

Mr. Des O'Brien Director of Services advised of the documents circulated to the Elected Members, he advised that the Arklow Area elected members had met that morning and it was suggested that the Chief Executive's recommendation be considered first followed by the amendments proposed by the elected members of which there are nine. This was agreed.

<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 1:</b>	
Department of Planning Chapter 2 Section 2.1 – Population and Housing – Insert 2016 CSO figures and amend table 2.3 Arklow population and housing targets	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. M. McDonald and agreed
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 2</b>	
NTA Chapter 5 Arklow Town Centre Strategy Objective – Amend Objectives	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. M. McDonald and agreed
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 3</b>	
NTA Chapter 5 Arklow Town Centre Strategy Objectives 3 new objectives from the NTA	Proposed by Cllr J. Snell Seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 4</b>	
Chapter 9 Roadstone Ltd. Infrastructure, Transportation and Movement Objectives Amend Objective	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 5</b>	
NTA Chapter 9 Infrastructure, Transportation and Movement objectives New objective	Proposed by Cllr. T. Annesley Seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 6</b>	
Arklow Heritage Chapter 10 Built and Natural Heritage Amend Objective	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed
<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 7</b>	

Dawnhill and Windhill Chapter 11 Zoning, Kilbride Action Area	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed
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<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 8</b>	
Roadstone Ltd. Chapter 11 Zoning Table – Extractive Industry (EX – U) Amend the uses permissible	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed

<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 9</b>	
DoPI, EPA Insert new <b>Appendix D Phasing and Implementation</b> <i>including a infrastructure deliver schedule (3 pages)</i>	Proposed by Cllr. T. Annesley Seconded by Cllr. M. McDonald and agreed

<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 10</b>	
M & S Quirke Land Use Zoning Map R28 – RE @ Carrigmore	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed

<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 11</b>	
Yellow Lane Business Park Land Use Zoning Map E1 – LSS @ Yellow Lane	Consider with Proposed Councillor Amendment Number 8.

<b>Chief Executive's Recommendation Number 12</b>	
A & M Young Land Use Zoning Map OS2 to RE@ Vale Road	Proposed by Cllr. M. McDonald Seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed

Mr. Des O Brien, DOS advised that this concluded the amendments of the Chief Executive and he was moving on to the amendments proposed by the Elected Members as circulated.

<b>Elected Members Amendment Number 1:</b> Des O Brien, DOS advised that the CE does not support the proposed amendment for the reasons outlined in the report.	
Chapter 3 Residential Table 3.1 Land Use Map	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr S. Bourke and agreed

<b>Elected Members Amendment Number 2:</b> : Des O Brien, DOS advised that the CE does not support the proposed amendment for the reasons outlined in the report.	
Chapter 4 Economic Develop Land Use Map	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed

<b>Elected Members Amendment Number 3:</b> : Des O Brien, DOS advised that the CE has no objection to the proposed amendment for the reasons outlined in the report.	
Chapter 9 Infrastructure Transportation and Movement	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed

<b>Elected Members Amendment Number 4:</b> : Des O Brien, DOS advised that the CE does not	
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support the proposed amendment for the reasons outlined in the report.	
Chapter 3 Residential Development Land Use Map	Proposed by Cllr. T. Annesley Seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed

<b>Elected Members Amendment Number 5:</b> : Des O Brien, DOS advised that the CE does not support the proposed amendment for the reasons outlined in the report.	
Chapter 3 Residential Development Land Use Map	Proposed by Cllr. T. Annesley Seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed

<b>Elected Members Amendment Number 6:</b> : Des O Brien, DOS advised that the CE does not support the proposed amendment for the reasons outlined in the report.	
Chapter 4 Economic Development and Employment Land Use Map	Proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald Seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed

<b>Elected Members Amendment Number 7:</b> : Des O Brien, DOS advised that the CE does not support the proposed amendment for the reasons outlined in the report.	
Chapter 11 Zoning, Land Use and Action Areas Land Use Map	Proposed by Cllr. S. Bourke Seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed

<b>Elected Members Amendment Number 8:</b> : Des O Brien, DOS advised that the CE has no objection to proposed amendment.	
Chapter 3 Residential Development Land Use Map Noted: Relates to CE recommendation Number 11 – CE is in agreement	Proposed by T. Annesley Seconded by Cllr. P. Kennedy and agreed

<b>Elected Members Amendment Number 9:</b> : Des O Brien, DOS advised that the CE does not support the proposed amendment for the reasons outlined in the report.	
Land Use Map	Proposed by Cllr. S. Bourke Seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed

Mr. Des O Brien advised that the next stage of the process is to assess the amendment to ascertain if any strategic environmental assessment or assessment or flood risk assessment is to be added to them, and the amendments will then go on public display for a four week period. The Chief Executive's report will then be brought back to the elected members most likely in February having regard to the Christmas period.

