

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 25th October 2023 at 10:30hrs in
the Council Chamber, County Hall, Carricklawn**

- Presiding:** Cllr Jim Moore – An Cathaoirleach
- Councillors:** Cllr Lisa McDonald - Leas Cathaoirleach
Cllr Ger Carthy
Cllr Jim Codd
Cllr Frank Staples
- Officials:** Nóirín Cummins – District Manager
Lynda Lacey – District Director
Michael Brazzill – District Engineer (Roads)
Caroline Creane – Administrative Officer (Housing / Community)
Sonia Hunt – Executive Planner
Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment)
Dean Waters – Staff Officer
- Remote:** Sharon Pettit on behalf of Verona Murphy TD - Oireachtas Member
- Apologies:** Dymphna O'Connor – Senior Executive Officer (Community)

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, welcomed all those in attendance and commenced the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 20th September 2023

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of September 20th 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.

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

2.1 Draft Budgetary Plan (GMA) 2024

The Draft Budgetary Plan was introduced and outlined by the District Director in her role as A/Head of Finance.

On the proposal of Cllr Frank Staples, seconded by Cllr Lisa McDonald, the *Draft Budgetary Plan (GMA) 2024* was approved and adopted as presented.

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

Silvermine project in Barrystown €100,000 – Works are almost complete.

Rosslare MD Strategic Plan

The 15 submissions which were received during the public consultation period following the launch of the Draft Strategic Plan, have been reviewed by the Environmental Consultant contracted to carry out the required Appropriate Assessment Screening. In light of these findings, it is determined that the Rosslare Municipal District Strategic Plan 2024- 2030 does not require full Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). We are now moving to finalise the plan from draft form.

Killinick Bus Shelter & Public Realm Works

Works are now fully complete on the Killinick Bus Shelter. David Codd, Chief Technician for Design / Road Safety Officer, has confirmed that the Bus Stops will not be relocated to the new Bus Shelter until the proposed Civil Works have been completed. These works will consist of the construction of a concrete set down area in the existing parking area and a pedestrian crossing.

Once the civil works have been completed David Codd will then apply to the **National Transport Authority (NTA)** to relocate the official bus stops.

Kilmore Quay Wastewater Treatment Plant – Site Visit

Members and officials attended a site visit at the new WWTP in Kilmore Quay and it was great to see the new plant in operation and nearing the end of the commissioning process.

During the course of the presentation the Members present raised the programme for the road reinstatement works.

Ministerial Event; Sod Turning at Rosslare Europort Terminal 7 and Enabling Works

Minister of State with responsibility for the Office of Public Works, Mr. Patrick O'Donovan, T.D., was in Rosslare Europort on the 12th October to mark the commencement of works for Rosslare Europort Terminal 7 and enabling works.

The OPW is constructing a new integrated Border Control Post (BCP) and Customs Controls Facility in Rosslare Europort, together with improved Port entry/exit access and facilities. This project is on behalf of the Office of the Revenue Commissioners, the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, the Department of Health/Health Service Executive and the Department of Justice/An Garda Síochána.

The BCP will be known as Terminal 7 and the upgrades are the most significant in the Port's history.

This critical infrastructure is a consequence of Brexit and will allow Ireland to manage statutory requirements for checks and controls.

Tidy Towns

Congratulations to the volunteers, communities and villages that entered the Tidy Towns Competition 2023, Foulksmills, Duncormick, Bridgetown, Carrig-on-Bannow, Wellington Bridge, Rosslare Strand, and Rosslare Harbour.

Special acknowledgement must go to the group in Duncormick who achieved County Third in Category A.

SS St Patrick - Memorial Service

Following an invitation from Cllr William Shaw, Deputy Mayor in Fishguard and Goodwick and the also the Chairman of the local Branch of the Royal British Legion, inviting the Members to attend a memorial service on the Ferry and in the port of Fishguard on Saturday 11th November for those who died aboard the St Patrick passenger ferry on the 13th June 1941 12 miles from Fishguard, Wales, the trip was subsequently approved at a plenary session. Details are now being finalised.

3.1.1 Tidy Towns Results 2023

Congratulations were afforded to the volunteers, communities and villages that entered the Tidy Towns Competition 2023, Foulksmills, Duncormick, Bridgetown, Carrig-on-Bannow, Wellington Bridge, Rosslare Strand, and Rosslare Harbour.

3.1.2 Lay-by Upgrade Works

The District Manager advised the Members that the re-development of these areas is now fully complete, following the identification of the Killinick and Kilrane Lay-bys on the N25 as 2 key areas requiring attention.

The completed works at each location included the following;

- *Tree surgery,*
- *New fencing to the rear (anti-dumping - 2.4m high welded mesh)*
- *New fencing to the fore (attractive sleeper style)*
- *New water bottle refill station*
- *BBQ area*
- *Bike racks and deluxe bike repair station*
- *New fully accessible picnic area and accessible picnic benches*
- *Small biodiversity area - bee / pollinator friendly*
- *New sensory wild-flower metal sculptures*
- *Height restriction barriers*

With these re-development works, we have increased footfall and usage in both of these previously neglected amenities and put in place a smart low maintenance design which will provide an attractive and aesthetically pleasing meeting point or a place to stop and eat for both motorists, cyclists, tourists, visitors and the local community whilst also enhancing this increasingly important stretch of road – the gateway to the District, County, and Country.

The Members commended the District Manager and her team for the completion of these works over the course of the 3 year project.

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.

4.6 Environment Report

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

Tamer Metal Recycling Limited, Kilrane Business Park – Waste Facility Permit

The S.E Environment confirmed that following numerous site inspections at the facility it had been found that activities are within the permit permissions.

Ballygrangan's – Coastal Erosion

The S.E. Environment confirmed that his department and the Roads department are working closely together with regard to costings and sourcing the necessary funding for road protection works at the site.

Lane of Stones - Carne

The S.E. Environment confirmed that works continue and are now substantially complete at Lane of Stones, Carne.

Cliff Road - Cullenstown

The S.E. Environment confirmed that discussions regarding funding were ongoing and that works would commence at the Cliff Road, Cullenstown, over the coming weeks.

4.6.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update

The S.E. Environment updated the Members on the coastal erosion schemes.

Regarding the Seaview Scheme, aimed at reducing coastal erosion along 350mtrs of coastline to protect 14 properties, the S.E. Environment confirmed that extensive surveys, reports, studies, drawings and design are now complete in advance of the planning application which is now being finalised for submission over the coming weeks.

He further confirmed that, as the cost estimate (approximately €2 million) is outside the **Office of Public Works - Minor Works Programme**, discussions with the OPW regarding funding were ongoing.

The S.E. Environment confirmed that coastal protection works cost in the region of €5,000 per metre / €5 million per kilometre which would inevitably lead to hard discussions and decisions in the years ahead.

A discussion followed.

The S.E. Environment confirmed that “amenity value” can be taken into consideration when applying the **Cost Benefit Analysis** for such schemes.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, reminded all those in attendance that two formal motions of the full council had been forwarded to the Minister Patrick O'Donovan's office regarding the issues being experienced in South Wexford.

A discussion followed.

It was unanimously agreed that correspondence be issued to **Deputy Patrick O'Donovan, Minister of State with responsibility for the Office of Public Works and Flood Relief** that he attends and facilitates a meeting of his senior officials in the **OPW** and a delegation from **Rosslare Municipal District** to discuss the longstanding concerns of residents across the District such as coastal erosion and arterial drainage issues.

The District Manager agreed to action this request.

Coastal Protection & Flood Relief Scheme – Rosslare Strand / The Burrow

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, requested an update be provided in advance of the next meeting.

The S.E. Environment agreed action this request.

4.1 Roads Report

The Executive 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*
- *Solar Farm Reinstatement Works*
- *Big Barn Road*
- *Line Marking*
- *Tullycanna – Road Verge*
- *Tagoat – Safety Survey*

whilst also agreeing to investigate the following matters;

- *Cross at Lightwater*
- *Cross at Scar*
- *Kate's Cross, Bridgetown – Bus Stop*
- *Taghmon Health Centre – Surface & Markings*
- *Rathangan - Traffic Calming Measures*

Roads Opening Licence – Future Applications

Following discussions surrounding the issues involving the **Uisce Éireann / SISK** reinstatement works in Kilmore Quay, Cllr Ger Carthy proposed that future road opening licences contain specific measures regarding reinstatement works to any roads which would need re-surfacing including any official or unofficial diversion routes used. Cllr Lisa McDonald seconded this proposal.

