

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 26th April 2023 at 10.30hrs in
the Council Chamber, County Hall, Carricklawn**

- Presiding:** Cllr Lisa McDonald – An Cathaoirleach
- Councillors:** Cllr Frank Staples - Leas Cathaoirleach
Cllr Jim Moore
Cllr Ger Carthy
Cllr Jim Codd
- Officials:** Nóirín Cummins – District Manager
Annette O’Neill - District Director / Director of Services
Mark Collins – District Engineer (Roads)
Sonia Hunt – District Planner
Caroline Creane – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)
George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)
Dean Waters – Staff Officer
Laura Gargan – Assistant Staff Officer
- Remote:** Ken Jones – District Engineer (Water)
Verona Murphy TD - Oireachtas Member
- Apologies:** Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment)

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, welcomed the new RMD Assistant Staff Officer, Laura Gargan, to the District before acknowledging all those in attendance and commencing the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 15th March 2023

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of March 15th 2023, were proposed by Cllr Ger Carthy and seconded by Cllr Jim Codd.

1.2 Matters Arising

- 1.2.1 Housing - Various
- 1.2.2 Environment - Various
- 1.2.3 Planning
- 1.2.4 Special Projects

The responses and information provided in relation to queries from the previous meeting were noted.

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

2.1 Consideration of Section 183 Notice

- a) Lands at Murrintown

On the proposal of Cllr Jim Moore, seconded by Cllr Frank Staples, the Section 183 was approved as presented.

2.2 Schedule of Municipal District Works - Rosslare Municipal District 2023 (Draft)

On the proposal of Cllr Ger Carthy, seconded by Cllr Jim Moore and agreed by all present, the Schedule of Municipal District Works 2023 was adopted as presented.

3. District Manager Report

3.1 District Managers Report

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

TVR20 Taghmon – Official Opening / Launch Event

The District Manager confirmed that the official opening will take place at 12:00hrs on Friday 12th May and that all the Members are invited to attend.

Community Monuments Fund

On the 6th April the Government announced the award of €8 million in funding for 140 archaeological heritage projects throughout the country as part of the Community Monuments Fund for 2023. Rosslare Municipal District were awarded €100,000 for the Silvermine project in Barrystown.

RMD Strategic Plan

The District Manager confirmed that work is progressing on the RMD strategic plan and that engagement with community groups continues.

The Members expressed their support for the plan and also stressed the importance of completing a high standard meaningful plan.

Communities Recognition Fund

The District Manager advised the Members that the Community Section had forwarded a proposed listing of approved projects to Department of Rural and Community Development for consideration and approval.

Arts & Amenity Grants 2023

The District Manager reminded the Members to finalise and submit their individual allocations to the District Office.

Billboard Outside Rosslare Europort

WCC have secured a tourism advertisement on the large billboard at the roundabout at Rosslare Europort which brings food, outdoor adventure, iconic attractions and trails into the billboard visuals, while taking in the Visit Wexford call to action, directing visitors to the website and leaving the website as the last action in their minds to visit.

This billboard advertisement is a joint venture between Wexford County Council, Irish Rail and Visit Wexford.

Dunkirk – Twinning

The Dunkirk committee recently held a debriefing meeting held with Bridgetown College and Billy Byrne, Tourism Officer to review the pilot student exchange between Lycee Jean Bart and Bridgetown College. Adrian Power, Principal and

Fiona Lyons, French teacher and exchange coordinator both advised the pilot programme was a tremendous success and a positive experience for all involved. Plans are already underway for an exchange in the next school year which will also include participation in the Mobility Student Exchange where 4 students from both countries will spend one month abroad attending school being totally immersed in the language and culture there. An application for funding under the EU Erasmus scheme has been submitted plus an application for Department funding to support these exchanges for future years. Confirming that the WCC Tourism Officer, Billy Byrne, has agreed to promote this successful pilot to Tourism Ireland.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, then congratulated Cllr Jim Moore for the progress being made in the developing twinning relationship and for all the excellent work he is completing behind the scenes.

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested reports in order of preference.

