

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting  
held on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at 10.30hrs in  
the Council Chamber, County Hall, Carricklawn**

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

Leas-Cathaoirleach, Cllr Frank Staples, welcomed all those in attendance before commencing the meeting.

Referencing the recent fire in Wexford General Hospital, Cllr Frank Staples commended all the hospital staff, emergency services, and voluntary organisations for the tremendous response to the incident which had ensured the safety of all those involved.

Leas-Cathaoirleach, Cllr Frank Staples, then congratulated those involved with the successful bid to host the 2024 Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann, stating it was a great opportunity to showcase the County.

The Members unanimously supported the comments from the Chair regarding the fire at Wexford General Hospital and the successful bid to host the 2024 Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

**1.1 Monthly Meeting 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of February 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, were proposed by Cllr Ger Carthy and seconded by Cllr Jim Moore.

## **1.2 Matters Arising**

*1.2.1 Wastewater Capacity / Rosslare Strand - Fionnuala Callery, A/Senior Engineer*

*1.2.2 Planning*

*1.2.3 Housing*

*1.2.4 Environment*

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

### *Wastewater Capacity / Rosslare Strand*

Following invitation from the Chair, Fionnuala Callery – A/Senior Engineer (Water), outlined the response issued, advising that during the meeting between Uisce Éireann, Water Services and Planning Department representatives held on the 15<sup>th</sup> February it was confirmed by Uisce Éireann that there is capacity in the Rosslare Strand treatment plant whilst they acknowledged that investment was required.

Fionnuala Callery – A/Senior Engineer (Water), also confirmed that it was the position of Wexford County Council that planning permission for single and cluster housing would not be negatively impacted due to a lack of wastewater capacity, and that wording contained in the Consent of Feasibility (CoF's) document issued by Uisce Éireann would be amended to bring clarity.

The A/Senior Engineer (Water) also reaffirmed that each planning permission would be assessed on its own individual merits in relation to the *Wexford County Council County Development Plan 2022 – 2028*, by the Planning Department.

Following comment from the Members, the District Director confirmed that Senior Planner, Diarmuid Houston, was in attendance at the meeting and was aware of the agreed outcomes.

### *Bus Shelter Installation/s*

Cllr Ger Carthy requested an update on the safety review in Tagoat and the installation of the proposed Bus Shelters.

The Executive Engineer advised that the Risk Assessment & Safety Audit for the bus shelter had been completed, and that certain design elements were still awaited.

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

None

## **3. District Manager Report**

### **3.1 District Managers Report**

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

#### *Rosslare MD Strategic Plan*

The District Manager confirmed that work has now commenced on the Rosslare Municipal District strategic plan and it is hoped to have phase 1 completed in Q2 of this year.

#### *Bike Rack & Bike Repair Station – Forth Mountain / Murrintown / Rosslare Strand*

The RMD installation programme for Bike Racks and Bike Repair Stations continues with completed installations now in place at 2 RMD Forth Mountain sites, Pennylands Car Park & Skeaterpark Car Park, Murrintown and also at Rosslare Strand.

#### *Communities Recognition Fund*

The District Manager advised the Members that the Community Section had forwarded a proposed listing of approved projects to Department of Rural and Community Development for consideration and approval.

#### *Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023 – 2028*

The District Manager confirmed that Wexford County Council is preparing a new Local Economic & Community Plan for the period 2023-2028 and the Community Section leading this process are inviting the public and stakeholders to have their say in developing the plan for shaping the future economic, social and community development of County Wexford.

She further confirmed that as part of the community consultation process, WCC would like to hear views on the draft high level goals and the sustainable community and economic objectives set out within it, alongside desired outcomes and vision for Wexford. To this end, a series of public consultation events for the *Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP)* will take place throughout March 2023, with the event relevant to the Rosslare MD taking place in the Johnstown Castle Visitor Centre on 30<sup>th</sup> March at 18:30, and for those who cannot make the in-person event an online consultation session is available. The District Manager encouraged members to promote the events with community groups in their areas.

#### *Dunkirk – Twinning*

The District Manager confirmed the return student exchange visit was progressing well since the visiting *Lyceé Jean Bart* students from Dunkirk arrived at *Bridgetown College* on Monday 13<sup>th</sup>.

She further confirmed that all the students would be attending the Council offices that afternoon for lunch and a tour of the Council Chamber, and that excellent feedback had been received to date from all involved with the exchange programme.

## **4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

### **4.1 Roads Report**

The Executive Engineer delivered his report and responded to questions from the Members, agreeing to log the general maintenance issues raised, whilst also confirming or updating on the following items;

- *Mulrankin Safety Improvement Works*

- *Kilcavan Road Surface*
- *Waddingtown to Taghmon Road Surface*
- *Moddybeg Road Surface*
- *OLI & Kilrane Manhole Covers*
- *Fencing at Lightwater Cross*
- *Taghmon Pedestrian Crossings*

#### *Pedestrian Crossing / Taghmon Playground*

Following comment from Cllr Jim Codd, the Executive Engineer agreed to review the area in the possibility of completing works during 2024 with low-cost safety measures funding.

