

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY BUILDINGS, WICKLOW ON MONDAY 4th FEBRUARY, 2019, COMMENCING 2PM

PRESENT:

COUNCILLOR P. VANCE, 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, G. MCLOUGHLIN, D. MITCHELL, M. MURPHY, D. NOLAN, O. O'BRIEN, D. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN, J. SNELL, B. THORNHILL, E. TIMMINS, G. WALSH, J. WHITMORE AND I. WINTERS.

APOLOGIES:

COUNCILLOR M. MCDONALD.

IN ATTENDANCE:

MR. F. CURRAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
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
MR. L. FITZPATRICK, HEAD OF IS
MS. L. GALLAGHER, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR
MS. S. WALSH, SENIOR PLANNER
MS. B. KILKENNY, SENIOR ENGINEER
MR. F. KEOGH, SENIOR ENGINEER
MS. D. MARNANE, SENIOR ENGINEER
MS. H. DENNEHY, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS. J. CARROLL, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS. A. MINION, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MR. A. MACKEN, ARCHITECT
MR. P. O'FLAHERTY, G.I.S. PROJECT LEADER
MS. E. O'DONOVAN, ANALYST/APPLICATIONS DEVELOPER
MR. T. HUGHES, IT SUPPORT
MS. J. SHERWIN, ARTS OFFICER
MR. D. CUSSEN, EXECUTIVE QUANTITY SURVEYOR
MS. G. LANG, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER

VOTES OF SYMPATHY: Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of the late Mrs. Ann Byrne, Mr. Michael Lennon, Mrs. Claire Dunphy, Mr. Edward Boylan, Mr. John Hogan and Mr. Michael Sinnott. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

ITEM NO. 1

To consider the disposal of land situated in the townland of Ballinalea, Ashford, Co. Wicklow being site 37 Ballinalea, Ashford (37 Rosanna Close, Ashford) to Ms. Geraldine Kelly, 37 Rosanna Close, Ashford.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed to dispose of land situated in the townland of Ballinalea, Ashford, Co. Wicklow being site 37 Ballinalea, Ashford (37 Rosanna Close, Ashford) to Ms. Geraldine Kelly, 37 Rosanna Close, Ashford in accordance with statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 2

To consider the disposal of freehold interest in the property known as 49 St. Peter's Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Paul Costello and Ms. Gabriele Shalan, 49 St. Peter's Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed to dispose of the freehold interest in the property known as 49 St. Peter's Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Paul Costello and Ms. Gabriele Shalan, 49 St. Peter's Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow in accordance with statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 3

To receive a demonstration/survey on Customer Relationship Management System: Ms. Emer O'Donovan, IT Analyst/Applications Developer and Mr. Paddy O'Flaherty, G.I.S. Project Leader.

The Chief Executive advised the elected members of the proposal to develop a CRM system to deal with customer business and Elected Members' representations, incorporating an audit trail and set out the systems linkage and relevance in terms of the proposed new customer care hub to be considered at Item 4.

At the outset Mr. Paddy O Flaherty, GIS project leader presented on the interactive touch screen setting out the following points:-

- It will be a portal for the public to use and will provide information on all of the Departments as well as the Council's website
- A member of the public will be able to look up information on planning applications etc. or search via GIS for planning applications. It is anticipated that the system will remove some traffic from the planning counter.
- The system will have live twitter feed.
- The various publications such as Local Area Plans and the County Development Plan will be available to search through and read.
- It is proposed to make it as user friendly as possible and provide information that the public will find useful.
- IT is currently working with the various Departments such as tourism and heritage, news and events etc. with a view to continuously updating same for the public to use.

Ms. Emer O'Donovan, IT Analyst/Applications Developer presented to the Elected Members on the Council's proposed Customer Relationship Management System advising that:-

- The IT department is currently trialling a Customer Relationship Management System, broken down into a three stage process.
- The litter business process was presented as an example training the various stages of the CRM system on receipt of a litter complaint to final close off.
- The customer care unit will communicate with the customer through the portal.

