

**MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE
PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON WEDNESDAY
27TH JULY 2022 AT 2.00 P.M.**

Attendance:

Councillors:	Aidan Browne (Cathaoirleach) Cathal Byrne (Leas-Chathaoirleach) Kathleen Codd-Nolan (via Microsoft Teams) John O'Rourke Jackser Owens Barbara Anne Murphy
Officials:	Mr. Michael Drea, A/Director of Services Mr. Ger Mackey, District Manager Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer Ms. Bernie Quigley, Staff Officer
Apologies:	Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer Ms. Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner
Attendees via Microsoft Teams	Ms. Verona Murphy, TD.

At the outset of the meeting the Cathaoirleach marked the passing of the late John Byrne, RIP, a valued member of the Enniscorthy Municipal District outdoor team. A moments silence was observed as a mark of respect.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the June Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 27th June 2022.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke, the Minutes of the June Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 27th June 2022 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Minutes of the Special Meeting (In Committee) of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 27th June 2022.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Owens the Minutes of the Special Meeting (In Committee) of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 27th June 2022 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.3 Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 27th June 2022

On the proposal of Cllr. O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr. Byrne the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on the 27th June 2022 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.4 Matters Arising

Cllr. O'Rourke asked for an update on the following:-

- Investigations following reports of fly tipping and dumping in the Urrin River at Carleysbridge.
- A suitable venue for the Cricket Club.
- Campus at St. Johns Hospital.

Cllr. Owens asked for an update on solutions to issues at Madeira Woods and the availability of a pharmacy in Enniscorthy on Sundays.

The Officials responded to all queries raised.

Votes of Sympathy

The Members extended Votes of Sympathies to the following families;

- The Byrne family on the sad passing of John Byrne, former employee of Wexford Council Council, RIP.
- The Connolly family, St. Aidan's Villas, on their recent loss.
- The Kavanagh family, Tomduff, on the passing of Myles Kavanagh, RIP.
- The Dwyer family, Redmond St., Enniscorthy, on the passing of Mary Dwyer, RIP.
- The O'Connor family and Cllr. Codd-Nolan on the passing of Lil O'Connor, RIP.
- The Davitt family, Ferns, on the passing of their mother, Kathy Davitt, RIP.
- The Morris family, Friary Hill, Enniscorthy on the passing of their grandmother, grandfather and aunt, RIP.

The Officials wished to be associated with all sympathies to the Byrne family on the passing of John. A discussion took place on the facilitation of appropriate training for people who find themselves at the scene of such tragedies.

Congratulations

The Members extended congratulations to the following:

- Fr. Danny McDonald, Marshalstown on his retirement.
- Ms. Fran Ronan and team in Sports Active, Wexford County Council on the 'Fun in the Sun' sports event recently held in the Enniscorthy Sports Hub.
- Ladies Intermediate Football team on their achievement in reaching the All Ireland Final.
- Caitlin Larkin who came 4th in the Irish Dancing World Championships.
- Michelle O'Neill, Referee on her achievement in being chosen to referee the cup semi-final.
- Relay of Life on the success of their recent parade.

- The Ladies Wexford Soccer Team on their achievement in reaching the All Ireland Final.
- All involved in the recent Battle of Enniscorthy Re-Enactment which took place at the Enniscorthy Castle on 2nd July 2022.

The Members took this opportunity to welcome Mr. Ger Mackey, District Manager back to Enniscorthy and extended congratulations to Ms. Bernie Quigley for the work undertaken during her time as A/District Manager. The Members thanked Ms. Quigley and Ms. Majella Ryan for their assistance over the last number of months.

2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations

2.1 Planning

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Cllr. Murphy asked when the County Development Plan would become operational. Mr. Drea, A/Director of Services confirmed that the plan is now in operation.

2.2 Housing, Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service

Housing

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The Members welcomed the 10 housing units at Forgelands, Old Forge Road, Enniscorthy, however, expressed their disappointment with the loss of units in Clonhaston. A number of queries were raised, as follows:-

- Provision of B & B accommodation for homeless persons.
- Costing on unit in Newtown, Ferns and on the Ross Road, Enniscorthy.
- Whether approval is necessary for tenants to reduce the size of their oil tank due to price increases.
- Investigation to be carried out on the house in St. Marys Graveyard.
- The question of whether Wexford County Council has a Traveller Accommodation Officer in place.
- The introduction of choice-based letting by Wexford County Council.
- Grants for the elderly to cover cost of mitigating asbestos if found during refurbishment of old cottages.
- Return of the housing clinics.
- Wexford County Council plans to construct houses.
- Date of completion for units in Castlelands, Ferns and unit in Marconi Park, Enniscorthy.
- Breakdown of housing unit types in Forgelands, Old Forge Road, Enniscorthy.

A/Director of Service, Mr. Drea responded to all queries raised. It was noted that a productive meeting had taken place regarding the housing units in Clonhaston to try and address issues. Mr. Drea stated that in relation to homelessness, it is not the preferred option to separate families, however, this does happen from time to time, with Wexford County Council re-uniting families as soon as the appropriate accommodation becomes available.

Mr. Drea undertook to come back to the Elected Members with an update on the unit in Newtown, Ferns and in St. Marys Graveyard.

In relation to the query regarding a Traveller Accommodation Officer, Mr. Drea confirmed that the staffing structure had been re-organised from one Traveller Accommodation Officer to 5 Tenant Liaison Officer's, one in each district taking on the role.

