

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN SHORELINE
LEISURE CENTRE, GREYSTONES, CO. WICKLOW ON MONDAY 15TH JUNE, 2020 COMMENCING
2.00PM**

PRESENT:

COUNCILLOR I. WINTERS, CATHAOIRLEACH, COUNCILLORS. 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.

APOLOGIES:

COUNCILLOR M. MURPHY.

IN ATTENDANCE:

**MR. F. CURRAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MS. L. GALLAGHER, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES/ MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR
MR. B. GLEESON, HEAD OF FINANCE
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. B. KILKENNY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. C. LAVERY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. L. FITZPATRICK, HEAD OF IS SUPPORT
MS. V. DELAHUNT, HEAD OF ENTERPRISE, WICKLOW LEO
MS. S. WALSH, SENIOR PLANNER
MS. B. MCCARTHY, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT
MS. T. O'BRIEN, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MR. M. OVINGTON, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MR. D. FORDE, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR
MS. M. PORTER, DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR
MS. F. FLYNN, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MS. K. BOYLE, ANALYST DEVELOPER
MS. G. LANG, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER**

VOTES OF SYMPATHY: Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of the late Mr. John Munnely, Ms. Bridie Cardiff, Mrs. Bridie Cussen, Ms. Maeve Adamson, Mrs. Christina Keogh, Mr. Michael McGovern, Mrs. Mags Murray and Mrs. Irene Gillis. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

Suspension of Standing Orders

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. E. Timmins and agreed to suspend standing orders to discuss the issue of Irish Water and water connections to the Wicklow Hills Development at Newtownmountkennedy. It was agreed to discuss matter this at 16.45pm

ITEM NO. 1

To confirm and sign minutes of special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 25th February, 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 25th February, 2020.

ITEM NO. 2

To confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 2nd March, 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 2nd March, 2020.

ITEM NO. 3

To confirm and sign minutes of special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Friday 29th May, 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. S. Cullen and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of special meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Friday 29th May, 2020.

ITEM NO. 4

To consider the disposal of all of Folio WW3817L – Co. Wicklow being the property known as 36D Ledwidge Crescent, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Shirley Vij, 36D Ledwidge Crescent, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. J. Behan and agreed to dispose of all of Folio WW3814L – Co. Wicklow being the property known as 36D Ledwidge Crescent, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Shirley Vij, 36D Ledwidge Crescent, Bray, Co. Wicklow as set out in disposal notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 5

To consider the disposal of all of Folio No. WW344L being the property known as 46 St. Peter's Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Mr. David Doherty and Ms. Bernadette Doherty, 46 St. Peter's Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed to dispose of all of Folio No. WW344L being the property known as 46 St. Peter's Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow to Mr. David Doherty and Ms. Bernadette Doherty, 46 St. Peter's Place, Arklow, Co. Wicklow as set out in disposal notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 6

To consider the disposal of 0.0049 hectares or thereabouts of land in the townland adjacent to 32 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Audrey Collins, 32 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed to dispose of 0.0049 hectares or thereabouts of land in the townland adjacent to 32 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Ms. Audrey Collins, 32 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow as set out in disposal notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 7

To consider the disposal of 0.0017 hectares or thereabouts of land comprised in Folio No. WW2882L – Co. Wicklow being a strip of land adjacent to 5 Upper Grattan Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Fergus Ryan, Legal Representative of Ms. Carmel Ryan (deceased) of 5 Upper Grattan Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Walsh, seconded by Cllr. T. Fortune and agreed to dispose of 0.0017 hectares or thereabouts of land comprised in Folio No. WW2882L – Co. Wicklow being a strip of land adjacent to 5 Upper Grattan Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Fergus Ryan, Legal Representative of Ms. Carmel Ryan (deceased) of 5 Upper Grattan Park, Greystones, Co. Wicklow as set out in disposal notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 8

To consider the disposal of 0.0094 hectares or thereabouts of land being a plot of land to the rear of 4 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Mr. John Butler and Ms. Maureen Doran, Personal Representatives of Ms. Teresa Butler (deceased) of 4 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Behan, seconded by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy, and agreed to dispose of 0.0094 hectares or thereabouts of land being a plot of land to the rear of 4 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Mr. John Butler and Ms. Maureen Doran, Personal Representatives of Ms. Teresa Butler (deceased) of 4 Connolly Square, Bray, Co. Wicklow as set out in disposal notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 9

To consider the disposal of 0.192 acres or thereabouts of land situated at Villa Mena, Dunbar Park, Wicklow Town by way of Fee Simple to Mr. Ciaran Kelly and Mr. Aidan Kelly, Legal Representatives of Mr. Patrick Kelly (deceased) of Villa Mena, Dunbar Park, Wicklow Town.

