

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN DRUID'S GLEN  
HOTEL, NEWTOWNMOUNTKENNEDY, CO. WICKLOW ON FRIDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020,  
COMMENCING 2PM**

**PRESENT:**

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

**APOLOGIES:**

**COUNCILLOR M. MURPHY**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**MR. F. CURRAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**MR. B. GLEESON, HEAD OF FINANCE**

**MS. L. GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES/ MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

**MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

**MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

**MS. B. KILKENNY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

**MR. C. LAVERY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES**

**MR. D. FORDE, MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

**MS. G. LANG, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER**

**Votes of Sympathy**

Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of the late Mrs. Vera Marnane and Mr. Declan Roberts. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

**Suspension of Standing Orders.**

The Cathaoirleach advised that he intended dealing with items 1 – 13 followed by items 16 and 17 followed by item 15 and then item 14. This was agreed.

Duration of meeting: The Cathaoirleach advised that adhering to the Covid 19 Standard Operating Guidelines for council meetings, the meeting would not go beyond 1 hour and 55 minutes.

Request for suspension of standing orders: It was proposed by Cllr. J. Neary and seconded by Cllr. M. Crean and agreed to suspend standing orders to discuss the ongoing issues regarding Greystones Community National School and Greystones Community College. It was agreed by all to discuss this matter at 3.50 p.m.

**ITEM NO. 1**

**To confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.**

It was proposed by Cllr. V. Blake, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.

#### **ITEM NO. 2**

**To confirm and sign minutes of LPT meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2020.**

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. I. Winters and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of LPT meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September, 2020.

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

**To confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 via Zoom.**

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2020 via Zoom.

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

**To confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020 via Zoom.**

It was proposed by Cllr. E. Timmins, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020 via Zoom.

#### **ITEM NO. 5**

**To confirm and sign minutes of special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020.**

It was proposed by Cllr. I. Winters, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020.

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

**To confirm and sign minutes of annual budget meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020.**

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. A. Ferris and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of annual budget meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2020.

#### **ITEM NO. 7**

**To consider the disposal of property comprised in Folio No. WW2758L being the property situated at 30 Beechwood Park, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Ms. Linn Trogen and Mr. Aidan Kelly, 30 Beechwood Park, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow.**

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. G. Walsh and agreed to dispose of property comprised in Folio No. WW2758L being the property situated at 30 Beechwood Park, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Ms. Linn Trogen and Mr. Aidan Kelly, 30 Beechwood Park, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow as set out in notice circulated.

#### **ITEM NO. 8**

**To consider the disposal of property comprised in Folio No. WW2842L being the property situated at Bawnogues, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Mr. Gerard Halloran, Bawnogues, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow.**

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Mullen, seconded by Cllr. P. Glennon and agreed to dispose of property comprised in Folio No. WW2842L being the property situated at Bawnogues, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Mr. Gerard Halloran, Bawnogues, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow as set out in notice circulated.

#### **ITEM NO. 9**

**To consider the disposal of 176 sq meters or thereabouts known as The Science Laboratory, Clermont House, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Caoimhe Doyle, 128 Kindlestown Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow by way of a 2 year and 7 month lease commencing 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2020.**

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. G. Walsh and agreed to dispose of 176 sq meters or thereabouts known as The Science Laboratory, Clermont House, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Caoimhe Doyle, 128 Kindlestown Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow by way of a 2 year and 7 month lease commencing 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 as set out in notice circulated.

#### **ITEM NO. 10(a)**

**To establish the Wicklow County Council Access and Inclusion Committee.**

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. A. Ferris and agreed to establish the Wicklow County Council Access and Inclusion Committee.

#### **ITEM NO. 10(B)**

**To ratify the nominations to the Wicklow County Council Access and Inclusion Committee**

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy and agreed to ratify the nominations to the Wicklow County Council Access and Inclusion Committee as follows:-

- Wicklow Municipal District: Councillor Gail Dunne
- Bray Municipal District: Councillor Melanie Corrigan, Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy and Councillor Grace McManus
- Arklow Municipal District: Councillor Miriam Murphy
- Greystones Municipal District: Councillor Mags Crean
- Baltinglass Municipal District: Councillor John Mullen

#### **ITEM NO. 11**

**To consider the nomination of a representative from the Wicklow Municipal District to the Local Traveller Accommodation Committee due to the resignation of Cllr. Irene Winters.**

It was agreed by the elected members to refer this item back to Wicklow Municipal District for further discussion.