#### *General School Drop Behaviour*

Following observations from Cllr Jim Moore regarding the practice of some parents dropping or collecting their children from school insisting on getting as close as possible to the school gate, the District Engineer acknowledged that it was hard to change long standing habits, confirming that where appropriate he would consider low-cost safety measures to assist with safety at schools.

#### *Floodgate Barriers*

The Executive Engineer confirmed that 80% to 85% of the delivery and installations have now been completed.

#### *Roads Programme 2023*

The Members endorsed the Roads Programme 2023 as presented by the Executive Engineer, noting that the level of allocated funding had not been increased by central government.

#### **4.1.1 Bus Shelter Progress Report**

The below programme of works was discussed earlier in the meeting under matters arising.

- *Complete – Bridgetown (#1)*
- *Complete – Kilmore Quay*
- *Complete – Rosslare Harbour*
- *Installed - Rosslare Strand*
- *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)*

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

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

#### **4.3 Housing Report**

The Senior Staff Officer delivered the previously circulated report.

#### **4.3.1 Rosslare MD Specific**

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

#### *Housing Projects*

Following queries from the Members regarding the status of Capital Projects in Rosetown, Tagoat, and Ballygillane, the Senior Staff Officer agreed to seek clarification from the Capital Team and then respond to the Members.

#### *Taghmon - Respond Housing Scheme*

The District Director advised the Members regarding the contents of the response from Housing under matters arising in relation to the site, that she has been advised that a Planning application has not yet been submitted as there are technical issues that need solutions in relation to dealing with water and drainage matters on the site due to the height differential nature of the site. Further confirming that Respond are very much hoping to be in a position to submit a planning application in the short term.

#### *Vacant Homes Scheme*

Following a query from Cllr Jim Moore regarding the progress of the Croi Conaithe Vacant Refurbishment Grant scheme in the district, the Senior Staff Officer agreed to request an update from the Vacant Homes Officer.

#### *Derelict Properties*

Following comment from Cllr Jim Codd in connection with 2 specific units in Churchview, Clongeen, the Senior Staff Officer agreed to seek clarification from the Vacant Homes Officer.

The District Director advised the Members that, as she understood it, these 2 properties are privately owned.

#### **4.4 Planning Report**

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

#### *Refusals & Pre-Planning Meetings*

Following a query from Cllr Frank Staples regarding the 8 refusals contained in the February report, and whether they each had applied for and subsequently received pre-planning meetings, the Executive Planner agreed to request the information and provide an update at the next meeting.

#### *Pre-Planning Meetings*

The Executive Planner confirmed that both in-person and remote meetings were now being offered to pre-planning meeting applicants.

#### **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.

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

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

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

The content of the previously circulated report was noted.

The Members acknowledged the work of the Community Department and the District Staff in relation to the Communities Recognition Fund (CRF) before commending all the communities and voluntary groups for their response to the Ukrainian response often in very difficult circumstances.

#### **4.7 Environment Report**

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

##### *Beach Access Review – Action Plan Update*

Following observations from Cllr Jim Moore, the E.E. Environment and District Manager agreed to request an update on the action plan works as detailed in the report.

##### *Lane of Stones*

The S.E. Environment agreed to provide an update on the proposed works for the next meeting.

##### *Carne Pier*

Following a request from Cllr Ger Carthy, the E.E. Environment agreed to provide a drawing and a proposed start date for works before the next meeting.

##### *Illegal Dumping – CCTV Signage Legislation*

The E.E. Environment agreed to request an update on legislation and guidance surrounding CCTV camera and the appropriate signage installations.

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

The E.E. Environment updated Members on the status of the coastal erosion scheme.

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

Noted.

#### **5. Correspondence**

None.

#### **6. Notice of Motion/s –**

None

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

##### *Catherine McLoughlin – Heritage Officer*

Cllr Ger Carthy requested that the Heritage Officer attend the next monthly meeting to advise the Members of the prioritise surrounding built heritage whilst

also offering some insight into the rationale used by the Department with regard to funding streams.

*Joint Policing Committee – Quarterly Meetings*


Following a discussion regarding the lapsed quarterly meetings largely due to restrictions surrounding the pandemic, and following a spate of recent anti-social incidents in Wexford Town, the Members requested that the District Manager organise a meeting between the District Members and An Garda Síochána representatives to discuss particular issues where additional supports may be needed.

The District Manager agreed to discuss and agree arrangements with An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, before sending the appropriate invitation to Divisional Officer, Chief Superintendent Derek Hughes and District Officer, Superintendent James Doyle.

8. **Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc).**  
None

**THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

Signed on the 26<sup>th</sup> April 2023



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