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed to dispose of 0.192 acres or thereabouts of land situated at Villa Mena, Dunbar Park, Wicklow Town by way of Fee Simple to Mr. Ciaran Kelly and Mr. Aidan Kelly, Legal Representatives of Mr. Patrick Kelly (deceased) of Villa Mena, Dunbar Park, Wicklow Town as set out in disposal notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 10

To consider the disposal of 0.0104 hectares or thereabouts of land comprised in Folio No. WW4484 Co. Wicklow situated at 6 Lourdes Crescent, Aughrim, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Kevin Byrne, and Ms. Melissa Byrne, 6 Lourdes Crescent, Aughrim, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke and agreed to dispose of 0.0104 hectares or thereabouts of land comprised in Folio No. WW4484 Co. Wicklow situated at 6 Lourdes Crescent, Aughrim, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Kevin Byrne and Ms. Melissa Byrne, 6 Lourdes Crescent, Aughrim, Co. Wicklow as set out in disposal notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 11

To consider the disposal of all of Folio No. WW2211L being the property known as Cnoc Rua, Hollywood, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Finbar Mulligan and Ms. Joanne Fox, Cnoc Rua, Hollywood, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Glennon, seconded by Cllr. E. Timmins and agreed to dispose of all of Folio. No. WW2211L being the property known as Cnoc Rua, Hollywood, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Finbar Mulligan and Ms. Joanne Fox, Cnoc Rua, Hollywood, Co. Wicklow as set out in disposal notice circulated.

ITEM NO.12

To consider the disposal of the Freehold Interest of the piece of plot or ground with dwelling house known as 37 Wolfe Tone Square East, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Michael Barry and Ms. Ashling Beirne, 37 Wolfe Tone Square East, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed to dispose of the Freehold Interest of the piece of plot or ground with dwellinghouse known as 37 Wolfe Tone Square East, Bray, Co. Wicklow to Mr. Michael Barry and Ms. Ashling Beirne, 37 Wolfe Tone Square East, Bray, Co. Wicklow as set out in disposal notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 13

To consider filling the vacancy of the Chair of the Climate and Biodiversity SPC created by the election of former Councillors J. Whitmore and S. Matthews, to Dáil Eireann.

L. Gallagher, Meetings Administrator, read to the meeting email received from Councillor T. Fortune on the 27th of March, 2020 advising that the technical group had completed a voting process to select the two chairs to share the Climate and Biodiversity SPC and that the group had selected Cllr. Rory O Connor to chair the first term (2.5 years) and Cllr. Lourda Scott the second term (2.5 years). It was proposed by Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. P. Leonard and agreed that Cllr. Rory O'Connor would fill the vacancy of Chair of the Climate and Biodiversity SPC for the first 2.5 years until June 2021, created by the election of former Cllr J. Whitmore and that Cllr. Lourda Scott fill the vacancy of Chair of the Climate and Biodiversity SPC for the second 2.5 years from June 2021, arising from the election of former Councillor S. Matthews.

ITEM NO. 14

To consider the filling of the vacancy on the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) created by the election of Cllr. S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

L. Gallagher, Meetings Administrator advised that an email had been received from Cllr. T. Fortune on the 27th of March, 2020, advising that the group had selected Cllr. T. Fortune to fill the vacancy on EMRA. It was proposed by Cllr. M. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. R. O'Connor and agreed that Cllr. T. Fortune fill the vacancy on the Eastern and Midland Regional Assembly (EMRA) arising from the election of Councillor S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

ITEM NO. 15

To consider the filling of the vacancy on the AILG arising from the resignation of Cllr. Rory O'Connor.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. T. Fortune and agreed that Cllr. Joe Behan fill the vacancy on the AILG arising from the resignation of Cllr. Rory O'Connor.

ITEM NO. 16

To consider the filling of the vacancy on the Wicklow County Council Protocol Committee arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy and agreed that Cllr. E. Doyle fill the vacancy on the protocol committee arising from the election of Cllr S. Matthews to Dail Eireann.

