

SPECIAL MEETING OF WICKLOW COUNTY
COUNCIL HELD VIA
A ZOOM MEETING

ON

MONDAY 21ST JUNE 2020 AT 2:00PM

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Elaine McCarthy

CATHAOIRLEACH: Good afternoon members, can you all hear me?
Good afternoon, you're very welcome, thank you for being with us.
So, straightaway I'll go to Helen Purcell and ask her to do a roll call
and etiquette.

HELEN: Welcome to the members and public and we have the
media present. Just a few issues, I would remind everybody to
switch mobile phones to silent. Please do not leave the online
meeting without informing Cathaoirleach to ensure quorum is
replaced. Use Chat function to indicate you wish to speak or raise
your hand. Speakers should keep their cam a microphone on while
speaking, and members should inform the Meetings Administrator
or staff member by telephone if they lose connection, in accordance
with provisions can connectivity withstanding orders to regulate
remote meetings. Thank you. (Helen takes roll call). Thank you.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks Helen. Members as you know, we have a
one-off agenda item here today and it is the special meeting of
Wicklow County Council on this day, 21st of June, to consider as we
postponed, extended from last Monday to this Monday to consider
the Chief Executive's Report pursuant to Section 37E of the Planning
and Development Act 2000 (as amended) for an Inert Landfill Facility
to backfill the existing quarry, and a Construction and Demolition
Waste Recovery Facility at Ballinclare Quarry, Co Wicklow. the copy
was attached. And that at last week's meeting we agreed to
convene a special meeting today, after the members, from east
Wicklow and members from south Wicklow, would have an
opportunity to sit down and discuss, the Chief Executive's Report

and that, I want to inform the members that meeting took place at 7pm yesterday evening and we had a good discussion, and most members were present for that discussion.

Does anybody want to come in on that in relation to that?

CLLR BOURKE: Cathaoirleach, yes, we had an open discussion on the ramifications of the proposed Kinvard Development. Having considered, all the facts before us, and lack of facts, I decided that I would withdraw my motion that I had lodged at last week's meeting. So, I've notified the Meetings Administrator, that I am withdrawing that motion. So, I formally do that here now in front of members. Thank you Cathaoirleach.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thank you Cllr Sylvester Bourke and that is noted. Helen, have you received that notification from Cllr Sylvester Bourke?

Yeah, and that's noted, thank you

CLLR BOURKE: Thank you for that. Does anybody else want to come in here, Cllr John Snell.

CLLR SNELL: Yeah, that's Cathaoirleach.

Obviously with the lack of information last week, we've, we felt it was imperative that the Wicklow Municipal District and Arklow Municipal District have the opportunity to explore this, further, and thankfully as you outlined that has happened.

There has been a joint agreement by both Municipal Districts and the Meetings Administrator should have a copy of what we like read

in the record. I think that most the most appropriate way forward if that were read out and then we could, maybe, have a discussion on it then Cathaoirleach. I know you're under pressure for time as well so ...

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks councillor, Cllr John Snell. Cllr John Snell before I ask to go to Helen to read that into the meeting, do you have a seconder for that proposal

CLLR SNELL: Yeah, Cathaoirleach, we're jointly, bill that is proposed by me as Cathaoirleach of Wicklow east, and I believe Cllr Miriam Murphy I know wanted to congratulate her on recently receiving the chains of office for Arklow. And I know Miriam will be able to speak on this as well, but Miriam will second this proposal Cathaoirleach.

CATHAOIRLEACH: OK. Cllr Miriam Murphy?

CLLR MURPHY: Yes, Cathaoirleach, thank you John for your kind words.

Yeah, we hosted a meeting yesterday evening and there was a really good healthy discussion and I have to say we were all singing off the same hymn sheet so we felt that you know, it was a good idea to come together, without under pressure, and I would like to thank Cllr Mary Kavanagh and Cllr Peir Leonard for putting our submission together late last night as we felt it needed strong wording. So, yes, I will be seconding that.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks Cllr Miriam Murphy. Helen, can I ask you to read submission into that the minutes of meeting.