#### **ITEM NO. 12**

**To consider the nomination of Cllr. Sylvester Bourke to the Wicklow Naturally CLG.**

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Annesley, seconded by Cllr. P. Leonard and agreed to nominate Cllr. Sylvester Bourke as the Wicklow County Council Elected Member representatives to the Wicklow Naturally CLG.

#### **ITEM NO. 13**

**To consider the Taking in Charge of the following estates:**

- Ardglass, Baltinglass
- Deerfield, Delgany
- Hillview, Carnew
- Oakdale, Arklow
- Oakwood Court, Arklow
- Pierview, Wicklow
- Seahaven, Wicklow
- The Willows, Kilcoole
- Upper Ballard, Shillelagh
- Village Gate, Kilcoole
- Westmount, Wicklow

- It was proposed by Councillor Patsy Glennon, seconded by Councillor Edward Timmins and agreed to take in charge housing estate **Ardglass, Baltinglass**, Co. Wicklow.
- It was proposed by Councillor Derek Mitchell, seconded by Councillor Gerry Walsh and agreed to take in charge housing estate **Deerfield, Delgany**, Co. Wicklow.
- It was proposed by Councillor Vincent Blake, seconded by Councillor John Mullen and agreed to take in charge housing estate **Hillview, Carnew**, Co. Wicklow. Cllr. V. Blake asked for it to be noted that some further work needs to be carried out in the estate to bring to full completion and requested the Council to do so soon.
- It was proposed by Councillor Pat Fitzgerald, seconded by Councillor Sylvester Bourke and agreed to take in charge housing estate **Oakdale, Arklow**, Co. Wicklow
- It was proposed by Councillor Pat Fitzgerald, seconded by Councillor Pier Leonard and agreed to take in charge housing estate **Oakwood Court, Arklow**, Co. Wicklow.
- It was proposed by Councillor Gail Dunne, seconded by Councillor Paul O'Brien and agreed to take in charge housing estate **Pierview, Wicklow**.
- It was proposed by Councillor Gail Dunne, seconded by Councillor Irene Winters and agreed to take in charge housing estate, **Seahaven, Wicklow**
- It was proposed by Councillor Tom Fortune, seconded by Councillor Lourda Scott and agreed to take in charge housing estate, The **Willows, Kilcoole**, Co. Wicklow.
- It was proposed by Councillor Vincent Blake, seconded by Councillor Anne Ferris and agreed to take in charge housing estate **Upper Ballard, Shillelagh**, Co. Wicklow. Cllr. V. Blake asked for it to be noted that further works were required to be carried out in this estate to complete it fully.
- It was proposed by Councillor Tom Fortune, seconded by Councillor Derek Mitchell and agreed to take in charge housing estate **Village Gate, Kilcoole**, Co. Wicklow.
- It was proposed by Councillor Paul O'Brien, seconded by Councillor John Snell and agreed to take in charge housing estate, **Westmount Court, Wicklow**

#### **ITEM NO. 16**

**To consider the passing of a resolution to vary the car parking charges as set out in Schedule A Bray Municipal District of the Wicklow County Council Parking Bye-Laws 2017 : Zones D and H from 30 cent per hour to 50 cent per hour (from €3.00 per day to €5.00 per day) and to extend the parking period from Monday to Friday to Monday to Saturday (Zone D = Strand Road from Martello Terrace to Fontenoy Terrace and Quinsboro Road – East of railway to Strand Road and Zone H North Beach Car Park).**

Cllr. G. McManus advised that while this matter had been discussed at Bray Municipal District meeting there was no opportunity to carry out public consultation and put forward the following amendment which was seconded to Cllr. D. O'Brien: *'To vary the car parking charges as set out in Schedule A Bray Municipal District of the Wicklow county Council Parking By-Laws 2017: Zones D and H from 30 cent per hour to 50 cent per hour and to extend the parking period from Monday to Friday to Monday to Saturday (Zone D = Strand Road from Martello Terrace to Fontenoy Terrace and*

