

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

**PRESENT:**

**COUNCILLORS T. ANNESLEY CATHAOIRLEACH, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, 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, S. STOKES, E. TIMMINS AND G. WALSH.**

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**APOLOGIES**

**CLLRS. J. BEHAN AND I. WINTERS**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**MR. B. GLEESON, CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
MS. L. GALLAGHER, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MS. S. WALSH, A/DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. M. NICHOLSON, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MR. J. LANE, DIRECTOR OF SERVICE  
MS. L. EARLS, DIRECTOR OF SERVICES  
MS. B. MCCARTHY, A/HEAD OF FINANCE  
MS. D. KENNEDY, LAW AGENT  
MR. J. BOWES, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MR. M. FLYNN, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MR. M. DEVEREUX, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MR. D. MARNANE, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MR. F. KEOGH, SENIOR ENGINEER  
MS. D. FORDE, PROJECT LIAISON OFFICER  
MS. J. O'DOWD, SENIOR EXECUTIVE ENGINEER  
MS. H. PURCELL, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER/MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR  
MS. H. DENNEHY, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MS. J. CARROLL, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MS. T. O'BRIEN, SENIOR EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
MS. F. ROCHE, SENIOR EXECUTIVE TECHNICIAN  
MR. J. CALLERY, ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS OFFICER  
MR. M. BOLAND, EXECUTIVE SCIENTIST  
MR. T. HUGHES, IS PROJECT LEADER  
MR. G. MURPHY, IS TECHNICAL SUPPORT OFFICER  
MS. R. DENNISON, ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER  
MS. C. FOX, ADMINISRTIVE OFFICER  
MS. G. FENNEL, SENIOR STAFF 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.

**Request for Suspension of Standing Orders:-** The Meetings Administrator advised that two requests for suspension of standing orders had been submitted in advance of the meeting. In accordance with the protocol adopted both requests were read to the meeting as proposed and seconded:-

1. Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. M. Kavanagh requested a suspension of standing orders to discuss the following motion:

*“That this Council requests the immediate publication of the Action Plan for the Disability Capacity Review, and its inclusion in the budgetary plan for 2023 to ensure another year does not pass with families and individuals left without any indication of when or how the urgent needs they are experiencing will be met.*

*Furthermore, that this Council requests an accessible budget announcement for disability, so that individuals with disabilities and their supporters can understand how many existing and new residential supports, day places and respite supports will be provided for in Budget 2023, and how this relates to the needs outlined in the Capacity Review.”*

It was agreed by all to have a discussion on the topic at 4.30 p.m.

2. Cllr. P. O’Brien, seconded by Cllr. A. Ferris requested a suspension of standing orders to discuss the awarding of the Freedom of the County to Mr. Charlie Bird.

It was agreed by all to have a discussion on the topic at 4.30 p.m.

### **Votes of Sympathy**

Elected Members passed a vote of sympathy to the families of the late Mr. Tom Murphy, Mr. Tony Wright, Ms. Mary Harper, Mr. Seamus Kinsella, Ms. Sheelagh MacNamara, Mr. David Duane, Ms. Maura Hassan, Ms. Sally Byrne and Ms. Monica Behan. A minutes silence was observed for the deceased.

Congratulations to Ms. Catherine O’Connor on her success in the World Masters Athletics Championships in Finland.

### **ITEM NO. 1**

**To confirm and sign minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. P. Kennedy and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of ordinary meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

#### **ITEM NO. 2**

**To confirm and sign minutes of Annual Meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022.**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of annual meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

#### **ITEM NO. 3**

**To consider the disposal of property situated in the townland of Bray, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. WW1710L Co. Wicklow being the property known as 2 Fatima Terrace, Bray, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Ms. Anne Walsh of 2 Fatima Terrace, Bray, Co. Wicklow, the person entitled to the freehold interest in the property.**

It was proposed by Cllr. A. Flynn-Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed to dispose of property situated in the townland of Bray, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. WW1710L Co. Wicklow being the property known as 2 Fatima Terrace, Bray, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Ms. Anne Walsh of 2 Fatima Terrace, Bray, Co. Wicklow, the person entitled to the freehold interest in the property as set out in statutory notice circulated.