HELEN: Was sent a hard copy to the councillors this morning. (Helen reads from the hard copy) ...

Description development and operation of an Inert Landfill Facility to backfill the existing quarry to original ground level; progressive restoration of the backfilled quarry to the long-term grassland/scrub habitat: establishment and operation of a construction and demolition waste recovery facility; installation and operation of a soil washing plant and all associated site works. Case Type: private development application, Kilsaran Concrete Unlimited Company, applicant in accordance with an unlimited company. We the members of Arklow and Wicklow wish to object to the above proposed development in the current form on the summary of grounds laid out below. We wish to also recommend that a full oral hearing be facilitated by An Bord Pleanála to have a fair and just platform for all stakeholders to engage in.

Lack of consultation with Arklow and Wicklow MD local area representatives.

Lack of consultations with WCC Climate and Biodiversity SPC.

Lack of consultation with local land and property owners.

The excessive nature of the scale of the proposed development in a rural area

Negative impact in the environment

Negative impact on watercourse in particular Potters River and

Brittas Bay SAC

Impact on local residents and wildlife of noise pollution

Negative impact of surrounding residents' quality of life

Negative impact on mental and physical health of the local community

Health and safety concerns in relation to local community in particular road safety

Negative impact on biodiversity

Concerns in relation to future environmental and traffic management monitoring and enforcement.

Concerns in relation to the potential negative impact and devaluation of local properties.

Concerns in relation to the absence of any consideration towards provision of a local Community Fund such as the one that's in place at a nearby landfill site.

Concerns in relation to the inadequacy of the surrounding road network and width of the local road to facilitate the amount of HGVs proposed

Negative impact on surrounding tourism attractions ie Kilmacurragh Gardens, Coilltes Avondale Tree Top Walk

Concerns in relation to the close proximity of local school, to the proposed landfill access routes.

That's it.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks Helen, members that has been circulated and hopefully you will all have time to read it. And if you want to

maybe just give us your input how you feel about that submission from both the Arklow MD and East Wicklow MD? Cllr John Mullen do you have your hand up? No there's a hand up on your screen. Cllr John Snell did you wanted to come back in?

CLLR SNELL: Thanks, Cathaoirleach, first and foremost I want to apologise to the members from the other three districts and we want to thank you for hopefully supporting this because the reality is that you know, we're 32 members collective unit, we share this job together and we work well together. The one thing that has come out of this, in regard to the officials of Wicklow County Council on this occasion, and only on this occasion, I believe that there was a severe lack of consultation, trust of the members, this didn't happen overnight. There's been a lot of dialogue gone on to get to this stage and we as public representatives have been left out of the equation, that's hurt, had hurt all the members from east to south Wicklow and I know it hurt members throughout the county. This is of a huge scale. The greatest scale that would happen in the Republic of Ireland Cathaoirleach's on record is stating that on two occasions he himself, we felt that very let down and I hope it is a one-off. I really do. I hope it is a one-off, and we wanted to know if there's any other strategic projects in the pipeline that lessons have to be learned from this. You know, if it were in west Wicklow, north Wicklow, or the Greystones Municipal District we would like to support you as well, it is just unforgivable not to engage with us. At the end of the day, we're the bridge between our constitutes and officials in

Wicklow County Council and we've been really let down on this project, really let down. And the one thing this we all feel very strongly about is there were so many avenues to engage with us, through SPCs and Municipal Districts but above all we put in the chair of the county council, we done it last year in Shoreline in Greystones, it was uncontested, that 32 members all endorsed our Cathaoirleach, and it was very disappointing that the Cathaoirleach had to sit there last week, not knowing any more than any of the rest of us. And really, that has hurt us, it shouldn't happen. It is something you would have put down to Wicklow in the bad old days, not under this current official because there's really been a very good working relationship. I want to put this down as a one-off, put it council you got to trust us to do our job, people are trying to take certain legislation and powers away from us, but to keep us in the dark on something fundamentally that's going to impact not just on our two districts but on the whole county, 800,000 tonnes per annum, it is unforgivable to think that just, could happen without engaging with us. And Cathaoirleach, I'm so sorry for taking up time but I just feel the one thing, everything else has been put on paper, that's the one thing that hasn't put on the paper because of the hurt this caused by not having that little bit of trust between elected members of Wicklow County Council, and officials.

