

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN  
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY BUILDINGS, WICKLOW ON MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup>  
MAY 2017, COMMENCING 2.00 P.M.**

**PRESENT:**

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

**APOLOGIES:**

**COUNCILLOR E, TIMMINS.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**MR. B. DOYLE, CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. S. QUIRKE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. D. O'BRIEN, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. T. MURPHY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. L. FITZPATRICK, HEAD OF IT  
MR. M. GEANEY, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MS. D. CROMIE, A/HEAD OF FINANCE  
MS. L. GALLAGHER, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR  
MS. H. DENNEHY, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MS. C. FLOOD, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MR. D. MARNANE, A/SENIOR ENGINEER  
MR. M. DEVEREUX, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MS. S. WALSH, SENIOR PLANNER  
MS. L. EARLS, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
MR. F. KEOGH, SENIOR ENGINEER**

**Votes of Sympathy**

Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to Cllr. Pat Doran on the recent and sad passing of his wife Mrs. Mary Doran and also to the family of the late Mr. Michael Burke. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

**Launches:**

L. Gallagher advised of the two launches to take place in the foyer following the Council meeting at 5.15 p.m. (1). Wicklow County Council's launch of Musical Instruments for libraries in association with Wicklow Music Generation and (2). Wicklow County Council's launch of original charter for provision of gas lighting for Wicklow town in 1856.

**Suspension of Standing Orders**

Cllr. G. O'Neill requested a suspension of standing orders to consider the issue of the compulsory use of Tablet/PCs in second level schools in County Wicklow and in particular in KWETB schools such as St. Kevin's Community College in Dunlavin. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Behan and the elected members agreed to discuss this matter at 4.30p.m.

**ITEM NO. 1**

**To confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017.**

L. Gallagher advised of typographical error in relation to Item 7, on page 3 of the minutes. In that the word 'AGAINST' should read 'NOT PRESENT'. It was proposed by Cllr. V. Blake and seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald to accept the amendment. It was then proposed by Cllr. V. Blake seconded by Cllr. P. Vance and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 with amendment.

**ITEM NO. 2**

**To confirm and sign minutes of Special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017.**

It was proposed by Cllr. N. Lawless, seconded by Cllr. P. Vance and agreed to confirm and sign the minutes of Special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

**ITEM NO. 3**

**To confirm and sign minutes of Special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017.**

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. C. Fox and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of Special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

**ITEM NO. 4**

**To confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017.**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. N. Lawless and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017.

**ITEM NO. 5**

**To consider the disposal of Freehold Interest in the property known as 37 Wolfe Tone Square West, Bray, Co Wicklow to Mr. Paul O'Neill, the Personal Representative in the Estate of Matthew O'Neill, deceased (in accordance with notice previously circulated).**

It was proposed by Cllr. C. Fox, seconded by Cllr. P. Vance and agreed to dispose of Freehold Interest in the property known as 37 Wolfe Tone Square West, Bray, Co Wicklow to Mr. Paul O'Neill, the Personal Representative in the Estate of Matthew O'Neill, deceased, in accordance with notice previously circulated.

**ITEM NO. 6**

**To consider the disposal of 0.2042 Hectares or thereabouts of land at Hillbrook, Coolboy, Co Wicklow to Mr. Declan Jordan, Hillbrook, Coolboy, Co Wicklow (in accordance with notice previously circulated).**

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Doran, seconded by Cllr. V. Blake and agreed to dispose of 0.2042 Hectares or thereabouts of land at Hillbrook, Coolboy, Co Wicklow to Mr. Declan Jordan, Hillbrook, Coolboy, Co Wicklow in accordance with notice previously circulated.

**ITEM NO. 7**

**To consider the disposal of 0.0184 hectares or thereabouts of land comprised in part of Folio No. WW37548F – Co Wicklow at rear of 15 Vartry Heights, Roundwood, Co Wicklow to Paul and Sile Keane, 15 Vartry Heights, Roundwood, Co Wicklow (in accordance with notice previously circulated).**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed to dispose of 0.0184 Hectares or thereabouts of land comprised in part of Folio No. WW37548F – Co Wicklow at rear of 15 Vartry Heights, Roundwood, Co Wicklow to Paul and Sile Keane, 15 Vartry Heights, Roundwood, Co Wicklow in accordance with notice previously circulated.