#### **ITEM NO. 4**

**To consider the disposal of property situated in the townland of Arklow, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. WW4065 Co. Wicklow being the property known as 28 Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Ms. Breda O'Reilly of 28 Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co. Wicklow, the person entitled to the freehold interest in the property.**

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. P. Kennedy and agreed to dispose of property situated in the townland of Arklow, Co. Wicklow comprised in Folio No. WW4065 Co. Wicklow being the property known as 28 Mellows Avenue, Arklow, Co. Wicklow by Transfer Order to Ms. Breda O'Reilly of 28 Mellows Avenue, 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 filling of vacancy to the Board of Mermaid County Wicklow Arts Centre arising from the resignation of Cllr. M. Crean.**

It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. L. Scott and agreed by all to nominate Cllr. A. Ferris to fill the vacancy to the Board of Mermaid County Wicklow Arts Centre arising from the resignation of Cllr. M. Crean.

#### **ITEM NO. 6**

**To consider the filling of vacancy to the East Coast Regional Drugs Task Force arising from the resignation of Cllr. M. Crean**

It was agreed that Item No. 6 be deferred until the September meeting.

#### **ITEM NO. 7**

**To review Standing Order No. 6: Place of meeting and address of Principle office**

Ms. H. Purcell, Meeting Administrator advised the Elected Members of the following proposed amendment to Standing Order No. 6:

*In so far as practicable the place for holding meetings of the Council shall be the address of the principal offices and meetings shall normally be held there provided that the Council may from time to time by resolution appoint an alternative location for a particular meeting. The address of the principal offices is County Buildings, Wicklow.*

*Given the designation of Wicklow County Council, in the Civil Law and Criminal Law Miscellaneous provisions) Act, 2020 (Section 29) ( Local Authorities) (Designation) Order 2020 (S.I. No. 445 of 2020) the meetings of Wicklow County Council may now also be held in person, remotely or hybrid as set out below and as determined by the Council.*

- *The Council Chamber, County Buildings, Wicklow*
- *An external venue used to accommodate meetings of the Council*
- *One or more Council buildings or rooms, linked remotely*
- *An electronic, digital or virtual location, web address or a conference call telephone number*
- *A combination of the above to provide for physical and/or remote attendance by elected members i.e. Hybrid*

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. S. Bourke to amend Standing Order no. 6 and following a roll call, was passed by a margin of 29 for, and 3 not present viz:

<b>FOR 29</b>	<b>CLLRS. T. ANNESLEY, V. BLAKE, S. BOURKE, M. CORRIGAN, A. CRONIN, S. CULLEN, E. DOYLE, 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.</b>
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	<b>O'BRIEN, P. O'BRIEN, R. O'CONNOR, G. O'NEILL, L. SCOTT, J. SNELL, S. STOKES, E. TIMMINS AND G.WALSH</b>
<b>NOT PRESENT 3</b>	<b>CLLRS. J. BEHAN, G. DUNNE AND I. WINTERS</b>

### **ITEM NO. 8**

**To set date and time for Council meeting: To consider the third Chief Executive's report on submissions to the 'Proposed Amendments to the Draft County Development Plan' and to make the 'Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028'**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Cullen, seconded by Cllr. P. O'Brien and agreed by all to hold a special meeting on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2022 commencing at 10.00 a.m. to consider the third Chief Executive's report on submissions to the 'Proposed Amendments to the Draft County Development Plan' and to make the 'Wicklow County Development Plan 2022 – 2028'.

### **ITEM NO. 9**

**To consider the Chief Executive's Monthly Management Report, June 2022**

Elected Members were circulated with the Chief Executive Monthly Management Report June 2022.

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

### **ITEM NO. 10**

**To receive an update on Burgage Lands, Blessington**

The Chief Executive gave an update on Burgage Lands, Blessington and advised the Elected Members of the following:

- That the start of the existing 6-kilometre Blessington green way trail is located at the Avon facility. There are significant traffic and parking problems arising at that location, and this is an issue as well for visitors to the green way. The Baltinglass Municipal District and the County Wicklow Council have received numerous communications from local residents, An Garda Síochána and the Avon to come up with a solution to the traffic problem.

