

**WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**HOUSING & CORPORATE ESTATE STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**9<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Attendance:** Cllr. John Snell, Cllr. Mags Crean, Cllr. Paul O'Brien, Cllr. Grace McManus, Cllr. Tommy Annesley, Mary-Anne Parsons (PPN), Paddy Niamh Power, Joe Lane (WCC), Theresa O'Brien (WCC), Helena Fallon (WCC), Declan Marnane (WCC) Jphn Dunphy (WCC) Gillian Power (WCC)

Apologies: Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy,

**Item 1: Minutes of Meeting of 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 and Matters Arising:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 was proposed by Cllr Tommy Annsley and seconded by Cllr Paul O'Brien. There were no matters arising that would not be dealt with in the course of the meeting.

At the outset of the meeting Cllr John Snell welcomed Michael Ryan to the committee. Michael thanked the committee for his welcome and also thanked them on behalf of the Casserly family

**Item 2: To receive a presentation on Housing for All to include a presentation on the Housing Delivery Action Plan.**

Declan Marnane gave a presentation to the members on the Housing Delivery Action Plan

Following the presentation a lengthy discussion was had during which the following items were raised by the members of the SPC

- Rock Brae House ( house and field can't be developed until 2024,2025)
- Entrance to Fassaroe Estate (difficult site , existing sewer , options being looked at )
- Shared Equity Scheme via the Local Authority
- Criteria for Affordable Housing and its delivery in County Wicklow
- Various types of house types eg design built
- Number of vacant properties
- CPO process and the time lines involved

- Purchase of vacant properties by agreement if possible
- Approved Housing Bodies and the advantages to the tenants of the supports that the AHB can provide if necessary

**Item 3                    To agree a policy on a Pilot Scheme for Relets**

Helena Fallon delivered this draft policy to the members and there was a general consensus that this could be a good scheme but the members felt that they needed more time to consider the implication of this

**Item 4                    To agree a Housing Maintenance Policy on Heating**

Helena Fallon delivered this draft policy to the members and there was a general discussion around this with the following items being raised as concerns among the members

- Fuel poverty
- Chimneys not being efficient
- Issues with getting rid of open fires as this can be a source of comfort and company to some people
- Windows and doors
- Poverty proofing all policies of WCC
- % of housing stock that don't have oil or gas
- Rural houses mainly have oil fired central heating

The members felt that they needed more time to consider the implication of this

**Item 5                    To discuss a policy on the disposal of derelict units that are not viable for Wicklow County Council to develop**

Helena Fallon delivered this draft policy to the members and after a general discussion the following items were raised

- Could the sites be utilised to build multiples of houses
- Issues with site lines

- The demand for rural houses

Following the discussion on the 3 policies it was decided that item 3, 4 and 5 required further discussion at SPC level and in this regard it was decided that a special meeting of the SPC would be held on 20<sup>th</sup> January to further discuss it was also agreed that if the members wished they could submit their concerns via email to Theresa O'Brien who would circulate to the full committee ahead of 20<sup>th</sup> January

**Item 8: Any Other Business:**

Confirmation of CWI beds being available within the existing COVID guidelines was confirmed to the committee.

It was agreed that an extra SPC would be held on 20<sup>th</sup> January to further discuss the following

1. To discuss and agree a policy on a Pilot Scheme for Relets
2. To discuss and agree a Housing Maintenance Policy on Heating
3. To discuss and agree a policy on the disposal of derelict units that are not viable for Wicklow County Council to develop

Signed:

  
Cllr. John Snell, Cathaoirleach

Dated:

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