# Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting

**held on the 22nd March 2024 at 14:00hrs in**

**the Council Chamber, County Hall, Carricklawn**

**Presiding:** Cllr Jim Moore– An Cathaoirleach

**Councillors:** Cllr Lisa McDonald - Leas Cathaoirleach

Cllr Jim Codd

Cllr Ger Carthy

Cllr Frank Staples

**Officials:** Nóirín Cummins – District Manager

Lynda Lacey – District Director

Michael Brazzill – District Engineer (Roads)

Derek Cowman – District Executive Technician

Sandra Martin – Staff Officer

Johanna Somers – Assistant Staff Officer

Sharon Ryan – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)

Sonia Hunt – Executive Planner

Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment)

Dean Waters – Staff Officer

**Guests:** Brenda O’Ríordan – SE Region Coordinator (BIM - FLAG)

**Remote:** Tara Farrell - Senior Staff Officer (Community)

**Apologies:**

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, confirmed that the requisite quorum was in place, welcomed all those in attendance, including Brenda O’Ríordan from the Cork Head Office of an Bord Iascaigh Mhara and the work experience students attending with Wexford People Paper.

Standing Orders were suspended and the order of business altered to facilitate the FLAG presentation by Brenda O’Ríordan.

**8. Special Business *(External Presentation).***

*8.1 Presentation by Brenda O’Ríordan - Bord Iascaigh Mhara*

Southeast Coordinator Brenda O’Ríordan, gave a presentation of the five-year Fisheries Local Access Groups (FLAG) programme due to launch in June / July 2024 and opened the floor for questions.

Cllr Moore proposed that a Fishery Committee be established in Wexford Co. Co similar to Donegal Co. Co.

The Members thanked Ms. O’Ríordan for her informative presentation and look forward to further engaging with BIM after the official launch.

1. **Confirmation of Minutes** 
   1. ***Monthly Meeting***

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of 22nd February 2024, were proposed by Cllr Ger Carty and seconded by Cllr Frank Staples.

***1.2 Matters Arising***

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

*Road Opening Licenses and Subsequent Re-Instatement Works*

The District Engineer circulated a response to Cllr Carthy’s request regarding details of the excavation and reinstatement on a public road by a utility company on Broadway Hill. A discussion followed during which An Cathaoirleach stated it would be dealt with under the Roads Section of the Agenda.

*Rosslare Strand – Planning Applications*

Cllr. Carthy asked if there was good news in relation to one off planning applications in Rosslare Strand, an Cathaoirleach stated it would be dealt with under the Planning Section of the Agenda. Cllr. Carthy requested a copy of all minutes of issues in Rosslare Strand concerning this request.

*Meeting with Minister of State, Patrick O’Donovan*

As requested, the Senior Engineer of Environment circulated a report on the meeting with Minister Patrick O’Donovan and Senior OPW Officials.

**2. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the**

**Municipal District Members**

***2.1 Agreement of Statement of Compliance between the Local Economic and Community Plan and County Development Plan***

The Senior Staff Officer from Community put to the Elected Members the motion to accept the amendments as outlined in the letter from the Director of Services dated 5th March 2024. The amendments were proposed by Cllr Carthy and seconded by Cllr Staples.

**3. District Manager Report**

***3.1 District Managers Report***

The District Manager delivered her monthly report and highlighted the following information;

*Town and Village Renewal Scheme.*

The former Bank of Ireland Rosslare Harbour refurbishment project was awarded €250,000 under the 2022 Town & Village Renewal Scheme, works are currently out to tender. The Taghmon project was awarded €50,000 and should be proceeding at pace.

*RMD Strategic Plan.*

Rosslare Municipal District are commencing a series of Community Networking Events. The first event will be held at the Murrintown Community Centre on Tuesday 9th April. Full details of the event will be notified to members and communities in the coming week.

*Éire 15 - Coastal Marker Sign*

Work continues on this community led heritage project, the viewing area is now complete and signage was installed on 12th March 2024.

*Carrig-on-Bannow St. Patrick’s Weekend Festival*

This year’s St. Patrick’s Day festival was a great success. The concert in the church on the 15th March was very well received and supported by a large community attendance. The parade through the village on the Sunday saw over 100 floats participate and widened its links across the entire District. A Civic Award was presented by an Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, to the Parade’s Grand Marshall Mr. Paul Hillis in recognition of his achievements with Corach Rambler winning the Aintree Grand National in 2023.

