

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING (HYBRID) OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON
MONDAY 4TH APRIL 2022, COMMENCING 2.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA
MICROSOFT TEAMS**

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS S. CULLEN CATHAOIRLEACH, T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A. CRONIN, 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, M. MURPHY, J. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS AND G. WALSH.

APOLOGIES

CLLR. I. WINTERS

IN ATTENDANCE:

MR. B. GLEESON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MS. L. GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. B. KILKENNY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICE
MS. H. DENNEHY, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. B. MCCARTHY, A/HEAD OF FINANCE
MR. S. DOYLE, A/HEAD OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS
MS. D. KENNEDY, LAW AGENT
MR. A. DEMPSEY, CHIEF FIRE OFFICER
MR. J. BOWES, SENIOR ENGINEER
MR. M. FLYNN, SENIOR ENGINEER
MS. D. FORDE, PROJECT LIAISON OFFICER
MS. H. PURCELL, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR
MS. C. FLOOD, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS. T. O'BRIEN, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS. L. HEALY, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MS. T. BYRNE, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER

At the commencement of the meeting a roll call was taken. The Meetings Administrator advised 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 families of the late Ms. Margaret Sheridan, Mr. Oliver Downes, Ms. Mel Horgan, Ms. Katie McEvoy, Ms Anne O'Shea and Ms. Kathleen Newsome. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

ITEM NO. 1

To consider the disposal of 0.0248 hectares or thereabouts of property in the townland of Little Bray, Castle Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio WW6086L being the property known as former Heiton Buckley Site at Castle Street, Bray, Co, Wicklow by Transfer Order to Silverbow Ltd./Bushnell Investments Ltd., 1st Floor, Block 1, Quayside Business Park, Dundalk, Co. Louth, the person entitled to the freehold interest in the property.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Flynn-Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. A. Ferris to dispose disposal of 0.0248 hectares or thereabouts of property in the townland of Little Bray, Castle Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio WW6086L being the property known as former Heiton Buckley Site at Castle Street, Bray, Co, Wicklow by Transfer Order to Silverbow Ltd./Bushnell Investments Ltd., 1st Floor, Block 1, Quayside Business Park, Dundalk, Co. Louth, the person entitled to the freehold interest in the property as set out in statutory notice circulated.

A vote was taken and following a roll call was passed by a margin of 21 for, 1 against, 6 not present and 4 abstained viz:

FOR 21	CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, V. BLAKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A.CRONIN, S. CULLEN, E. DOYLE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN-KENNEDY, P. GLENNON, G. MCMANUS, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, J. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS AND G. WALSH
AGAINST 1	CLLRS. J. BEHAN
NOT PRESENT 6	CLLRS. S. BOURKE, T. FORTUNE, M. KAVANAGH, M. MURPHY, R. O'CONNOR AND I. WINTERS
ABSTAINED 4	CLLRS. G. DUNNE, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD AND G. O'NEILL

ITEM NO. 2

To consider the disposal of 0.54 hectares (1.33 acres) or thereabouts in the townland of Mill Road, Killincarrig, Greystones, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to the Health Service Executive (HSE).

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Walsh, seconded by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald to dispose of 0.54 hectares (1.33 acres) or thereabouts in the townland of Mill Road, Killincarrig, Greystones, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to the Health Service Executive (HSE) for use as a primary care centre as set out in statutory notice circulated.

Following a discussion a vote was taken and following a roll call was passed by a margin of 27 for, 1 against and 4 not present viz:

FOR 27	CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, M. CORRIGAN, M. CREAN, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, E. DOYLE, G. DUNNE, A. FERRIS, P. FITZGERALD, A. FLYNN-KENNEDY, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, G. MCMANUS, J. MULLEN, M. MURPHY, J. NEARY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, E. TIMMINS AND G. WALSH
AGAINST 1	CLLR. D. MITCHELL
NOT PRESENT 4	CLLRS. S. BOURKE, M. KAVANAGH, R. O'CONNOR AND I. WINTERS