And as I said, hopefully we can build a bridge and move on. But it is hurtful.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thank you knell Cllr John Snell. Cllr Paul O'Brien.

CLLR O'BRIEN: Thank you Cathaoirleach and briefly just want to on behalf of myself and councillor grace to give our full support what is in the document, I know I said at the last meeting that, I would expect priority conversations to happen with the MDs that are directly impacted by something like this, and while we may not have councillors in those MDs a full trust that the all the members would honour the scale and scope of how this might impact on the members of the community, and on the county as a whole. So, I want to give recognition to all the members who gave their time and energy and really this document is very comprehensive and really considers every element of the threat that a development like this, a development like this might bring. So, I want to give recognition to all the members who put it together and give our full support and as member of the climate and diversity SPCT sends the wrong signals that something like this is considered in a space like that. Thanks.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr Rory O'Connor.

CLLR O'CONNOR: I just wanted to give my full support to this document. I think it is very good. I just found it very uncomfortable as the chair of the climate change and biodiversity SPC to have this jumped on me with very little communication overall.

As Cllr John Snell says I hope this is a once-off, for something this big to be informed by e-mails by not the council is very, very pointing and I want to thank the people who did send those e-mails out to all of us and try to better inform us on this big project. Thank you.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thank you Cllr Rory O'Connor. Cllr Miriam Murphy.

CLLR MURPHY: Yeah, thank you Cathaoirleach.

Yeah, I just want to echo what Cllr John Snell and Cllr Rory O'Connor has said but I think, I mean for me, it was the hurt of being a councillor local councillor and we work to represent the public, and instead of executives of the county council informing us of what is happening it was the public in the area that started to inform us. That was very hurtful, and we are the ones, people sitting here as elected members are the ones that will be answerable. And you think any of the public is going to believe us, that we did not know, that we did not know?

I'm sorry. I'm really hurt. Really annoyed. And I think the image that this has given to the new, fresh, councillors that are sitting in the chamber, my God it is sending alarm bells. It is just sending alarm bells so I would like, we will discuss this, us further maybe at July meeting and as what other councillors said we hope this is a once-off but it needs to be discussed further. Of where councillors are being trusted and the lack of information thank you.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks Cllr Miriam Murphy. Cllr Tom Fortune.

CLLR FORTUNE: Thanks, Cathaoirleach.

Yeah, I think it is all been said, Cllr John Snell summed it up very well. I would make one change to what Cllr John Snell said - I just think, I

would use the word, two words, three words "Lack of respect" it reinforces our or puts in context the lack of respect that there is for elected county council letters, and it is absolutely disgraceful. And it has to stop. And I don't want to go on a tangent on it, but I've spoken about this at length and all of you know my views and feelings on it this is just a lack of respect to have something of this nature, and the impact that was going to have on the public in that area, and in their lives on a school, and not to tell us until the 11th hour, it really and truly, it really calls for an investigation, it really does. We as 32 members, Cllr Miriam Murphy made the point that it needs to be discussed in July, we need a special investigation into the background to this, and that we need a proper explanation and full public apology for the county councillors not being informed about this, Cathaoirleach, you were the number one citizen in the county, and for you not to be told about this, it is beyond disrespect. It is just not acceptable. And the officials who were involved in all of this, have to put their hand up and say, we are wrong here, and then they need to publicly apologise, this is really, and really not acceptable. And if we as 32 councillors, don't learn from this, and cop on to the way county council letters are being just treated with the lack of respect, in all kinds of things, I could go on for two hours if we had the time, so I just think it is a lack of respect.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks Cllr Tom Fortune, Cllr Lourda Scott.