**ITEM NO. 8**

**To consider the disposal of 619m<sup>2</sup> or thereabouts of land at Newtownmountkennedy Demense, Newtownmountkennedy, Co Wicklow together with Right of Way for access to Harvieston Limited, Ashwood Farm, Ballybrew, Enniskerry, Co Wicklow – Drawing 16/151/500 (in accordance with statutory notice previously circulated).**

It was proposed by Cllr. D. Nolan, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed to dispose of 619m<sup>2</sup> or thereabouts of land at Newtownmountkennedy Demense, Newtownmountkennedy, Co Wicklow together with Right of Way for access to Harvieston Limited, Ashwood Farm, Ballybrew, Enniskerry, Co Wicklow – Drawing 16/151/500 – in accordance with notice previously circulated.

**ITEM NO. 9**

**To consider the disposal of 0.4811 Hectares (1.1889 Acres) or thereabouts of land in the townland of Ballinacor East, Kilbride, Co Wicklow to Mr. David Johnson, Penrose House, Redcross Village, Redcross, Co Wicklow (Drawing N11/RARIS/DSPL/50) (in accordance with statutory notice previously circulated)**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed to dispose of 0.4811 Hectares (1.1889 Acres) or thereabouts of land in the townland of Ballinacor East, Kilbride, Co Wicklow to Mr. David Johnson, Penrose House, Redcross Village, Redcross, Co Wicklow (Drawing N11/RARIS/DSPL/50) in accordance with notice previously circulated.

**ITEM NO. 10**

**To consider the disposal of 27 square meters or thereabouts of land in the townland of Ballinahinch, Ashford, Co Wicklow to James and Esther Doyle, Ballinahinch, Ashford, Co Wicklow – Drawing No. 12/049/102A (in accordance with statutory notice previously circulated)**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed to dispose of 27 square meters or thereabouts of land in the townland of Ballinahinch, Ashford, Co Wicklow to James and Esther Doyle, Ballinahinch, Ashford, Co Wicklow – Drawing No. 12/049/102A – in accordance with notice previously circulated.

**ITEM NO. 11**

**To consider the Chief Executive's Report on submissions to the draft Rathdrum Local Area Plan 2017 and to consider making, not making or amending the draft plan as appropriate (deferred from meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2017).**

Elected Members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Report on submissions to the draft Rathdrum Local Area Plan 2017, dated March, 2017.

Ms. S. Walsh, Senior Planner advised that the report had been on public display following which 9 submissions were received. She advised that the Chief Executive had recommended that the draft be adopted as circulated. It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. M. McDonald and agreed by a margin of 29 votes for and 3 not present to adopt the Rathdrum Local Area Plan 2017 as circulated.

FOR 29	CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, G. DUNNE, S. CULLEN, P. DORAN, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, C. FOX, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, N. LAWLESS, S. MATTHEWS, M.MCDONALD, G. MCLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, M. MURPHY, D. NOLAN, O. O'BRIEN, M. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN, J. SNELL, P. VANCE, G. WALSH, J. WHITMORE AND I. WINTERS
NOT PRESENT 3	CLLRS. T. CULLEN, J. SNELL AND E. TIMMINS.

### **ITEM NO. 12**

**To consider the Wicklow County Council Annual Service Delivery Plan, 2017 (circulated to the elected members and deferred from Meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, 2017)**

The Cathaoirleach advised that presentations had been made by Mr. J. Lane, DOS, Housing, and Mr. S. Quirke, DOS, Roads at meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, 2017 and that presentations would be made by Environment, Enterprise, IT and CCSD Directorates.

Mr. Michael Geaney, A/DOS presented the Water and Environmental Services Annual Service Delivery Plan covering the following areas:-

- Water and Waste Water Services Public Supplies Irish Water
- Water and Waste Services private supplies
- Private wastewater plants
- Environmental Services including pollution control, flooding and coastal erosion
- Dangerous structures
- Finance
- Carparks etc.
- Caravan parks
- Energy efficiency and reporting
- Wicklow port
- Arklow Harbour
- Civil Defence
- Health and Safety
- Functional area
- Waste management
- Environmental Veterinary Services

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DOS Mr. D. O'Brien presented on the Annual Service Delivery Plan, Planning and Economic Development covering the following areas:-

