

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING (HYBRID) OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON  
MONDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021, COMMENCING 2.00 PM VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**PRESENT:**

**COUNCILLORS S. CULLEN CATHAOIRLEACH, T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A. CRONIN, 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, M. MURPHY, 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 G. DUNNE**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**MR. F. CURRAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
MR. B. GLEESON, HEAD OF FINANCE  
MS. L. GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MS. B. KILKENNY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. C. LAVERY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MS. D. KENNEDY, LAW AGENT  
MR. S. DOYLE, A/HEAD OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS  
MR. D. MARNANE, A/SENIOR ENGINEER  
MR. M. DEVEREUX, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MS. D. FORDE, PROJECT LIAISON OFFICER  
MR. J. BOWES, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MS. M. HARTNETT, SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
MS. J. O'DOWD, SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
MR. J. SEXTON, EXECUTIVE SCIENTIST  
MS. H. DENNEHY, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MS. J. CARROLL, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MS. T. O'BRIEN, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MS. M. HALVEY, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
MS. C. FOX, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
MS. H. PURCELL, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR  
MR. E. DEEGAN, PRINCIPAL OFFICER  
MR. I. DEVLIN, ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL OFFICER  
MS. L. LEACY, GEOLOGIST  
MS. T. BYRNE, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER**

At the commencement of the meeting a roll call was taken. The Meetings Administrator noted that it was the first hybrid meeting and advised of etiquette for those attending in the

chamber and those attending remotely. The Meetings Administrator also advised that the press and some members of the public were also present.

### **Votes of Sympathy**

Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of the late Mr. Vincent Blake, Ms. Therese Keogh, Ms. Grainne Byrne and Ms. Kathleen Lancaster. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

Cllr. J. Behan requested a suspension of standing orders to discuss the threats to the role of councillors and joint policing committees. It was seconded by Cllr. T. Fortune and agreed by all to have a discussion on the topic at the end of the meeting.

### **ITEM NO. 1**

**To confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021.**

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Snell, seconded by Cllr. M. Murphy and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

### **ITEM NO. 2**

**To consider the disposal of property comprised of 0.0380 hectares (0.0939 acres) or thereabouts in the townland of Glencap Commons North Td & Kilmacanogue South Td, Co. Wicklow to Shane & Vanessa O'Loughlin.**

It was proposed by Cllr. D. Mitchell, seconded by Cllr. M. Corrigan and agreed to dispose of property comprised of 0.0380 hectares (0.0939 acres) or thereabouts in the townland of Glencap Commons North Td & Kilmacanogue South Td, Co. Wicklow to Shane & Vanessa O'Loughlin, as set out in Statutory Notice circulated.

### **ITEM NO. 3**

**To consider the disposal of 285 sq.m or thereabouts in the townland of Lathaleer, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow known as The Enterprise Units at Lathaleer, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow by way of 3-year lease commencing 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 to Mr. Eric Woods, 12 Verschoyle Rise, Saggart Abbey, Citywest, Co. Dublin, T/A SP Sports and Leisure.**

It was proposed by Cllr. E. Timmins, seconded by Cllr. P. Glennon and agreed to dispose of 285 sq.m or thereabouts in the townland of Lathaleer, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow known as The Enterprise Units at Lathaleer, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow by way of 3-year lease

commencing 1<sup>st</sup> September 2021 to Mr. Eric Woods, 12 Verschoyle Rise, Saggart Abbey, Citywest, Co. Dublin T/A SP Sports and Leisure, as set out in Statutory Notice circulated.

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

**To consider the disposal of 0.43 acres or thereabouts of land situated in the townland of Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow, by way of an 18-month lease for the period 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and the right to pass and repass thereto, to Mr. Noel Jacob and Ms. Helen Jacob, Jacob's Well, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow.**

Ms. H. Purcell pointed out there was a typographical error in item 4 on the disposal notice, this should read 18 months not 189 months.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald and agreed to dispose of 0.43 acres or thereabouts of land situated in the townland of Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow, by way of an 18-month lease for the period 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021 to 8<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and the right to pass and repass thereto, to Mr. Noel Jacob and Ms. Helen Jacob, Jacob's Well, Rathdrum, Co. Wicklow, as set out in Statutory Notice circulated.

Prior to discussion on Item 5, Cllr. A. Flynn-Kennedy disclosed to the meeting the nature of a beneficial interest and withdrew fully from the meeting by disconnecting remote connection for consideration of the item.