CLLR SCOTT: Just agreeing what has been said before and I want to thank our colleagues in Wicklow and Arklow districts for putting

together the document and I fully support it. A lot of concerns about the impacts on the community and on the environment particularly from this development and I want to thank the community that put together such really well informed information on the background to this, and particularly on the potential environmental impact. I've read all the documents sent to me and I want to completely support what Cllr Rory O'Connor said as the chair of the Climate and Biodiversity SPC, it is incredibly disappointing that we or ourselves on the SPC weren't consulted about this, and I hope this was a misstep and isn't a pattern of the way things will be done in the future. Thank you.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thank you, Cllr Gerry Walsh.

CLLR WALSH: Thanks Cathaoirleach and I just want to say that I welcome the fact that the two Municipal Districts most affected about this application met something I suggested last Monday at the meeting and produced this document for us, they've outlined the issues there, that pertain to the relevant districts, the concerns and the negative impacts on, it is well outlined as a document, and I support what's contained in the document and welcome the input from the two districts. Thank you.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks, Cllr Peir Leonard.

CLLR LEONARD: Look, firstly I just want to praise the CE for the great things he's achieving for the county and well aware of the

complexity of such a position and responsibility that he holds. But I feel saddened with the most recent events because I believe the trust between the executives and district managers and engineers, and the councillors has been fractured, it has been really damaged and I think that's a negative thing. And I think the knock-on effect is the trust between the public and the councillors then is damaged because the public won't believe us that we didn't know anything about this. And just in relation to the landfill, I just myself and Cllr Mary Kavanagh already have submitted an objection to An Bord Pleanála objecting to the landfill and that was the basis of the proposal that was put before you today.

Wicklow has an opportunity now to lead the way once again with innovative solution, we do have ways and landfill we need to look at, we have to be responsible for our own waste, but, you know, I think we need to ensure that we don't repeat the mistakes of the past and look at different ways of going forward, and not end up with the inclusion in Avoca river and in Whitestown this is our chance and opportunity to change the way we do things and full transparency and communication with councillors is an essential part of that.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr Derek Mitchell.

CLLR MITCHELL: Thanks, Cathaoirleach, yeah, I'd like to support the councillors from the two areas and that publication this morning and horrendous traffic that I think will be on the local roads. I also am disturbed that, while I wouldn't necessarily expect to know about it, where I respect, I'm disturbed the local councillors didn't know. But

it highlights a significant problem with the SHDs or whatever this is, it is something like it, and there are big oneness Greystones at the moment, where, really, there seem to be rumours about what is happening and the public seems to see various bits of things that they tell us and we see nothing official and these are big development of maybe 600 houses, and well the officials will be negotiating with them and probably bored Plenala Naila, there's a complete lack of information about what is going on, lack of public information about these in general and this highlights the problems. - An Bord Pleanála.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thank you, Cllr Irene Winters.

CLLR WINTERS: I suppose one, I'm delighted to be part of the proposal that's been put together, two, I would like us not only to just An Bord Pleanála but to write to the minister to outline how we as elected members have been side-lined in this despite the fact there was obviously consultation between the develop, he shall and the officials of the council for at least twelve months if not more. And that, it needs to be set in legislation, that any strategic plan or development of this scale and magnitude should be informed or, elected members should be informed of it. And I would like if we could write to the minister to outline this flaw in the system as it currently stands to have it changed not just for our local authority, but for all local authorities in the county.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thank you, Cllr Edward Timmins.

CLLR TIMMINS: Yeah, briefly like other members I'd like to support this motion, that's been written to An Bord Pleanála, I'd like to suggest one other thing of members of Wicklow and Arklow, whether it is helpful I don't know. In correspondents received in yesterday afternoon there was from local residents with people of various expertise, one of the things they did point out overwhelming message from dairy mill yesterday was that there was huge, huge flaws in and inaccuracies in the planning application, so I'm just suggesting you might want to add that to bullet point to your list because all of the bullet points are very commendable and absolutely correct and cover all aspects of it, but, I think it should also be pointed out as appears to be the case there are considerable flaws and inaccuracies in the application and that would lend way to your submission, just a suggestion.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks Cllr Edward Timmins. Cllr Mary Kavanagh did you want to come in there. Yeah, Mary.

CLLR KAVANAGH: Sorry about that. Having problems with my internet today.