**Goal No. 1** To regulate development in County Wicklow to sustain a better quality of life for people, a strong competitive economic position and an environment of the highest quality, through effective and efficient development management and enforcement processes

**Supporting Programme:** To ensure quality and consistency of planning applications and consents Indicator Outturns for 2016

- Individual Houses: 7% appealed, 100% Upheld, compared to 9% and 71% in 2015
- Housing Developments: 5 decisions appealed, 4 upheld, 1 reversed, compared to 3 upheld and 2 reversed in 2015
- Other Developments: 7% appealed, 75% upheld, similar to 2015 at 7% and 74%

**Supporting Programme:** To promptly investigate complaints of unauthorised development Indicator Outturns for 2016

- 777 ongoing files at year end
- 317 Advisory letters
- 189 Warning letters
- 58 Enforcement Notices
- 28 Legal
- 223 Files Closed
- 172 new Complaints

**Goal No. 2** To ensure planning and economic development takes place within an agreed framework, developed in consultation with the public and other stakeholders

**Supporting Programme:** To provide and maintain up to date Development Plans, including all statutory reports and reviews Programme for 2016

- Continue with preparation of the following plans:
  - Bray Municipal District Local Area Plan 2017-2023
  - Arklow & Environs Local Area Plan 2017-2023
  - Rathdrum Local Area Plan 2017 – 2023
  - Vacant Site Levy

**Goal No. 3** To ensure residents have an acceptable living environment, by facilitating timely completion of housing estates and to progress the taking in charge of completed estates

**Supporting Programme:** To ensure developments are completed satisfactorily, adequate staff are available to do so, and adequate bonds are in place

Programme for 2016 sought for

- the taking in charge of 10 estates.
- 11 estates were taken in charge

Programme for 2017

- To inspect all ongoing housing developments
- To take in charge 15 estates

**Supporting Programme:** To operate a system to assess compliance submissions in a timely manner

- Indicator Outturns for 2016

- No of compliance submissions
- received and dealt with within
- 4 weeks – 55%
- 4 weeks and over -45%.

**Goal No. 4** Facilitate business development and employment creation through pro-active interaction with promoters of employment infrastructure Supporting Programme:

To provide support and planning advice in relation to economic development for new businesses or expanding businesses in the County Indicator Outturns for 2016

- Total of 68 pre-planning queries in relation to commercial development dealt with
- Priority to employment generating/large complex applications – on average within 8 days of receipt of request

**Goal No. 5** To secure the implementation of the Development Contribution Scheme and through efficient collection of development contributions, minimise the amount of outstanding monies owed

**Supporting Programme:** Provide a continuous system of reviewing, pursuing, and monitoring of contributions outstanding Performance Indicators

- Total of €4.8 million was collected in 2016 - €2.3 million collected on long term debt and €2.5 on short term debt
- 275 new developments commenced in 2016 and invoiced, with 176 of these paid in full
- Total of 988 customers being monitored/reviewed, of which 492 are on schedule payments

**Goal No. 6** To ensure that the protection of natural and built heritage is integrated into all actions and decision making

**Supporting Programme:** To ensure adequate and suitably trained staff to carry out duties in Development Management and Enforcement Primary Programme for 2017

- Glendalough Community Heritage Project
- River Liffey Heritage Project (Phase 2)
- Wicklow Local Biodiversity Initiative
- Community Archaeology Workshop
- Built Heritage Grants Structures at Risk and Built Heritage Investment Scheme
- Co. Wicklow Culture & Creativity Plan

**Goal No. 7**

- Internal Statutory Support Services To provide a Healthy & Safe Working Environment
- Ensure compliance with Data Protection legislation
- Supporting Programme
- Continuous review, updating and implementation of Safety Statement
- To ensure adequate data protection training to staff
- Indicator Outturns for 2016
- Number of accidents/incidents 0

- Number of reviews/updates of safety statement completed 0
- No. of data infringement complaints received 0
- No. of data infringement complaints upheld NA
- Challenges for 2017 Increased workload, larger/complex applications, staff recruitment & movement
- Planning applications have increased by between 5% – 7% for the each of the past three years
- Service provision will be affected with some goals that do not have statutory deadlines not being addressed

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Mr. N. Nicholson, DOS, presented the Annual Service Delivery Plan for Community, Cultural and Social Development covering the following areas:-

### **Functional Areas Community Development**

- Social Inclusion
- Library Service
- Recreation & Amenity
- Arts
- Music Generation
- Culture
- Health & Safety

