

**MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF
THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE
PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON MONDAY,
18th DECEMBER at 9.30 a.m.**

Attendance:

Councillors: John O'Rourke (Cathaoirleach)
Jackser Owens (Leas-Cathaoirleach)
Kathleen Codd-Nolan
Cathal Byrne
Barbara-Anne Murphy
Cllr. Aidan Browne

Officials: MsCarolyn Godkin, Director of Service
Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer
Ms. Edel Nolan, Staff Officer
Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer
Mr Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer.
Ms Siobhan Murphy, Executive Scientist.
Mr Barry Kelly, Executive Technician.
Mr David Whitty, Executive Engineer.
Ms Deryn O Callaghan, Creative Places Co-ordinator.
Ms Elizabeth Whyte, Wexford Arts Centre.

Apologies Officials:

Ms Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner.
Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer

Votes of Sympathy:

The Members expressed their sincere sympathies to the following: -

- The Browne Family Enniscorthy on the passing of the late Mr Tom Browne.
- The O Rourke Family on the passing of their mother the Late Mrs Lizzy O Rourke.
- The Maguire Family, St Aidan's Villa's on the passing of the Late Mr Brendan Maguire.
- The Larkin Family, Monart on the passing of the Late Mr Nicky Larkin.
- The Millar Family, St Aidan's Villa's on the passing of the Late Mrs Josephine Kinahan (nee Millar)

Congratulations:

The Members expressed congratulations to the following: -

Alice Doyle on being appointed as the first female Vice President of IFA.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the November Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 20th November 2023

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Codd Nolan, the Minutes of the November Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 20th November 2023 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

Cllr Owens raised the following queries:

Update on the Lights at St Aidan's School.

Can cameras be used in the Orchard Peace Park for employee safety?

When will the plaque in the Orchard Peace Park be replaced?

Cllr Browne requested an update on the ORIS funding.

Cllr Murphy requested an update on the Heritage panels for Vinegar Hill.

Cllr Byrne requested an update on the possibility of a Bus Stop at the new Primary Care Centre in Blackstoops.

Mr Dempsey committed to talking to the Active Travel Team with regards to the Lights at St Aidan's school and ask them to revert to Cllr Owens directly. He also informed the members that the Bus Stop would be linked to the Area Travel Plan and will request more information from the Active Travel Team on this matter.

District Manager Claire Lawless confirmed that the District Office was in the process of getting the Plaque in the Peace Park replaced, the CCTV is awaiting approval and once finalised the placement of cameras can be determined. Ms Lawless also confirmed that she was now in the process of following through on the Heritage Panels as the Heritage Officer had resigned before they were completed.

Ms Lawless confirmed that in Mr Rory O Mahoney's November Report the works on the Riverside walk is to start in early 2024.

Cllr Browne queried if the project was gone to planning stage, Ms Carolyne Godkin, Director of Services, confirmed that due to limited staff resources the project is behind however Mr O Mahoney has now divided the projects and is now proceeding with it. Ms Godkin committed to sending an update directly to the Members.

Cathaoirleach O Rourke queried if any response was received from his notices of motions at November meeting, he also requested an update on the naming of the Steps opposite the Castle and the bollards he requested for outside the Daycare Centre in Templeshannon.

District Manager Claire Lawless confirmed she had received an email reply from the Minister with regards to the notices of motions which she read to the members. The query with regards to naming the steps, Ms Lawless informed the Cathaoirleach that it is in progress. Mr Dempsey confirmed that he was awaiting materials for the erection of the bollards.

2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:

2.1 Planning

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

Cllr Murphy noted that some officials were not forwarding answers to member queries as indicated in meetings.

2.2 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service

Community

The Community Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Environment

The Environment Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Cathaoirleach O Rourke welcomed Ms Siobhan Murphy as the representative from Environment.

The members raised numerous queries to include.

- If the Christmas Tree Recycling campaign can be circulated.
- The removal of a silage bale from the Side of the N80?
- Update on the use of CCTV in dumping black spots?
- The number of dumping fines in 2023?