Just, first of all just to answer Cllr Edward Timmins' suggestion there, we did actually talk about the inaccuracies that were within the proposal and that's the reason why we requested an oral hearing because that's what it is designed for to, wherever there are

inadequacies in a planning proposal, so, we could add the bullet point or not but that's what the request for the oral hearing was to address. What I just wanted to say was it has all been said about the lack of trust and no notification and all that kind of thing. I just wanted to talk about the actual site and its potential future and in view of another e-mail which we've received from another resident, he's describes himself as living closest to the site. He has said that alternative proposal could be for environmental restoration project because already, in the period in which the quarry has lane there unused a whole eco-structure has developed over that period of time and in actual fact, it goes on to say that because of the interruption to the site because of the quarry which was then followed by a fallow period that a whole new set of environmental habitats and Flora and fauna have all developed there. And this should be exploited, it is actually something quite unique, and it is something that I would love to see us look at developing it into a unique environmental restoration project in the area. I think it would, we find alternative site if we need a landfill, but maybe that's just not the right maybe we should look at developing it as environmental restoration project. Thank you.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thank you. Is there anybody else to come in to comment on it just in case I can't see any Hands Up? Cllr Peir Leonard.

CLLR LEONARD: Sorry, I just wanted to relay that if all the councillors are in agreement of it, we can amend the wording to include, all councillors, instead of just Arklow and Wicklow MDs on this mission.

CATHAOIRLEACH: We'll go for a vote on it in a minute to see if everybody is in agreement. Cllr Irene Winters.

CLLR WINTERS: Thanks, Cathaoirleach, I just would like if we could include Cllr Edward Timmins' point, I do know that we did discuss it last night and that's why we're asking for the oral hearing, but I think it would be produce dent to actually include the reason for looking for the oral hearing and to point out the considerable flaws and inaccuracies in the planning application in our submission, thanks.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks Cllr Irene Winters.

Are members happy to include the point made by Cllr Edward Timmins a moment ago.

CLLR MURPHY: I think it is important Cathaoirleach, it sums it up.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Is there any dissent in against Cllr Edward Timmins' point?

Everybody is in agreement, just want to make sure we ...

HELEN: Can I have a proposer and seconder.

CLLR MURPHY: I'll propose it.

CLLR SNELL: That's OK.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Seconded by Cllr John Snell and proposed by Cllr Miriam Murphy, yeah.

HELEN: Wording to be included is that additional bullet point, flaws, there are considerable flaws and inaccuracies in this planning

application.

Is that correct?

CLLR MURPHY: Yeah.

CLLR SNELL: Thanks Helen.

HELEN: Then I'll call for a vote as I read out the resolution earlier with that one added point to it earlier.

(Takes votes).

That's 31 in favour.

And one not present.

So, if I have a proposer and seconder to amend it from 'we the members of Wicklow and Arklow MDs' to 'we the members of Wicklow County Council'.

CLLR MURPHY: I propose that.

HELEN: Is everybody in favour?

Any dissent. No. OK. Thank you very much.

CATHAOIRLEACH: OK. Members that concludes the business of our somebody sorry Cllr Irene Winters do you want to come in.

CLLR WINTERS: Thanks, Cathaoirleach. Just, one of the questions that Cllr John Snell asked was, was there any other strategic plans or development in the county that maybe the membership should be aware of, just wondering is there an answer to that.

CATHAOIRLEACH: I certainly don't have an answer, I'll ask the Chief

Executive if he knows.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Thanks Cathaoirleach, there is a procedure as you know with strategic infrastructure developments which will be followed in this case and that's whereby notification submission has been made by An Bord Pleanála who is adjudicators, went to the board on 26th of April, 2021, it then comes to us, we prepare a report based on the advice of the professional and technical staff in planning and environment, we couldn't bring that to the main meeting obviously so that went to the June meeting and that's the opportunity for members to review and come up with their proposals that, goes on addendum to the report that goes on bored Plenala national I can't a minister of meeting, that's the process set out in legislation, in in the future we will endeavour to inform members of what is coming down the track in form of SHDs and different type of SIDs in the Chief Executive property, that's fine, we will do that, but we have to comply with legislation and we haven't dropped a ball in any of them yet they're complicated and a lot coming through and as on as a we know in future we'll let people know what is coming down the track as soon as we can, in SIDs and SHDs, thank you.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thank you. Cllr Sylvester Bourke there is another application in the Arklow area, that was lodged with the board around the same time. It is the one for Airtricity's big development, is that going up too?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: We'll get information out of that, unless Breege