ITEM NO. 17

To ratify the appointment of Cllr. Erika Doyle, agreed by the Bray Municipal District Members, to the Bray Harbour Joint Development Committee arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. G. McManus and agreed to ratify the appointment of Cllr. Erika Doyle, agreed by the Bray Municipal District Members, to the Bray Harbour Joint Development Committee arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

ITEM NO. 18

To ratify the appointment Cllr. Erika Doyle, agreed by the Bray Municipal District Members, to the Greystones/Bray Cliff Walk Management Plan Sub committee arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy and agreed to ratify the appointment of Cllr. Erika Doyle, agreed by the Bray Municipal District Members, to the Greystones/Bray Cliff Walk Management Plan subcommittee arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

ITEM NO. 19

To ratify the appointment of Cllr. Erika Doyle, agreed by the Bray Municipal District Members, to the Special Amenity Area Order for Bray Head Committee arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Corrigan, seconded by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy and agreed to ratify the appointment of Cllr. Erika Doyle, agreed by the Bray Municipal District Members, to the Special Amenity Area Order for Bray Head Committee arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

ITEM NO. 20

To ratify the appointment of Cllr. Erika Doyle to the Planning and Environment SPC arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann

It was proposed by Cllr. D. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. A. Flynn Kennedy and agreed to ratify the appointment of Cllr. Erika Doyle to the Planning and Environment SPC arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Cllr S. Matthews to Dáil Eireann.

ITEM NO. 21

To ratify the appointment of Cllr. Jodie Neary to the Climate and Biodiversity Action SPC arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor J. Whitmore to Dáil Eireann.

It was proposed by Cllr. L. Scott, seconded by Cllr. M. Crean and agreed to ratify the appointment of Cllr. Jodie Neary to the Climate and Biodiversity Action SPC arising from the vacancy created by the election of former Councillor J. Whitmore to Dáil Eireann.

It was agreed to take item 23 next.

ITEM NO. 23

To receive on update on Wicklow County Council Covid 19 Business Continuity.

- 1. Chief Executive Frank Curran**
- 2. Ms. Vibeke Delahunt, Head of Enterprise, Wicklow Leo**
- 3. Mr. Brian Gleeson, Head of Fiance.**

1. Mr. F. Curran, Chief Executive:

Chief Executive F. Curran, updated the Elected Members in relation to Wicklow County Council Covid 19 Business Continuity process. He advised that the Covid 19 crisis had presented unprecedented challenges to the staff of Wicklow County Council, and referred to the commitment and good will across the entire organisation, both indoor and outdoor staff which he described as phenomenal. He advised that the health and safety of staff and members of the public has and still is a priority for the council and outlined the measures and practices which have been introduced across the organisation, municipal district offices, libraries etc. to combat the spread of the virus. He advised that the Return to Work Safely Committee had been established with representatives from both Unions ForSa and SIPTU, working with the Health and Safety Officials and line managers to develop return to work safely protocol and policy and that a Covid 19 compliance officer had been put in place as well as a number of Covid 19 inspectors. He advised that the Crisis Management Team met initially on the daily basis at the onset of the crisis and now meets weekly. He referred to the flexible work patterns and shift working put in place as well as remote working to facilitate staff and that

currently there is approximately 50% of staff working from home. The Planning counter is open by appointment in accordance with the Government's Roadmap to reopening Ireland and it is expected that the remainder of offices will open on an incremental basis, most likely by appointment towards the end of June and towards the 20th of July, when full opening is expected.

The Chief Executive advised in relation to the communications strategy in place since the onset of the crisis to update elected members, the public and the staff and to the inter agency group set up comprising the Council, An Garda Síochána, Coillte, the National Wildlife Services and the HSE. He also referred to the Community Forum, Chaired by the Chief Executive comprising representation from the PPM, CWP, HSE, Local Link, An Post, Alone and the Citizens information centre and the Cathaoirleach. He referred to the Community Call Help line in place and paid tribute to all the staff involved working over the weekends to take calls and provide support to members of the public who were in need of assistance, with regard to shopping etc. He also highlighted the work of the libraries, to keep services available to members of the public, the click and collect service and the browsing service from Monday. Essential services continued to be provided in the recycling centres, housing, the LEO, fire and civil defence, and finance by way of restart grant and mortgage waivers. In relation to Council costs the Chief Executive advised that the Council will be making a case to the department for additional Covid 19 expenditure required to fund, PPE, technology, equipment, road markings and loss of income.