The Executive Engineer agreed to discuss the matter further with **Uisce Éireann**.

Roads Programme 2023

The Executive Engineer gave an update on the delivery of the Roads Programme 2023.

The District Boundary

Following comment from the Members regarding the neglect of some areas close to the RMD boundary but in the jurisdiction of Wexford Borough Council, the Executive Engineer agreed to liaise with his counterpart in the Borough Council in connection with the areas of concern.

Rosslare Europort – Increase in Traffic (Construction related & non-construction related).

Following comment from the Members regarding the increase of traffic to and from the port, the District Engineer acknowledged and noted their concerns.

The District Engineer also confirmed that the new harbour access road would incorporate the necessary drainage works.

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 – Tagooat x2 (North & South)*
- *NTA Application – Drinagh x2 (North & South)*

4.2 Housing Report

The Senior Staff Officer introduced the previously circulated report.

4.2.1 Rosslare MD Specific

The Senior Staff Officer delivered the Rosslare MD specific housing report and responded to queries from the Members.

Data Accuracy/Relevance

Cllr Ger Carthy highlighted the importance of the accuracy and relevance of current data supplied and proposed the removal of previously delivered houses from the Rosslare MD Specific housing report.

Cllr Lisa McDonald seconded this proposal.

Housing Adaptation Grants (People with Disability – Housing Adaptation Grant / Housing Aid for Older People Grant / Mobility Aids Housing Grant).

Cllr Ger Carthy, noted the responses provided under *Matters Arising (item 1.2.1 and item 1.2.2)* on this query, whilst reaffirming that he also wished to see the figures in relation to these applications including the number of applications, the number of applications assessed, the number of applications awaiting assessment, the number approved, and the number actioned. Information on amounts not claimed annually, if any, was also again requested.

The Administrative Officer agreed to request this information and circulate once received.

Energy Upgrade Retrofit Programme

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, expressed concerns regarding the tenant awareness and knowledge of the scheme, requesting details of the numbers of tenants offered, participating, or declining works under the programme. The Administrative Officer agreed to request details and circulate.

Following acknowledgment from the Chair of the current time being 12:30, Cllr Frank Staples proposed the suspension of Standing Orders. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy and the meeting continued.

Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, requested detail of application numbers be included within the Monthly Report.

Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB)

Following comment from Cllr Jim Codd, the Administrative Officer advised the Members that cases of Anti-Social Behaviour were the responsibility of the Wexford County Council Tenant Liaison Officers and dealt with as necessary.

4.3 Planning Report

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

Planning Enforcement Case 023/2019 - Killluger Pig Farm

The update provided under *Matters Arising (item 1.2.3)* on this case was noted by the Members.

Planning Enforcement Case 047/2021 - Tamer Metal Recycling Limited, Kilrane Business Park

The update provided under *Matters Arising (item 1.2.3)* on this case was noted by the Members.

Planning Enforcement

Following observations from the Members, and a request from Cllr Lisa McDonald for a breakdown of Enforcement cases in the District to be included in the Monthly Report, the Executive Planner agreed to discuss the matter with Tom Banville, SEO – Planning, and request the inclusion of these figures on a monthly basis.

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 content of the previously circulated report was noted. The Members noted the excellent work of community groups across the District, again noting the excellent Tidy Towns Results contained in the District Manager's Report.

4.7 Fire Services Report

Noted.

4.8 Special Projects – Greenway Update

The District Manager advised the Members that Seán Meyler, Senior Engineer – Special Projects Office, would be in attendance at the November Monthly meeting.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Kilmannon Graveyard

The correspondence was noted by the Members.

5.2 Ballycogley Hall Development Committee

The correspondence was noted by the Members.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

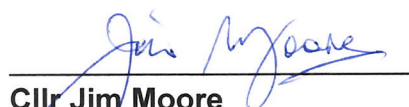
None

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

None

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 15th November 2023



Cllr Jim Moore
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District