

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 14th December 2022 at 10.30hrs in
Murphy's Barn, Skeater Park, Cleariestown**

- Presiding:** Cllr Lisa McDonald – An Cathaoirleach
- Councillors:** 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)
Ken Jones – District Engineer (Water)
Derek Cowman – District Technician
Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment)
George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)
Caroline Creane – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)
Michael Brazzill – Executive Engineer (Risk Remediation)
Sharon Dobbs – Clerical Officer
Dean Waters – Staff Officer
- Remote:** Unavailable due to meeting location
- Apologies:** Cllr Frank Staples – Leas Cathaoirleach

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, welcomed all those in attendance and commenced the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 19th October 2022

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of November 16th 2022, were proposed by Cllr Jim Moore and seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy.

1.2 Matters Arising

Cllr Ger Carthy requested information on all the proposed Bus Shelters. The Chair advised that this matter would be dealt with under the appropriate agenda item (4.1.1).

Cllr Ger Carthy requested an update on the attendance of the consultants of the *Ballyhealy Preliminary Erosion Study*, **Malachy Walsh & Partners**, at a meeting, following the Members agreement the previous month that a meeting be arranged with **MWP**, with the **OPW** also invited, prior to submission of the *Preliminary Erosion Study* to the **OPW**.

The S.E. Environment confirmed that following discussion with the consultants, **Malachy Walsh & Partners**, and considering the lack of available presentation facilities at the December meetings off-site location, that they had agreed to instead attend the January meeting in the Council Chamber at Carricklawn to complete the presentation as requested at the November meeting. The S.E. Environment also confirmed that the OPW would be invited to attend.

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

No items under this heading

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

8.1 Risk Remediation Programme / Rosslare Municipal District Update 2022 - Michael Brazzill, Executive Engineer, Insurance Risk Management

To accommodate a request from Michael Brazzill, Executive Engineer (*Risk Remediation*), and subsequent proposal by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, the Members agreed that the order of business be changed and invited as directed.

The Executive Engineer presented the *Risk Remediation Programme Update* for the Rosslare Municipal district including the next phase of the projects in the district which are to commence early in the new year. He then responded to questions.

The Members congratulated the Risk Management Team for the excellent work involved in the delivery of programme and its benefit for the district.

A discussion followed.

The District Director confirmed that the IPB funding for this programme would cease in 2022, and that a new funding structure involving public liability insurance savings and working with various WCC Departments, including Planning, Roads, and Housing, was currently being formulated to continue this important works programme for the county.

3. District Manager Report

3.1 District Managers Report

The District Manager delivered her report.

Town & Village 2022 – Rosslare / Taghmon

Following this morning's announcement by the **Department of Rural and Community Development**, the District Manager confirmed that the projects in *Rosslare Harbour Community and Resource Centre* (€250,000) & *Taghmon Product Development Measure* (€50,000) had been approved under the 2022 Town & Village Scheme.

ORIS Funding 2022 – Our Lady's Island / Kilmore Quay

The District Manager confirmed that the successful *Measure 2 & Measure 3* applications from WCC were both in the Rosslare Municipal District, and are as follows;

- ***Our Lady's Island to Carne Trail*** – *Extend the roadside trail by 600m, connecting to the local sports ground and beyond. €200,000*
- ***Kilmore Quay Recreational Trail*** - *Develop cycle path along the canal, completing a looped walking trail plus footbridge and carpark €500,000*

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, welcomed the news and commended the District Manager and Wexford County Council for the work involved in preparing such applications.

The Members agreed the importance of keeping Rosslare Municipal District, a uniquely rural district, to the fore when it comes to rural based grant schemes and requested that these sentiments be passed on to the Senior Management Team by the District Director.

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

4.1 Roads Report

The Executive Engineer delivered his report and responded to questions from the Members, confirming the following items;

- *Bridgetown overhanging trees – No response from landowner - to be progressed as Dangerous Site as necessary*
- *Rathangan Bridge – Discussions continuing with Irish Rail*
- *Cullenstown Beach Private Laneway – To Liaise with S.E. Environment & contact owners*
- *Line marking in Taghmon – To be completed next year*

Winter Maintenance Programme – Salting / Gritting

Following comment from Cllr Jim Codd, the District Engineer gave an overview of the Winter Maintenance Programme 2022, advising that he had invited feedback from bus operators and schools in relation to needs.

A discussion followed.

In response to a request from An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, the District Engineer agreed to reassess the areas covered in the programme with regard to salting /gritting and the possibility of increasing the number of roads covered, whilst also reminding the Members of the limited budget available countywide for the programme.

4.1.1 Bus Shelter Progress Report

The Executive Engineer delivered an update on the following programme of works before responding to questions from the Members;

- Complete – Bridgetown
- Complete – Kilmore Quay
- Complete – Rosslare Harbour
- Progressing – Bridgetown
- Progressing - Killinick
- Active Travel - Wellingtonbridge x2
- Active Travel – Kilrane x2
- NTA Application – Tagoat x2 (North & South)
- NTA Application – Drinagh x2 (North & South)
- NTA Application - Rosslare Strand

The Executive Engineer confirmed the Shelters in Rosslare and Wellingtonbridge were to commence in January.

The Executive Engineer confirmed that contractors had been appointed to complete civil works and that consultants had received provisional instructions regarding the **Preliminary Risk Assessment** and **Road Safety Audit** that had been requested, at the N25 sites in Drinagh and Tagoat, by **Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)** and that the consultants could only commence once full details of the briefing requirements had been provided by TII.