*Quinsboro Road – East of railway to Strand Road and Zone H North Beach Car Park.* Keeping the day rate at €3 per day. The written proposal was handed to the Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. Anne Ferris, Cathaoirleach of Bray MD advised that the decision taken by Bray Municipal District Members to increase the car parking at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting was implemented having regard to the anticipated decreased availability of funds to the Bray municipal District for public realm projects in 2021 that this was a concern for the members. She advised that there was sufficient time for consultation between the two meetings and that the increase from 30 cent to 50 cent represented a very small increase which will raise much needed revenue for the Bray Municipal District.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. E. Doyle that the *‘Council pass a resolution to vary the car parking charges as set out in Schedule A Bray Municipal District of the Wicklow County Council Parking Bye-Laws 2017 : Zones D and H from 30 cent per hour to 50 cent per hour (from €3.00 per day to €5.00 per day) and to extend the parking period from Monday to Friday to Monday to Saturday (Zone D = Strand Road from Martello Terrace to Fontenoy Terrace and Quinsboro Road – East of railway to Strand Road and Zone H North Beach Car Park).’*

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. P. Leonard that this item be referred back to the Bray Municipal District for public consultation. L. Gallagher meetings administrator clarified that there was no statutory public consultation requirement for the amendment of the fees schedule and that it was a reserved function of the elected members of Wicklow County Council.

The Cathaoirleach called for a vote on the amendment proposed by Cllr. G. McManus and seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien which was defeated by a margin of 13 for, 17 against and 2 not present viz:

<b>FOR 13</b>	<b>CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A. CRONIN, T. FORTUNE, M. KAVANAGH, P. LEONARD, G. MCMANUS, J. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, L. SCOTT AND E. TIMMINS.</b>
<b>AGAINST 17</b>	<b>CLLRS. J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. CULLEN, G. DUNNE, E. DOYLE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN KENNEDY, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, J. SNELL, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS.</b>
<b>NOT PRESENT 2</b>	<b>CLLRS. M. MURPHY AND G. O'NEILL.</b>

The proposal of Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. E. Doyle, that the *‘Council pass a resolution to vary the car parking charges as set out in Schedule A Bray Municipal District of the Wicklow County Council Parking Bye-Laws 2017 : Zones D and H from 30 cent per hour to 50 cent per hour (from €3.00 per day to €5.00 per day) and to extend the parking period from Monday to Friday to Monday to Saturday (Zone D = Strand Road from Martello Terrace to Fontenoy Terrace and Quinsboro Road – East of railway to Strand Road and Zone H North Beach Car Park).’* Was put to a vote and following a roll call was passed by a margin of 22 votes for, 9 against and 1 not present viz-

<b>FOR 22</b>	<b>CLLRS. V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, G. DUNNE, E. DOYLE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN KENNEDY, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, J. NEARY, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS.</b>
<b>AGAINST 9</b>	<b>CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, M. CREAN, T. FORTUNE, M. KAVANAGH, P. LEONARD, G. MCMANUS, D. O'BRIEN AND E. TIMMINS.</b>
<b>NOT PRESENT 1</b>	<b>CLLR. M. MURPHY.</b>

**ITEM NO. 17**

**Wicklow County Council Meetings: (a) To consider the holding of Remote Meetings (amendment of paragraph 6 Wicklow County Council Standing Orders: Place of Meeting) (b) To consider and adopt draft Supplementary Standing Orders to regulate proceedings of remote meetings.**

Elected Members were circulated with the following documentation:

- Letter dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December, 2020 from Ms. Lorraine Gallagher, Director of Services/Meetings Administrator
- Proposed amendment to Wicklow County Council Standing Orders: Paragraph 6: Place of Meeting and Address of Principal Offices
- Draft Supplementary Standing Orders to regulate the proceedings of remote meetings and to operate in conjunction with existing standing orders adopted by Wicklow County Council on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June, 2019, as amended.

L. Gallagher advised that as set out in previous correspondence, letter dated the 30<sup>th</sup> of October, 2020 to Chief Executive from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage advised that the Order allowing for Council meetings and meetings of the local authority committees to be held remotely had been given effect by the Minister. All decisions or votes taken by elected members at such meetings (whether physically or remotely present) shall have the same status in law as decisions or votes taken at a physical meeting. Local authorities may avail of this order as required, to facilitate attendance and participation at meetings, to ensure the efficient carrying out of Council business while also protecting the health and safety of elected members and local authority staff. She advised that it was a matter for the Elected Members of the local authority to decide if and how meetings of the Local Authority will be held remotely. She advised that this matter has been considered by the protocol committee and the CPG and that both amendments were being recommended to the Council.