At the conclusion of the presentation the elected members made the following comments/contributions:-

- Request that the interactive screen is accessible and that it be rolled out to the Municipal Districts
- In relation to the CRM system, query as to whether there will be a portal for the elected members to use and to access high level data.
- CRM system viewed as essential and welcomed.
- View expressed that it is extremely important that the interactive screen be user friendly and that training be provided/available to the public
- View expressed that currently some members of the public are corresponding by email, and making phone calls and are not being responded to, it is considered that a CRM system will be invaluable in this regard
- Query as to whether a screen similar to the interactive screen be made available in the Municipal District of Bray to allow the general public view the planning files.
- Query as to whether the Interactive screen will be at a height accessible to persons in a wheelchair and will there be a facility for the visually impaired.
- View expressed that it is not the reporting of the problem that is difficult but getting the problem addressed and unless the issue is dealt with it will be a waste of money and of no benefit to the public.
- What is the role of the elected members in the system, and is the proposal to keep elected members 'at bay', will the elected members be denied access to section of the Council where they need to get their business done.

The Chief Executive advised that part of the proposal will be to have E planning project in place and the customer care team will be on hand to show the public how to use the interactive touch screen. In relation to the CRM system, the Chief Executive reiterated that it is about increasing efficiency and analysing how the Council deals with tasks and the timeframe within which they are being dealt with. He advised that the intention was not to keep elected members away from staff, reiterating that staff are always available to the elected members, the CRM system will log elected members' reps and create an audit trail to where they are in the system.

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: Extension and upgrade works to Council Chamber and refurbishment works to foyer at County Buildings, Wicklow Town.

Elected Members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Report: RE:- (1) Proposed refurbishment to foyer at County Buildings, Wicklow town and (2) Proposed Extension and upgrade works to the Council Chamber County Buildings Wicklow, and Chamber Layout and Site Map Elevations drawings, on 30th January, 2019.

The Chief Executive set out the background to the proposal which is to develop a new customer care hub staffed with a highly trained customer care team to deal with all aspects of customer services from housing/environment/water and roads, etc. supported by a new CRM system which was demonstrated at item 3. There will be a new planning public counter space providing a range of services, a new customer seating area in the foyer to facilitate shielded client discussion. It is also proposed to provide for the revamp of the existing small meeting rooms and break out space outside of the Seminole room. He advised that the proposal provided for an improvement and refurbishment of the Council chamber increasing it in size to allow for the increase in numbers in

2014 from 24 to 32. It is proposed to provide tiered seating which will allow for greater interaction and the removal of the inner layer of 11 seats. The top table will be increased in number to allow for the senior management team to be available at Council meetings for the elected members and an improved audio-visual equipment system. He advised that the goal is to bring the Council Chamber up modern day standard for Elected Members, in line with other Council Chambers across the Country and to have a space to hold civic receptions and meetings. He outlined the advantages of carrying out both projects together in terms of economies of scale and added that since the previous meeting the executive had revisited the costs and having lowered the spec a small bit and various tweaks and changes, the Chamber costs have been reduced to €377,000 and the foyer at €497,000 approximately, the intention being to fund it via the capital programme over a period of 10 years.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. J. Whitmore that the Council proceed with the Refurbishment works to the foyer only as set out in the Chief Executive's report circulated.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. G. McLoughlin that the Council proceed with the Refurbishment and enhancement works to the Council Chamber and the Foyer area as set out in the Chief Executives Report circulated.

