

**MINUTES OF ORDINARY MEETING OF WEXFORD BOROUGH DISTRICT HELD AT 2.30 P.M. ON MONDAY 15<sup>th</sup> June , 2020 IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL, CARRICKLAWN, WEXFORD.**

**Presiding:** - His Worship the Mayor, Cllr. G. Lawlor.

**Councillors:** - J. Hegarty, D. Hynes, T. Forde, G. Laffan, M. Bell,  
L. Kelly.

**In Attendance:-**

- Mr. Tony Larkin, Director of Services.
- Ms. Angela Laffan, District Manager.
- Mr. Sean Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer.
- Ms. Joan Murphy, Staff Officer.
- Mr. Noel O'Driscoll, Senior Engineer
- Ms. Michele Bridges-Carley, Administrative Officer, Housing.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 17th February, 2020 copies of which had previously been circulated, were confirmed and signed on the proposal of Cllr. G.Laffan seconded by Cllr. D. Hynes.

The minutes of the Teleconference Meeting held on 12th May, 2020 copies of which had previously been circulated, were noted and agreed on the proposal of Cllr. D. Hynes seconded by Cllr. M. Bell.

**Matters Arising**

In response to Cllr. D. Hynes's and Cllr. T. Forde with regard to previous requests and discussion re the hosting of a Civic Reception to mark the achievements of Wexford Handballers and Wexford Academy of Martial Arts, His Worship the Mayor again explained that, having regard to the limited budget and the increasing number of requests for such receptions, it is considered appropriate to have the achievements of such sporting groups and individuals recognized and honored by Wexford County Council under the proposed new County Awards Scheme to be launched by the County Council Chairman.

In response to Cllr. L. Kelly's query regarding the protocols for the hosting of receptions, the District Manager clarified that Civic Receptions should go before the Protocol Committee for consideration

and endorsement, while a Mayoral Reception can be afforded to any group or individual at the discretion of the Mayor.

## **RE-OPENING WEXFORD – MINUTES OF WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2020.**

The Minutes of the MS Teams meeting of Wexford Borough Working Group held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2020 copies of which had previously been circulated were discussed.

Membership of the Working Group includes Council officials, His Worship the Mayor and 2 elected members (Cllr. Bell and Cllr. Hynes), the CE of County Wexford Chamber, representatives of Wexford Retail Committee and a representative from Visit Wexford.

Ms. Angela Laffan, District Manager outlined a range of measures which were considered and discussed by the Working Group to assist in the re-opening of Wexford Town for business.

These measures include appropriate social distancing signage, further pedestrian zones to support day and night time economy (particularly in Mallin Street, South Main Street, Monck Street/Charlotte Street), increased outdoor seating, introduction of a one way system for pedestrians, use of live /piped music, floral programme and presentation of the town, the provision of a Visit Wexford Kiosk in The Bullring area and a self-certification system for local businesses complying with Government guidelines.

Ms. Laffan further advised that in the interest of public safety all businesses will be asked to remove advertising signs and/or sandwich boards which are currently placed on footpaths in the town centre.

Cllr. Hegarty stated that traders in the South End of town would benefit from these proposals and also suggested that consideration be given to the use of the quayfront to provide additional outdoor space.

Members welcomed the proposals and offered their support as local businesses reopen and meet the challenges to operate in compliance with Government guidelines.

## **SECTION 183 REPORT -WEXFORD RAPE & SEXUAL ABUSE SERVICES DAC, MAUDLINTOWN.**

The attached report in relation to the proposed lease of lands (approximately 0.11 acres) at Maudlintown, Wexford to Wexford Rape and Sexual Abuse Services DAC, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Cllr. T. Forde seconded by Cllr. M. Bell.

## **KYLE CROSS JUNCTION CROSSABEG**

Mr. Noel O' Driscoll, Senior Executive Engineer, attended at the request of Members to provide an update on proposals for Kyle Cross, Crossabeg.

Mr. O' Driscoll confirmed that the junction had been redesigned in conjunction with the Kyle Upper Pavement Scheme which covered a stretch of 1.3/1.4m in length. He advised that the width of the road was narrowed, additional signage had been installed North and South of the junction, a Stage 4 safety audit had been carried out which confirmed that the existing junction meets all TII safety standards in relation to design, signage, lining etc.

In reply to Cllr. Laffan, Mr. O'Driscoll advised that the installation of Pencil Bollards can be investigated but they would have to be designed in with appropriate signage, warnings etc. and they would need to be reflective for night time traffic.

Mr. O' Driscoll also confirmed that the tender process for the provision of design consultancy services for Killurin Bridge had commenced with tenders due to be returned on or before 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

His Worship the Mayor and Members thanked Mr. O'Driscoll for this update and expressed their support for any measures which would enhance safety at this junction and restore public confidence in this section of road.

## **REPORTS**

### **HOUSING**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was discussed and noted.

Queries in relations to the allocation of social housing units, inspections for disability grants and grant payments were addressed by Ms. Michele Bridges-Carley, Administrative Officer, Housing.

## **PLANNING**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was discussed and noted.

Queries in relation to submission & decision dates for current planning applications were addressed by Mr. Tony Larkin, Director of Services.

Cllr. L Kelly queried proposals for the Ballast Office building on Crescent Quay and suggested it could be used as a museum rather than a private restaurant. Mr. Tony Larkin, DOS, informed members that the project has been proposed by the CE and is currently subject to a Part 8 Planning Consultation process which will come before Members at the July meeting for consideration.

## **DISTRICT ENGINEERS REPORT**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was presented by Mr. Sean Kavanagh, Senior Executive Engineer, and noted.

The following matters raised by Members were addressed by Mr. Kavanagh:

- Replacement of the temporary roundabout at McDonald's on the Rosslare Road with a more permanent arrangement.
- Consideration of a one way system at Whitemill Road
- Installation of new pedestrian crossing on Clonard Road
- Installation of a new pedestrian crossing at Ferrybank in the vicinity of the Angel Garden
- Repairs to the stone wall on Ferrycarrig Bridge
- Safety works at Carrigmannon Bridge
- Waste water treatment at Ravenswood housing estate opposite Glynn NS.
- Need for Irish Water to take urgent action and provide a long term solution to improve the water quality for residents at Whitebrook Estate

Members congratulated Mr. Kavanagh and his staff for their efforts during Covid particularly grass cutting in and other enhancement works carried out around the town.

## **COMMUNITY**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

## **ENVIRONMENT**

The attached report, copies of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

Cllr. L Kelly raised concerns over the increasing problem of illegal dumping at The Knock area between St. Aidan's Crescent and Distillery Road and asked that the Council communicate with the owners of the site with a view to enforcing legislation and having the area cleaned up.

Members congratulated Mr. Gerry Senior Engineer, Environment and his team on the successful implementation of the trial traffic management plan and Covid -19 restriction measures implemented in Curracloe and The Raven over the June Bank Holiday weekend.

## **LIBRARIES /ARTS / ARCHIVES**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

## **FIRE SERVICE**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

Cllr. T Forde praised the Fire Service for their swift response to a recent fire adjacent to a house in Kennedy Park.

## **MEMBERS SUPPORT SYSTEM**

The attached report, a copy of which had previously been circulated, was noted.

**THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.**

**SIGNED THIS 20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF July 2020**

**MAYOR OF WEXFORD.**