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

**To consider the disposal of 112 square meters of land or thereabouts comprised within Folio WW6353L situated in the townland of Beechwood Close, Boghall Rd, Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 W3P3, originally acquired from The Central Garage (Bray) Ltd. by entering an agreement with ARK Housing Association by way of lease, for a period of 24 months.**

It was proposed by Cllr. I. Winters, seconded by Cllr. J. Snell and agreed to dispose of 112 square meters of land or thereabouts comprised within Folio WW6353L situated in the townland of Beechwood Close, Boghall Rd, Bray, Co. Wicklow, A98 W3P3, originally acquired from The Central Garage (Bray) Ltd. by entering an agreement with ARK Housing Association by way of lease, for a period of 24 months, as set out in Statutory Notice circulated.

Cllr. A. Flynn-Kennedy was invited by telephone to rejoin the meeting which she duly did.

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

**To consider entering into a Section 85 Agreement with Kildare County Council – Completion of the Blessington Lakes eGreenway**

Mr. F. Curran, Chief Executive advised of the following:

- Agreement refers to a small section of the greenway – there is a footpath on the N81.
- For completeness, a Section 85 agreement is required.

- Kildare County Council agreed to the Section 85 Agreement at their last meeting.
- Considerable work done by Mr. D. O'Brien, Executive Engineer and Ms. M. Hartnett, Senior Executive Engineer.
- There is detailed design, new route, car parking and tarmacadam surface,
- Everything is in place to go to An Bord Pleanála and ready to start construction as soon as the board process is complete.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Glennon, seconded by Cllr. E. Timmins and agreed to enter into a Section 85 Agreement with Kildare County Council – Completion of the Blessington Lakes eGreenway.

### **ITEM NO. 7**

#### **To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, September 2021**

Elected Members were circulated with the Chief Executive Monthly Management Report, September 2021.

Elected Members raised questions which were responded to by the Chief Executive and the relevant Director of Services

### **ITEM NO. 8**

#### **Presentation by Department of Environment, Climate & Communications on the Draft Policy Statement on Mineral Exploration and Mining**

Mr. Eoin Deegan, Principal Officer gave a presentation outlining the following:

- Section 1. Minerals – What are they? Why are they important? Where do we get them?
- Section 2. Policy context.
- Section 3. Regulatory Framework – Exploration – Mining.
- Section 4. Policy – ensure a robust and transparent regulatory framework that supports environmentally sustainable mineral exploration and mining and maximise the contribution that the sustainable exploration and mining sector makes to our society, economic development and the transition to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions through the supply of the raw materials necessary for our sustainable development.
- Section 4.1. Policy – Key principles
  1. Robust Regulation
  2. Increasing awareness and participation
  3. Sustainable development
  4. Building capacity and access to knowledge
  5. International co-operation
- Section 4.2. Policy – Key priorities

1. Building Public Understanding and Trust
  2. Enhancing the Regulatory Framework
  3. Research on the role of minerals in the transition to net-zero (2050)
  4. Better data enhancing policy and decision-making
  5. Monitoring, review and reporting
- Key messages
    1. Minerals matter
    2. Need to redesign, reuse, repair & recycle, but primary minerals still required
    3. Minerals should be developed in a sustainable and responsible manner where a robust regulatory framework applies
    4. Benefits of sustainable development

The Elected Members were requested to make a submission on the draft policy.

### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

Cllr. J. Behan requested the suspension of standing orders, seconded by Cllr. T. Fortune, to allow the Elected Members to discuss the threats to the role of councillors and Joint Policing Committees given recent suggestions that their composition and governance will be removed from councils in the near future. Cllr. Behan asked the Chief Executive if he was aware of plans to change the structure of the Joint Policing Committees, and how it will impact the role of the Elected Members.

The Chief Executive advised that there are new draft guidelines setting out the role of the Joint Policing Committees and councillors are very much a part of it. They include indicative compositions, 45% councillors i.e. 14 councillors on committees, Wicklow County Council currently have 15 councillors. The chairperson on the Joint Policing Committee would also continue to be an Elected Member.

The Chief Executive also advised that the focus is on working with the Gardaí and community in terms of policy development and highlighting what trends are in the county at a particular time.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

---

**CLLR. SHAY CULLEN  
CATHAOIRLEACH  
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

---

**MS. HELEN PURCELL  
SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/  
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR**

**Confirmed at meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday the 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021**