### **Community Development**

- Local Community Development Committee (LCDC)
- Local Economic & Community Plan
- Development Levies
- LEADER Programme 2014-2020
- Community Grants
- Age Friendly Alliance
- Children & Young People's Services Committee
- Comhairle Na Nog
- Disability Access

### **Social Inclusion**

- Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP)
- Contract with Disability Federation of Ireland for Access officer for the County.
- Promotion of Social Inclusion and equality in the County
- Public Participation Network
  - 150 member groups
  - 15 new groups in 2016

### **Library Service**

- Library Development Plan 2016 – 2020
- Develop public libraries to promote community cohesion and well-being, economic growth and cultural identity.
- Encourage additional activity in libraries, such as musical equipment loans, foreign language stock , community rooms etc.

### **Recreation**

- Support the development of Sport & Recreation

- Wicklow Outdoor Recreation
- Wicklow Way Partnership
- Bray/Greystones Cliff walk
- Local Sports Partnership
- Wicklow Walking Routes
- Playgrounds/Skateparks/MUGA

### **Arts**

- Nurture the arts in the County
- Arts Strategy 2015 – 2018
- 1% for Art Scheme
- Public Art Policy
- Artists support through grants
- Support for festivals

### **Music Generation**

- Strategic Partnership with KWETB for Music Generation Wicklow
- Music generation 5 year plan 2015 – 2020
- Collaboration with Library Service to bring music to the libraries.
- Expand music generation in areas of social disadvantage.

### **Culture**

- Creative Ireland Programme
- Place creativity at the centre of public policy
- Culture Team to be established. Will be led by Director of Services, CCSD.
- Creative Ireland Co-ordinator in each County—Arts officer in Wicklow.
- First task is to develop a “Culture & Creativity Plan” for the County.
- €1m allocated nationally.
- Build on success of 1916/2016 experience.

### **Health & Safety**

- Provide a healthy and safe working environment.
- Continue to raise awareness of Health & Safety at work through training and staff wellbeing programmes.

### **Headline Indicators 2017**

- Implement actions from the LECP
- Work in partnership with CWP to deliver on the Local Development Strategy under LEADER.
- Complete the County Wicklow Age Friendly Strategy.
- Review the Community Grants scheme to align the scheme with the LECP objectives and the Pride of Place competition.
- Increase library membership and visits to libraries.
- Increase membership of the PPN
- Publish 4 editions of the “Countywise” newsletter.
- Increase number of items borrowed and the availability of Internet in Libraries.
- Provide a number of new playground facilities and refurbish a number of older playgrounds.
- Increase in sports programmes rolled out
- More coaching programmes
- Roll out music generation to rural areas
- Fully utilise the 1% for Art Scheme
- Manage the Town & Village renewal scheme, the REDZ scheme, the CLAR scheme and the Pride of place competition, and align the projects with the objectives of the LECP.



- Under REDZ 2016, work in partnership with the Arklow & District Chamber of Commerce to develop a Pottery Museum.
- Collaborate with Coillte and Failte Ireland in developing the “Avondale Forest Park” project in Rathdrum.
- Complete the review of the Management and operation of the leisure complexes in Arklow and Wicklow.
- Complete the Part V111 process for the Blessington Greenway project, and subject to grant aid, procure contractors to begin the project in current year.
- Collaborate with the operators of Wicklow Historic Gaol to increase visitor numbers in line with Failte Ireland’s “Ancient East” product.

#### **Collaboration with adjacent Councils**

- Participate in the “Celtic Routes” INTERREG project with Wexford and Waterford councils and partners in Wales and submit final application for funding by end February.
- Collaborate with Wexford and Waterford councils to develop a “Blueway” from Bray to Ardmore and seek LEADER funding for a feasibility study in 2017.
- Collaborate with Wexford and Waterford councils on FLAG LEADER projects under the South East Fisheries Local action group.

#### **Walking Routes Project**

- In collaboration with the Bray to Greystones Cliff Walk committee, carry out extensive repair work on the walk, in line with consultant’s report 2016.
- In collaboration with the local committee, begin work on the Wicklow Cliff walk (Glen turn), in line with the right of way established in the County Development Plan.
- Extend the network of Walking routes in the county, with a view to linking as many routes as possible to the Wicklow Way.