wants to say, it is a different process, they all have different process, we haven't dropped a ball, we comply with legislation 100% when they come through, we'll get information out on that, unless Breege or Edel wants to give details.

CATHAOIRLEACH: While waiting, Cllr Peir Leonard you wanted to come in.

CLLR LEONARD: I was going to suggest, would it be an option to put section on the website of the Wicklow County Council website with listing those as they come in, once they're live with An Bord Pleanála, so they're public and the councillors can see.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: We'll look at whatever makes it more transparent and more available, yes absolutely.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Yes, absolutely, just give me a moment.

Just bear with me. Cllr Edward Timmins while I'm waiting did you want to come in.

CLLR TIMMINS: I asked at the last meeting the derogations went through three years ago, whereby certain powers and policies can be discussed at local Municipal District in advance or instead of at main council meetings. I'm wondering is there any feedback on that, a mechanism like this.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: We put mechanism in place and looked in detail what can be done at Municipal District and main council level, so for example, the main County Development Plan is county level, we could do local area plans at Municipal District level, there is certain functions, and that's where it should be local issues discussed at

local level. This applications sets out what we need to do in terms of informing the members, SHD process, states clearly you go to the Municipal District, present the project, to the take their views, similar to that, and attach the views and it goes back to the board, so legislation tells you which forum to go to, SHD,s go to Municipal Districts, SIDs and the last one we had, of this type was Arklow Water treatment plant it goes to An Bord Pleanála, we us as officials, and goes to the members, they give their views and attach addendum by resolution and that's goes to the board. Legislation will tell you which forum, whether Municipal District or full council.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks, just before I bring in the director, Breege, I want to, Cllr Irene Winters, our members proposed we write to the minister, is everybody in agreement with that as well?

CLLR LEONARD: Yeah.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Can I have a seconder for that. Cllr John Snell. So, proposed by

CLLR WINTERS: I wish to second by Cllr John Snell and everybody is in agreement?

CLLR FORTUNE: I think, by all means we should write to the minister, but the minister is going to write back just a standard letter to us. And I'm not saying we shouldn't do that, I think we should look for delegation for council to meet, senior people in the department

whether it be the minister or more senior people after him. I propose we do that. Because I think it is concerning what the CEO said to us, and I know he has to do what he's told like everybody else, that, there's a process, there's a procedure, and they're set out, this is how we have to do it. But I think, in the current environment we're all operating in, it is not the CEOs, fault and I'm not saying it is, I don't think that's good enough. As democratically elected public representatives we need to push back on some of this stuff because it is excluding us, it is keeping our constituents in the dark. And as one or two of the other councillors said earlier, what is happening because of all this, when eventually breaks loose like a greyhound running out of control, some of the public hear it and then they're on the public reps and develops into a whole big scenario and everyone's running for cover, and everyone is trying to justify in hindsight. That isn't the reasonable why we get elected so that needs to be, I'd like that noted because I do feel, really strongly about this. I think everyone of the 3

Members are intelligent people and putting a lot of hard work to get elected to represent the constituents and again I will say it is not the CEO's fault but there needs to be a serious change of operation, in all of this.

CHAIR: Thank you, I'm wondering Cllr Tom Fortune there, now, should we meet the five TDs rather than?

CLLR FORTUNE: You can but we've done that before, and they don't come back to us. There's no point meeting if they don't want to come back, they should meet once a month to have the discussions. I would be on for them, send a letter and meet TDs but nothing better than a delegation from the local authority, headed up by the chair, to go to department, have the conversation properly, look for the support of the TDs to back them up and attend that meeting as well and come up with solutions and let's come up, obviously they're talking about, the CEO mentioned SHDs they're talking about cancelling that process from next January or February. So, I'm wondering will they do with SIDs so the whole thing needs attention and we as professional public representatives need to ...

