

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 13th December 2023 at 14:00hrs in
the Council Chamber, County Hall, Carricklawn**

- Presiding:** Cllr Jim Moore– An Cathaoirleach
- Councillors:** Cllr Lisa McDonald - Leas Cathaoirleach
Cllr Ger Carthy
Cllr Frank Staples
- Officials:** Nóirín Cummins – District Manager
Lynda Lacey – District Director
Michael Brazzill – District Engineer (Roads)
Derek Cowman – District Technician
Caroline Creane – Administrative Officer (Community)
Sharon Ryan – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)
Angela Finn - Senior Staff Officer (Housing Capital)
Sonia Hunt – Executive Planner
Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment)
George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)
Mick McCormack – Town Regeneration Officer
Tom Fox – Vacant Homes Officer
Dean Waters – Staff Officer
- Remote:** George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)
- Apologies:** Cllr Jim Codd

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, confirmed the requisite quorum was in place, welcomed all those in attendance and commenced the meeting.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, recommended the suspension of standing orders to facilitate the presentation by the Regeneration Officer and the Vacant Homes Officer. On the proposal of Cllr Frank Staples, seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy, standing orders were duly suspended.

8. Special Business (*Internal / External Presentations etc*).

8.1 Regeneration Unit Structure - Presentation by Mick McCormack, Town Regeneration Officer

Mick McCormack, Town Regeneration Officer, delivered his presentation before responding to queries from the Members.

A discussion followed.

Following a proposal from Cllr Ger Carthy for Rosslare Harbour to be considered for a ***Town Centre First Plan***, which An Cathaoirleach Cllr Jim Moore agreed the

Members would support, the Town Regeneration Officer agreed to include Rosslare Harbour in his appraisal of the District.

Mick McCormack, Town Regeneration Officer, confirmed that his team would be organising a number of information roadshows in the New Year to inform the public of the various schemes that were in place.

The Town Regeneration Officer and the Vacant Homes Officer were thanked by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, for the comprehensive presentation prior to their departure from the meeting

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 25th October 2023

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of November 15th 2023, were proposed by Cllr Frank Staples and seconded by Cllr Lisa McDonald.

1.2 Matters Arising

The responses and information provided in relation to queries from the previous meeting were noted and it was agreed they would be revisited as necessary under the appropriate agenda items.

Following comment from Cllr Ger Carthy in connection with the correspondence previously sent by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, to Roderic O'Gorman TD regarding the proposed use of further International Protection Accommodation in Rosslare Harbour, Cllr Jim Moore confirmed that although his correspondence had been acknowledged a reply had not yet been received.

2. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members

None

3. District Manager Report

3.1 District Managers Report

The District Manager delivered her monthly report and highlighted the following information;

Community Monuments Fund 2023 / CMF23-1-WX003 Barrystown Mine

The works on the Barrystown Silver Mines Engine House were completed as planned. Rosslare Municipal District secured funding of €100,000 under the Community Monuments Fund 2023 scheme.

The celebration event to mark the completion of these works, which was organised by the ***Bannow Historical Society*** and held on-site on Thursday 16th November, was extremely well attended and welcomed by all those connected with the project.

Community Recognition Fund - Killinick Approach Works

Following design approval from David Codd, Road Safety Officer, and Michael Brazzill, District Engineer, works have commenced on the Killinick approach project which runs parallel to the N25.

Kilmore Quay Harbour – Coastal Protection Upgrade Works

The Coastal Protection upgrade works in Kilmore Quay Harbour are now complete. The works funded under the *Brexit Adjustment LA Marine Infrastructure (BALAMI) Scheme 2022 – 2023*, included the following:

- *Increase in rock armour at the pier end for increased protection for the harbour,*
- *Extending the raised protection wall at the end of the pier,*
- *Completion of dredging programme at the last section of the west pier,*
- *Other works included in the programme includes bollards, ladders and pier rails.*

There were 13 projects in the Rosslare MD funded under the Brexit support scheme totalling € 765,000, 10 of these are in Kilmore Quay with the remaining 3 in Carne.

UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities - Purple Light Up

In celebration and recognition of UN International Day of Persons with Disabilities on December 3rd, the Access Section requested assistance with lighting up buildings purple in each district.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, attended the “lighting up” of the Harbour Master’s Office in Kilmore Quay on Sunday 3rd December.

This initiative was a great opportunity to raise awareness as part of an international event highlighting that here in Wexford all our public offices are accessible.

Ten-T Rail Network

Cabinet have granted approval that the Rosslare-Waterford railway line will be put forward for inclusion within the EU’s TEN-T rail network.

The EU’s TEN-T serves as a network of the key transport routes within countries, which facilitate seamless transportation by air, rail, road and sea throughout Ireland and the European Union. This recommendation formed part of the All-Island Strategic Review, which was published last July.

Including the Rosslare-Waterford railway line within future plans for development will have major benefits for County Wexford and other parts of the country. This railway line forms part of a vision to have a railway line running from Rosslare to Ballina.

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, requested the reports as required with the order of business to be reflected in the minutes.

4.1 Roads Report

The District Engineer delivered the report before responding to questions from the Members, agreeing to log the general maintenance issues raised, whilst also confirming or updating on the following items;

- *Kilmore Quay Reinstatement Works / WWTP*
- *Killinick Safety Works*
- *Village Speed Ramps*
- *Piercestown to Drinagh Strengthening Works*
- *Tagoat Road Safety Work / Survey*
- *Deerpark Road Surface*
- *Solar Farm Reinstatement Works*
- *Ashfield Roundabout – Tuskar Rock Lighthouse Scaled Model*
- *Line Marking*
- *Safety Improvement Works*
- *Drainage and Flood Mitigation Works*

whilst also agreeing to investigate the following matter/s;

- *Lightwater Crossroads*

Traffic Calming Measures

Following comment from An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, in connection with alternative road safety measures in villages, the District Engineer outlined the installation criteria which needed to be complied with for the installation of speed ramps and agreed to explore all forms of traffic calming measures available for villages in the District.