ITEM NO. 3

To consider the disposal of 139 square meters or thereabouts in the townland of Old Connaught, Bray which consists of a ground floor retail premises comprising approximately 103 square meters and a store comprising approximately 36 square meters to the rear at Richmond Hill, Fassaroe, Bray, Co. Wicklow by lease to Mr. Terry Fegan, 27 Killarney Park, Bray, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. D. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. M. Corrigan and agreed to dispose of 139 square meters or thereabouts in the townland of Old Connaught, Bray which consists of a ground floor retail premises comprising approximately 103 square meters and a store comprising approximately 36 square meters to the rear at Richmond Hill, Fassaroe, Bray, Co. Wicklow by lease to Mr. Terry Fegan, 27 Killarney Park, Bray, Co. Wicklow as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 4

To note the draft County Council Annual Report 2021

The Elected Members were circulated with the draft Wicklow County Council Annual Report 2021 on 28th March 2022.

Ms. H. Purcell, Meetings Administrator advised the Elected Members that this is a reserved function of the Elected Members to adopt an Annual Report by the 30th June each year. The annual financial statements are due to be listed at meeting of May and will then be included in the final annual report, along with the NOAC performance indicators, which are due to be submitted by the 29th April.

This report it to be noted today with the finalised Annual Report, 2020 being listed on the agenda for meeting of 13th June 2022.

The Elected Members agreed to note the draft Wicklow County Council Annual Report 2021.

ITEM NO. 5

To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, March 2022 and to note the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, February 2022

Elected Members were previously circulated with the Chief Executive Monthly Management Report February 2022 and The Chief Executive's monthly Management Report, March 2022.

The Chief Executive put forward a proposal in relation to the structure of the Chief Executive Monthly Management Report agenda item going forward. This matter was raised at C.P.G. meeting. This agenda item can take up to 1 hour and 45 minutes, making it difficult to get through other business. Options were put to the CPG such as:

- Limit discussion to 1 hour.
- Limit contributions to 2 minutes per Elected Member and ask questions rather than statements.
- If after an hour, a number of people wish to contribute, their questions could be emailed to relevant directorate for direct reply.
- At following month's meeting anyone who did not get to contribute would be first up to ask questions of the Chief Executive.

A discussion followed in which the Elected Members highlighted the importance of the Chief Executive's report and raised concerns in relation to the proposals put forward by the Chief Executive. The Cathaoirleach Cllr. S. Cullen proposed that the matter should go back to the C.P.G. for further discussion.

Elected Members raised questions in respect of Chief Executive Monthly Management Report March 2022 which were responded to by the Chief Executive and the relevant Director of Services.

ITEM NO. 6

To consider the draft Wicklow County Council Annual Service Delivery Plan 2022

Ms. H. Purcell, Meetings Administrator advised the Elected Members that the purpose of the Annual Service Delivery Plan is to set out the objectives and the performance standards for the Council's service delivery areas for 2022. The Plan has regard to the high level goals contained within the Wicklow County Council 5 year Corporate Plan and also gives an overview of the budget landscape for 2022, which was adopted by the Council in 2021 and which the activities in the Annual Service Delivery Plan take account of over the various service delivery areas.

Appendix 1 of the plan details the annual performance indicators which are monitored by the National Oversight and Audit Committee (NOAC) and appendix 2 sets out the key baseline data target outputs for 2022.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. P. Glennon and agreed by all to consider the Draft Wicklow County Council Annual Service Delivery Plan 2022.

ITEM NO. 7

To note County Wicklow Screen Sector Development Strategy

Ms. L. Gallagher, Director of Services gave an outline of the Wicklow Screen Sector Development Strategy as follows:

The strategy contains 35 recommendations over the following six headings:

- Content Creation Enterprise Hub
- Screen Wicklow
- Skills Development & Training
- Domestic Screen Content Creation
- Foreign Direct Investment
- Screen Tourism
 - Good progress has been made with installation of floors in the courtyard building.
 - Foundations for the new building have been poured.
 - Steps from main hall underway.
 - Second floor refurbishment into private offices has commenced
 - East Coast Crew Development Hub – recruitment for a Manager is ongoing.