Following a discussion on the matter both proposals were put to a vote. The proposal put forward by Cllr. J. Behan and seconded by Cllr. J. Whitmore was put to a vote and following a roll call was defeated by a margin of 7 votes for, 21 against and 4 not present viz:-

FOR 7	CLLRS. J. BEHAN, M. KAVANAGH, N. LAWLESS, D. O'BRIEN, B. THORNHILL, E. TIMMINS AND J. WHITMORE.
AGAINST 21	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, D. NOLAN, O. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN, J. SNELL, P. VANCE, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS.
NOT PRESENT 4	CLLRS. T. CULLEN, P. DORAN, T. FORTUNE AND M. MCDONALD.

The proposal put forward by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded b Cllr. G. McLoughlin was then put to a vote and following a roll call was passed by a margin of 20 votes for, 8 against and 4 not present viz:-

FOR 20	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, D. NOLAN, G. O'NEILL, J. RUTTLE, J. RYAN, J. SNELL, P. VANCE, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS.
AGAINST 8	CLLRS. J. BEHAN, M. KAVANAGH, N. LAWLESS, O. O'BRIEN, D. O'BRIEN, B. THORNHILL, E. TIMMINS AND J. WHITMORE.
NOT PRESENT 4	CLLRS. T. CULLEN, P. DORAN, T. FORTUNE AND M. MCDONALD.

At the conclusion of the vote, the Cathaoirleach asked the Chief Executive examine the Municipal District Offices with a view to upgrading and improving their facilities also.

ITEM NO. 5

To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, January 2019.

Elected Members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, January 2019 on 30th January, 2019.

Mr. F. Curran, Chief Executive, in presenting the report responded to the questions raised by the Elected Members and updated them on areas including:

- Planning permission for Ashford Studios granted by An Bord Pleanala, 4 X 40,000 sq ft studios representing a €9m investment
- Avondale project received planning permission and Coillte will commence the construction and upgrade of the house, café, underground experience and outdoor experience etc.
- The oral hearing for the Arklow Waste Water Treatment plant has concluded and a decision is expected within a period of months the construction period then being 3 – 4 years.
- Roadside allocations received
- A number of projects have made it to the All Ireland Community and Council Awards

Elected members raised the following queries which were responded to by the Executive:-

- What is the current position in relation to the lane at Kilmacanogue, it was understood that the work was to commence before Christmas.
- Query as to whether the fire service in Bray is under staffed and reference made to a incident in Bray where support had to be called from Greystones fire brigade
- Query as to whether equipment that was originally stored in Bray Fire Station is now stored in Wicklow Town Fire Station as apparently there is not enough staff in Bray to use the equipment.
- Planning permission for Ashford studios welcomed.
- View expressed that it is important that Wicklow County Council promotes the positive messages, reference made to the recent business breakfast briefing and the excellent developments that are happening across the county.
- Update requested on the national upgrade plan for LED lighting
- Request for a mechanism to be put in place for the elected members to be advised of An Bord Pleanala decisions.
- Concern expressed in relation to the municipal district discretionary funds that may be building up and request put forward that the money is retained and spent where it is allocated and agreed by each of the municipal districts.
- Query as to whether the water sampling report under the water framework directive available to the elected members?

ITEM NO 6

To receive a presentation: Rates Valuation process: Mr. John O'Sullivan, Commissioner of Valuation.

Mr. John O'Sullivan, Commissioner of Valuation and Mr. Terry Fahey, Managing Valuer gave a comprehensive presentation to the Elected Members covering the following areas and responded to the queries raised by the Members.

National Revaluation Programme

Areas Covered

- Valuation Office & Rating System in Ireland
- Legislative Context
- National Revaluation Programme
- The Revaluation Process
- Revaluation outcomes so far
- Next steps & Key Dates
- Q & A

Rates and Rateable Valuation

- Three figures relevant to Commercial Rates:
 - Overall Rates contribution to Annual Budget: Decided by Elected Members of Local Authority
 - Rateable Valuation of Individual Properties (“Net Annual Value”): Determined by Valuation Office
 - Annual Rate on Valuation (ARV): Set by Elected Members
- Valuation x ARV = Amount of Rates liable for collection by Local Authority

What is a Revaluation?