OK chair.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Yeah, Syl can you mute there.

CLLR FITZGERALD: He's selling cattle, I think.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr Tom Fortune I want to come back to you, normally we would have one if delegation is put together, normally it is one from Municipal Districts and one from the SPC, how do you think.

CLLR FORTUNE: I don't mind how we do T I would propose that it is integral part of the discussion we're having, because almost every councillor to man and woman said here today how annoyed and upset and how disgusted they are, and obviously you guys in the two

relevant districts have had to handle this up front. You shouldn't be put in that position, and I don't think it is fair to be justified, by an SID process, I don't think that's fair. We need to address that.

Letters are great and the TDs will do all they can, but we should have a meeting with the relevant powers as I said to you with the TDs if that helps. But I would propose we do that.

CATHAOIRLEACH: OK, do you have a seconder for that proposer.

CLLR FORTUNE: I don't know.

Breege. Can I come in there?

CATHAOIRLEACH: Was EU I was going to come back to you anyway director.

CLLR FERRIS: I second it.

KIRSTY: Breege you wanted to come in. Approximate in Breege: Yeah, it seems to me that the main issue with regard to all the councillors is maybe they're unaware of the process. As the Chief Executive pointed out, there's legislation in place, but there's nothing to stop us, I suppose going forward and this is what, what the Chief Executive said as well, that, once we become informed that this there's a Strategic Housing Development or structure, we can informally let you know and that's the bit, that's the small bit that we missed out on it. It was, it was advertised by the applicant themselves when they made their application to the board on the 20th of April, I'll get Adele to confirm those numbers so irrespective of that process, once we're aware, we can of course let the districts

know, in the same way we handle part aides, we go to the districts seen though it goes to the full council. Taking everything said on board today is that as soon as we know, have a strategic development happening we will know the relevant district and then it is up to you. But just to say, that, as part of this process, as the CEO identified we're just one other party, we were notified like one other party in the same on barred Plenala Naila would have got in contact National Parks and wildlife service and challenge, we can't make a decision on this, it is the board and we're just another party. But just going forward, once we get to know about it, we will let you know about it. Irrespective of the fact whether the applicant makes application or not or whether you see it or not. We'll notify it as soon as it comes to our attention.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Excellent thank you.

So just want to come back to the Cllr Tom Fortune's proposal, seconded by Cllr Anne Ferris there in relation to meeting somebody in the department.

What, what format do you want to take that to take Cllr Tom Fortune?

CLLR FORTUNE: Basically, chair, that the chair of the council if the CEO or Breege wanted to be part of the group as well, would attend a meeting with a group from the council members, meeting hopefully the most senior civil servant who will be reporting directly into the minister, if the minister could be there, obviously that would

be a bonus and we sit down and have this conversation and go in prepared. There's been lots of very constructive, positive comments passed today. I note what Breege is saying there, a few moments ago, but there's been lots and lots of positive contributions from members. And I think, we reflect on that and put together an agenda we want to discuss. I think it is very important because, we're having these conversations over and over again. I mean I can recall not that long ago, having a similar kind of conversation about the rocks in Kill Wade and thankfully the members, enough members supported that, Kilquade. They're coming up all the time and whatever rules and regulations the department put in there, they always seem to exclude the councillor or put them on the bottom of the rung of the ladder, I'm saying as elected person I don't accept that, it is not acceptable anymore and we need to try to do something about it. So that's what I suggest. You recap briefly, the chair, perhaps CEO or Breege or both and a maybe five other people from across the members would go and meet the relevant senior people in the department and hopefully the minister might be included in that or junior minister of that department.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Can I leave it there then how much your nice pal district will get nominee from each district, is that the fairest way and then come back to this.