L. Gallagher went through the amendments to the draft standing orders received from the Department which were shown in red and responded to queries raised. Elected Members noted the proposal to hold hybrid meetings during appropriate levels of covid 19 restrictions i.e. a blend of a physical meeting (16 elected members in the chamber) with remaining elected members joining remotely from the elected members rooms or remotely from home.

The Cathaoirleach advised that at meeting of the CPG held that morning it was recommended that the Council's standing orders paragraph 6 be amended for a period of 6 months to be reviewed thereafter depending of the level of Covid 19 restrictions in place at the time.

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald to amend Paragraph 6 : of Wicklow County Council Standing Orders: Place of Meeting and Address of Principal Offices as circulated for a period of six months to the 10<sup>th</sup> of June, 2021) and following a vote was passed by a margin of 31 for and 1 not present viz:-

<b>FOR 31</b>	<b>CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, G. DUNNE, E. DOYLE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN KENNEDY, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, G. MCMANUS, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, J. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS.</b>
<b>NOT PRESENT 1</b>	<b>CLLR. M. MURPHY</b>

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. A. Flynn to adopt the Wicklow County Council Supplementary Standing orders regulating the proceedings of remote meetings of Wicklow County Council as circulated, and following a vote was passed by a margin of 31 votes for and 1 not present viz:-

<b>FOR 31</b>	<b>CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, G. DUNNE, E. DOYLE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN KENNEDY, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, G. MCMANUS, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, J. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS.</b>
<b>NOT PRESENT 1</b>	<b>CLLR. M. MURPHY</b>

#### **ITEM NO. 15**

#### **To receive a presentation Consarc Consultants: Glendalough and Wicklow Mountains Masterplan and Visitor Orientation Plan.**

Representatives of Consarc Consultants: Dawson Stelfox, Sarah Steer, Andrew Haley, Caro-Lynne Ferris and Andrew Todd gave a presentation covering the following areas and answered the Elected Members questions:

- Visitor Analysis
- Tourism in Wicklow
- Glendalough Visitor Behaviour
- International Tourists
- Domestic Tourist and Day Visitors
- Working Hypothesis
- Strengthening the wider Wicklow Visitor
- Dispersal Mechanisms
- Improving the Sustainability of Existing Outdoor Recreation Honey-pot Sites
- High Value – High Volume Sites

Following a discussion on the matter the Cathaoirleach concluded by welcoming the master plan for Glendalough, however, there are concerns among the business people and the community with regard to further consultation with the community, stakeholders and state agencies and which had been highlighted by the elected members in the discussion. He asked for clinics to be carried out within the community and a leaflet drop in every household in Glendalough and Laragh.

In response Mr. Stelfox advised that the presentation was very much the start of the process and that they are looking forward to and are very keen to consult with all stakeholders. He advised that they have taken the opportunity to speak with individuals, property owners, the tourism alliance etc and that they do recognise the need to consult with the wider local community which they intend on doing so in January. This was noted by the elected members.

#### **ITEM NO. 14**

#### **To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, November 2020.**

The elected members were circulated with the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, November 2020 on 4<sup>th</sup> December, 2020. It was agreed that due to time constraints of the meeting and the need to discuss the suspension of standing orders, that the report would be deemed noted

and that should Councillors have queries in relation to the report that they should email the relevant directorate.

**Suspension of Standing Orders.**

Cllr. J. Neary outlined the difficulties experienced by parents and children due to the covid 19 pandemic and the disruption it has caused to children's schooling and that this was exacerbated by the accommodation crisis facing several schools in the Greystones District. She advised that there are issues to be addressed around planning capacity for school places and put forward the following proposal which was agreed.

*"That Wicklow County Council write to the Department of Education seeking officials from the department to address council members and their questions in relation to the on-going school accommodations crisis and unmet demand for school populations in Greystones and Wicklow".*

The meeting concluded with the Cathaoirleach wishing elected members and staff of Wicklow County Council a happy, peaceful and safe Christmas.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

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**CLLR. PAT KENNEDY  
CATHOIRLEACH  
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

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**MS. LORRAINE GALLAGHER  
DIRECTOR OF SERVICES/  
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

Confirmed at meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday the 11<sup>th</sup> of January, 2021.