- Revaluation is a reassessment of the rateable value of all properties in a Local Authority area at the same time, leading to Redistribution of commercial rates burden between ratepayers
- Revenue Neutral for Local Authorities
- Recurring exercise (every 5 to 10 years) to maintain the fairness of rating system
- Results in production of New Valuation List that contains modern valuations for all rateable properties in Local Authority area
-

Revaluation - Why?

- Restore relativity between different properties, categories & locations:
 - Pick up and Reflect differential movements in rental values across sectors/locations occur over time
 - Reflect Local Economic Factors
 - Transparency:
 - Only way to bring Rateable Values back into line with modern property rental values
 - Current market rental values replace old RVs which had Nominal Valuations with no relevance to modern values
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Revaluation: Legal Context

- Part 5 of Valuation Acts 2001 to 2015:
<http://www.valoff.ie/en/Legislation/>
- “Net Annual Value” specifically defined in legislation
 - Rental Value, not Capital Value
 - “Correctness” and “Equity & Uniformity”
- Decisions of independent Valuation Tribunal & Higher Courts

Revenue Neutral for Council

- Revaluation is about Redistribution of rates liability

- Rates liability of individual ratepayers may change
- Revenue neutral for Local Authority:
 - Total amount of rates income remains the same
 - Ministerial Rates Cap (Sec. 56 Valuation Act 2001)
 - Any increase in overall Rates take limited to:
 - Inflation
 - New developments
 - Improvements to existing buildings

Key Steps in a Revaluation

- Commissioner makes Valuation Order fixing:
 - Valuation Date/Publication Date/Effective Date
- Commissioner & Rating Authority publicise Order
- VO issues REVAL 2019 material to Ratepayers
- VO collects & analyses data
 - Rent/Lease/Tenure details/Trading data
 - Physical property details/survey
 - Data transferred from Rating Authority to VO
- VO issues Proposed Valuation Certificates
- Rating Authority makes Indicative ARV available

Key Steps (continued)

- “Representations” made to Valuation Manager (40 days)
- VO considers Representations
- VO issues final Valuation Certificates
- Commissioner publishes new Valuation List for Rating Authority
- Appeals can be made to Valuation Tribunal (within 28 days)
- Rating Authority sets ARV for 2020: November 2019
- New Valuation List becomes effective: 1st January 2020

Evidence Based: Multiple Sources

- Occupiers – Valuation Forms
 - Rental Market Evidence – September 2017
 - Trading Data/Accounts.
 - Development/Construction costs
- Revenue Commissioners - “Particulars Delivered” transactions
 - Contemporary Rental Market Evidence
- Lease details from the PSRA
 - Contemporary Rental Market Evidence

Proposed Valuation Certificates

- Issue of PVCs commencing March 2019
- Ratepayer should examine the information on the PVC
 - Property Details
 - Occupier Details
 - Floor Levels /Floor Areas (where relevant)
- Valuation x ARV = estimated Rates Liability
 - Indicative ARV – published by Local Authority
- Closing date for representations will be on PVC (40 days)

Is my Proposed Valuation Correct?

- Compare the Valuation (NAV) to
 - Rent you are paying
 - Rent you know others are paying for similar properties
 - Rents on PSRA Website
 - Actual Income Streams v Income Streams as assessed by VO
 - Rent you would receive/accept if vacant and to let.
 - Have you provided the correct rental information?
- If pub, hotel, service station etc - Have you provided your Trading Data?

