

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 18th January 2023 at 10.30hrs in
the Council Chamber, County Hall, Carricklawn**

- Presiding:** Cllr Lisa McDonald – An Cathaoirleach
- Councillors:** Cllr Jim Moore
Cllr Ger Carthy
Cllr Jim Codd
Cllr Frank Staples - Leas Cathaoirleach (Remote Attendance)
- Officials:** Nóirín Cummins – District Manager
Annette O’Neill - District Director / Director of Services
Mark Collins – District Engineer (Roads)
Derek Cowman – District Technician
Shay Howell – County Architect
Caroline Creane – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)
Eoghan Nolan – Assistant Planner
Fionnuala Callery – A/Senior Engineer (Water)
Dean Waters – Staff Officer
- Apologies:** Ken Jones – District Engineer (Water)
Dympna O’Connor – Senior Executive Officer (Community)
Sonia Hunt – District Planner
Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment)
George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, welcomed all those in attendance, requesting the Members permit the order of business to be taken out of sequence as directed. Cllr Ger Carthy proposed the suspension of Standing Orders to accommodate this request and Cllr Jim Moore seconded the proposal.

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

Following introductions, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, welcomed the delegation from the ESB, thanked them for attending the meeting and invited them to commence their presentation.

8.1 ESB - Rosslare Municipal District Update / Eoghan Judge, South East Regional Manager, David Phelan, Area Manager, & John Harpur, Civils Inspection Supervisor

David Phelan, Area Manager, presented an overview of the causes of District outages and the various remedial works that have been completed or are planned. The ESB team also addressed other matters raised by the members including:

- *Delays in connections to new dwellings/public lighting/businesses*

- *EV points in villages in the district*
- *Capacity for Economic Development projects in the district*
- *Moving poles and undergrounding of wires*

Eoghan Judge, South East Regional Manager, David Phelan, Area Manager, & John Harpur, Civils Inspection Supervisor, then responded to questions from the Members.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, thanked the delegation on behalf of the Members, and they departed from the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 14th December 2022

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of December 14th 2022, were proposed by Cllr Ger Carthy and seconded by Cllr Jim Moore.

1.2 Matters Arising

Cllr Ger Carthy requested information on the installation of the proposed Bus Shelters.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, advised that this matter would be dealt with under the appropriate agenda item (4.1.1).

1.2.1 IW - Sewerage Capacity Rosslare Strand

The Members sought clarification on the definitive meaning of the response from Irish Water regarding Wastewater capacity in Rosslare Strand and current or future planning applications.

A discussion followed.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, advised the meeting that Fionnuala Callery, A/Senior Engineer, would be joining the meeting shortly and the matter would be revisited following her arrival.

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

None

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

4.3 Housing Report

The Senior Staff Officer delivered the previously circulated report.

4.3.1 Rosslare MD Specific

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

Tagoat Scheme

The County Architect confirmed that the estate would be completed using a hybrid of the single stage and 4 stage process, with stage 1 and stage 2 being submitted concurrently.

Rosslare - Rosetown

The County Architect confirmed that the *Most Economically Advantageous Tender* (MEAT) had been identified and more information was being sought as required, further confirming that the expected start date for the project would be March.

Ballygillane Cluster

The County Architect confirmed that this scheme is to be bundled with two other schemes in other areas of the county and will be tendered as a Design & Build development contract.

Provision of Land for Social Housing

The County Architect confirmed that he was currently looking at 2 sites in the southeast of the District and was very hopeful of a positive outcome at both sites.

Turnkey's & Land Acquisition

The Senior Staff Officer confirmed that an *Expression of Interest* for both turnkey developments and appropriate land acquisition had been advertised with a closing date of the 27th January.

Vacant Houses

The Senior Staff Officer advised the meeting that the Vacant Homes Officer was unable to attend the January meeting due to prior commitments, but that he would be available to attend the February meeting.

A discussion followed and it was noted that the Vacant Homes Officer had contacted members directly on matters raised during the January meeting.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that the Vacant Homes Officer does arrange to attend the next meeting as suggested, and that he brings specifics on the actions and targets for vacant properties in the District.

3. District Manager Report

3.1 District Managers Report

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

Ballygillane Roundabout (Estimated Total Scheme Cost €2,590,000)

The District Manager confirmed that the Roundabout is now open to traffic and that finishing works are continuing.

Amenity & Arts Grant Scheme & Residents Association Grant Scheme 2023

The District Manager confirmed that both schemes are now open and that the closing date for applications is February 17th.

Malachy Walsh & Partners – Coastal Erosion Information Session

The District Manager reminded the Members, that as requested, an information session would be held this coming Monday at 10:30, with **Malachy Walsh & Partners** and the **WCC Environment Team** to discuss Coastal Erosion on the South Wexford coastline.

Coastwatch – Citizen Science Exhibition

The District Manager advised that an exhibition based on Coastwatch citizen scientist shore surveys and action, supported by the **Rosslare Municipal District** and **Wexford County Council**, would be open to the public weekdays in County Hall from Feb 1st to 10th with focus on our most biodiverse shallow waters and coastal land.