4.1 Roads Report

The Executive Engineer delivered his report and responded to questions from the Members, agreeing to log the general maintenance issues raised, whilst also confirming or updating on the following items;

- *Road Strengthening Works*
- *COI Church Mulrankin / Bridgetown Road Safety*
- *Ballynaas Bridge*
- *Rackardstown Bridge*
- *Rosslare Strand Improvement Works*
- *Mayglass Electricity Pole*
- *Johnstown Castle to Murrintown Road – Movement following wall works*
- *Lightwater Cross*
- *Waddingtown to Taghmon Road Surface*

Roads Programme 2023

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

General Road Maintenance

Following observations from Members regarding general road maintenance the District Engineer acknowledged that resources were stretched at present due to the ongoing road strengthening works, confirming that the road crews were trying to quicken response times.

Solar Farm Sites - Infrastructure

The District Engineer confirmed that there are 6 or 7 solar farm sites in the District and that he was actively engaging with companies to achieve the best outcomes for the communities and roads which had been and are being affected by the amount of disruption and damage caused by the installation of the necessary infrastructure at these locations.

Taghmon to Waddingtown Road

Following comment from Cllr Ger Carthy regarding the poor condition of the road, the District Engineer agreed to provide a report on the timelines and cost of historic re-surfacing works.

4.1.1 Bus Shelter Progress Report

The District Engineer gave an update on the below programme of works, advising that traffic numbers were now complete and that a meeting with consultants had been arranged.

- Complete – Bridgetown (#1)
- Complete – Kilmore Quay
- Complete – Rosslare Harbour
- Installed - Rosslare Strand
- 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)

4.2 Water Services Report

The content of the previously circulated report was noted before the Executive Engineer responded to queries from the Members.

Kilmore Quay Wastewater Treatment Plant

The Executive Engineer confirmed that the Kilmore Quay Wastewater Treatment Plant would be commissioned in July.

Rosslare Strand Wastewater System

Following a request from Cllr Ger Carthy, the Executive Engineer agreed to include this item each month in his report.

Fardystown Wash Scheme – Borehole Update

Following observations from Cllr Jim Moore, the Executive Engineer agreed to request information for the next meeting.

Mayglass – Links Close 1 & 2

Following a request from Cllr Frank Staples, the Executive Engineer confirmed that pumps had been replaced and that upgrade works had been completed. With **Uisce Éireann** also committing to further works, he agreed to provide a report for the next meeting.

Kilmore Quay Wastewater Network

Following a request from Cllr Jim Codd, the Executive Engineer complimented his staff and M&T for responding so quickly to the issue and confirmed that he had received assurances that this was an isolated incident but agreed to provide an update for the next meeting.

4.7 Environment Report

The E.E. Environment delivered the previously circulated report and dealt with the queries which were raised by the Members.

Beach Access Review – Action Plan Update

The E.E. Environment gave an update on the action plan works as detailed in the Beach Access Review and responded to queries from the Members.

The Members stressed the importance of completing these works and ensuring that Rosslare Municipal District is ready for the summer.

Carne Pier

Following Cllr Ger Carthy's request to be furnished with the drawing and proposed start date that he had requested during the March meeting, the E.E. Environment advised the meeting that the S.E. Environment was in the process of finalising details and that he would circulate once complete.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that the outstanding drawing be circulated within the next week.

4.7.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update

The E.E. Environment updated Members on the coastal erosion scheme.

4.4 Planning Report

The previously circulated report was noted by the Members and the Executive Planner responded to questions.

Pre-Planning Meetings

The Executive Planner confirmed that there was no longer a waiting list in the District.

The Members commended the Executive Planner for both her report and the fact that there was no longer a back-log of pre-planning meetings in the Rosslare District.

Planning Enforcement Case 023/2019 - Killuger Pig Farm

In response to various queries from the Members regarding the **An Bord Pleanála** decision following the referral under Section 5(4) of the Planning Development Act 2000 (as amended) in September 2021, the Executive Planner advised the meeting that she had no current information on the matter.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that a report be made available from the Planning Enforcement Section for the next meeting.