He mentioned the reopening committee set up in Bray working with the Chambers of Commerce and MD members to assist local business returning and to highlight to members of the public the importance of shopping local. A number of measures such as widening of footpaths have been undertaken and proposals have been submitted to the NTA for additional measures such as cycling lanes and other pilot projects on a trial basis. He also highlighted that the Planning Department will consider applications on a temporary basis for outdoor seating submitted via the Municipal districts which are being fast tracked for June to September to assist the hospitality sector with the social distancing requirements. He thanked the Cathaoirleach and elected members for their support.

2. Ms. V. Delahunt, Head of Enterprise, Wicklow LEO

Ms. V. Delahunt presented to the elected members by powerpoint covering the following areas:-

- The local first-stop shop for new entrepreneurs and existing micro-enterprise and small business owners.
- The LEOs are the front door through which all information on State supports for small and micro-businesses can be accessed and signposted to other supports and bodies with programmes relevant to small business as well as important local services
- The LEOs are the business connection into the Local Authority, Enterprise Ireland and all State agencies that can help grow your business.

This includes the following key agencies to ensure you will have access to all Government Revenue

- Department of Social Protection
- Education and Training Boards
- Skillnets
- Microfinance Ireland
- Credit Review Office

- Fáilte Ireland
- National Association of Community Enterprise Centres (NACEC)

Local Enterprise Office Network

- 31 Local Enterprise Offices in Ireland
- Find your nearest Local Enterprise Office and contact details at: *LocalEnterprise.ie*

Local Enterprise Office Supports

- Comprehensive list detailing all Local Enterprise Office supports available to SMEs during the emergency
- Available to download from the Local Enterprise Office Response site:
- www.localenterprise.ie/response/

Free Online Training

13 additional training courses scheduled during lockdown to inform, assist and educate.
Additional 557 clients trained between 16th March 2020 to 10th June :-

- Leading Your Business through Covid,
- Cash management in a Crisis,
- Opportunities for Food Producers during COVID 19 webinar,
- Moving Your Business Online,
- Boosting Online Sales,
- Keeping your Training and Consultancy business alive
- Leading your retail business in uncertain times
- Retail workshop: Practical Actions retailers can take
- Start Your Own Business course
- Business Planning and Accessing Finance for your Business workshop
- Working Remotely, What are the ICT Considerations
- Trading Online Seminar
- Marketing for SMEs

Business Continuity Voucher

- New Scheme, closing date 15th May 2020
- 300 Applications submitted between 30th March - 15th May: all contacted, diagnosed and supports arranged within 10 weeks
- 254 Approved
- Estimated cost € 373,000

Trading Online Voucher

- 70 approved and Letters of Offer issued
- 100 being assessed for approval
- Eligibility doesn't automatically lead to approval
- Approval depends on budget being available
 - Up to €2,500 for ecommerce and digital marketing activities
 - Match-funding for TOV application has been reduced from 50% to 10%
 - 2nd application for a TOV is now permitted for ecommerce system upgrades
 - Other LEO supports

- LEO Feasibility / Priming / Business Expansion Grant

Eligible enterprises: in the manufacturing or internationally traded services sectors which over time can develop into strong export entities and graduate to the Enterprise Ireland portfolio;

- Lean for Micro: 5 mentor sessions focusing on efficiency, cost saving and competitiveness
- Agile Innovation Fund allows companies to access up to 50% in support of innovation projects with a total cost of up to €300,000
- Network of Entrepreneurial Women, online monthly meeting: *Wednesday 1st July 2020*

Additional supports announced 2nd May:

- a €10,000 restart grant for micro and small businesses based on a rates/waiver rebate from 2019
- a three month commercial rates waiver for impacted businesses
- awaiting further guidance from the Dept on how the schemes are to be implemented.
- a €2 billion Pandemic Stabilisation and Recovery Fund within the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund (ISIF), which will make capital available to medium and large enterprises
- a €2 billion COVID-19 Credit Guarantee Scheme to support lending to SMEs for terms ranging from 3 months to 6 years, which will be below market interest rates
- the 'warehousing' of tax liabilities for a period of twelve months after recommencement of trading during which time there will be no debt enforcement action taken by Revenue.