#### **6 National Indicators**

- Visits to library per head of population 3.732 (3.161 in 2015).
- Number of items borrowed 500,000 (428,715 in 2015)
- Cost of operating library service per head €24.12 (€21.398 in 2015)
- Participation in Comhairle na Nog 80% (71.42% in 2015)
- Groups associated with PPN 150 (134 in 2015)
- Groups in Social inclusion college in PPN 43 (36 in 2015)

#### **Library visits**

- County total 2016      505,360 (target 500,000)
- Top 5 in 2016
  - Bray/Greystones      105,000 each.
  - Arklow                    80,000 (25,000 in 2015)
  - Wicklow                 66,000 (48,000 in 2015)
  - Blessington            60,000 (53,000 in 2015)

#### **Capital Programme 2016**

- Kilcoole Playground completion.
- Baltinglass Skatepark
- New playgrounds in Carnew/Rathdangan/Newtown/Knockananna.
- Playground refurbishment at Arklow and Greystones.
- New Library Wicklow Town.

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Mr. T. Murphy, DOS presented the Annual Services Delivery Plan for Enterprise and Corporate Services covering the following areas:-

### **Action Plan for Jobs - Strategic Areas**

- Driving Entrepreneurship
- Supporting business to grow and scale
- Fostering innovation
- Attracting and embedding foreign direct investment
- Building sectoral opportunities
- Skills enhancement and labour market activation
- Building business networks
- Marketing the region as an attractive place to work and live
- Maximising potential strategic areas for further job creation

### **South Eastern Creative Corridor**

- An initiative of 5 Local Enterprise Offices in the South East Region – Wicklow, Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford, Tipperary
- Aim is to create a vibrant, viable and creative Audio Visual Industry cluster in the Region.
- Programme is targeted at encouraging, supporting and developing new & existing businesses operating within or providing services/products to the broad creative Audio/Visual sector
- Funded under the Regional Action plan for jobs.

### **County Wicklow Economic Think Tank (CWETT)**

- A collaboration between local business, Wicklow County Council and Wicklow Local Enterprise Office.
- CWETT Action Plan, (adopted by WCC in 2015) aims to drive and maintain economic activity and increase employment in County Wicklow.
- Actions now embedded in the Local Economic and Community Plan which gives statutory basis, timelines and targets

### **CWETT PRIORITY AREAS /WORK GROUPS**

- Brand
- Communications and Marketing
- Film
- Retail
- Industry and Infrastructure
- Tourism

### **Priority Projects 2017**

- To support the development of the Film Industry in the County
- Completion/rollout of the Wicklow.ie Portal
- The development of a Tourism Strategy

### **Local Economic and Community Plan 2016 to 2022**

- Enhanced role in Community and Economic Development
- Developed following an extensive consultation process
- Based on economic and social analysis
- Contains 10 high level goals, 21 local objectives and more than 100 local actions
- Specific objectives, outcomes and timeframes
- Develop infrastructure and measures that are positive and supportive to investment, enterprise, innovation and knowledge creation in strategic locations

- Sustain existing enterprise and develop quality employment and income opportunities for the wide range of employment needs in the County, with possibilities for reversing commuting patterns
- Capitalise on Wicklow's unique attributes and proximity to the Dublin market, excellent quality of life, human capital, tourism, landscape, marine, agricultural and forestry resources
- Support a shift towards low carbon and climate change resilient economic activity, reducing energy dependence, promoting the sustainable use of resources and leading in the
- Smart Green Economy

**Performance Indicators**

- NOAC Report – 2015
  - % of Paid Working days lost to medically certified sickness absence in 2015 = 2.59%
  - % of paid working days lost to self certified sickness absence in 2015 = .26%
- No. of jobs created in 2015 with the assistance of the LEO – 62.50
- Local Performance Indicators

The Elected Members then agreed to consider Item No. 15 prior to returning to Item No. 12 to complete the Annual Service Delivery Plans.

**ITEM NO. 15**

**To consider the Draft Wicklow County Campus Strategic Plan 2016 – 2020.**

Elected Members were circulated with the following report:- The Draft Wicklow County Campus Centre of Excellence in Enterprise, Education and Innovation Strategic Plan 2016-2020.