ITEM NO. 8

Report on Full-Time Fire Services – Presentation Aidan Dempsey, Chief Fire Officer

Mr. A. Dempsey, Chief Fire Officer gave a presentation outlining the following:

- Chronology/Background
 - 2007 Draft Feasibility Report
 - 2014 A report was produced based on National Standards introduced in 2013.
 - 2020 Chief Fire Officer was instructed to update the content and statistics in the 2014 – completed 24th June 2020.
- Carry out an assessment of the Bray Fire Station area to determine the ‘*Area Risk Categorisation*’ (ARC) based on National Standards applying the laid down national methodology.
- Having identified the ARC the process assesses the existing fire cover/operational response in terms of risk categorisation identified using the National Standards and methodology.

- ARC and associated report was sent to National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management for independent external review and validation.
- 9 criteria specified in 'Keeping Communities Safe' used to determine a Fire Station's 'Area Risk Category'.
- Area Risk Category determines the recommended operational response for a Fire Station area.
- Current arrangements achieve C1 requirements.
- National comparison towns with similar risk rating.
- Comparison of population in Fire Station area – Retained Fire Station Leinster 2016
- Time in attendance 2017-2019 and percentage of incidents attended in under 20 minutes.
- Full Time Fire Service
 - Retained Firefighters trained to the same standard as Full time firefighters.
 - Full time Fire Stations generally mobilise in 2 minutes or less.
 - Bray Fire Station currently mobilises in 5 minutes 34 seconds.
 - Main benefit of a full time Fire Station in Bray would be quicker response time to incidents of around 3 and a half minutes at an estimated annual cost of between €3 and €5 million.
- Community Fire Safety saves lives.
 - Domestic smoke alarms
 - Statutory fire safety processes
 - Development and maintenance of fire service response capability.
- Retained Firefighters
 - Welfare of all staff constantly prioritised and monitored.
 - Have access to all of the same supports and services as other Council employees.
 - Have access to confidential counselling services.
 - Represented by SIPTU and have their own Safety Representatives as part of Council structures.

There followed a broad discussion in which the Elected Members raised questions which were responded to by the Chief Fire Officer.

ITEM NO. 9

Correspondence

Ms. H. Purcell advised the Elected Members of the following:

- Public Joint Policing Committee Meeting on Wednesday 4th May 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in the Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy
- To note that minutes of the CPG of the 31st January 2022 have been circulated previously and the Protocol meetings of 10th January and 7th February 2022.

- Local Representational Allowance - reminded the Elected Members that contact would be made in the coming week in relation to submission of receipts for the first quarter of 2022.

ITEM NO. 10

Notice of motion number 1

Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. A. Ferris (proposer), seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien (22nd July 2021)

'It is the policy of Wicklow County Council not to purchase goods or services produced or provided, in whole or part, (as practicable), from illegally occupied territories by illegal settlers, and that any such contracts should cease as soon as allowed'.

Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Cllr. A. Ferris, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien to defer the motion to meeting of 9th May 2022.

Notice of motion number 2

Notice of motion in the name of Cllr. M. Crean (12th August 2021)

'That Wicklow County Council webcast council meetings in the interests of democracy, transparency and accessibility'

Cllr. M. Crean agreed to defer this notice of motion to the meeting of 9th May 2022.

Notice of Motion number 3

Notice of motion in the name of Cllr. M. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. P. Leonard (12th December 2021)

'There are 82 children with Spina Bifida and/or Hydrocephalus currently requiring urgent orthopaedic intervention.

This was brought to the attention of the Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly in December 2020(1). However, no action has been instigated by the Minister to resolve this matter and these children continue to deteriorate.

Lack of surgical intervention has caused their limbs and bodies to become deformed and maimed. Some of these children's legs are so badly affected that the soles of their feet permanently rub together causing open sores and bleeding.

Children who have the ability to walk are losing or have lost that ability due to the absence of timely surgical management. Others who are manual wheelchair users, due to the same issue are unable to self-propel themselves effectively leaving them immobile.

The lack of timely surgical intervention means that effectively these children end up requiring more complex surgeries and failing that, amputation of limbs.

I am calling on the County Council to write to the Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly and fast track these children for surgical review as a matter of urgency.

We are also calling on the Minister for Health to ensure that provision of services are made to disabled children within elective hospital settings as well as acute hospital settings to avoid a repeat of this situation in the future'.

Following a brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr. M. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. P. Leonard and agreed by all to write to the Minister for Health.

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 9th May 2022