3. Mr. Brian Gleeson, Head of Finance,

Mr. B. Gleeson presented to the elected members in relation to the significant financial impact that Covid 19 has had on Wicklow County Council budget covering the following areas.

COVID 19 Financial Impact

- 1) Income Reduction
- 2) Additional Expenditure
- 3) Government Compensation
- 4) Financial Support Schemes

Income Collection – Rates

- Rates Income annual budget €32m
- Represents 28% of 2020 WCC Budget
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Analysis of Commercial Rates Receipts			
	YTD	Annual Demand	% Collected
Receipts 2019	€10,349,671	€27,927,545	37%
Receipts 2020	€6,445,718	€32,009,800	20%
Variance	-€3,903,953		

- Collection Rate 20% (€6.5m) at end May v 37% (€10.4m) for same period last year
- Cash Flow Reduction YTD nearly €4m.
- Estimated that nearly 60% of the rates book value will be impacted to various degrees

Income Collection – Rent

- Rent Income annual budget €17.2m
- Represents 15% of 2020 WCC Budget

Analysis of Rent Income			
	YTD	Budget	% Collected
Receipts 2019	€5,639,678	€14,600,883	39%
Receipts 2020	€6,286,127	€17,202,647	37%
Variance	€646,449		

- Collection Rate 37% (€6.3m) at end May v 39% (€5.6m) for same period last year.
- Increased Budget in 2020 following Rent Review.
- Section of Council tenants are likely to be in receipt the COVID pay subsidies (TWSS and PUP) and therefore further developments in this area may negatively impact on future rent receipts.

Additional COVID Expenditure

- Approx. €300k incurred under COVID 19 job code
- Costs relate to:
 - PPE
 - Traffic Restriction works
 - Signage
 - Emergency Accommodation works
 - Social Distancing building works
 - Cleaning products
 - IT services
- Emergency housing relet works are recoupable from DHPLG

Government Compensation

- Commercial Rates Waiver Scheme announced €260m to cover 3 month period April-June. Additional support for post June period being developed.
- Submission on Good & Services income losses in LA sector submitted to DHPLG and DPER.
- Covid related expenditure submission to be made to DHPLG and DPER.
- Cuts to WCC Budget dependent on level of Government compensation provided
- Possible expenditure savings being examined across all Directorates

Financial Support Schemes

- Commercial Rates Waiver Scheme - €260m
- 3 Month Mortgage Payment Break Option for Local Authority Borrowers - 23 applications received and approved.
- Business Restart Scheme
 - A business must have a turnover of less than €5m
 - A business must and have 50 or less employees
 - The business must have suffered a projected 25%+ loss in revenue from 1st April 2020 to 30th June 2020.
 - The business must commit to remain open or to reopen if it was closed.
 - The business must also declare the intention to retain employees that are benefitting from the Temporary Wage Subsidy Scheme (TWSS).
 - Grant amount payable will equate to 2019 rates bill subject to min €2k and max 10k
 - 684 applications received to date

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

- How long will it take from application stage of the Restart Grant to payment is made?
- Members paid tribute to the Community call initiative and to everyone involved, particularly to the volunteering groups
- View expressed that the funding allocated to these groups should have been allocated to all groups with none being left out.
- Query as to the rate of interest on the MFI loan of 4.5% and is this considered high?
- Instances of increase of litter and illegal dumping throughout the crisis raised the council commended for keeping the recycling centres open.
- What supports are available for the small traders and business owners and how can we incentivise.
- Can the 15 minute grace period for parking charges in Wicklow Town be extended to 30 minutes
- View expressed that additional parking facilities are required in places such as Glendalough and Avondale etc. to encourage tourism.
- What is the lead in time for the Trading on Line Vouchers and is there a limit on funding available.
- Support expressed for people living in direct provision centres to have a voice on the community forum and can WCC move to include residents from direct provision centres on community response forums.
- Request for playground and community areas for children and older persons to remain open should this happen again.
- Reference made to the closure of the car park in Kilcoole and query as to how this decision was made and that going forward consultation in relation to closure of facilities be carried out with elected councillors and the local community.
- Sincere condolences expressed to all of the families who lost a family member to Covid 19 and tributes paid to all of the front line staff.
- Request for the elected members to be kept informed in relation to proposed budget cuts
- View expressed that more and more people in the private rental sector will find themselves in difficulty and that they will present for housing support and that this should be kept in mind moving forward.

