

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE
PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON MONDAY,
17TH APRIL AT 3.00 P.M.**

Attendance:

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

Officials: Mr. Tom Enright, Chief Executive
Ms. Carolyne Godkin, Director of Service
Mr. Shay Howell, Senior Executive Architect
Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager
Ms. Angela Finn, Senior Staff Officer, Housing
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer, Roads
Ms. Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner
Ms. Bernie Quigley, Senior Staff Officer

Apologies:

Officials: Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer

At the outset of the meeting, Cllr. Browne introduced Ms. Abbie Dunne who was in attendance as a guest to observe the meeting.

Votes of Sympathy:

The Members expressed their sincere sympathies to the following:-

- The Delaney Family, Courtnacuddy, on the death of their Mother Mary, RIP.
- The Bolger Family, Marshalstown on their recent loss.

Congratulations:

The Members expressed congratulations to the following:-

- Ferns Boxing Club on their success in the Boy 1 All Ireland Boxing Title by member Evan Thorpe.
- Sean Kelly on his recent All Ireland Boxing 37kg title.
- The Enniscorthy Community Allotments on their recent LAMA Award.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the March Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 27th March 2023

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke, the Minutes of the March Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 27th March 2023 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

The Members requested an update on the following:-

- Update on safety measures at a number of schools throughout the district.
- Illegal dumping at Dromchatha.
- Ramp in Patricks Street.
- Improvement works at the Orchard Peace Park.
- Update on the Waste Disposal Survey.
- Repairs to Water Fountains.

It was noted that the District Manager had requested a report from the Environment Section in relation to the Waste Disposal Survey. It was further noted that Mr. Neville Shaw was examining works at the Orchard Peace Park.

Mr. Dempsey responded to all queries relating to roads.

2. Bellefield Development.

Mr. Tom Enright, Chief Executive and Mr. Shay Howell, Senior Executive Architect attended the meeting to discuss a development in Bellefield.

The Chief Executive spoke of a number of key amenity projects currently being advanced in the Enniscorthy District, including, Amenity Park/Playground in Bunclody and proposed Playground in Templeshannon.

The Chief Executive outlined details of the upgrade of the Bellefield GAA Complex which includes two new pitches. Further plans for the development of walking trails, a sensory garden, a playground, and car parking facilities were also outlined and noted. Mr. Enright stated that Wexford County Council had been approached by the group to participate in this project by way of the provision of the proposed playground and car parking facilities. Mr. Enright also stated that there would be no land cost to Wexford County Council, with the availability of a long-term lease arrangement being considered. The Chief Executive confirmed that he is currently seeking to secure funding for this project and hoped to proceed with the Part XI Planning process in the coming week or so.

15:20 p.m.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke the Elected Members agreed to proceed to 'In Committee' to discuss this project further.

The Members, while welcoming the concept, raised a number of queries in relation to the project. A discussion took place regarding all concerns raised, to which the Chief Executive responded.

Support by the Elected Members to a community facility in the area was noted, on commitment by the Chief Executive to the provision of a similar suitable facility in the Templeshannon area.

16:05 p.m. Cllr. O'Rourke left the meeting.

16:10 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

The Chief Executive clarified all issues in relation to the proposed development by Wexford County Council and gave a commitment to come back to the Elected Members regarding the provision of a playground in Templeshannon. Mr. Enright sought approval to proceed to Part XI Planning for the public facility at Bellefield.

On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. Byrne it was agreed to proceed with the Part XI Planning process for this community facility.

At this juncture in the meeting it was agreed to take Item No. 6.

6. Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.

The Chief Executive updated the Members on the current position in relation to the scheme. It was noted that a Winter Bird Survey had now been completed with a new Environment Report currently being prepared. It was further noted that consultation with the OPW will take place to ascertain the appropriate planning process to enable the scheme to move forward. Mr. Enright took this opportunity to wish Mr. Larry McHale best wishes and a speedy recovery.

The Members put forward a number of queries, including:-

- The progression of the scheme.
- Confirmation of whether the bridge will be progressed independently.
- Date for finalisation of the Environment Report.
- Lengthy timeline for decision of such schemes.
- Planning Process for bridge construction.
- Planning mechanism for approval of the scheme.

