

MINUTES OF ECONOMIC, ENTERPRISE & PLANNING

STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING ON

MS Teams

May 13th, 2022 @ 9.15am

Present: Cllr. John Paul Feeley, Chairperson
Mr. Brendan Jennings, Director of Service
Ms Marcella Rudden, Head of Enterprise, LEO
Mr. John Donohoe, Chief Officer, Community & Enterprise
Mr. Nicholas O’Kane, Head of Planning
Cllr. Sarah O’Reilly
Cllr. Winston Bennett
Cllr. Carmel Brady
Cllr. Peter McVitty
Cllr. Aidan Fitzpatrick
Stanley Nwaneri

Apologies: Tom Brady

- 1. Welcome and Introductions - Chairperson**, Cllr. John Paul Feeley welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. Minutes** On the proposal of Cllr. Peter McVitty and seconded by Cllr. Carmel Brady, minutes of last SPC meeting held on February 25th, 2022, were approved.
- 3. Matters Arising** – No matters arising.
- 4. Enterprise Sites Update** – B. Jennings gave an update on enterprise site development. The County Development Plan has ample enterprise lands zoned which is a first step in terms of supporting the future development of appropriate enterprise developments. Cootehill Enterprise Park is progressing well and a recent application for feasibility study funding was submitted under the Shared Island Fund in partnership with five local authorities, North & South, to explore the potential to development a number of enterprise park developments, both sides of the border. As previously highlighted, the key challenge continues to be sourcing adequate funds to progress suitable projects. Cllr. W. Bennett complimented B. Jennings and his team for the work achieved to date. Cllr. A. Fitzpatrick asked if there were plans to progress more projects, particularly in Cootehill. B. Jennings stated that in the long term the intention would be to extend Cootehill Enterprise Park. Cllr. S. O’Reilly asked if there were plans for Bailieborough. B. Jennings stated that the issue with progressing suitable developments is sourcing sufficient funds and unfortunately the RRDF has

changed focus and funding of these types of developments is not a priority under RRDF. However, he stated that we would continue to explore all possible funding streams available to us and hopefully new funding programmes will become available to support such developments.

5. **Cavan Heritage Office Presentation** – Ann Marie Ward, Cavan Heritage Officer gave a presentation on the current and future programme of activities undertaken by the Cavan Heritage Office. Cllr. J.P. Feeley thanked Ann Marie for her presentation and emphasised the importance of conservation and protection of our built heritage and wildlife. A question was raised about the issue of Japanese Knotweed and Ann Marie stated that Cavan County Council are focused on promoting awareness as much as possible, and that our horticulturist does a lot of work in this area and in the whole area of biodiversity. Cllr. P. McVitty asked about the Workhouse in Bawnboy. A. M. Ward said they were working though the issues there and trying to get them resolved, including doing some facilitation in the community. There are huge costs involved in restoration of the building. Cllr. A. Fitzpatrick thanked A.M. Ward for all the work she is doing.

6. **A.O.B.** – Next meeting date proposed was July 15th, 2022. Venue to be confirmed at a later date. Cllr. J.P. Feeley closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Chairperson