ITEM NO. 22**To consider the adoption of the Wicklow County Council (Wicklow Port) Explosive Bye-Laws, 2020**

Elected members were circulated with the Wicklow County Council (Wicklow Port) Explosives Bye-Laws, 2020 on 10th June, 2020. Mr. Merlin Ovington Administrative Officer, Environmental Services, gave the background to the matter.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. G. Walsh and agreed by a margin of 30 votes for and 2 not present to adopt the Wicklow County Council (Wicklow Port) Explosives Bye-Laws, 2020.

FOR (30)	CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, E. DOYLE, G. DUNNE, 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, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS.
NOT PRESENT (2)	CLLRS. M. MURPHY AND G. O'NEILL.

ITEM NO. 24**To note the circulation of the Chief Executive's report for March and April, 2020 and to consider the Chief Executive's Report, May 2020.**

Elected members were circulated with the Chief Executive's report for March and April, 2020. The Chief Executive outlined the highlights contained therein and advised that he would take it as read unless there were any questions.

- What is the up to date position in relation to the San Remo project
- What is the update on the 2020 septic tank inspections and when will they take place?
- Up date on the cold weather initiative requested.
- Are children referenced in the homeless figures presented?
- Terms of reference for Food Poverty Group requested
- Information requested on the number of Approved Housing Bodies Wicklow County Council deals with
- Comment on €2m rent arrears requested
- Are we happy that social distancing is in place on all reopened building sites?
- How many Part 5 units, in addition to the numbers in the report, do we have?
- Explanation on the Turnkey concept requested
- Explanation on Capital Advanced Leasing Facility requested
- Information on the budget for the home improvement grants requested
- How is Wicklow County Council progressing with dealing with the homeless persons presenting
- Update on the swimming pool for West Wicklow requested.
- When will phase 2 of the Dunlavin housing development be released?
- Reference made to bid for the outdoor recreation grant scheme for Arklow, repairs to the seafront promenade and is there a commitment to look at ways of funding by WCC, clarification sought
- Reference made to the County Development Plan process and request put forward that the Council ensure adequate zonings for residential spaces for elderly community in every town and village in Wicklow.
- Request for more litter bins put forward

- View expressed that there is a need for a homeless hub or sheltered accommodation, even for women, in South Wicklow.
- Council requested to contact the relevant Minister and ask for the Covid pandemic payment to be reduced from 2 weeks to 1 week.
- Would it be possible to look at exploring having more allocations for casual trader licences for businesses plus more outdoor furniture for public spaces going forward.
- Kilmacanogue Bus Shelter - update requested
- Information on fire stats requested.
- San Remo – Stress how important it is to work with the local community and look at their need and support and creation of the liaison committee. Very important that this should be happening and immediate.
- Rural Planning – a lot of calls received from families who cannot afford to live in our communities and moved home to family farms and land but cannot get planning permission.

It was agreed to respond to the questions raised in writing having regard to time constraints.

ITEM NO. 25

To note the Annual Financial Statement 2019 and approved by resolution additional net expenditure in excess of budget in accordance with section 104 (7) of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Mr B. Gleeson, Head of Finance outlined to the Members the main aspects of the 2019 Annual Financial Statement. The Members were then advised that under Section 104(7) of the Local Government Act 2001 they were required to approve the additional net expenditure in excess of budget.

The net overspends were:-

Division	€
Division B - Roads, Transportation & Safety	(171,206)
Division C - Water Services	(70,436)
Division E- Environmental Services	(818,082)

It was proposed by Cllr S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr G. Walsh and agreed to note the Annual Financial Statement 2019 and approve by resolution the additional net expenditure in excess of budget in accordance with Section 104(7) of the Local Government Act, 2001.

ITEM NO. 26

To adopt the Wicklow County Council Annual Report, 2019 (Section 221 of the Local Government Act, 2001).

Elected members were circulated with the Wicklow County Council Annual Report, 2019 (Section 221 of the Local Government Act, 2001) on 10th June, 2020. L. Gallagher advised that the Council is obliged to prepare and adopt an Annual report by the 30th of June each year and that it must contain certain information. She advised that due to Covid 19 restrictions the annual financial statement was only prepared and approved today and that this will be included in the annual report prior to publication. She advised that the Council is also obliged to include performance indicator data submitted to NOAC, but that this date to had been extended to mid July and that

these figures would be included also thereafter following submission to NOAC. It was proposed by Cllr. S. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. V. Blake and agreed to adopt the Wicklow County Council Annual Report, 2019 as presented and that the Annual Financial Statement figures along with the data relating to Performance Indicators to be included as an appendix.

