MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING (HYBRID) OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON FRIDAY 9TH OCTOBER 2026, COMMENCING 2.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS C. WINSTANLEY CATHAOIRLEACH, D, ALVEY, M. BARRY, J. BEHAN, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, M. DUDDY, G. DUNNE, L. FENELON GASKIN, O. FINN, P. FITZGERALD, P. KENNEDY, S. LANGRELL, P. LEONARD, P. MAHON, J. MULHALL, M. MURPHY, I. NEARY, P. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, W. O'TOOLE, G. RICHMOND, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES, J. WARD AND N. WHELAN (29)

APOLOGIES

CLLRS. E. DOYLE, T. FORTUNE AND P. GLENNON (3)

IN ATTENDANCE:

MS. E. O'GORMAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MS. J. CARROLL, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. H. DENNEHY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. B. GLEESON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. G. ROWAN, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. H. PURCELL, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. D. KENNEDY, LAW AGENT
MS. R. GILLESPIE, A/SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR
MR. S. DOYLE, I.S. PROJECT LEADER

At the commencement of the meeting a roll call was taken. The Meetings Administrator advised all present they are bound by the Code of Conduct for Councillors and Employees. Also, of meetings etiquette for online meetings and that the press and some members of the public were also present.

Votes of Sympathy

Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the family of the late Ms. Sinead O'Connor. A minute's silence was observed for the deceased.

ITEM NO. 1

To consider the variation of the basic rate of Local Property Tax and the setting of the Local Adjustment Factor in accordance with the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act 2012 (as amended) to apply for the period as specified from the next local property tax liability date 1st November 2026.

Cllr. P. Stapleton withdrew the motion *'to increase the base rate by 10% and to set the rate for the remainder of the lifetime of the Council'* which he had proposed at the ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council on Monday 5th October 2026.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Stapleton, seconded by Cllr. G. Dunne and agreed by all to adjourn the meeting for 10 minutes to discuss the matter.

Meeting resumed commencing with a roll call.

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS C. WINSTANLEY CATHAOIRLEACH, D, ALVEY, M. BARRY, J. BEHAN, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, M. DUDDY, G. DUNNE, L. FENELON GASKIN, O. FINN, P. FITZGERALD, P. KENNEDY, S. LANGRELL P. LEONARD, P. MAHON, J. MULHALL, M. MURPHY, I. NEARY, P. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, W. O'TOOLE, G. RICHMOND, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES, J. WARD AND N. WHELAN (29)

APOLOGIES

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A lengthy discussion followed in which Elected Members raised concerns and queries which were responded to by Mr. B. Gleeson, Director of Services.

The following proposals were put forward:

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. M. Barry: In accordance with the provisions of Section 20 of the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act 2012, as amended, that the base rate of Local Property Tax shall stand varied upwards by 6% for one year, 2026, in respect of the relevant residential properties situated in the administrative area of Wicklow County Council.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Leonard and seconded by Cllr. J. Behan: In accordance with the provisions of section 20 of the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act 2012, as amended, that the basic rate of Local Property Tax should be maintained at the base rate for 2026 in respect of relevant residential properties situated in the administrative area of Wicklow County Council.

The proposal put forward by Cllr. P. O'Brien and seconded by Cllr. M. Barry

'In accordance with the provisions of Section 20 of the Finance (Local Property Tax) Act 2012, as amended, that the base rate of Local Property Tax shall stand varied upwards by 6% for one year, 2026, in respect of the relevant residential properties situated in the administrative area of Wicklow County Council'

was put to a vote and following a roll call was passed by a margin of 20 for, 9 against and 3 not present -

FOR (20)	**CLLRS. D. ALVEY, M. BARRY, S. BOURKE, A. CRONIN, M. CORRIGAN, M. DUDDY, L. FENELON GASKIN, O. FINN, P. FITZGERALD, S. LANGRELL, P. MAHON, J. MULHALL, M. MURPHY, P. O'BRIEN, G. RICHMOND, L. SCOTT, P. STAPLETON, S. STOKES, N. WHELAN AND C. WINSTANLEY**
AGAINST (9)	**CLLRS. J. BEHAN, G. DUNNE, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, I. NEARY, G. O'NEILL, W. O'TOOLE, J. SNELL AND J. WARD**
NOT PRESENT (3)	**CLLRS. E. DOYLE, T. FORTUNE AND P. GLENNON**

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

CLLR. DR. CAROLINE WINSTANLEY
CATHAOIRLEACH
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

MS. RACHEL GILLESPIE
A/SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

Confirmed at meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday the 2nd November 2026.