The Chief Executive responded to all queries raised. It is hoped that the Environment Report would be complete by month end with an update at the May Meeting regarding timeline for the planning stage of the project.

In relation to the URDF, Cllr. Browne asked when proposals for the funding application would be brought to the Members. Mr. Enright stated that it is envisaged that the 4th call for funding will be in September/October this year. It is hoped that proposals for Murphy Floods would be advanced before the call to assist with the funding application.

3. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:

3.1 Planning

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The Members put forward a number of queries to Ms. Lennon, to which she responded, including:-

- Waiting time for Pre-Planning Meetings.
- Boundary regarding Linear Developments.
- Availability of maps for Residential Zoned Land Tax and proposed consultation date.
- Draft Development Plan for Enniscorthy.

3.2 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service

Community

The Community Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Environment

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. A request for the provision of a Waste Disposal Survey to be conducted in Bunclody was raised. The District Manager stated that a request has been forwarded to the Environment Section in relation to same with an official to attend the May Meeting to discuss surveys already conducted and the results of same.

Libraries & Fire Service

The Members noted the Libraries and Fire Service Reports circulated prior to the meeting. The need for full-time Firefighters in the county was raised and noted. The Director of Services outlined a number of factors to be considered for the recruitment of full-time Firefighters. It was noted that there were 10 Retained Fire Fighter vacancies in Wexford County Council with eight now recruited and receiving training.

3.3 Housing

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

- Allocation of housing units at Castlelands, Ferns.
- Housing construction in the Enniscorthy District.
- Grants for the elderly.
- Pre-let Repairs – timeline for completion.
- Position on Choice Based Lettings.

The officials responded to all queries raised.

3.4 Municipal District Report

Ms. Lawless, District Manager outlined the main points of her report.

The Members raised the following queries:-

- Wayleaves regarding Bunclody CCTV.
- Streetscape Enhancement Scheme and Shopfront Painting Grant Scheme – timeline for same.
- Toilets at the Sports Hub – maintenance/repairs.
- Short-term improvement measures at Murphy Flood Site.
- Completion date for Astro Turf Pitch, Ross Road.
- Car parking at the Learn to Cycle Park.
- Funding under the 225th 1798 Commemoration Fund.
- Request for 24hr access to the proposed Sensory Garden.

Ms. Lawless responded to all queries raised. It was noted that a Special Meeting with the Gardai was proposed for May, prior to the monthly meeting.

4. Special Projects – Update.

This item was deferred.

5. Roads Report.

Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer outlined the main points of the Roads Report circulated prior to the meeting.

The Members raised the following issues to which Mr. Dempsey responded:-

- Local Improvement Scheme.
- Signage.
- Footpaths – Greenville Lane.
- Wilton Bridge – construction timeline.
- Potholes.
- Slaney Drive – damage following works.
- Enniscorthy North Business District – areas included in Active Travel Funding application.
- Safe Routes to School – commencement of works at St. Aidan’s.
- Pedestrian Crossing – Templeshannon Quay.
- Bellefield Springs – damage to boundary wall.
- Railway Square – improvement works.

5.20 p.m. – At this juncture of the meeting, Cllr. Byrne left the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Codd-Nolan it was agreed to suspend the Standing Orders for fifteen minutes to allow the meeting to continue.

7. Water Services.

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

8. Historic Towns Initiative 2023 – Heritage Led Plan for Enniscorthy.

It was agreed to defer this item to the May Meeting.

9. Vinegar Hill.

It was agreed to defer this item to the May Meeting.

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

10.1 Amenity & Arts and Residents Association Grant Schemes 2023.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Owens the Members unanimously agreed to proceed with the list of Amenity & Arts and Residents Association Grant Schemes 2023 as presented.

10.2 Schedule of Municipal District Works 2023.

On the proposal of Cllr. Codd-Nolan, seconded by Cllr. Murphy the Members unanimously approved the Schedule of Municipal District Works 2023.

11. Correspondence.

None.

12. Any Other Business.

A request for the Killealy St. Patricks Day Parade to be included for funding under the 2024 festival programme was noted.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

____Aidan Browne_____
CATHAOIRLEACH

____15-05-2023_____
DATE