Ms Carolyne Godkin and Ms Siobhan Murphy answered the members queries and Ms Murphy committed to sending further information to Cllr Owens.

Libraries & Fire Service

The Libraries and Fire Service Reports circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Cllr Murphy queried the progress of the recruitment campaign for Fire Service personnel. Ms Godkin informed the members that the closing date for the receipt of applications had been extended to 11th January and committed to forwarding the numbers of application via email to the members.

Introduction - Ms. Deryn O'Callaghan, Creative Places Co-Ordinator gave the members a presentation on her role as Creative Places Co-Ordinator.

Cllr Murphy queried as to why there is no elected member on the steering group? Ms Godkin committed to checking the application and reviewing the matter. Cllr Browne also requested that Ms. Godkin investigate whether the LCDC were invited onto the steering group also?

Cllr Codd Nolan requested that Ms. O Callaghan investigate the possibility of reviving the Literacy Group which was once in Enniscorthy.

Cllr Murphy queried the area to which the project covers, Ms. O Callaghan confirmed that it is predominately Enniscorthy Urban and its hinterland however this has not been defined yet. Cllr Murphy also requested that the presentation be shared with the members.

2.6 **Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.**

At this juncture Cathaoirleach O Rourke noted Mr. Larry McHale's apologies and informed the members that Mr. Neville Shaw would take any questions on the Flood defense scheme report circulated prior to the meeting. The members wished Mr. McHale the best and hoped he has a happy Christmas.

The meeting paused for tea break.10.24am.
Meeting resumed at 10.42am.

2.3 **Housing**

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The Members put forward several queries and concerns, in particular:

- The ownership of the vacant property at 34 Island Road?
- The reestablishment of the Bus service to the Moyne Temporary Housing facility.
- What is the delay of over five years on the vacant unit which was inspected in 2018 as per the Vacant Unit report?
- The delay on the housing development in Castlelands, Ferns?
- Are any affordable housing units included in the proposed 75 units at The Lyre development?
- Where are the homeless of Enniscorthy Municipal District being looked after?
- Request for a reminder to all Wexford County Council tenants to have their Chimneys cleaned at this time of the year.

Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer answered the members queries and undertook to revert to the Members with information from the Homeless Officer.

Cathaoirleach O Rourke welcomed Mr Barry Kelly from Housing Capital and invited the members to raise any queries on the report circulated prior to the meeting.

Cllr Browne queried if the possibility of Flooding had been taken into consideration for the proposed Development at the Lyre. Mr Kelly confirmed that it was as part of the site investigation. Mr Kelly also committed to looking into the Housing development proposed for Bunclody and reverting to Cllr Murphy with further information.

Cllr Byrne queried if Wexford County Council are actively looking for more land to purchase to build more housing units? Ms Godkin confirmed that a new targeted call will begin in 2024.

2.4 **Municipal District Report**

The Municipal District report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Enniscorthy Municipal District Tidy Towns Groups Appreciation Evening

An appreciation evening will be held in the Presentation Arts Centre on Friday 12th January to acknowledge and thank the groups for their hard work in our communities. More details to follow.

Enniscorthy Municipal District Christmas Market

The Enniscorthy Municipal District Christmas Market was officially launched on Friday 8th December in the Market Square in Enniscorthy. The market was stocked with a variety of local arts and crafts, festive treats hot food and lots more.

Town and Village Renewal - Enniscorthy Well Being & Active Garden

The Part X1 planning proposal for the garden will be presented to the Members for approval at the December meeting. Once approved the project will go to detailed design stage before going to tender.

Bunclody CCTV Scheme

The Garda National Advisory Committee have verbally approved the Bunclody CCTV scheme at a meeting held on 8th December. We await written approval to progress the Scheme further. Cllr Murphy requested an update on the CCTV for Bunclody and Enniscorthy. Ms Lawless confirmed at a recent Joint JPC meeting for Wexford/Wicklow a query was put to the Garda Commissioner regarding CCTV Schemes for Wexford. We are awaiting a response and will revert to members when received.

Civic Honours

It is proposed that Nomination Forms will be sent to the Members to suggest individuals and groups for consideration for receipt of a Civic Honour. The Civic Honours Sub Committee will meet in January 2024 to select nominees for approval by the Municipal District.