CLLR FERRIS: Thanks very much. Can I suggest, somebody else suggested, that it should be the Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council-to-together with the care look of each of the Municipal

Districts, OK, and then the Chief Executive and the director and director Breege kill Ken yes to go along as well, I don't know if they're in agreement to go, since it is more of a gripe from the elected councillors, and I don't mean gripe in any way derogatory at all it is a very serious matter, the five Cathaoirligh go to the municipal district. When a letter is written whether to the secretary of department or the minister himself, that when a date for the meeting comes back and I have no doubt that it will be, it won't be any day soon, let's put it that way that then our five TDs and our senator, our consulted and told that we're meeting with the minister and maybe, half an hour meeting with them before the meeting with the minister would be a good idea to get the one on to let them know what we're doing and what has happened. I think Cllr Tom Fortune is right, the members of this council are very important people. We're as important in the TDs in my view because we're elected by the people and I think that we should make it very, very clear to the minister, and perhaps even to the ILG in a different forum, that, our feelings about this matter and I appreciate that what Breege said there, that going in the future that, each Municipal District will be advised about things like that, because, it is not just about SIDs or SHDs it is about any proposal to perhaps do something in a particular Municipal District that may have cause for opposition, and when these things are done without the knowledge of the local councillors in the Municipal District it is very, very hard for us to take and to deal with afterwards. So, it is not just the as I say the SHDs or SIDs, that's my feeling on it.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks, fer Cllr Dermot O'Brien.

CLLR DERMOT O'BRIEN: If delegation is going to be the Cathaoirleach of each council to ensure there's a conversation had with the Municipal District, and they carry the voice of the members rather than just take the role. Because there's something fundamental what Cllr Tom Fortune says, in forms of this is about how we integrate a role for county council letters, in scenarios like this. I don't think it is just about giving us a heads up, because there's something very stark about the difference in where we've landed on this, when we contrast the report that was produced by the officials, and the considerations of the elected members, so there's a fracture, a gap there, in terms of people's view on this. So, without an integrated role for county council letters there's still a risk there of getting stuff getting ploughed through that doesn't get the endorsement or the green light from elected members.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Cllr Miriam Murphy.

CLLR MURPHY: Thanks, Cathaoirleach.

I would like to suggest that just as Cllr Dermot O'Brien said that it needs to be discussed at each district level and that whatever is discuss with the that and suggestions brought forward, that, that is brought to the representatives of going and that we need a premeeting to make sure that our homework is done, before we would enter into a meeting, to that level. Because I think we need to be prepared to go in with the proper agenda.

CATHAOIRLEACH: Thanks Cllr Miriam Murphy. I'm wondering, Cllr Tom Fortune should that letter go to the minister.

CLLR FORTUNE: He should be included in T absolutely. Or write to the minister and CC, it but it needs to go to all the relevant people. What you don't want is with the best will in the world we operate ultimately in a massive, big organisation, so if it just goes to the minister, the minister will pass it on to his, obviously senior person and back down the line. We need to make this happen. The way to make it happen is to talk to them all initially.

CATHAOIRLEACH: OK. Cllr Tom Fortune Frank or Breege can make sure we know who the correct senior civil servant people are.

CATHAOIRLEACH: We can work on setting that up and it can be Cllr Miriam Murphy said, discussed at the municipal monthly meetings. And I suppose in the meantime we will work on trying to ask Helen to find out who the relevant people are and contacts and details in the department and minister, is that fair enough with everybody?

EDEL: Sorry can I just in relation to Sylvester raised an issue about electrical line. There is an electrical line application in with the board, it is going from to connect the offshore wind farm into Avoca River Park, substation, so that is a current application, it goes through a different process than this process.

So, just that was the issue I think he was mentioning.

CATHAOIRLEACH: OK. Does that answer your question Cllr Sylvester

Bourke?

CLLR BOURKE: Thank you very much. It is confusing though there's so many different processes, it is confusing.

CATHAOIRLEACH: It is.

Well members I think that concluded everything on this special meeting. I'm going to take a ten-minute recess, or nine minutes until our AGM, if that's all right with everybody and thank you for the input and all the councillors for the work they've done over the weekend and all the support for the councillors there at the meeting. We'll come back at 3pm for our AGM, all right.