Mr. T. Murphy advised that the original Wicklow County Campus Strategic Plan was adopted in 2008 covering the five year period to 2013 and that the review of the plan gives the Council the opportunity to re-evaluate what has been achieved and to chart the future direction of the campus over the coming four year period. He outlined the progress to date, the investment by WCC, the unique partnership that exists with IT Carlow in the provision of third level academic courses at the campus since 2006. He referred to the County Wicklow Local Enterprise Office, one of a nationwide network of 31 LEOS throughout the Country set up to deliver an improved. system of local enterprise support to start-ups and small businesses which is located in Clermont House.

Mr. Murphy outlined the actions presented within the Plan which he said had been developed with consideration of national and local strategies such as the LECP and the MER APJ.

At the conclusion of the presentation, it was proposed by Cllr. G. Walsh, seconded by Cllr. J. Behan and agreed to adopt the Draft Wicklow County Campus Strategic Plan 2016 -2020.

**ITEM NO. 12 continued: To consider the Wicklow County Council Annual Service Delivery Plan, 2017 (adjourned from meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2017).**

Mr. Liam Fitzpatrick, Head of IS presented on the Annual Service Delivery Plan for IT covering the following areas:

**4 main systems being used**

- Core HR

- Agresso FMS
- iHouse
- iPlan

Monitoring systems, for example used in water treatment plants are in place

### **Property Register and associate GIS**

- 3+ year project to date
- 6000 mapped land parcels
- Shows usage and legal status of each
- Includes: land ownership, current usage, size, any known problems
- Current/former land ownership, rights of way, wayleaves, leases and agreements
- Social houses from iHouse mapped
- Financial assess from Agresso mapped
- Each compared to property register to move towards a self correcting system
- Social housing v's registered land
- Services v's social housing
- Services v's land
- Land ownerships v's desired usage e.g. Wicklow – Greystones walking route

### Time Extension

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed that the meeting time be extended to 5.15 p.m.

### **Item 14**

#### **To receive a presentation on the National Broadband Plan (previously circulated and deferred from meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of April, 2017.**

Elected members were circulated with slide of presentation which was delivered by Mr. Liam Fitzpatrick, Head of IS and covered the following areas:-

- Broadband
- The National Broadband Plan
- MAN – Metropolitan Area Networks
- Rural Broadband Scheme
- Phase 1 and Phase 2 locations
- Intervention Strategy updated December, 2015
- Delivering a connected society
- Connecting Communities – Strategy and the next steps
- Broadband action groups
- National Digital Strategy
- Prioritisation Strategy
- Connecting communities – Access to High Speed Broadband Services.

Following conclusion of the presentation queries raised by the elected members were responded to by the relevant Directorates:-

- Situation regarding waste water services in Blessington
- Fire station Baltinglass

- Update in relation to decision of burial committee in relation to the erection of headstones in cemeteries
- Information on EU ruling regarding rural planning and the impact on planning policy in County Wicklow.
- Update on current status of Ballyinagran landfill and the acceptance of waste from outside of County Wicklow.
- Current status of proposed national policy to charge by weight
- Number of persons availing of household bin services and for those who are not availing of it where do they dispose of their waste.
- Call to extend the hours of dog warders to work over the weekends
- What level of interaction is there between the Planning Department and the Environmental Services Department of WCC in relation to Dangerous structures.
- Reference made to the percentage of dogs that are being put to sleep and query whether other options are being explored/implemented such as rehoming.
- Suggestion put forward that the Council proceed and commence the development of 22 houses in Dunlavin as it will take that amount of time to deliver the waste water plant.
- Tribute paid to the staff of the planning department, estates taken in charge welcome, the Council urged to consider return to accepting development contributions in instalments.
- Update on derelict sites levy and status of the La Touche Hotel, Greystones requested.
- Cllr. J. Behan proposed that the Council consider reintroducing planning committee meetings and that the protocol committee look at this, if only on a trial basis.
- Breakdown on the number of objections submitted by An Taisce requested.
- Work undertaken in the CCSD area commended
- It was proposed by Cllr. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Behan that the Irish language be captured/reflected in the Council's branding logo.
- Request for the Digital Strategy Group meet with the various municipal districts
- The introduction of minute pad commended

Prior to proceeding with consideration of suspension of standing orders items 18 and 20 were considered:

#### **ITEM NO. 18**

#### **To note and receive a presentation on the Draft Basin Management Plans (Public Consultation)**

Elected Members were circulated with the following documents:-

1. Slides of presentation to WCC River Basin Management Plan for Ireland (2018 – 2021) in the context of the proposed public consultation process to take place during the month of May
2. Details of proposed public consultation meetings

#### **ITEM NO. 20**

#### **To consider extending an invitation to a delegation from Hainan, China to visit Wicklow County Council.**

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Walsh, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed to extend an invitation to the Hainan Delegation to visit Wicklow County Council.