*Bridgetown to Kilmore Walkway / Greenway*

A project commencement meeting was held with the design consultants on 12th March. Preliminary Design and Statutory Process of Phase 2 Ballyburn Cross to Bridgetown was discussed.

*Rosslare Burrow Lifeboat Memorial*

The annual wreath laying ceremony took place on Sunday 25th February at the Lifeboat Memorial at the Burrow Rosslare.

*Rosslare Municipal District Civic Awards 2024*

The RMD Civic Awards was held in Johnstown Castle on 8th March. Outstanding Achievement Awards were presented by An Cathaoirleach Cllr Jim Moore and District Manager Noirin Cummins to the following recipients:

* Billy Doyle – Service to the Community
* Cora Harris & Jordan Hunt – Excellence in Sport
* Eve Donohue – Excellence in Music
* Jim Hurley – Excellence in Environmental Awareness
* Daniel Kearns & Jamie Connick – Excellence in Trade Skills
* Small Boats Festival – Excellence in Sport & Tourism

*Roadshow to Promote Vacant Homes Supports*

Wexford Co. Co. Regeneration Unit is holding a series of Roadshows throughout April 2024. Rosslare Municipal District’s Roadshow will be held in the Murrintown Community Centre on Tuesday 9th April between 2pm-6pm.

*SSE Renewables Arklow Site Visit*

An Cathaoirleach Cllr Jim Moore, District Manager Noirin Cummins, Capt. Phil Murphy and Assistant Marine Officer Aidan Bates along with members of the LRO & Planning department attended an information session with SSE Renewables in Arklow, followed by a site visit to the ABWP2 proposed onshore facilities on 11th March 2024.

*Dunkirk - Twinning*

Students from Lycee Jean Bart completed their return visit to Bridgetown between 10th – 17th March during which they visited the Council Chamber on 13th March where they watched a presentation on the Rosslare MD and had an opportunity to ask questions about Wexford County Council.

Arrangements are currently being put in place for an Erasmus visit by Kilmore Primary School to Dunkirk.

The Elected Members expressed their pride and gratitude to the Carrig-on-Bannow St. Patrick’s Day Parade Committee and to the People Paper for their extensive coverage of the event. It was agreed to write to the committee to compliment them on such a successful event.

Cllr Ger Carthy noted that the LEADER Programme was launched in Enniscorthy by Minister Browne and proposed that contact be made with the CEO of the LEADER Programme requesting that a member of each Municipal District sit on the new LEADER Board to ensure the investment is reflected equally across the County. This was proposed by an Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore and seconded by Cllr Frank Staples.

**4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

***4.3 Planning Report***

*Rosslare Strand – Planning Applications*

The Executive Planner read out a statement from the Head of Planning, a discussion ensued, and it was agreed that a copy of the statement be circulated to the members.

Cllr Ger Carthy requested that it be recorded in the minutes that there was a commitment on public record regarding planning permission in Rosslare Strand; that individual homes subject to planning criteria and a letter from Uisce Eireann, would be granted permission, no clusters and no estates. Cllr Ger Carthy requested a copy of all minutes from previous meetings concerning issues in Rosslare Strand relating to this.

Cllr Ger Carthy called for a special meeting between the DOS Planning, DOS Water, the Head of Planning and the Head of Water Services, this was seconded by an Leas Cathaoirleach.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore noted that clarity needed to be provided by the Interim Chief Executive and respective Director of Services’; and come forward with a statement on what people are to do. The DOS Rosslare MD agreed to bring the issue to the executive.

*Section 5 – Section 5 - An Bord Pleanála - Great Southern*

Cllr Ger Carthy noted no update is available and requested that officials be briefed on areas that they report on, as a decision was due next week.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore asked that it be put to the Director of Services for a response by way of report.

***4.1 Roads Report***

The District Engineer delivered the previously circulated report.

*Road Opening Licenses and Subsequent Re-Instatement Works*

The report provided by the District Engineer under Matters Arising was opened for questions. Cllr Ger Carthy asked who would be responsible for the subsidence in the trenches, the District Engineer advised that the licence cannot be closed out until the reinstatement is satisfactory and that the District Technician is liaising with the Utility Company.

*Local Improvement Scheme (LIS)*

Wexford County Council are awaiting on the 2024 funding approval. Cllr Codd asked why Agricultural activity was a requirement under the scheme. Cllr Carthy supported that query. The District Engineer advised that the conditions of the LIS is a Department of Heritage Circular and committed to confirming these for the members.