Appeal Mechanisms

- “Representations” to Valuation Office by Ratepayer
 - 40 days from Proposed Valuation certificate
 - Informal process with no fee
 - Happens before valuation is finalised
- Appeal to Valuation Tribunal
 - 28 days
 - Statutory Fee
 - Formal and “quasi-judicial” process
- Three outcomes:
 - No change
 - Valuation decreased
 - Valuation increased
- Appeal to Higher Courts on Point of Law

VO Supports for Ratepayers

- VO provides hardcopy material to Ratepayers
 - Making of the Valuation Order
 - Issue of Proposed Valuation Certificates
 - Issue of Final Valuation Certificates
- Media advertisements
- Briefing of Elected Representatives & copies of Specimen Documents
- “Walk-in” Clinics for ratepayers
- Extensive engagement with Trade Bodies
- Valuation Office website www.valoff.ie,
- E-mail reval2019@valoff.ie,
- Telephone Helpline 01 8171033 Lo-Call 1890 531 431

Key Dates

- 6th October 2017
 - Valuation Order made by Commissioner of Valuation
 - Revaluation Information Forms issued to all ratepayers
- Mid 2018 – Trading data Notices issued
- March & April 2019
 - Proposed Valuation Certificates will issue
 - Representations period: 40 days
 - Walk In Clinics
- 17th September 2019
 - Valuation List published
 - Final Walk In Clinics start
- January 2020 – Effective for rates purposes

Summary

- Revenue neutral exercise for Local Authority
- Based entirely on Local Evidence – Local rents and local trading data only
- Ratepayer provides information requested by VO
- Outstanding Information? – Provide it now!
- Dissatisfied with proposed valuation? – Make a representation - online
- VO's Objective - Publish a Valuation List that is Fair & Equitable to every Ratepayer and to Local Authority
- Well established statutory process
- Appeal to independent Valuation Tribunal

Time Extension: On the proposal of the Cathaoirleach it was agreed to extend the meeting by 15 minutes.

ITEM NO 7

To note the Local Government Audit Report, 2017

Elected Members were circulated with the Local Government Audit Report, for the year ended 31st December, 2017 and the Annual Financial Statements, 2017, on the 30th January, 2019.

Mr. B. Gleeson, Head of Finance, gave a brief synopsis of the report and it was proposed by Cllr. G. Walsh, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed to note the Local Government Audit Report, 2017.

ITEM NO 8

To consider Draft Protocol for Wicklow County Council and Municipal District civic functions/openings/unveilings etc

Elected Members were circulated with the draft protocol for Wicklow County Council and Municipal District civic functions/openings/unveilings document dated the 13th of December, 2018. L. Gallagher advised that the purpose of the document was to set out the various types of receptions/launches/awards ceremonies etc that can be held by the Plenary Council and the Municipal Districts and to agree a protocol to be observed on such occasions. She set out the contents of the various paragraphs and that the draft protocol had been considered by the protocol committee at their January meeting and recommended to the Council for adoption.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Matthews, seconded by Cllr. I. Winters and agreed to adopt the draft protocol for Wicklow County Council and Municipal District civic functions/openings/unveilings etc.

ITEM NO 9

To receive update on Housing Capital Programme

Ms. B. Kilkenny, Senior Engineer, gave a presentation to the Elected Members covering the following areas and responded to the queries raised by the Members.

Five Pillars

- Address homelessness
- Accelerate social housing
- Build more homes
- Improve the rental sector
- Utilise existing housing

Wicklow County Council Housing Capital Programme

Priority List 1

- Housing Strategy (2015 to 2018)
- Areas of greatest need /Infill Sites
- 13 No New Build Schemes
- YIELD 193 UNITS

Priority List 2

- Rebuilding Ireland (2018 to 2021)
- Sites with High Unit Yield /Low Impediments
- 23 No New Build Schemes
- YIELD 430 Units

TOTAL NEW BUILD (Priority Lists 1 & List 2)	623
Plus Other Mechanisms	704
GRAND TOTAL	1327 Units
	36 New Schemes

Priority List 1: 2018 Delivery

MONTH	SCHEME	DELIVERY
Sept	O'Byrne Road, Bray	1
Dec	Avondale Heights, Rathdrum	20
Dec	Old Library, Arklow	7
	Total	28 units

