

**Minutes of Strategic Policy Committee 5
Environmental Protection, Water Services & Energy
Held on Thursday 16th November 2017 in Meeting Room 1**

In the Chair: Cllr. Maurice Shortall

In Attendance: Cllr. Pat Dunphy, Cllr. Maurice Shortall, Cllr. Tomas Breathnach, Mr. Shem Caulfield

Also Present: Mr. Sean McKeown, Director of Service
Mr. Seamus Foley, A/Senior Engineer
Mr. Seamus Kavanagh, A/Senior Engineer, Water Services
Ms. Catherine Millea, Senior Staff Officer

Apologies: Cllr. Ger Frisby, Cllr. Breda Gardner, Cllr. Joe Malone, Sadhbh O'Neill, James Murphy

- Item 1** **Minutes of SPC 5 Meeting held on 28th September 2017**
Proposed by Cllr Pat Dunphy, seconded by Cllr Tomas Breathnach and agreed:- "that the minutes of SPC5 meeting held on 28th September 2017, a copy of which was circulated to each member with the Agenda, is hereby adopted"
- Item 2** Chairman Maurice Shortall introduced the new Director, Sean McKeown and also welcomed Seamus Foley, A/Senior Engineer.
- Item 3** **Update on Water Services Capital Projects**
Seamus Kavanagh, A/Senior Engineer, Water Services, gave an update on the Major Capital and Minor Capital works programme. Discussions took place on a number of the projects and Seamus Kavanagh and Seamus Foley provided clarification where sought.

Contributions from Cllr Pat Dunphy, Cllr Tomas Breathnach and Cllr Maurice Shortall.
- Item 4** **Dunmore Recycling Centre**
Seamus Foley gave an update including the promotion of the new brochure. He spoke of the need to promote the centre on social media and to avail of any opportunistic promoting. He advised that there is a need to generate additional income in 2018.

Sean McKeown advised that a desktop study will need to be undertaken to establish where savings can be made and also where additional income can be generated.

It was noted that civic minded people need to be encouraged to continue to use the site and that any price increase may affect this.

Contributions from Cllr Pat Dunphy, Cllr Maurice Shortall and Tomas Breathnach.

Item 5

Animal Welfare

Sean McKeown circulated two documents – Dog Welfare Charter and an extract from the welfare element of Kilkenny County Council’s Control of Horses Bye Laws. It is proposed that these two documents be combined to produce an Animal Welfare Charter. A draft document will be circulated to members prior to the next meeting.

It was advised that the Charter will solely be for Dogs and Horses and there will be a need to advise the public that other animals will not fall under this Charter.

Sean McKeown also gave a brief update on the new service provider – Midland Animal Care – for the dog shelter at Paulstown.

Cllr Maurice Shortall advised that SPC 5 is the appropriate forum to deal with animal welfare.

Item 6

Enforcement and Staffing

Sean McKeown advised that the same resources will apply in 2018 as in 2017. He advised that the Litter Warden is employed under the Litter Management Act and the Environmental Enforcement Officer is employed under the Waste Management Act.

A discussion took place on the new tyre regulations. It was agreed that this would be placed on a future agenda for further discussion.

Item 7

Any Other Business

A discussion also took place around the draft Litter Management Plan. It is hoped that same will be ready for presentation to the Council meeting early 2018.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on Wednesday 21st February 2018 at 3pm.