Traffic Management Plans – Kilmore Quay / Rosslare Strand

The District Engineer confirmed that the surveyor had been appointed and that the topographical surveys would be completed shortly.

Roads Programme 2023 / 2024

The Executive Engineer gave an update on the delivery and completion of the Roads Programme 2023, whilst outlining areas to be addressed under the Roads Programme 2024.

4.1.1 Bus Shelter Progress Report

The District Engineer gave a progress report / update on the following outstanding works;

- *Progressing – Bridgetown (#2)*
- *Progressing - Killinick*
- *Active Travel - Wellingtonbridge x2*
- *Active Travel – Kilrane x2*
- *NTA Application – Tagoat x2 (North & South)*
- *NTA Application – Drinagh x2 (North & South)*

4.6 Environment Report

The S.E. Environment delivered the previously circulated report before responding to the queries raised by the Members, whilst also confirming and/or giving updates on the following items:

Cliff Road - Cullenstown

The S.E. Environment confirmed that works on the Cliff Road in Cullenstown were complete.

OLI – Cutting of the Lake

The Executive Engineer confirmed that works at the lake in Our Lady's Island had commenced.

Coastguard Access at Ballytrent

Following comment from Cllr Ger Carthy regarding the possibility of providing Coastguard access at Ballytrent, the S.E. Environment agreed to investigate and discuss the matter with the Coastguard.

4.6.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update

The Executive Engineer updated the Members on the coastal erosion schemes and responded to questions from the Members.

The Executive Engineer confirmed that the landowners at Seaview had been issued with a legal agreement and that planning documents are currently being printed.

4.2 Housing Report

The Senior Staff Officer, Sharon Ryan, delivered the housing report and responded to queries from the Members.

The Members noted the responses included within item *1.2.1 Matters Arising*.

4.2.1 Rosslare MD Specific

The Senior Staff Officer presented the Rosslare MD specific report to the Members before responding to their queries.

Choice Based Lettings

Following comment from Cllr Lisa McDonald regarding the notification process for the *Choice Based Lettings* system, and the possibility of the Members receiving an e-mail notification when properties become available, the District Director agreed to discuss the matter with the Director of Services for Housing.

Tagoat Social Housing – Sod Turning

The District Manager reminded all present that the sod turning ceremony was taking place on the following day, Thursday December 14th.

4.2.2 Housing Capital Project Report

The Senior Staff Officer, Angela Finn, presented the Housing Capital report before responding to the queries of the Members.

A discussion followed.

Following comment from the Members, the District Director confirmed that the data and information contained in the report covered the entirety of the *Housing for All 2021 – 2030* plan, and therefore also contained housing developments which were previously delivered during this period.

Whilst welcoming the much-awaited sod turning ceremony, the Members voiced their collective concern over the timescales involved in delivering Social Housing units in the District of Rosslare.

4.3 Planning Report

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, noted the responses included within item 1.2.2 *Matters Arising*.

The Executive Planner introduced the previously circulated report before clarifying some matters for the Members.

4.3.1 Planning Decisions – Grants

Noted.

4.3.2 Planning Decisions – Refusals

Noted.

4.4 Libraries Archives & Arts Report

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

4.5 Community Development Report

The Administrative Officer introduced the previously circulated report.

Local Enhancement Programme

The Administrative Officer advised the Members that the *2024 Local Enhancement Programme* would be advertised shortly with funding being available for qualifying projects following the application process.

South East Flag (BIM) – Funding Opportunities

Following concerns expressed at the previous meeting in connection with the lack of notice of the **Southeast Fisheries Local Action Group** public meeting regarding the opportunity for Tourism and other sectors of the Blue Economy, Aquaculture, Fisheries, and Community Groups to benefit from funding under the Priority 3 Section of the **European Maritime Fisheries & Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)**, an Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, requested that **Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM)** be invited to a meeting to discuss these opportunities for funding which are open to business, tourism sector and community groups. The District Manager read an update received from Annette Rowsome, Senior Enterprise Development Officer, Economic Development & Enterprise, advising that Brenda O’Riordan, the BIM representative that works with the FLAG Board in the South East had confirmed informally that she would be happy to present the opportunities for BIM funding to the Members at a meeting in the new year.

4.7 Fire Services Report

Noted.

The response under item *1.2.4 Matters Arising* regarding the *Rules of Engagement* at flooding events was also noted by the Members.

4.8 Special Projects – Greenway Update

The response from Seán Meyler, Senior Engineer Special Projects, under item *1.2.5 Matters Arising* outlining the current estimated cost of the 6 km stretch from Rosslare Strand to Rosslare Harbour was noted by the Members.

A discussion followed.

The District Director reaffirmed that both phase 1 and phase 2 of the Rosslare Harbour to Wexford Town Greenway were being advanced in parallel, and that public consultation would commence in the New Year.

5. Correspondence

None

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

Letter to Minister Heather Humphreys

Following a request from Cllr Frank Staples, which was unanimously supported by the Members, it was agreed that the District Manager correspond with Minister Heather Humphreys, Minister for Social Protection and Rural & Community Development, again outlining the devastating events in Foulksmills/ Clongeen, when a tornado caused significant damage to farms, businesses, and homes on November 2nd 2022, seeking financial support for those affected.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 17th January 2024



Cllr Jim Moore
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District