Also confirming that the Launch on **World Wetlands Day (2.2.23)**, would include a workshop and fieldtrips to protected sites, and that Guests of honour would include *HE Thomas Nader, Austrian Ambassador* and *Tobias Salathé (Ramsar Convention secretariat Geneva)*.

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

As the matter had been raised under Matters Arising, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that this matter be dealt with first by the District Engineer.

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 (1)*
- *Complete – Kilmore Quay*
- *Complete – Rosslare Harbour*
- *Progressing – Bridgetown (2)*
- *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 civil works for the Bus Shelters in Rosslare and Wellingtonbridge had been scheduled by the appointed contractors and would commence shortly.

The Executive Engineer confirmed that the **Risk Assessment** and **Road Safety Audit** that had been requested, at the N25 sites in Drinagh and Tagoat, by **Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)** could now be progressed by the appointed consultants. He further confirmed that although guidance from the **Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII)** had taken some time, in connection with the Bus Shelters, matters were now moving forward.

A discussion followed.

The Executive Engineer advised that the provision of the fully accessible Bus Shelters by JC Decaux, was a national appointment administered by the NTA.

4.1 Roads Report

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

- *Bridgetown / Mulrankin Derelict Site– Landowner addressing issues at present*
- *Rackardstown Bridge –Scheduled to be commenced in the next few weeks*
- *Kilmore reinstatement works – Works under licence. Liaising with on-site Engineer to rectify issues with the quality of the reinstatement works and to agree remedies for the damage caused to the grange roads during the detour period.*
- *Barrystown Cross – Safety works re: sightlines to be completed*
- *Ballymitty School Pedestrian Crossing – Signage works to be completed before end of month*
- *North of Broadway Village tarmac – Will investigate*
- *Manholes in OLI & Kilrane – Will progress with contractor*

Road Network – Structural Repairs

Following comment from the Members, the District Engineer confirmed that approximately 40% of the District Road Network required structural improvements.

Larkins Cross – Safety Concerns

Following observations from the Members, the Executive Engineer undertook to relay their concerns to the Wexford Borough District roads engineer.

Road Crew Staffing Levels

Cllr Ger Carthy requested a report on the staffing levels of the District road crews, that maintain 640km of road, with regard to minimum and maximum levels.

The Executive Engineer agreed to complete the task as requested, advising that a Business Plan in connection with tourism centres was currently being discussed.

Road in Ballycushlane

Cllr Ger Carthy requested a report on the road surface in Ballycushlane and the actions required to remedy the problems.

The Executive Engineer agreed to complete the task as required before the next meeting.

Health Centre - Taghmon

Accessibility issues at the location were raised on foot of an article in the Wexford People.

Following discussion An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, noted that while the accessibility issues with the centre itself were a matter for the HSE she asked that any accessibility issues on the footpath and public road at this centre be investigated, addressed, and rectified as required.

4.4 Planning Report

The previously circulated report was noted by the Members and the Assistant Planner responded to questions.

Live Applications - Housing

Cllr Ger Carthy requested confirmation of the number of live planning applications for housing developments. The Assistant Planner agreed to request the information and provide an update at the next meeting.

Windfarm Guidelines

Cllr Jim Codd requested information on the guidelines and systems in place to protect the livelihoods of fishermen with regard to the ongoing development of windfarms along the coast.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald requested a report on the matter be made available for the next meeting. The Assistant Planner agreed to seek an update from the relevant planning personnel for the next 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.

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 Moore and the meeting continued.

4.5 Libraries Archives & Arts Report

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

Cllr Ger Carthy suggested that the possibility of creating a fixed site community library be investigated.

4.6 Community Development Report

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

4.2 Water Services Report

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

The A/Senior Engineer noted the content of the response from Irish Water in relation to wastewater capacity in Rosslare Strand under Matters Arising.

A discussion followed.

The A/Senior Engineer advised that the Rosslare Strand wastewater treatment plant had not been in compliance for a number of years and were looking at upgrading the system, however also confirming that the plant is licensed and the **EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)** is fully aware of the situation.

The A/Senior Engineer advised the Members that she would raise the matter at her meeting with IW next week.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that the A/Senior Engineer attend the next RMD monthly meeting with an update.

4.2.1 Kilmore Quay Sewerage Scheme Newsletter

Noted

4.2.2 Lead Remediation Grant Scheme - Fionnuala Callery, A/Senior Engineer

The A/Senior Engineer delivered her presentation on the Lead Remediation Grant Scheme before clarifying the qualifying criteria and scheme conditions following queries from the Members.

4.7 Environment Report

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

The District Manager passed on the apologies of the Environment Team, advising the Members that any outstanding matters could be dealt with at the forthcoming **Malachy Walsh & Partners – Coastal Erosion Information Session** where the WCC Environment Team would be in attendance.

4.7.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update

This item was deferred until the information session.

4.8 Fire Services Report

Noted.

5. Correspondence

None.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

Sympathies

Sympathies were extended to the families of John Jackman – Wexford Town / The Ballagh, Liam Gaul - Wexford, Paddy Murphy – Duncormick, and Ted Furlong – Tomhaggard.

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 15th February 2023



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