

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting  
held on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 10.30hrs in the Council Chamber,  
Carricklawn, Wexford, and MS Teams (Remote).**

---

- Presiding:** Cllr Lisa McDonald – An Cathaoirleach
- Councillors:** Cllr Jim Moore  
Cllr Ger Carthy  
Cllr Jim Codd (Remote Attendance)
- Officials:** Nóirín Cummins – District Manager  
Annette O'Neill - District Director / Director of Services  
Mark Collins – District Engineer (Roads)  
Derek Cowman – District Technician  
David Codd – Chief Technician Design / Road safety Officer  
Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment)  
George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)  
Sonia Hunt – Executive Planner  
David Wall – A/Executive Planner  
Caroline Creane – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)  
Dymphna O'Connor – Senior Executive Officer (Community)  
Dean Waters – Staff Officer
- Remote:** Ken Jones – District Engineer (Water)
- 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 19<sup>th</sup> October 2022***

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of October 19<sup>th</sup> 2022, were proposed by Cllr Ger Carthy and seconded by Cllr Jim Moore.

***1.2 Matters Arising***

***1.2.1 Links Close 1 & 2***

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

Following a recommendation from the Chair it was agreed that the agenda item could be revisited following the arrival of representatives from the Environment Department.

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

### **2.1 Wexford County Council Draft Traffic Calming Policy**

The Draft Traffic Calming Policy was introduced and outlined by David Codd, Chief Technician Design, Road Safety Officer.

The Chief Technician / Road Safety Officer advised the meeting that this new policy would prioritise schemes, bringing consistency to the provision of traffic calming across the entire county and would be used as a common guidance document by the District Engineers.

A discussion followed.

The Chief Technician / Road Safety Officer agreed that alternatives could be investigated if appropriate, as detailed on page 3, as speed ramps were generally considered a last resort regarding traffic calming measures.

Cllr Jim Moore suggested introducing a Pilot Scheme in the District at a suitable location to trial other methods of traffic calming. The Chief Technician / Road Safety Officer stated that he did not foresee any difficulties with implementing such a Pilot Scheme in its entirety.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, sought confirmation that the Draft Traffic Calming Policy would be presented to the plenary council meeting for the consideration of the full council.

The Chief Technician / Road Safety Officer confirmed that this was the case.

The Members also agreed that the Draft Traffic Calming Policy as presented would require further scrutiny.

Following further discussions the Members agreed that both a Junction Safety Policy and a Traffic Calming Policy were needed.

In response to observations from the Members regarding Bargy Cross, the District Engineer confirmed that the sightlines were adequate at this location, however, agreed to investigate the possibility of completing additional safety works, confirming that line marking would be completed this coming week.

The District Director reminded those present that road accidents were not necessarily related to the design of a junction and are often informed by other factors.

### **2.2 Formation of RMD Protocol Committee**

On the proposal of Cllr Jim Moore, seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy, it was agreed to proceed to form a RMD Protocol Committee as previously outlined.

---

To accommodate a request from Ken Jones, District Engineer (Water) and subsequent proposal by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, the Members agreed that the order of business be changed and invited as directed.

#### **4.2 Water Services Report**

The Executive Engineer delivered his previously circulated report and responded to questions from the Members.

#### **1.2 Matters Arising**

Following comment from Cllr Ger Carthy regarding the Bing Wastewater treatment plant the S.E. Environment confirmed that discussions between WCC and Irish Water were moving along in a positive manner.

#### **4.7 Environment Report**

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

The S.E. Environment acknowledged all those involved with the recent Environment Awards. The Members congratulated all the successful participants.

#### ***Shower Installation - Rosslare Harbour Beach Access Point***

The Executive Engineer delivered a presentation on the available options for the shower installation and the prohibitive costs involved, whilst highlighting the natural beauty of the site and the intention to apply for a Green Coast Award.

Following discussion the members asked the Executive Engineer to revisit the proposed connections and explore a connection into the closer private water mains highlighted in the presentation.

The Executive Engineer undertook to investigate further and revert to the members.

#### **4.7.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update**

The S.E. Environment updated members on the status of the coastal erosion schemes and responded to the queries from the Members.

#### **4.7.2 Ballyhealy Preliminary Erosion Study**

The Executive Engineer delivered a presentation on the *Ballyhealy Preliminary Erosion Study* recently received which has confirmed that the Cost Benefit Ratio of 0.21 arrived at by the study would make this a non-viable project to secure OPW grant funding.

A discussion followed in which the Members expressed their disappointment with the findings of the report.

The Executive Engineer confirmed that the Cost Benefit Analysis ratio of 1.5 was set by the OPW and was the minimum level required to be considered for funding, also confirming that the rising sea level would have been factored into the consideration within the framework of the report completed by *Malachy Walsh & Partners*.

Cllr Ger Carthy suggested that the report is not forwarded to the OPW until the Members had a chance to meet with the consultants *Malachy Walsh & Partners*

The Members agreed and also requested that the OPW be invited to attend this meeting.

The S.E. Environment agreed to engage with the consultants and OPW on the request. He also reiterated that the staff in the Environment Department are working hard to achieve the best outcomes for each case and that they shared the disappointment and frustration of the Members in this case.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, stated that a more effective national policy was required and Cllr Jim Moore stated that there is a need to focus on the whole coastline of the southeast.

On the proposal of Cllr Ger Carthy, seconded by An Cathaoirleach Lisa McDonald, it was agreed that a letter be issued from the District to the Minister regarding the situation, citing both the soft coastline of South Wexford and the low lying land as reasons to review the criteria of the current scheme.

### **3. District Manager Report**

#### **3.1 District Managers Report**

The District Manager delivered her report.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, commended the District Manager and her team for the proactive response to the aftermath of the mini tornado which had caused such localised devastation in Clongeen and Fouksmills.

#### *RMD - Civic Awards 2022*

The District Manager confirmed that the third (3of3) **Municipal District of Rosslare Civic Awards 2022** was arranged for Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November in Johnstown Castle and that those nominated by the Councillors to receive this prestigious award, honoured at the 3<sup>rd</sup> of the 3 ceremonies would be;

- *St Martin's Minor Ladies Rounders Team in recognition of Excellence in Sport*
- *Forth Celtic AFC in recognition of Service to the Community*
- *All Blacks AFC in recognition of Service to the Community*

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, officially endorsed the listing of recipients and recommended proceeding as outlined and as per her previous discussions with her fellow Councillors. This was unanimously agreed by all present.

#### *ESB Outages*

Following on from the previous meeting where the Councillors had requested that a delegation from the ESB be invited to the December or January meeting to update the Members on the historic problem of frequent outages which continued to negatively impact the District and their proposed solutions to address the issue, the District Manager advised that she had been in contact with *Eoghan Judge, South East Regional Manager* and that a date for this delegation was close to being finalised.



## 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;

- *Ballylannon Cross, New Line Junction – Design is completed and works to be commenced early next year*
- *Speed Limit Review – Locations could also be forwarded directly to him if needed*
- *Fingerpost signage – To be completed shortly*
- *Line marking from Kilmore to Ballcogley regional road – To be completed next year*

and agreed to investigate the following matter/s;

- *Starvehall Cross – Would again contact the WBD Roads Engineer to move this safety issue forward*
- *Signage on the New Line – To be reviewed*

### *Roads Programme Delivery*

The District Engineer and his team were commended for the delivery of the 2022 Roads Programme.

The Executive Engineer thanked the Members for their kind words, agreeing to pass on their praise to the staff who have worked hard to deliver the annual programme in addition to the other pressures and demands associated with the various weather events during the year.

#### 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 that some issues had now been highlighted by the **National Transport Authority (NTA)** with regard to the locations of the Bus Shelters which in turn was delaying the enabling works scheduled for completion by Wexford County Council.

A discussion followed.

The Executive Engineer also confirmed that these highlighted issues seemed contrary to the previously **NTA** approved Bus Stop Enabling Grant of €150,000 for assistance with the pre-installation works.

Following comment from Cllr Ger Carthy, regarding the surface area for standing at the Drinagh Bus stop, the Executive Engineer agreed to investigate the matter.

#### **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 confirmed that as they had discussed housing at the *Special Meeting of Wexford County Council (Housing)* which was held on the 14<sup>th</sup> November, and would be further discussing the housing programme in the follow up *Special Meeting of Wexford County Council (Housing)* scheduled for the 5<sup>th</sup> December, they would hold any matters for discussion for that forum.

#### **4.4 Planning Report**

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

##### *Planning Enforcement – Pig Farm, Killuger, Killinick.*

Following comment from An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, that **Wexford County Council** were still awaiting a decision from **An Bord Pleanála** regarding the Section 5 referral, the Planners confirmed that long delays were being experienced across the board on all **An Bord Pleanála** case files.

A discussion followed.

Cllr Lisa McDonald requested that the District correspond with the Minister regarding the continued tardiness of decisions and lack of accountability within the process.

Cllr Ger Carthy queried why the **Wexford County Council** Environmental case, taken under air pollution legislation, was being processed through the District Court, with its limited powers, and not through the Circuit Court.

The District Manager agreed to clarify the matter with the S.E. Engineer (Environment).

##### *Residential Zoned Land Tax*

The Assistant Planner gave a briefing on the Residential Zoned Land Tax aimed at increasing housing supply by activating zoned, serviced residential development lands for housing stating that this matter is likely to impact on landowners in the Rosslare MD from 2025 and members were asked to raise the profile of this.

The Members thanked the Assistant Planner for the information provided.

#### **4.4.1 Planning Decisions – Grants**

The content of the previously circulated report was noted by the Members.

#### **4.4.2 Planning Decisions – Refusals**

The content of the previously circulated report was noted by the Members.

#### **4.5 Libraries Archives & Arts Report**

The content of the previously circulated report was noted by the Members.

#### **4.6 Community Development Report**

The content of the previously circulated report was noted by the Members and the Senior Executive Officer was thanked for her attendance.

#### **4.8 Fire Services Report**

Noted.

The Members raised concerns regarding the ongoing problems surrounding the recruitment and retention of retained Firemen & Firewomen.

### **5. Correspondence**

None.

The Members expressed their collective disappointment at not receiving an official invitation to the opening of the Arts Centre in Wexford, noting that the project was part of the Economic and Community Development programme funded through the Local Property Tax increases.

The Members requested that the matter be brought to the attention of senior management and the District Director agreed to bring the members concerns to the management team meeting.

### **6. Notice of Motion/s –**

*“The Rosslare Municipal District calls on the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage that independent studies on marine habitat and ecosystems be carried out before any survey is conducted by energy companies, to ensure no adverse effects to fish or shellfish stocks. This request should also be a requirement of foreshore licences”.*

**Cllr Jim Moore**

The motion was proposed by Cllr Jim Moore, seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy, and unanimously agreed by all present.

The District Manager agreed to forward the approved motion to the Minister.

### **7. Any Other Business**

#### ***New Cruise-Ferry Salamanca – Bilbao Route***

Cllr Jim Moore congratulated Brittany Ferries and Rosslare Europort following the official launch of the new ferry the **Salamanca**, on the 16<sup>th</sup> November, which would sail the Rosslare to Bilbao route.



It was further noted that the ***Salamanca***, named after the stunning heritage city in Castilla y León in Spain, replaces the Connemara vessel, offering more than double the capacity, with space for over 1000 passengers in 343 comfortable cabins, and is the only ferry service connecting Ireland to Spain.

*RMD Monthly Meeting - December*

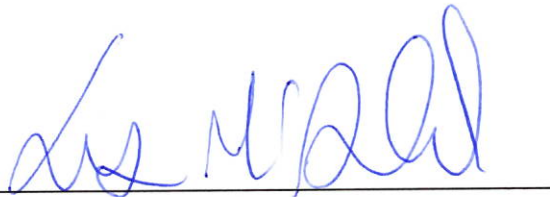
Following a recommendation by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, the Members unanimously agreed that the venue for the December Monthly Meeting would be *Murphy's Barn, Skeater Park, New Line Road*.

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

None

**THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

Signed on the 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022



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