## **Suspension of Standing Orders**

Cllr. G. O'Neill requested a suspension of standing orders to consider the issue of the compulsory use of Tablets/PCs in second level schools in County Wicklow and in particular in KWETB schools such as St. Kevin's Community College in Dunlavin. This was seconded by Cllr. J. Behan and the elected members agreed to discuss this matter at 4.30p.m.

Cllr. G. O'Neill advised that the use of tablets is unsatisfactory as there is no signal in some parts of the building. He referred to a petition signed by 120 signatures and that parents would like to be offered a choice. He advised that correspondence had been written to the CEO of the KWETB, Mr. Sean Ashe, but no response was received. The school closes in three weeks time and the parents are left in limbo. He made the following proposal which was seconded by Cllr. Joe Behan

*'That Wicklow County Council write to the Department of Education and Skills to review the use of tables in all second level schools in County Wicklow and in particularly in St. Kevin's Community college, Dunlavin and that the KWETB be requested to respond to the correspondence in the matter.'*

Cllr. J. Behan advised that this matter should be settled at KWETB committee level and that at least 120 people had signed a requisition to the board of management to discuss the issue, that tables are not suiting everyone. He referred to correspondence he had written to the CEO, KWETB but that no response had been received.

Following a broad discussion on the matter during which various views were expressed it was noted that there was a KWETB board meeting scheduled for the following day, on which there are four elected representatives of WCC and that the Council would await the outcome of the meeting prior to making a proposal on the matter.

### **ITEM NO. 16**

#### **To note the AFS 2016.**

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. M. Murphy and agreed to note the AFS 2016.

### **ITEM NO. 13**

#### **To consider the Wicklow County Council 3 year Capital Budget 2017 -2019.**

Elected Members were circulated with report dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> of May, 2017 from the Acting Head of Finance, Ms. Deborah Crommie enclosing Appendix 1, Proposed Capital Investment Programme, 2017 to 2019. Ms. D. Cromie advised that the LG Act, 2001 requires a report to be presented to the elected members setting out the three year capital programme. She advised that it was an indication of the level of investment Wicklow County Council would like to undertake over the forthcoming three years but that it is not a guarantee of the commencement or completion of these projects as the Council is required to take a realistic and prudent assessment of the investment required together with the resources available to it.

Cllr. D. Mitchell expressed his concern at the level of projected investment in the Delgany Blacklion Road and for that reason he could not support the programme or the future budget. He asked for clarification in relation to the matter.

Cllr. G. Mcloughlin advised as the representative of the Council at the IPB AGM that there was additional funding being made available to all local authorities to pay for the repair of footpaths to prevent accidents and personal injuries claims and that she would like a

guarantee from finance that this money would be made available. This was seconded by Cllr. I. Winters.

At the conclusion of the discussion it was agreed to consider the 3 year capital programme again at the June council meeting.

### **ITEM NO. 17**

**To receive update following presentation by Raheenleagh/Ballinvalley Windfarm Group at Council meeting of the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017.**

Mr. Fergal Keogh, Senior Engineer, Planning and Economic Development updated the elected members as follows:-

Four distinct complaints were received in relation to Raheenleagh Windfarm, as follows:

1. Noise generated by Windfarm impacting on surrounding properties as noise limits are being exceeded.
2. Viewing points constructed near turbines without permission that are impacting on the residential amenities of properties in the area.
3. Environment Impact Assessment of proposed development granted under plan ref. 12/6049 was queried and Environmental Impact Statement should be requested from developer of the Windfarm.
4. Constructed windfarm non-compliant with Condition 26 attached to the windfarm permission under plan ref. 10/2140, which required the grid connection to receive planning permission prior to commencement of the windfarm development.

In relation to item 1 WCC wrote to the developer on the 07/04/17 in relation to their noise monitoring proposal raising various matters, some of which had been raised by the Raheenleagh/Ballinvalley Residents Group. A response is awaited.

In relation to item 2, WCC has carried out an investigation and it is satisfied that viewing points had been constructed and that these did not form part of the windfarm permission. On that basis, the developer and Coillte Teoranta have been written to in relation to the viewing points.

In relation to item 3, WCC has examined the planning files relating to planning ref. 12/6049. It is noted that the matter of the EIA was assessed in processing that application and that the Planning Authority had determined that EIA was not required. Furthermore, there was no mechanism to request the developer to submit an EIS outside of the planning process.

In relation to item 4 the legal advice received is that, having regard to the issuing by the Planning Authority in June 2013 of a S5 Declaration stating that the grid connection was exempted development and the time that had elapsed since the construction of the windfarm had commenced that the Planning Authority were estopped from taking enforcement action in relation to the non-compliance.

### **Question**

*Q: To seek an update on the 30 residents of Carraig Eden, Greystones, - what is the Council doing to help housing these men. Is the Council engaging with the Irish Assemblies of God (submitted by Cllr. N. Lawless)*

**Response:**

**Background:** Tiglin has been operating its housing model in Carraig Eden since 2009 and has succeeded in preventing homelessness in individuals who have taken the necessary steps to rehabilitate and become addiction free. Accommodation was provided by Tiglin for these homeless individuals in this supported accommodation with progression to either Private Rented Accommodation or Social Housing. Currently there are c. 30 people accommodated in the property. The housing service Tiglin offers through their residential plan is not something that is being provided for in the County by another Approved Housing Body. Tiglin is positioned to deliver services on a scale that is not yet being achieved currently in this area.

Wicklow County Council proposed to purchase Carraig Eden, Marine Road, Greystones, Co Wicklow to provide supported accommodation to homeless individuals/households in County Wicklow and to develop further the property to provide other accommodation to combat homelessness. This property would be used to provide accommodation for homeless people who have (a) achieved an addiction free status as per current national strategy which recommends that there should be an increase in accommodation for those exiting addiction rehabilitation and (b) suitable families/individuals at risk of homelessness. Wicklow County Council and Tiglin would work together to ensure that the long term needs of the facility's residents would be addressed by their progression into sustainable, long term tenancies via the various social housing supports available. A strong referral pathway has been created between Wicklow County Council and Tiglin and this collaborative approach has provided an end to homelessness for a cohort that is largely unreached.

**Funding Approval:**

Wicklow County Council worked closely with Tiglin in making the application for funding to the Department of Housing, Community and Planning who were strongly committed to this project and approval to funding in the sum of €3,034,600 (€1,729,000 to purchase and further funding of €1,305,600 for a phased refurbishment of the building) was received on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017. Unfortunately, the Council was subsequently notified by the vendor that this offer would not be accepted.

**Current Status:**

The Council has been advised that the residents have this week received Notice to Quit for 31<sup>st</sup> July 2017 and is seeking to reopen negotiations with the vendor to ascertain if there is a way to resolve the matter. The Council is also exploring alternative options with Tiglin, but it is unlikely that an alternative, suitable property may become available at any early stage.

The housing need in North Wicklow in particular is significant and the recent Social Housing Assessment showed an increase in the Housing need for Greystones to over 800 households in need of social housing supports. The situation is further exacerbated by the Notices to Quit issued to 48 households in Fairfield Park with whom the Council is also working to transition into sustainable alternative accommodation.

Wicklow County Council will, of course, continue to work with both Tiglin and the residents on this extremely challenging situation.

End.

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Cllr. N. Lawless proposed that Wicklow County Council write to the Assemblies of God to seek a solution to the situation, which was seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed. It was also agreed to circulate the response to the elected members.



**ITEM NO. 19**

**To receive a Presentation on the considerations of the Wicklow County Council Data Protection Committee.**

This item was deferred to meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

**ITEM NO. 21**

**To consider the Monthly Management Report for April, 2017.**

This item was deferred to meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

**ITEM NO. 22**

**Correspondence.**

L. Gallagher advised that Irish Water would be present in WCC on Monday the 12<sup>th</sup> of June to facilitate County Councillors Clinics and that further details would issue. This was noted.

**ITEM NO. 23**

**Notice of Motions.**

Deferred to meeting of the 12<sup>th</sup> of June, 2017.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

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**CLLR. PAT FITZGERALD  
CATHAOIRLEACH  
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

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