

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING (HYBRID) OF WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER 2023, COMMENCING 2.00 PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AND VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS

PRESENT:

COUNCILLORS A. FLYNN KENNEDY CATHAOIRLEACH, T. ANNESLEY, M. BARRY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, E. DOYLE, G. DUNNE, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, G. MCMANUS, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, M. MURPHY, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, S. STOKES, E. TIMMINS, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS (30)

APOLOGIES

CLLRS. M. CORRIGAN AND A. FERRIS (2)

IN ATTENDANCE:

**MS. E. O'GORMAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE
MS. L. GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. B. KILKENNY, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MS. L. EARLS, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES
MR. B. GLEESON, HEAD OF FINANCE
MS. D. KENNEDY, LAW AGENT
MS. H. PURCELL, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR
MR. J. BOWES, SENIOR ENGINEER
MS. H. FALLON, SENIOR ENGINEER
MR. M. FLYNN, SENIOR ENGINEER
MR. M. DEVEREUX, SENIOR ENGINEER
MS. E. O'DONOVAN, HEAD OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS
MS. J. CARROLL, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS. C. FOX, A/SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER
MS. D. WHITFIELD, TOWN REGENERATION OFFICER
MR. T. HUGHES, IS PROJECT LEADER
MR. M. O'VINGTON, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
MS. G. O'NEILL, SENIOR STAFF OFFICER
MS. C. DALY, EXECUTIVE TECHNICIAN
MR. G. MURPHY, IS TECHNICAL SUPPORT OFFICER
MS. T. BYRNE, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER
MS. M. CULLEN, ASSISTANT STAFF OFFICER
MR. L. CULLEN, BALTINGLASS DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

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 Mr. Frank Murphy, Mr. Joe Lennon, Mr. Charles Scales, Ms. Sinead O'Connor, Mr. Jimmy Balbontin, Ms. Mary Barrett, Mr. Gearóid Nicholl, Ms. Roseanna Byrne and Ms. Breda Connell. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

ITEM NO. 1

To confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 3rd July 2023.

It was proposed by Cllr. I. Winters, seconded by Cllr. P. Kennedy and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 3rd July 2023.

ITEM NO. 2

To consider the disposal of 0.08494 hectares or thereabouts in the townland of Baltinglass East comprised in Folio No. WW9332 Co. Wicklow being the land adjacent to 5 Parkmore, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow by Deed of Transfer to Pascal and Ellen O'Neill.

It was proposed by Cllr. E. Timmins, seconded by Cllr. V. Blake and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.08494 hectares or thereabouts in the townland of Baltinglass East comprised in Folio No. WW9332 Co. Wicklow being the land adjacent to 5 Parkmore, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow by Deed of Transfer to Pascal and Ellen O'Neill, as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 3

To consider the disposal of 0.0141 hectares or 0.0349 acres or thereabouts in the townland of Kilcoole adjacent to Kilcoole Playground, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio WW42413 to G.M.R. & S. Clements.

It was proposed by Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. L. Scott and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0141 hectares or 0.0349 acres or thereabouts in the townland of Kilcoole adjacent to Kilcoole Playground, Kilcoole, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio WW42413 to G.M.R. & S. Clements, as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 4

To consider the disposal of 0.0266Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Abbeylands, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. WW4065 Co. Wicklow being the property known as 3 O'Connell Terrace, Arklow, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Ms. Lisa Ryan, executrix of 3 O'Connell Terrace, Arklow, Co. Wicklow, the person entitled to the freehold interest in the property.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. T. Annesley and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0266Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Abbeylands, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. WW4065 Co. Wicklow being the property known as 3 O'Connell Terrace, Arklow, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Ms. Lisa Ryan, executrix of 3 O'Connell Terrace, Arklow, Co. Wicklow, the person entitled to the freehold interest in the property, as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 5

To consider the disposal of 511.87 m² (0.051187Ha) or thereabouts in the townland of Rathdown Lower – Greystones Harbour Land adjacent to slipway to Office of Public Works for development of a Coast Guard Station.

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Walsh, seconded by Cllr. D. Mitchell and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 511.87 m² (0.051187Ha) or thereabouts in the townland of Rathdown Lower – Greystones Harbour Land adjacent to slipway to Office of Public Works for development of a Coast Guard Station, as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 6

To consider the disposal of 0.0824Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Dunlavin Upper, Wicklow comprised in part of Folio WW 115F and part of Folio No. WW45433F Co. Wicklow being part of the land known as Chapel Manor, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow to DL Residential Properties Ltd. of Chapel Manor, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow.

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Cronin, seconded by Cllr. P. Glennon and agreed by all to consider the disposal of 0.0824Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Dunlavin Upper, Wicklow comprised in part of Folio WW 115F and part of Folio No. WW45433F Co. Wicklow being part of the land known as Chapel Manor, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow to DL Residential Properties Ltd. of Chapel Manor, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow, as set out in statutory notice circulated.

ITEM NO. 7

To consider the disposal of 1.82 Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Lathaleere, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. 5663 Co. Wicklow being the property

known as Lathaleere, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow by lease for a term not exceeding three years. The Lease commencement date will be the date of the Lease Agreement but ending no later than 31st March 2027 to The Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. R. O'Connor 'to consider the disposal of 1.82 Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Lathaleere, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. 5663 Co. Wicklow being the property known as Lathaleere, Baltinglass, Co. Wicklow by lease for a term not exceeding three years. The Lease commencement date will be the date of the Lease Agreement but ending no later than 31st March 2027 to The Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth'

A long discussion on the proposed disposal followed. Some of the issues raised included:

- Referral back to Baltinglass Municipal District.
- Lack of communication.
- Opposition of Baltinglass Municipal District Members.
- Implications of refusal.
- Community infrastructure.
- Need for social housing.
- High levels of foreign nationals in the area.
- Lack of geographical spread.
- Land zoning, possible sports centre.
- Availability of other suitable sites.
- Site selection process.
- Use of lands/units after 3 years.
- Possibility of extension of duration.
- Site restoration.
- Options in relation to the disposal including possible deferral.
- Displacement of Ukrainian people due to war.

Ms. H. Purcell, Meetings Administrator outlined the legislation. Section 183 of Local Government Act 2001, as amended: *'At a meeting of the Council to be held after the expiration of ten clear days from the date of the sending of this notice the Council may resolve as follows:*

- (a) That the disposal shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in such notice or,*
- (b) That the disposal shall be carried out in accordance with the terms specified in the resolution or,*
- (c) That the disposal shall not be carried out'.*

The Chief Executive and Management Team responded to the issues raised and reiterated the need for this disposal.

Following a roll call it was defeated by a margin of 9 for, 19 against and 4 not present viz:-

FOR 9	CLLRS. S. BOURKE, E. DOYLE, A. FLYNN-KENNEDY, G. MCMANUS, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, L. SCOTT AND J. SNELL
AGAINST 19	CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, M. BARRY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, G. DUNNE, P. FITZGERALD, T. FORTUNE, P. GLENNON, M. KAVANAGH, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, M. MURPHY, G. O'NEILL, E. TIMMINS AND G. WALSH
NOT PRESENT 4	CLLRS. M. CORRIGAN, A. FERRIS, S. STOKES, AND I. WINTERS

ITEM NO. 8

To consider the disposal of 1.37 Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Dunlavin Lower, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. 24613F Co. Wicklow being the property known as Dunlavin Lower, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow by lease for a term not exceeding three years. The lease commencement date will be the date of the Lease Agreement but ending no later than 31st March 2027 to The Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Kavanagh, seconded by Cllr. L. Scott 'to consider the disposal of 1.37 Ha or thereabouts in the townland of Dunlavin Lower, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. 24613F Co. Wicklow being the property known as Dunlavin Lower, Dunlavin, Co. Wicklow by lease for a term not exceeding three years. The lease commencement date will be the date of the Lease Agreement but ending no later than 31st March 2027 to The Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth'

A discussion of the proposed disposal followed. Some of the issues raised included:

- Zoning of the site.
- Lack of infrastructure.
- Lack of school capacity.
- Lack of engagement by the Department.
- Lack of communication.
- Lack of social and private housing provision in Dunlavin.
- Regeneration of existing derelict buildings.
- Need for safety and shelter.
- Collaboration with stakeholders and interagency approach.
- Opposition of Baltinglass Municipal District Members.

The Chief Executive responded to the issues raised.

Following a roll call it was defeated by a margin of 12 for, 15 against and 5 not present viz:-

FOR 12	CLLRS. M. BARRY, E. DOYLE, A. FLYNN-KENNEDY, T. FORTUNE, M. KAVANAGH, G. MCMANUS, D. O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL AND S. STOKES,
AGAINST 15	CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, J. BEHAN, V. BLAKE, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, G. DUNNE, P. FITZGERALD, P. GLENNON, P. KENNEDY, P. LEONARD, D. MITCHELL, J. MULLEN, M. MURPHY, G. O'NEILL AND E. TIMMINS
NOT PRESENT 5	CLLRS. S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. FERRIS, G. WALSH AND I. WINTERS

ITEM NO. 10

To receive a presentation: Comhairle Na nÓg

Katie MacAdam, Oisín Nunez and Oscar Kavanagh, Comhairle Na nÓg, gave a presentation covering the following area:

- What is Comhairle Na nÓg?
- Snapshot Report – contribution to food poverty research; presenting at drugs conference; national youth assembly of Ireland; and national events – showcase 2023.
- Bringing young voices to decision maker spaces.
- Benefits of listening to the youth voice.
- Annual youth summit.
- 9 topics from 2022 – mental health, vaping, drugs, discrimination, public transport, pollution, peer pressure, bullying and cost of living.
- Survey – Youth attitudes towards drugs.

There followed a short discussion in which the Elected Members thanked the members of Comhairle Na nÓg for their presentation and for all the work that they do. They stated the presentation challenged preconceived beliefs held by the Elected Members and was extremely uplifting. They wished them well in the future.

ITEM NO. 9

To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, June 2023.

Elected Members were circulated with the Chief Executive Monthly Management Report August 2023. Some of the issues raised included the following:

- Greenhill Road scheme.
- NTA – Compulsory purchases orders – Castle Street, Bray.
- Disappearing path on the Murrough.

- Signage in respect of speed limits.
- Aughrim Waste Water Treatment Plant.
- Additional funding for rural roads.
- Fire Service – call vetting.
- Homebond issue.
- Local Area Plans – Greystones/Kilcoole.
- Infrastructure – Older housing estates.
- Sand dunes – Brittas Bay.

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

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

**CLLR. AOIFE FLYNN KENNEDY
CATHAOIRLEACH
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

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

Confirmed at meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday the 2nd October 2023