ITEM NO. 27

To adopt the Wicklow County Council Annual Service Delivery Plan, 2020 (Section 134A of the Local Government Act, 2014).

Elected members were circulated with the Wicklow County Council Annual Service Delivery Plan, 2020 (Section 134A of the Local Government Act, 2014) on 10th June, 2020. The elected members were advised that as soon as practical after adoption of the budget the Council is obliged to prepare an annual service delivery plan and that the Wicklow County Council Plan has been prepared having regard to the four high level strategic goals in the Corporate Plan adopted by the Council. It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. P. Kennedy and agreed to adopt the Wicklow County Council Annual Service Delivery Plan, 2020 as circulated.

ITEM NO. 28

To note the review of the Wicklow County Council Corporate Plan, 2015-2019.

Elected members were circulated with letter dated the 27th of May, 2020 received from NOAC in relation to the Review of Corporate Plans 2015 – 2019 and that this matter is to be brought to the attention of all local authority officials involved in the Corporate Planning process, the elected council and the Corporate Policy Group. This was noted by the elected members.

ITEM NO. 29

To note the Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee Annual Report, 2019 and to submit same to the Policing Authority.

Elected members were circulated with the Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee Annual Report on 10th June, 2020. L. Gallagher advised that the Council is required to prepare an annual report on the activities of the Committee for year ended 31st December, and submit to the Policing Authority by the 31st of March each year. She advised of the key objectives covered within the report and referred to the establishment of policing plan committees by municipal district area and that it was hoped to welcome the Garda Commissioner, Drew Harris to a meeting in the near future. It was proposed by Cllr. G. Walsh, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed to note the Wicklow County Council Joint Policing Committee Annual Report, 2019 and to submit same to the Policing Authority.

ITEM NO. 30

To note reports to the Elected Council (Section 141 of the Local Government Act, 2001).

Elected members were circulated with reports submitted from various elected members represented on statutory bodies which were noted.

Suspension of Standing orders:- Cllr. S. Cullen advised that he was happy for the Council to take the lead on this issue and to try and resolve it with Irish Water and that building of housing estates, in north Wicklow, particularly in Newtown and Kilcoole will cease if it is not resolved. The Chief Executive advised that the Council will take it up with the Developer in terms of connections and that the issue of the reservoir will be taken up with Irish Water.

ITEM NO. 31

To note agree the date and the location of the next meeting of Wicklow County Council.

L. Gallagher advised that a schedule of meetings will be agreed at the Annual Meeting which is to follow but that it was not proposed to meet again until September 7th, unless there was statutory business to be considered and that current legislation precluded consideration of statutory business on an online platform. She referred to the necessity to hold a special meeting, consisting of a quorum (nine elected members) to agree an alternative location other than the Council Chamber and if it was agreeable to the elected members that they would pass a resolution that a venue for the September 7th meeting be agreed in consultation with the Cathaoirleach as it was not clear if Shoreline would be available to the Elected Members in September. The Cathaoirleach referred to the difficulty in completing Council business and regretted not having reached on the notice of motions on the agenda and that she was mindful of the cost of holding the meetings in a venue where 2m social distancing could be achieved and that if there was no statutory business to be considered that meeting can be convened by zoom. Following a discussion on the matter it was agreed that the next council meeting would take place on Monday the 7th of September, 2020 and that zoom meetings by Municipal District would take place during the month of July.

ITEM 32:

Correspondence

Update: Refurbishment works to the Chamber, Elected Members rooms and development of Customer Care Innovation Hub.

L. Gallagher, updated the elected members on the refurbishment works to the Chamber, Elected members rooms and as to the development of the customer care innovation hub. Construction works recommenced on the 18th of May, the chamber and members rooms are stripped and the walls to the new extension have been erected, interview room and public toilets have been reconfigured and it is expected that phase 1, construction of the customer care innovation hub will be complete by the end of August/September and that the final completion date for the project is mid-December, and elected members can expect to be back in the chamber and rooms by January, 2021.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Confirmed at meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday the 7th September, 2020

CLLR. PAT KENNEDY
CATHAOIRLEACH
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

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

Confirmed at meeting held on Monday the 7th of September, 2020 _____