- Avon received approval from Wicklow County Council to undertake a pilot traffic management plan for the St Patrick's Day bank holiday weekend only, which subsequently did not go ahead due to bad weather. A short time later, Avon put forward another pilot plan for the summer period. No approval was provided by Wicklow County Council and the proposal made no reference to a 3-euro charge. It was brought to the attention of Wicklow County Council that Avon had gone ahead with the works to use the Burgage Lands field as overflow car park.
- Wicklow County Council officials met with Avon shortly after to confirm that they developed the car park on the erroneous understanding that the pilot approval that they had received earlier, covered the summer period too.
- However at the same meeting they fully accepted that they proceeded, without the full consultation and consent of the Wicklow County Council. Wicklow County Council directed Avon to stop the 3-euro charge for parking in the council field. Avon agreed to this instruction and is using the field as an overflow car park as needed and when the barrier is lifted, the cars can go into the Burgage Lands field, free of charge.
- Previously there was a license agreement in place, relating to a third party for grazing purposes, the third party in question gave approval in order to help address the traffic problems, this explains the fencing works done, which were to separate and to protect the livestock.

The Chief Executive advised that there were two options put forward:

Option 1: To close down the overflow car park immediately.

Option 2: To keep the temporary car park open strictly to the end of August.

The Chief Executive said he had discussed the options with the Elected Members of Baltinglass Municipal District and it was agreed that option 2 was the best solution for now.

## **ITEM NO. 11**

### **To receive a presentation on the draft Glyphosate Policy**

Mr. J. Callery, Environmental Awareness Officer gave a presentation covering the following areas:

- What is Glyphosate?
- Concerns about the use of Glyphosate.
- All Ireland Pollinator Plan 2021 – 2025.
- Hierarchy of decisions favouring elimination and avoidance of the use of Glyphosate will be implemented.

- Proposed protocol.
- Proposed actions.
- Timeline.

Following a discussion on the Glyphosate Policy it was proposed by Cllr. L. Scott, seconded by Cllr. D. O'Brien and agreed by all to adopt the Glyphosate Policy.

**Time Extension:** It was proposed by Cllr. P. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Mullen and agreed by all to extend the meeting to 5.30 p.m.

## **ITEM NO. 12**

### **To receive a presentation on the proposed investment in and upgrade of Recycling Centres**

Mr. M. Devereux, Senior Engineer gave a presentation outlining the following:

- Review of Recycling Centres.
- Public consultation on Recycling Centres.
- National priorities for Civic Amenity (CA) Sites.
- Recycling facilities Wicklow and neighbouring counties.
- 5-year investment plan.
- What does it mean for households?
- Financing requirements.
- Financing improvements.
- What is proposed?
- Other local authorities charges.
- Benefits to charges for recycling.
- Will charges lead to an increase in illegal dumping?

A discussion followed and Elected Members voiced their concerns in relation to the introduction of charges for recycling.

### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

1. Cllr. T. Fortune, seconded by Cllr. M. Kavanagh requested a suspension of standing orders to discuss the following motion:

*“That this Council requests the immediate publication of the Action Plan for the Disability Capacity Review, and its inclusion in the budgetary plan for 2023 to ensure another year does not pass with families and individuals left without any indication of when or how the urgent needs they are experiencing will be met.*

*Furthermore, that this Council requests an accessible budget announcement for disability, so that individuals with disabilities and their supporters can understand how many existing and new residential supports, day places and respite supports will be provided for in Budget 2023, and how this relates to the needs outlined in the Capacity Review.”*

Following a broad discussion it was agreed to write to the relevant Ministers. It was suggested that Mr. Joe Lynch, CEO, Sunbeam House Services be invited to attend the next meeting. The Meetings Administrator advised that it may not be possible to invite Mr. Lynch to the September meeting but would consider it for the October meeting.

2. Cllr. P. O’Brien, seconded by Cllr. A. Ferris requested a suspension of standing orders to discuss the awarding of the Freedom of the County to Mr. Charlie Bird. Cllr. O’Brien highlighted Mr. Bird’s many achievements in journalism, broadcasting and more recently in campaigning and raising funds for Motor Neurone Disease and in so doing bringing honour to the County of Wicklow.

Following a short discussion it was agreed by all to award the Freedom of the County to Mr. Charlie Bird, ceremony to be held in the Council Chamber in September, date to be confirmed.

#### **THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

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**CLLR. TOMMY ANNESLEY  
CATHAOIRLEACH  
WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL**

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

**Confirmed at meeting of Wicklow County Council held on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2022**