Christmas Light Switch on.

Huge crowds attended the Christmas Light Switch on. Many thanks to the Enniscorthy Chamber and District and Enniscorthy Municipal District staff who worked hard to make the event successful.

Cllr Owens queried as to why there were no notices on the parking meters in town informing people of the Free Christmas Parking. He also queried as to why there was no Christmas music playing in the town. Cllr Owens also noted that the HSE should be requested to provide a 24hr CareDoc service in Enniscorthy Town.

Cllr Murphy requested that going forward the Orchard Peace Park would be included in the Meeting report. She also requested an update on the proposed walkway from Bellefield to Athletics club to Allotments.

Cllr Browne questioned as to the maintenance plan for the Orchard Peace Park and the Athletics Track? He also queried the possibility of expanding the invitation list of the appreciation evening to others that carry out regular litter picking.

Cllr Byrne requested an update on the green space at the bottom of Castle Hill, he noted the lights in Millpark Road are out of order for some time and requested a short term solution to the music might be found?

District Manager Claire Lawless answered all members queries and informed them that the current system for playing the towns Christmas music had stopped working properly and that we were in the process of trying to source a new system. Ms. Lawless agreed to look into including others in the invitees to the Tidy Town appreciation evening, and she would try and escalate the fault on the Street lights to get repairs completed.

2.5 Roads Report.

The Roads Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The Members raised several queries to which Mr. Dempsey, Executive Engineer responded: -

- Repairs to Old Church Road from Hendricks Tyres to Mr Price?
- Patching required in Pearse Road.
- Lights put in Tanyard Lane to give more visibility to users?
- Resurfacing required on Keright to Ballyhogue Road.
- Flooding issue on the Ballybuckley, Bree Road.
- Update on Safety works required on N80 from Clohamon junction to Ryland Road.
- Speeding issue on Main Street in Bunclody, can any measures be put in place to reduce same?

Cathaoirleach O Rourke requested that the Traffic Wardens be requested to take a zero-tolerance stance on people illegally parking in disabled parking bays.

2.7 Special Projects.

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Cllr Codd Nolan queried if there was an update on the Town Centre First Plan Part XI.

Cllr Browne requested an update on the Enniscorthy North Business Park.

Cllr Byrne queried if the plans for the proposed development at the old Murphy Floods site remained the same or have they been changed due to the Town Centre First Plan?

Cllr Murphy inquired if the extra funding received for the Athletics Track will be enough to carry out proposed works? Cllr Murphy also queried if there were any submissions received on the Bunclody Park?

Mr David Whitty, Executive Engineer answered all the members queries and committed to reverting with further information on the Bunclody Park public consultation and to forward a copy of the Town Centre First Plan Part XI application to the members.

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

3.1 To consider report in accordance with the provisions of PART XI, section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended and substituted) and Part XI of the Planning and Development Regulations 2000 (as amended and substituted) for proposed development of new Community Activity Garden at HSE site, St Johns Community Hospital, Munster Hill, Enniscorthy.

The members discussed the proposed drawings and District Manager Ms Claire Lawless confirmed that the drawings were for planning purposes only and more detailed drawings will be required.

On the proposal of Cllr Murphy and seconded by Cllr Codd Nolan the members approved the application.

4. Correspondence.

District Manager Claire Lawless read out the reply received via email with regards to the Notice of Motions put forward by Cathaoirleach O Rourke.

5. Any Other Business.

5.1 District Development Projects 2023/24 Allocation. District Manager Claire Lawless noted that two projects are nearing completion, and the final list proposed projects will be presented in the New Year.

Cathaoirleach O Rourke extended best wishes and a happy Christmas to all elected members, officials, emergency service, HSE staff and colleagues and encouraged all to shop local this Christmas.

Director Of Service Ms. Carolyne Godkin also wished everyone a peaceful and healthy Christmas.

This concluded the business of the Meeting at 12.05pm.

John O Rourke
CATHAOIRLEACH

15th January 2024
DATE