

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE PRESENTATION
CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON MONDAY
27th June 2022 at 2pm.**

Attendance:

Councillors: Cathal Byrne (Cathaoirleach)
Kathleen Codd-Nolan
John O'Rourke
Aidan Browne (via MS Teams)
Jackser Owens
Barbara Anne Murphy

Officials: Ms. Carolyne Godkin, Director of Services
Ms. Bernie Quigley, A/District Administrator
Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer
Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer, Housing
Mr. Michael Brazzill, Executive Engineer, IRM
Ms. Majella Ryan, A/Staff Officer
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer, Roads.

Apologies: Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer EMD
Ms. Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner.

**Attendees via
Microsoft Teams** Ms. Verona Murphy, TD.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the May Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 16th May 2022.

On the proposal of Cllr. Codd Nolan, seconded by Cllr. Murphy, the Minutes of the May Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 16th May 2022 were adopted by the Council.

1.2 Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 16th May 2022.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke, the Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 16th May 2022, were adopted by the Council.

1.3 Minutes of the In Committee Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 4th May 2022.

On the proposal of Cllr. O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr. Murphy, the Minutes of the In Committee Meeting held on 4th May 2022 were adopted by the Council.

Votes of Sympathy

The Members extended Votes of Sympathies to the following families;

- The family of former Cllr. Declan MacPartlin on his recent passing, RIP.
- The family of Cllr. Michael Whelan on the recent passing of his mother, RIP.
- The family of Cllr. Anthony Connick, on the recent passing of his mother, RIP.
- The Hyland Family in Moran Park following their recent bereavement, RIP.
- The Donovan Family of Bohreen Hill following the passing of Mr. Danny Donovan, RIP.

Congratulations

The Members extended congratulations to Mr. Tom Connors, Na Sean Gearrai, who is making his Directorial Debut with John Connors/Druid Theatre.

1.4 Matters Arising

Cllr. Owens requested clarity on costings for the housing unit on Ross Road, Enniscorthy and asked if a date had been confirmed for the provision of toilets on Vinegar Hill.

Cllr. O'Rourke queried if any response was received by the HSE regarding development of potential vacant properties and also sought an update on the provision of designated parking spaces for those with additional sensory and social needs. Ms. Quigley responded to all queries raised. Cllr. Owens supported Cllr. O'Rourke's proposal for development of HSE units stating it could be a real possibility for housing provision in the town.

2.0 Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

2.1 Planning

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The Chair invited the Members to email Ms. Lennon with any queries as she was unable to attend the meeting.

2.2 Housing

The Members raised the following issues:

- Cllr. O'Rourke thanked Ms. Redmond for her continued response to all queries raised by the Members. He requested that absences of annual leave during the Summer months by key staff be made available to the Members with details of delegated personnel assigned to cover their roles. All Members concurred with this recommendation.
- Cllr. Murphy sought an update on the recent meeting with the Approved Housing Bodies. Cllr. Murphy also queried the current status of 17 Carrigban, Bunclody.
- Cllr. Byrne commented that the lack of services by IW is now directly affecting the possibility of providing homes in the district. On the proposal of Cllr. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. Owens it was agreed to write to IW expressing the Members concerns at the lack of provision of services in this area.
- Cllr. Owens queried housing repairs carried out on a housing unit in Caim. Cllr. Owens also sought clarity on the housing unit in the Ross Road.

On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke it was proposed that consideration be given to the disposal of wasteland behind houses 1-11 Newrange, Templeshannon which would provide an opportunity for residents to develop as they see fit.

Ms. Redmond responded to the Members queries and advised:

- An email would be sent to SEO to address issue of notifying Members regarding holiday absences.
- The development at Hospital Hill by Tuath Housing Association was currently under design review. There is no breakdown of unit type currently available. When meeting Voluntary Associations, they are advised regarding the need for one/two bed units.
- The allocation of no. 17 Carrigban was under consideration for a transfer applicant. Units come off the Vacant Unit listing once keys have been returned.
- The costings for the unit on the Ross Road was being prepared by Mr. Howell, Architect. An offer has been made and accepted for this unit. Cllr. Owens was informed by Ms. Godkin that until the Final Account was prepared by the Contractors, it was not possible to give a final figure on the costings for works carried out on this unit.
- The property identified in Caim by Councillor Owens may be considered for the Energy Efficiency Retrofitting Programme 2023.
- In response to the loss of unit at Clonhaston Ms Redmond advised that Tuath Housing Association has been approved for 10 x 3-bed units at Forgelands and Wexford County Council will have nomination rights. A number of expressions of interest were received in relation to a recent advert which are currently being reviewed by the Internal Housing Committee and that a further Expression of Interest has been advertised.

Cllr. O'Rourke recommended that attention be given to neglected footpaths in our estates. Cllr. Byrne asked that the vacant unit in Newtown Ferns be included in the Vacant Unit reports going forward.

2.2 Community

Report was noted by the Members.

2.2 Environment

Report was noted by the Members and following concerns were raised.

- Cllr. O'Rourke highlighted the increase in illegal dumping in the River Urrin along with other rivers in the district and requested that this matter be given urgent attention.
- Cllr. Murphy expressed her concerns at the illegal dumping issues in the County and sought clarity on the use of CCTV. She queried the provision of compost collection by refuse companies in our towns. Cllr. Murphy commented on the success of the Household Refuse Survey Scheme which took place in 2019. She further requested that litter bins in the town centre be emptied twice daily. Cllr. Murphy asked for an update on town centre street cleaning.
- Cllr. Byrne requested information on proposed new bins for Bunclody. Ms. Quigley confirmed that the installation of a new big belly bin along with three replacement units was in the process of being procured.

It was noted that reports of all illegal dumping are to be processed through the response unit. It was further noted that new legislation is proposed for the Summer which will allow more flexibility in issuing fines and Wexford County Council will be ready to implement once passed.

Ms. Quigley advised that she is currently in process of receiving quotations for street cleaning at Market Sq., Rafter St. and Weafer St.

- Cllr. Codd Nolan asked if the surface on Rafter Street had a negative impact on its cleaning potential. Mr. Dempsey advised that the textured granite slab on this street was prone to holding grime and dirt and now due to stricter environmental use of chemicals, softer cleaning options were only option available and were not having the same impact.
- Cllr. Owens asked that a letter be issued to the refuse provider for the Enniscorthy town requesting that they conduct their town collections earlier in the morning so as not to be impacting business and outdoor dining during peak times. This was supported by Cllr. O'Rourke.
- Cllr. Owens raised concerns over access issues on Rafter street.

Ms. Godkin briefly discussed the brown bin collections in the area. She advised that Household Surveys would resume as soon as possible following their cessation during Covid. Cllr. Murphy stated that it was an effective resource and that every effort should be made to re-implement them, to which Ms. Godkin agreed.

2.2 Libraries

Cllr. Murphy congratulated the library services on their continued efforts in providing services for the Ukraine displaced persons in our communities. She praised the "Reading Challenges" and "My First Library Book" initiatives introduced by the libraries complimenting the excellent services provided by them.

2.2 Fire Services

Report was noted by the Members.

2.3 Municipal District Report

Ms. Quigley outlined the main points in her report. The following issues were raised.

- Cllr. Codd Nolan sought clarity on completion date for Technology Park and if there was any funding available under the Historic Towns initiative to further extend what was achieved on Slaney Street.
- Cllr. O'Rourke praised the "Summer Feels" programme for the district and complimented the Ferns event which proved to be thoroughly enjoyable. He sought clarity on proposal for URDF updates. Cllr. Byrne responded to this and advised that the report is being finalised and it was hoped it would be completed in next two weeks with an update to issue then.
- Cllr. Owens requested that the Murphy Floods site be tidied up and Ms. Quigley advised she would discuss with the Outdoor Team.
- Cllr. Owens sought for an update on the newly proposed Astro Turf pitch and asked for future plans for the appointment of a caretaker in Enniscorthy Graveyard.
- Cllr. Murphy complimented Slaney Street and sought updates on 2022 grants. Cllr. Murphy also recommended that provisions be made in the budget for the track surface at the Sports Hub.

3.0 Risk Remediation Report.

Mr. Brazzill, Executive Engineer presented a report to the Members a report detailing recent upgrade works on defective footpaths in the district. A brief discussion took place and Mr. Brazzill and Mr. Dempsey responded to all questions raised by the Members. The Members thanked Mr. Brazzill for his presentation and recommended that it be uploaded to the website.

At this juncture, the Director of Service stated that vacancies in the Planning Department had now been filled with the larger scale development receiving priority. It is hoped that the backlog for pre-planning meetings will clear as soon as possible. Cllr. Byrne requested the return of face-to-face meetings and Cllr. Codd Nolan asked for the facilitation of pre planning meetings in the district offices.

4.0 Roads Report

Mr. Dempsey attended the meeting to discuss Roads.

The Members raised the following concerns:

Speeding issues at the Ballycarney Junction on the N80 were raised. It was noted that there has been an increase in road traffic incidents over the past few months at this location. On the proposal of Cllr. Codd Nolan, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke it was proposed to bring a motion to full council to seek urgent funding and action from T.I.I to alleviate this situation.

- **Speeding** – Clohamon Village and St. Senans Road, Enniscorthy.
- **Signage** – Ballyhamilton Cross, speeding signs at Glenbrien Village, relocation of sign for the Mall, Bunclody, re-erection of street signs for Chapel Road, Bunclody and the Coolbawn to Ferns road.
- **Poor Road Condition** – approach roads to Ballindaggin village and roads near the church ; L2017 at Mohurry/Killanne – request to go on the Programme of Works ; Templeshambo/Ballyluck – resurfacing required.
- **Active Travel** – request for funding for Killealy NS and Tombrack NS.
- **Overgrown hedges/ditches** roads leading to Carleysbridge, Moyne Road, and the Monalea/Ballyhamilton areas,
- **Footpaths** – request for footpaths at Cherryorchard Hill, from Tomduff to Red Pats Cross ; extension of footpath from Ferns Village to Ferns GAA field.
- Issue of businesses obscuring viewpoints at pedestrian crossings with advertising signs.
- Pedestrian crossing at graveyard at Blackstoops.
- Salville Road – clean up requested.
- Laneway at St. Senans – can we write to HSE regarding this. A discussion took place at this point with Mr. Dempsey regarding same.
- Seating at the Mall – can it be reinstalled.
- Ferns Village to Ferns GAA field, can path be extended.
- For 2023 Programme can 150m of road at Wilton-Boredale and the Stump Lane in Ferns be considered.
- Can line marking be carried out from Blackstoops Roundabout to Shell Station.

Mr. Dempsey responded to all queries raised.

5.0 Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.

Mr. McHale outlined the main contents of his report. The following issues were raised by the Members.

- Clarification was sought as to why new design options had to be considered for the bridge.
- Clarification was sought regarding planning application type and implications of same.
- A query was raised regarding the potential of re-occurring issues if carrying out further EIS and Natura Impact Assessments.
- A question was raised whether an application to An Bord Plenala would facilitate the option of a public hearing or would it be paper based application.

Mr. McHale addressed each of the Members concerns.

6.0 Water Services Report

In the absence of Mr. O'Corcora, Mr. Dempsey took this item. The following was raised and discussed.

- If IW can be contacted to ensure that prior to commencement of any works, that contact be made in writing each of the affected tenants, advising them of works and the anticipated outcome of these projects.
- The Members requested that IW be invited to attend a meeting to discuss bad weather implications on our water supply.
- Bollards in Peace Park – can they be installed so that gates can be left open.

Concerns were raised regarding the impact IW are having on planning applications. On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. Murphy it was proposed to write to IW to request that they attend the next meeting of this committee.

7.0 Vinegar Hill

Ms. Quigley circulated maps detailing proposed short- and long-term actions for Vinegar Hill.

A brief discussion took place regarding proposals which were welcomed by all Members. The Members asked that consideration be given to the following:

- Bus access and parking.
- If the Interpretative Panels could identify a link back to the 1798 Centre to encourage visitors to both sites,
- Proposed erection of an information stone, similar to that on Fort Mountain.
- Consideration for proposed walking trails to include 1798 Centre and Technology Park.

On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. Murphy the proposals presented were agreed by all the Members.

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

Festival Funding

On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. Murphy, it was agreed to provide funding of thirty thousand euros to the upcoming Rockin' Food & Fruit festival.

9.0 Correspondence

None.

10.0 Any Other Business

On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke it was proposed to write to the HSE requesting that they reinstate the opening of a pharmacy in Enniscorthy town on a Sunday morning.

On the proposal of Cllr. O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr. Byrne, it was agreed to assist the Enniscorthy Cricket Club in their quest for securing a home ground for their club.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE