

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Transportation and Water Services

Strategic Policy Committee

held on Tuesday 11th April, 2017, at 11.30am.

in The Corporate Services Meeting Room, County Hall, Wexford.

In the Chair: Councillor Larry O' Brien

Attendance: Councillors, Michael Whelan, Pip Breen, Anthony Connick, Deirdre Wadding.
Michael Bennett (Construction Industry Rep), Bernie Mullen (Community&Voluntary), Brendan Crowley (Business/Commercial)
Eamonn Hore, Director of Services, Noel O' Driscoll, Senior Engineer, Mick McCormack, Administrative Officer, Nick Rossiter, Senior Executive Engineer, Pauline Doyle Executive Planner.

Apologies: Councillors Willie Kavanagh, Mick Roche
Declan Roche (Trade Union)

1. Adoption of Minutes

The Minutes of the SPC minutes of the 20th Oct and 19th December were proposed by Cllr M Whelan, seconded by Cllr P Breen and agreed by all.

2. Review of the Wexford County Development Plan 2013-2019 and the preparation of a New County Development Plan.

Pauline Doyle Executive Planner with Wexford County Council gave a Presentation to the SPC on the Wexford County Development Plan. She invited Members of the SPC to make submissions on the Plan particularly in relation to the Roads and Transportation aspects.

The Director of Service advised that as an SPC we should make submissions, the Development Plan is a Strategic Document and Strategic decisions will be made around its content. He invited all members of the SPC to submit points of Interest or concern to him that he can then submit to the Planning section.

3. Review of NOAC Service Indicators.

Senior Engineer for Roads Noel O'Driscoll gave a comprehensive Presentation and answered a number of questions from the members of the SPC on the Recent NOAC Report examining 2015 Performance Indicators on Roads.

The Senior Engineer advised that while the Number of Roads surveyed in 2015 was low, there was a big improvement in 2016 and he hoped we would have the vast majority of Roads surveyed by the end of 2017. In relation to the results of the Surveys the Senior Engineer outlined that these were a consequence of the reduced availability of central funding over the last number of years.

The Members of the SPC expressed concern at the methodology used by TII in the allocation of Funding.

4. New Ross and Enniscorthy By Pass

The Director of Service for Roads gave Members an update on the New Ross and Enniscorthy By Pass projects. He advised that they were on schedule and emphasised the Economic and social benefits of increased connectivity.

5. Update on Oilgate By Pass

The Director of Service advised that a Draft feasibility Report had been received by Consultants on the Oilgate By pass. This is currently being reviewed and a decision will then have to be made as to whether to proceed with this.

6. Update on Rosslare Harbour Access Road

The Director of Service updated members of the Committee on the Rosslare Harbour access Road Plans.

A lengthy discussion took place on the Plans for the Access road and on Rosslare Port itself. Members expressed concern at the decline of facilities at the Port.

7. Report on Irish Water Projects

The Senior Executive Engineer for Water Nick Rossiter gave a report on Water and Waste Water projects and answered a number of questions for the Members of the Committee.

8. AOB

Cllr M Whelan asked when the signs for the New Speed limit Bye laws would be in place. The DOS advised that he would expect the Bye laws to be in force in 2017/2018 at which point the signs would be put up.

Cllr M Whelan asked that Willie Kanes Bridge be looked at for an upgrade on the Duncannon new line following an accident there recently. The DOS advised that we wouldn't have the resources to upgrade this at present and that it would take significant resources to address this.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed on the ~~28~~ 29th day of NOVEMBER, 201~~7~~



Chairperson

WEXFORD COUNTY COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting of Transportation and Water Services

Strategic Policy Committee

held on Wednesday, 29th November, 2017, at 10 a.m.

on Site of New Ross By pass Landscape, Stokestown, New Ross, Co.

Wexford.

In the Chair: Councillor Larry O' Brien

Attendance: Councillors Willie Kavanagh, Michael Whelan, Pip Breen, Tony Walsh, Anthony Connick
Eamonn Hore, Director of Services; Sinead Casey, District Manager; Donal McLoughlin, Roads' Technician; Kate Stafford, Staff Officer; Noel O'Driscoll, Senior Engineer;; Abraham Dunne, Executive Engineer;

Michael Bennett (Construction Industry Rep), Bernie Mullen (Community & Voluntary)

Mary Bowe - Authority's Representative (Transport Infrastructure Ireland)

Pierre O'Loughlin - Authority's Site Representative (Mott MacDonald)

Joe Shinkwin - Commission Manager (Mott MacDonald)

Sean Dobbs - Project Liaison Officer (Wexford County Council)

Apologies: Cllr. M Roche; Breda O'Sullivan (Social Inclusion); Brendan Crowley (Business/Commerical) and Declan Roche (Trade Union)

Presentation from BAM Dragados

The meeting took place in the Site Offices for the New Ross By Pass at, Landscape, Stokestown, New Ross.

The Chair, Councillor Larry O'Brien introduced the Committee to Representatives of TII, Mott Macdonald and Wexford County Council, and thanked them for facilitating us with a presentation and site tour.

Both Pierre McLoughlin and Joe Shinkin gave a presentation on this public-private partnership (PPP), which involves the construction of 14km of new dual carriageway and 1.2km of new or upgraded single carriageway that links the N25 with the N30 New Ross to Enniscorthy route. The presentation took us briefly through all stages from feasibility, through route selection and preliminary design, to tender preparation and specimen design. This included documentary style aerial footage of the project.

There was a particular focus on the landmark River Barrow crossing which will connect Pink Rock in County Kilkenny and Stokestown in County Wexford. This Extradados type bridge, at 900m, will be the longest bridge in Ireland.

There were questions taken from the members of the Committee. Both the Director of Services and Chair thanked both Pierre & Joe for the informative Presentation and acknowledged the contribution that Sean Dobbs has made to the project in his role as Project Liaison Officer.

There was acknowledgement of the significance of the project to the county not only in terms of the reduction in traffic congestion and improved safety to road users but also in terms of the associated economic benefits regionally and locally. Once complete, the scheme will boost regional and national connectivity for all road users along the entire N25 road, however, the county is already benefitting from the indirect increased economic benefit from the project throughout the region with the overall workforce in excess of 300 people at its peak using local small businesses.

The Committee then proceeded to take a tour of the By Pass concentrating on the Barrow Crossing where members of the Committee were given the opportunity to walk on site and gain a thorough overview of the physical and technical aspects of the project and of the works being carried out on site

We then returned to the Site Offices.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed on the 15th day of MARCH, 2018


Chairperson