On Site 2019

SCHEME (13 Schemes)	DELIVERY
Priority List 1	
Delany Park Phase I, Arklow	17
Kilbride Lane, Bray	42
FCA Hall – Wicklow Town	8
Kilmantin Place, Bray	4
Druid's Brook, Kilcoole	2
Oak Drive, Blessington	1
Farrankelly Ph 2, Greystones	24
Whitehall, Baltinglass	34
PPP Convent Lands, Wicklow	51
Sugar Loaf, Kilmacanogue	20

Priority List 2

O'Sullivan Lands, Rathnew ,	47
Soldiers Bench, Carnew	30
Delaney Park Phase II & III, Arklow	47
Total	327 units

Completion 2019

MONTH	SCHEME	DELIVERY
Sep	Delany Park 1, Arklow	17
Sep	Druid's Brook, Kilcoole	2
Sep	Oak Drive, Blessington	1
Dec	Whitehall, Blessington	34
Dec	FCA Hall, Wicklow Town	8

Dec	Kilmantin Place, Bray	4
	Total	66
Commencing 2020 onwards		
	Ashtown Lane, Wicklow	35
	Greenhills Road, Wicklow	34
	Avondale Phase 2, Rathdrum	20
	Ard na Greine , Bray	30
	Moneycarroll, NTMK	26
	Cedar Court, Bray	9
	Three Trouts, Greystones	34
	Old Fire Station, Arklow	7
	Burnaby Mills, Greystones	20
	Lott Lane, Kilcoole	20
	Burgage More, Blessington	50
	Sheepshouse, Arklow	34
	Shillelagh,	20
	Total	339 units

Wicklow Social Housing	2015 to 2021	
Supply Strategy		
Wicklow LA New Build		
Priority List 1 and List 2	623	36 New Schemes
Other Mechanisms	<u>704</u>	
	1,327 Units	

Challenges

- Contractor Oversight -Workmanship
- Management of Consultants
- Public Procurement - Legal Challenges
- Skills Shortage – Professional & Trades
- Staff Retention

Leasing

- Standard Leasing

Short term Leasing, 80% of market rent, 10 or 20 years

16 Units, council maintained

- Enhanced Leasing
- Housing Agency, new call for proposals.
- In excess of 20 units, owner maintained.
- 92% of market rent – can be for 25 years
- Ongoing meetings with developers/investors
- Some proposals made and under discussion.

Partnership with Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs)

- Ballybeg, Rathnew, 45 units (has been retendered)
- Central Garage Site, Bray, 16 units (design stage)
- Upper Dargle Road, Bray, 4 units and Killarney Road, Bray, 16 units (Design stage)
- Other sites under consideration
- 4 properties under the Capital Assistance Scheme in 2018 for Homelessness and Disability

Part V provision Planning and Development

- 30 units delivered 2018 to date (10 LA, 20 AHB)
- 54 due in 2019
- AHB/LA mix on allocations to be reviewed

Affordable Housing

- Site assessment carried out on 9 possible sites
- 5 considered economically feasible
- Awaiting details of scheme

ITEM NO 10

To receive a presentation: Creative Ireland Arts – Jenny Sherwin.

Ms. J. Sherwin, Arts Officer, gave a presentation to the Elected Members covering the following areas:

Creative Ireland

- The Creative Ireland Programme is guided by a vision that every person in Ireland will have the opportunity to realise their full creative potential
- It is a five year all-of-Government initiative, from 2017 to 2022, to place creativity at the centre of public policy.
- The Programme aligns initiatives across Government, local authorities, state agencies, organisations and with individuals in support of the Programme's vision
- It *encourages, facilitates* and *supports* initiatives that enable access to and participation in creativity to sustain wellbeing for all

National Programme Pillars

- Pillar 1: Enabling the Creative Potential of Children and Young People
- Pillar 2: Enabling Creativity in every Community
- Pillar 3: Investing in our Creative and Cultural Infrastructure
- Pillar 4: Ireland as a Centre for Creative Excellence
- Pillar 5: Global Reputation: a Creative and Cultural Nation
- Service Level Agreement 2019: Creative Ireland & WCC

Wicklow Strategy & Structure

- Each Local Authority has a Culture and Creativity Strategy www.wicklow.ie

Culture Team

- DOS Michael Nicholson
- CI Co-ordinator/Arts Officer Jenny Sherwin
- Archivist Catherine Wright
- County Librarian Brendan Martin
- Film Commission Vibeke Delahunt
- Heritage Officer Deirdre Burns
- Councillors Nicola Lawless, Gerry Byrne, Tom Fortune, Christopher Fox, Grainne McLoughlin

Creative Ireland: Wicklow Literature Programme

- Literature Programme

- Way with Words Literature Festival – April 4th – 13th
- 20 events @ Arklow & Blessington Libraries
- Story telling and children’s illustration workshops for different ages, author visits, writing workshops
- >1,200 attendees expected in Arklow and Blessington libraries
- Literature events and authors various times throughout the year

Creative Ireland: Wicklow Grant Programme

- 38 County Wicklow Organisations received approximately €38,000.00 in 2018
- Applications are now being received for 2019

Creative Ireland: Wicklow Choral Programme

- Strategy for the support and development of ‘*Community Choral Singing 2019 - 2022*’ to be launched in March 2019 programme roll out and development commenced January 2019
- Planning and development network for Wicklow’s choir leaders
- Mapping the choral sector in the county
- Working with that network to plan a programme of workshops & masterclasses for people interested in choral singing - choir leaders & choir members
- Working with the choral network to develop more shared performance opportunities
- A one-stop shop online resource for choral singing in Wicklow
- Commissioning new songs for Wicklow in partnership with choirs

Heritage Projects/ Videos

- The River Liffey Stories: Feb Launch 2019

http://www.countywicklowheritage.org/category/river_liffey_heritage_project-2

- Bees – Making Wicklow Bloom: (<5,000 hits you-tube)

http://www.countywicklowheritage.org/page/bees_-_making_wicklow_bloom

Creative Ireland: Wicklow Archives

- Development of a new Archival and Heritage App to communicate the rich repository of WCC connecting the contemporary with the past

Creative Ireland: C&YP Programme

- **38,041 Children and Young People in County Wicklow (2016 Census)**
- Develop a plan for the engagement of children and young people in Wicklow’s Creative Ireland Programme to run for the lifetime of this Culture and Creativity Strategy
- Guided by this plan, develop and strengthen programmes that facilitate engagement with young people, as creative participants and/or as audience members
- Encourage initiatives that provide opportunities for outdoor and nature-based arts, cultural and heritage activity

Creative Clubs

Children & YP: Cruinniú na nÓg

- Cruinniú na nÓg - 40 events countywide June 15th
- 0-18 years
- Key Centres: Russborough House, Libraries, Forrest’s/Parklands Consultation with children and young people DYCA Major attraction Luminarium Architects of Air
- Workshops/performances/events
- Family friendly

- No cost
- >5,000 attendees expected

Creative Ireland: National Programmes

“Every child will have the right to participate in arts and cultural activity”

Creative Schools Wicklow

- Five Wicklow schools were chosen to participate in the Creative Schools pilot programme
- the programme is a central initiative of Pillar 1 of the Government's Creative Ireland Programme, which puts the arts and creativity at the heart of children and young people's lives
- The long-term aim is for every school nationwide to have the opportunity to participate in Creative Schools

Creative Clusters

- Three Wicklow schools participated in network of Creative Clusters as part of the Schools Excellence Fund and Creative Ireland Programme
- The Creative Cluster approach gives school leaders the support to collaborate on ideas based on their local experience and unique perspective
- Clusters received €2,500 to help activate their plans

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

**CLLR. PAT VANCE
CATHOAIRLEACH
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

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