*Bus Shelters*

In response to Cllr Codd the District Engineer confirmed the moving of the bus stops in Taghmon had been agreed with the NTA and committed to find out when this is scheduled for.

*Safety Improvement Works*

The DE confirmed to Cllr Codd that the pedestrian crossing at Taghmon is on his list of work to be completed.

In response to Cllr Carthy, the DE committed to speaking with the Roads Safety Officer regarding any possible traffic calming measures for the approach to Kilrane Village.

*Drainage Works & Hedge Cutting*

Hedge cutting is out of season, only emergency road or junction safety works are permitted.

Cllr Codd requested the drains to be blown out in Taghmon and Duncormick

*Line Marking*

The DE confirmed to Cllr Staples that the road markings at the Ballycogley side of Ballinash Bridge is on his schedule of works.

*Low-Cost Safety*

The 2024 grants have been awarded and works will be allocated to the new Roads Safety Engineer.

*Bridgetown Flood Scheme Review*

A report on engineering options is to be provided by the end of March.

*Emergency Road Repairs*

The failed sections of the Coolraheen Road were surfaced dressed on 21st March.

*Project Surface Reinstatement*

Works on a new raw water pipeline installation between Mulrankin and Mayglass have commenced. The 150km of ducting and associated chambers between Dublin and Wexford are at discussion stage.

*Rosslare to Wexford Estuary*

Discussions have been had with the OPW and currently looking to go to tender to secure a design consultant, flood risk and a catchment study of the area.

The District Engineer delivered the Roads Programme for 2024 and confirmed that it is planned to commence in April.

Cllr Staples and Cllr Codd commended the programme.

Cllr Codd noted a permanent automated patcher would be of benefit to the District. The DE advised that there is one automated patcher for the County and that the recent rainfall has delayed the manual patching that would normally be completed by the roads crew at this time of year.

Cllr Codd asked when the Elected Members will see the roads plan for Kilmore Quay. The DE is hopeful to have finalised drawings within the next month.

Cllr Carthy raised an issue regarding motor homes parking overnight in St. Brendan’s Estate and requested signs or calming to help enforcement. The DE committed to looking at signage for this area.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore wished to extend thanks to the Roads Crews for their work during this unprecedented level of rainfall and also to private landowners that cut their hedges during the permitted period.

***4.2 Housing Report***

The Members noted the content of the report.

***4.2.1 Rosslare MD Specific***

The Members welcomed and noted the content of the Rosslare MD Specific report.

*Emergency Accommodation*

Following comments from Cllr Jim Codd, an Cathaoirleach Cllr Jim Moore requested the question regarding unfilled crash beds be relayed to senior housing officials.

***4.2.2 Housing Capital Project Report***

The Members noted the Housing Capital Project Report.

***4.4 Libraries Archives & Arts Report***

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

***4.5 Community Development Report***

The content of the previously circulated report was noted

***4.6 Environment Report***

The S.E. Environment delivered the previously circulated report.

*St. Margarets Car Park*

The Senior Engineer confirmed they should have an update one way or another on the proposed works over the next week.

*Trinity*

The SE committed to investigating the illegal dumping site and will work with An Garda Siochána and local residents to bring about a resolution.

Following acknowledgment from the Chair of the current time, Cllr Ger Carthy proposed the suspension of Standing Orders. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Lisa McDonald and the meeting continued.

***4.7 Fire Services Report***

The contents of the report were noted

***4.8 Special Projects – Greenway Update***

The contents of the report were noted and an Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore confirmed the members are expecting a report after the public consultations.

**5. Correspondence**

None

1. **Notice of Motion/s –**

The following notice of motion was put forward in accordance with standing orders section 20. An Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald called upon the Department of Transport *“to examine and fund the necessary road improvements, speed control, lay-bys and other improvements required to improve road safety and reduce accident numbers on the Newline (aka Duncannon) line road. We call on the Department to fund the necessary safety measures and improvements through a Specific Improvement Grant.”* This motion was seconded by Cllr Frank Staples and supported by Cllr Jim Codd.

1. **Any Other Business**

*3-Year Capital Programme*

Following a discussion, it was agreed the members would revert to the Director of Services in a week’s time with their requests for inclusion in the 3-year plan.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore proposed that they Strategic Plan be disclosed in future Capital Plans, this was seconded by an Leas Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald.

**THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

Signed on the 17th April 2024

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**Cllr Jim Moore**

**An Cathaoirleach**

**Rosslare Municipal District**