The matter was then put to a vote and following a roll call it was agreed by a margin of 22 votes for and 10 not present that the Draft Arklow and Environs Local Area Plan go on public display with the amendments as proposed viz:-

<b>FOR 22</b>	<b>CLLRS: T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, S. CULLEN, P. DORAN, G. DUNNE, C. FOX, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, N. LAWLESS, S. MATTHEWS, M. MCDONALD, G. MCLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, M. MURPHY, J. RYAN, J. SNELL, B. THORNHILL, E. TIMMINS, P. VANCE AND J. WHITMORE</b>
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<b>NOT PRESENT 10</b>	<b>CLLRS T. CULLEN, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, D. NOLAN, O O BRIEN, M. O CONNOR, G. O NEILL, J. RUTTLE, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS</b>
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**ITEM NO 7****To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Report (month ending 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2017).**

The Chief Executive introduced the new formatted monthly report which he said is set out in three broad categories; (1) Housing and Communities, Community Cultural and Social Development along with (2) Economic Development and planning infrastructure, and (3) the organisation development which reports on financial matters. He advised that the document reports on the highlights for the month referring to the approval for 32 housing units, the Irish Library Services award, National Women's Enterprise Day and the contract signing for Delaney Park, Arklow. He advised that the report had been considered at the CPG meeting and it was suggested that the report provide for comparisons between the current month and the previous month and in some cases the current year and the previous year. The Cathaoirleach congratulated the Chief Executive on the newly formatted comprehensive report and encouraged all members to read same and put forward any suggestions they might have as to additional information or changes to the report. He said for his part he would like to see figures around housing vacancies, so that this can be monitored. Also month by month comparisons or annual comparisons can be useful in comparing trends which he said he would like to see more emphasis placed on as well as funding and grand drawdown. The elected members collectively welcomed the report in its new format.

**ITEM NO 8****To approve the overdraft accommodation of €20 million for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2018**

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. S. Matthews and agreed that Wicklow County Council put in place a temporary overdraft accommodation of €20m for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> of December, 2018 subject to the approval of the Department of Housing, Planning Community and Local Government.

**ITEM NO 9****To consider the adoption of the County Wicklow Heritage Plan 2017-2022**

Elected members were circulated with the Draft County Wicklow Heritage Plan in respect of which Ms. Deirdre Burns, Heritage Officer gave a presentation to the meeting. Following a discussion on the matter it was proposed by Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. S. Matthews and agreed by a margin of 19 votes for and 13 not present to adopt the County Wicklow Heritage Plan, 2017 – 2022 viz:-

<b>FOR (19)</b>	<b>CLLRS T. ANNESLEY, S. BOURKE, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, C. FOX, M. KAVANAGH, N. LAWLESS, S. MATTHEWS, M. MCDONALD, G. MCLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, M. MURPHY O O BRIEN, B. THORNHILL, E. TIMMINS, P. VANCE, G. WALSH, J. WHITMORE, I. WINTERS</b>
<b>NOT PRESENT (13)</b>	<b>CLLRS. J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. CULLEN, T. CULLEN, P. DORAN, G. DUNNE, P. KENNEDY, D. NOLAN, M. O CONNOR. G. O NEILL, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN AND J. SNELL</b>

**ITEM NO 10****To discuss the recently published draft National Planning Framework**

Elected Members were circulated with the recently published draft National Planning Framework. Des O'Brien, Director of Services gave the presentation which he said had been given by the East and Midland Regional Planning Officer to Directors and Senior Planners, with additions to give the Wicklow context and how it affects County Wicklow. He advised as follows:-



- Plan seeks to stop the spread of development and try to concentrate on cities
- No person should have to commute more than 30 minutes to work and more than 90 minutes from an airport.
- Population changes and implications
- Overall philosophy
- Aims – stop the divergence of population and constrain the growth of Dublin city.
- Potential increase in populations
- Implications for the rural areas
- Growth targets: Cities, Towns and Rural areas
- Funding schemes

He advised that submissions had to be in by the 10<sup>th</sup> of November following which the Plan will be brought back to the Government for decision. Deadlines are tight and following consultation period it is expected to launch the final ten year capital plan before the end of 2017.

Elected members made the views known in relation to the Draft Plan. Ms. Sorcha Walsh, SEP acknowledged that the timelines were tight and that it had been extended by a period of one week. She suggested that the points raised by the members will be written up in a format for submission. She referred to the four key issues raised and if there were any further issues that the members would like included in the submission on their behalf they can be submitted to either herself or Des O'Brien or any of the planning team in the next couple of days.

#### **ITEM NO 11**

##### **To receive update on the Town and Village Renewal Scheme**

Mr. M. Nicholson, DOS, Community, Cultural and Social Development have a brief outline of the activity under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme for 2017 as follows:-

- Scheme announced back in April and the appropriate announcements, public notices were given
- 22 applications received by the closing date
- All of the applications were examined by an internal group
- Some of the applications submitted were poorly prepared in relation to content and did not appear to be thought out thoroughly and reflected more of ideas than a project itself
- Some did not qualify under the terms of the scheme and were not acceptable, others were from private individuals.
- Having reviewed all of the applications it was finally agreed that only 7 applications could go forward to the Department for funding.

The DOS advised that in view of the fact that only 3 were successful, it is decided to do things differently in 2018 and commence the process earlier in January and involve all directorates, the five MDS and the elected members, to advise the public of the scheme and get the applications in early. He asked if any of the elected members were aware of any potential projects that they make the team aware.

#### **ITEM NO 12**

##### **To receive update on the 'County Wicklow Age Friendly Strategy'**

Deferred to meeting of the 4<sup>th</sup> of December, 2017 having regard to time constraints.

### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS**

**The Rocks at Priestnewtown:** Cllr. T. Fortune advised that the trespassing situation continues to carry on at this site and asked for an up to date position on the matter. Mr. J. Lane, DOS advised that this matter is being dealt with and will require a legal solution. Wicklow County Council has been taking legal advice and the issues raised in the suspension of standing orders will be brought to the attention of the Council's Senior Counsel.

**Withdrawal of Spinal services at St. Vincent's Hospital:** Cllr. J. Behan requested that a letter issue to the Minister for Health protesting at the withdrawal of all spinal services at St. Vincent's Hospital to the people of County Wicklow and South Dublin. This was agreed.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

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**CLLR. EDWARD TIMMINS  
CATHOIRLEACH  
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

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

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_