A discussion followed.

The following **Emergency Motion** was proposed by An Cathaoirleach Cllr Lisa McDonald, seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy, and unanimously supported by all present.

“That Wexford County Council commence Planning Enforcement proceedings in line with the decision of An Bord Pleanála”.

4.4.1 Planning Decisions – Grants

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

4.4.2 Planning Decisions – Refusals

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

4.3 Housing Report

The Senior Staff Officer delivered the previously circulated report.

4.3.1 Rosslare MD Specific

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

Tenant-in-Situ Purchase Scheme

Following queries from the Members regarding the **Tenant-in-Situ Purchase Scheme** the Senior Staff Officer confirmed that 10 offers had been accepted.

The Senior Staff Officer also agreed to circulate contact details to the Members of the relevant person dealing with the scheme following the meeting.

Rosetown Allocations & Official Opening

Following queries from the Members regarding the allocations at Rosetown, the Senior Staff Officer and the District Director responded advising that all 23 units should be allocated by the end of May.

The Members requested that Phase 1 be officially opened by Cllr Lisa McDonald on May 22nd.

The Senior Staff Officer agreed to relay this request to the Capital Team.

Vacant Homes Scheme

Following a query from Cllr Jim Moore regarding the progress of the **Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant Scheme** in the district, the Senior Staff Officer confirmed that 2 applications had been approved with a further 10 pending in the District.

Housing Report Detail & Information

Following a discussion surrounding the lack of important data missing from the Housing Reports, the Members requested that going forward figures on the following items be submitted within the report;

- *Number of Eviction Notices*
- *Tenant-in-Situ Scheme*
- *Croi Conaithe Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant*
- *Vacant Properties*

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that the Capital Team and their Director, Sinead Casey, attend the next meeting.

A discussion followed.

Following the discussion, An Cathaoirleach Cllr Lisa McDonald, suggested that that the Directorate of Housing needs its own dedicated Director indicating that she would raise the matter again at the plenary session.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Jim Moore and unanimously supported by the Members.

4.5 Libraries Archives & Arts Report

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

4.6 Community Development Report

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

4.8 Fire Services Report

Noted.

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

Rosslare Strand – Rosslare Harbour Greenway

The Members expressed their disappointment with the content/response under ***Matters Arising - Item 1.2.4 Special Projects*** regarding the Rosslare Strand – Rosslare Harbour Greenway Project and timelines for proposed delivery.

The District Director advised the meeting that TII (***Transport Infrastructure Ireland***) were on board and that there is an opportunity to receive full funding for the scheme if the necessary criteria is met, further confirming that the *Appropriate Assessment* was underway.

The District Director also confirmed that as per the Greenway Code of Practice, 12 months must elapse between land acquisition and planning application.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that from now on the matter be included as a monthly agenda item.

Kilmannon Church & Graveyard Wall

Following observations from Cllr Frank Staples, the District Director stated that due to the heritage nature of the site, the issue was being led by the Heritage Officer and that an update would be requested and made available for the next meeting.

Joint Policing Committee – Quarterly Meetings

The District Manager advised that discussions were ongoing and that arrangements would be agreed with An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, prior

to sending the appropriate invitation to Divisional Officer, Chief Superintendent Derek Hughes and District Officer, Superintendent James Doyle.

Congratulations

Congratulations were afforded to all those connected with Corach Rambler, winner of the 2023 Aintree Grand National.

Sympathies

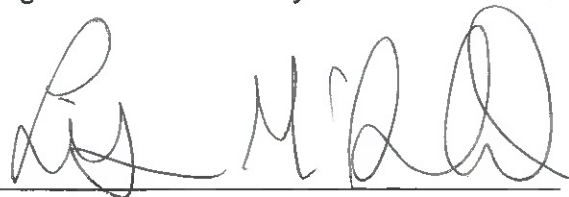
Sympathies were extended to the family of Agnes Curtis (wife of the late Cllr Jimmy Curtis) – Loughnageer.

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

None

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 17th May 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lisa McDonald', written over a horizontal line.

**Cllr Lisa McDonald
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District**