Following comment from the Members the Executive Engineer further confirmed that company supplying the shelters were ready to deliver and that the items are currently in stock.

A discussion followed.

The Executive Engineer advised that WCC were progressing everything under its control, whilst noting the frustration of the Members regarding the new request for further information / assessments.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that correspondence be sent to TII immediately, giving 7 days to respond with exact requirements for the delayed sites. The Executive Engineer undertook to complete the task as requested.

4.2 Water Services Report

The Executive Engineer delivered his previously circulated report and updated the Members on the Water Services throughout the District, before responding to questions from the Members.

Following comment from Cllr Ger Carthy, regarding the Rosslare Strand wastewater system being at capacity which in turn was stymying further housing development in the area, the Executive Engineer committed to providing full details on the Rosslare Strand wastewater system, also confirming that a major upgrade was needed to the system.

A full listing of current wastewater capacities throughout the District was also requested by the Members.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that correspondence be sent to **Minister for Housing, Local Government, and Heritage, Deputy Darragh O'Brien**, and **Irish Water** also, regarding the lack of wastewater facilities and the consequent stymying of housing development in the District.

4.3 Housing Report

The Senior Staff Officer delivered her previously circulated report.

4.3.1 Rosslare MD Specific

The Senior Staff Officer delivered the Rosslare MD specific housing report.

The Members acknowledged that several issues had been discussed in depth at the two *Special Housing Meetings of Wexford County Council* held on the 14th November, and the 5th December, respectively.

Some specific matters were revisited by the Members including;

- The apparent lack of effort to provide an appropriate housing scheme in the District, resulting in the serious issue not being addressed.
- The timelines regarding the completion of the Tagoat single stage process versus the 4 stage process.

The Members requested that the Housing Capital Team attend the next meeting to specifically address these District related matters.

The Senior Staff Officer agreed to relay the request.

Emergency Accommodation

The Senior Staff Officer confirmed that an *Expression of Interest* advertisement had been issued previously, with only responses from New Ross & Gorey being received.

She further advised that the WCC Social Care Workers were actively engaging with those deemed in need of emergency accommodation.

The Members requested that the *advert seeking EOI's* be re-advertised in an effort to find further suitable locations for this service.

The Senior Staff Officer agreed to complete the task as requested.

The Members further discussed the matter of Emergency Housing in the District and the need for a building in our area to accommodate the homeless.

The District Director advised the Members that matters of policy change should formally be raised through the forum of the **Housing SPC**.

Vacant Houses

Following comment from Cllr Jim Codd regarding vacant houses in Bannow x2, Clongeen x2 and Taghmon x6, the Senior Staff Officer confirmed that locations of the vacant homes could be forwarded to the Vacant Homes Officer Tom Fox, and stated that she would ask the Vacant Homes Officer to contact Cllr Jim Codd to clarify locations.

The District Manager confirmed that the ownership details of the two houses in Churchview, Clongeen, is currently being investigated by the Housing Department with a view to securing the units for housing stock.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that the Vacant Homes Officer attend the next meeting to discuss vacant properties in the District. The Senior Staff Officer agreed to relay the request.

4.4 Planning Report

The previously circulated report was noted by the Members. It was also noted that a planning representative was not in attendance at the meeting.

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.

4.5 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.

4.7 Environment Report

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

Cullenstown Beach Laneway

The S.E. Environment agreed to liaise with the Roads Engineer to find an agreeable solution to address the poor condition of the private laneway.

Ballyhealy Coastal Erosion Preliminary Study – Follow up meeting with Malachy Walsh & Partners / OPW

This matter was first raised under matters arising and it was again noted that the consultants would be in attendance at the January meeting to address queries and concerns of members.

A further discussion followed.

Following queries from Members the S.E. Environment clarified that

- The coastal erosion data used by the consultants to inform the report was based on data gathered using GPS technology
- The cost benefit analysis ratio indicator of 1.5 is the level set in the national policy applied by the OPW
- That only some parts of Ireland's coastline are monitored by the OPW.

The S.E. Environment also noted that these matters will be further discussed with the consultants during their presentation to members in January.

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

Cllr Jim Moore advised the meeting that the ***Climate Change, Biodiversity, and Environment SPC*** would be bringing forward a proposal in the new year in relation to the growing concerns about coastal erosion in the county, and that the Minister would also be invited to Wexford to re-emphasise the problem of the dramatic erosion along the soft coastline in south Wexford.

4.7.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update

The S.E. Environment updated members on the status of the coastal erosion schemes in this location.

The Executive Engineer circulated handouts which provided satellite images outlining the rate of the coastal erosion at this location, noting that approx. 3-5 metres had been lost since July 2022.

4.8 Fire Services Report

Noted.

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

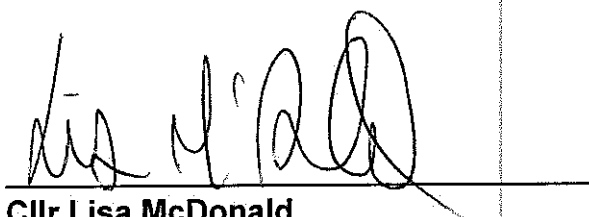
None

7. Any Other Business

None

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 18th January 2023



Cllr Lisa McDonald
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District