It was noted that the final account for the house on the Ross Road was not complete. It was further noted that the choice-based letting project was ongoing with a role out across the county towards the end of October 2022.

Mr. Drea confirmed that the clinics will be re-commencing in the near future and asked for Elected Members recommendations regarding the provision of an on-line booking system. It was noted that it is the intention of Wexford County Council to advance the house construction programme. It is hoped that the unit in Marconi Park will commence the first week in August.

A brief discussion took place regarding the homelessness budget and own door accommodation and Mr. Drea undertook to bring a report to the September Meeting of this Committee.

Community

The Members put forward a number of queries to the officials, in particular:-

- Support to voluntary committee regarding the provision of a register for graves.
- Cleaning of Playgrounds throughout the district.
- Hall at the back of Petitts, Redmond Street – overgrown and dumping.
- Provision of an on-line booking system for the Enniscorthy Sports Hub.
- Issues at the Fairgreen – illegal dumping.
- Eircode for St. Marys Cemetery, Enniscorthy.

Mr. Mackey undertook to speak to the Community Department in relation to St. Marys Cemetery and cleaning of Playgrounds. In relation to the Eircode, Mr. Mackey stated that he would pass the concern to the relative authority.

It was noted that Mr. Mackey would engage with the Environment Department regarding dumping at Redmond Street.

Environment

A number of concerns were highlighted by the Elected Members, including:-

- Use of CCTV to regulate illegal dumping.
- Re-commencement of household survey in Bunclody.
- De-carbonisation Zone – what actions are planned for Enniscorthy.
- Recommendation for Wexford County Council to request proof from residential properties that they have bin providers secured for a minimum of one year.
- Grass on footpaths.
- Public Lighting for Moran Park.
- Railing and Steps at the Grotto in Moran Park – funding allocated by the Enniscorthy Town Council.

The officials undertook to arrange for a presentation by the Climate Action Group at the September Meeting.

Libraries & Fire Service

The Members noted the reports circulated prior to the meeting.

2.3 Municipal District Report

The District Manager gave a brief update on the Rockin' Food & Fruit Festival. A brief discussion took place and on the proposal of Cllr. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. Owens it was unanimously agreed to recommend that the pay parking charges be revoked for the weekend of the festival.

Mr. Drea stated that he would bring this proposal to the Director of Services, Roads and come back to the Members.

3. Roads Report.

Mr. Neil Dempsey attended the meeting to discuss the roads report. The Members raised the following concerns.

- Lighting in Moran Park – awaiting the ESB to connect.
- Cleaning of streets in Enniscorthy Town.
- Flooding issue at Cromogue.
- Footpaths - widening of footpath in Bradys Hill, extension of improvement works to the footpath in Pairc Mhuire, Ferns, works to footpath in Esmonde Road.
- Speed Limit Signage/reduction of speed limit at Ballycarney.
- Enniscorthy North Business District – Active Travel Application.
- Cutting back of ditches.
- Replacement of barriers and signage on the Enniscorthy By-Pass.
- Fencing at the Fairgreen.
- Graffiti on seat at The Mall, Bunclody.

On the proposal of Cllr. Byrne, seconded by Cllr. Owens it was agreed to write to the ESB outlining the Members disappointment with length of time taken to connect where poles have been installed.

Mr. Dempsey responded to all queries raised. It was noted that agreement from the landowners was necessary at Cromogue, speed limit amendments are made under the Speed Limit Review through the Roads Safety Office and the Enniscorthy North Business District is under the remit of the Special Projects Department.

Mr. Dempsey stated that he would try and secure funding for the footpath at Bradys Hill.

Mr. Drea undertook to speak to the Risk Management Office in relation to the continuation of works to the footpath in Pairc Mhuire.

A brief discussion took place in relation to footpaths at the Milehouse and Cherryorchard and it was noted that the Council are awaiting a response from the Active Travel Submission in this regard.

It was further noted that the crash barriers from the N30 have been returned to TII for repair with the signage at the roundabouts replaced.

Mr. Dempsey undertook to speak to the supplier regarding a treatment for the bench at The Mall, Bunclody.

4. Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.

In the absence of Mr. McHale, a brief discussion took place.

5. Water Services Report

Mr. O'Corcora presented his report to the Members. The following issues were raised.

Cllr. Byrne asked when works to the Edermine Wastewater Treatment Plant would commence.

Cllr. Murphy asked how Wexford County Council can proceed to ensuring that the Effluent Treatment Plant in Clonegal is taken in charge by Irish Water.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Codd-Nolan it was agreed to recommend the main gate at the Orchard Peace Park be open with the use of bollards when and if necessary.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Codd-Nolan it was agreed that provision be made for a Street Cleaning Crew to be appointed for Bunclody.

Mr. O'Corcora responded to all queries raised.

6. Vinegar Hill.

The District Manager confirmed that the toilet would be installed on Vinegar Hill before month end.

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

None.

8. Correspondence.

None

9. Any Other Business.

The Elected Members extended best wishes to Mr. Fran Breen, Foreman and wished him a speedy recovery.

On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke it was agreed to proceed to 'In Committee' at this juncture of the meeting.

16:08 – at this juncture Cllr. O'Rourke left the meeting

A brief discussion took place in relation to the Council Recruitment Policy.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE