

**MINUTES OF THE COMMUNITY & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC POLICY
COMMITTEE (SPC) MEETING IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER/ (MICROSOFT
TEAMS/HYBRID) HELD ON MONDAY 24th March 2025 2.30pm**

Present: Cllr. Caroline Winstanley, Michael Nicholson, Máire Halvey, Cllr. John Snell, Cllr. Pat Kennedy (Hybrid), Cllr. Miriam Murphy (Hybrid), Irene Sweeney, Niamh Wogan, Mai Quaid.

Apologies: Cllr. Melanie Corrigan, Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy, Colm Moules.

In Attendance: Susanne Hall, Lia Reynolds, Stephanie Lang, Izzie Kinsella, Diarmuid O' Keeffe,

Chairperson Cllr. Caroline Winstanley opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Item 1. Adoption of the minutes

The minutes of the last meeting held on the 27th of January 2025 were noted and adopted by Cllr. Pat Kennedy. Máire Halvey gave the list of apologies.

Item 2. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

Item 3. Project Ireland 2040 Rural Regeneration Programme Updates

The Chair asked if there were any issues arising from these Updates, no issues were raised.

Item 4. Other Updates

The chair asked regarding other issues being raised. The chair noted that she had taken over the running of Comhairle na nÓg. The chair noted she is interested in getting young people back into the group, she mentioned that a new website and social media sites have been set up for Comhairle na nÓg, there is an annual conference in November 2025, her focus is going to be on getting the word out and building membership until then. The chair is also exploring town twinning activities with Dublin, California, USA.

Izzie Kinsella, who oversees the Sláintecare Healthy Communities (SHC), noted the Feasibility Study on Little Bray & Fassaroe was recently completed by S3 Solutions.

Izzie noted this study was commissioned to enhance local amenities and community infrastructure, and to find solutions to these areas affected by poverty. She noted that there will be a Bray MD meeting on this Feasibility Study, they are trying to leverage cross community support and have collaboration between all groups.

Niamh Wogan noted there is a vested interest to help neglected areas like these.

Michael noted that the Joint Policing Committee ceased last year, but The Local Community Safety Partnership is not up and running quite yet, Michael added that interviews for the Community Safety Coordinator will be underway in April.

The chair thanked Stephanie Lang for her traffic light system for the County Wicklow Age Friendly Strategy 2023-2027 Action Plan, Stephanie mentioned that she has also contacted the HSE & Gardai with questions for the Action Plan Traffic light system and is waiting to hear back from them, and she will report back to the chair.

Mai Quad mentioned improvements to train stations and bus stops in Co Wicklow.

Michael noted that €500,000 funding has been allocated across the different Co Wicklow MDs to improve bus stops and train stations around Co. Wicklow. Cllr Miriam Murphy noted that work was done on the Wexford Road bus stop in Arklow to improve accessibility, and asked can other bus stops be looked at to improve access, Michael noted that we will ask our roads section about this issue and report back to Cllr. Miriam.

Item 5: 5 Year Workplan for the SPC

The chair asked to discuss the 5 Year Workplan for the SPC.

Niamh Wogan noted that the Local Community Safety Partnership was a big part of the Workplan for the next 5 years. Michael added that 30 members will be on the Committee with a Co-ordinator to look after issues, it will be run like the LCDC. Michael added there will be a report produced for the 5-year Workplan in June 2025.

The chair noted that by the next SPC meeting we should start to see more actions and decisions. Michael noted that getting the youth involved in the Local Community Safety Partnership is a big part of the plan. Niamh Wogan stated we must be innovative about getting the youth involved and have consultation with young people. The chair agreed the youth voice shall be heard, to share what is going on.

Michael noted that the main points of the 5 Year workplan for the SPC are:

- Disability Strategy
- Age Friendly
- Local Community Safety Partnership
- Comhairle na nÓg
- Children and Young People's Services Committees (CYPSC)

Item 6: Any other business

Mai Quaid requested can the SPC meetings move to other locations around the County. The chair noted that we can do outings away from the County Council Chamber. Michael also agreed that we could have other venues for the SPC meetings, but bear in mind remote access for hybrid meeting members.

Future meeting dates:

It was noted that Cllr John Snell will have a commitment to the Wicklow MD meeting on 4th Monday of each month. It was confirmed the next meeting scheduled for 19th May is the 3rd Monday of the month. Future meeting dates from May should be discussed at the next meeting.

- The chair noted that there were no other issues to discuss, the chair thanked those in attendance and closed the meeting.

Signed:

Caroline Winstanley

Date:

19/05/25

Cllr. Caroline Winstanley,
Chairperson.