

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF
THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE
PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON MONDAY,
20TH FEBRUARY 2023 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: Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager
Ms. Carolyne Godkin, Director of Service
Ms. Angela Finn, Senior Staff Officer, Housing
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer, Roads
Mr. Mick McCormack, Town Centre First Officer
Ms. Lisa Moore, Assistant Staff Officer, EMD

Apologies:

Officials: Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer
Ms. Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner
Ms. Fionnuala Callery, Senior Executive Engineer, Water Services

Votes of Sympathy:

The Members expressed Votes of Sympathy to the following:-

- The O'Sullivan family on the death of Tommy, RIP.
- The Martin family on the death of Patrick, RIP.
- The O'Connor family on the death of Mary, RIP.
- The Cahill family on the death of John, RIP.
- The Teevan family on the death of Seamus, RIP.
- The Ryan family on the death of John, Principal of St. Mary's CBS, RIP.

Congratulations:

The Members expressed congratulations to the following:-

- The Primary Care Unit on the recent opening.
- Sacre Coeur Juvenile Boxing Club on the Leinster Championships.
- Campus of Youth Reach, Spring Valley, Enniscorthy where three students obtained the highest percentage in subjects throughout the Country in the Leaving Certificate Applied Examination.
- Ladies Bree United Soccer Team, Division 1, and their coach Pres Kennedy on their recent achievement.

The Members extended best wishes and a speedy recovery to Johnny Mythen T.D.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the January Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 16th January 2023

On the proposal of Cllr. O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr. Codd-Nolan, the Minutes of the January Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 16th January 2023 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

The Members requested an update on the provision of a report on proposed measures for Vinegar Hill.

2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:

2.1 Planning

The Members noted the Planning Reports circulated prior to the meeting. The Members expressed their disappointment regarding the absence of a Planning Official at the meeting. The timeframe for securing a Pre-Planning Meeting was raised and discussed.

2.2 Housing, Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service

Housing

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

- Carleys Bridge Property.
- Proposed Units to be built in Enniscorthy in the next 3-5 years.
- Requirement for 2-3 bed units.
- Housing Clinics.
- Attendance at monthly meetings by an Official from the Capital Build Section of Housing.
- Mill Park Road - request for a suitable assessment to be conducted to ascertain suitability for conversion to fifteen housing units.

The officials responded to all queries raised.

Community

The Community Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Queries were raised in relation to the following, to which Ms. Godkin responded:-

- Healthy Ireland Funding.
- Utilisation of the Athenaeum building.
- Community Recognition Fund.

- Request for inventory to be carried out on memorial medals and memorial war medals and for same to be housed in Enniscorthy.

Environment

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The Members raised concerns in relation to the following:-

- Litter on the N80, Bree/Wilton and Esmonde Road, Enniscorthy.
- Dog Fouling – request for the installation of a dog bin at the Fairgreen.
- River Slaney – request for Ring Buoy.
- CCTV - update on legislation.

Libraries & Fire Service

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

2.3 Municipal District Report

Ms. Lawless, District Manager outlined the main points of her report and updated the Members on all queries raised.

The Members raised queries in relation to the following:-

- Residents Association Grants to private estates.
- Outdoor Dining.
- Sports Hub design.
- Historic Town initiative.
- Skate Park.
- Accessibility to Country Walk.
- Representation from Special Projects at the March Meeting to speak about the Enniscorthy Sports Hub and Town Centre.
- If a Shopfront Scheme 2023 is being offered.
- Tri Colour Commemoration.
- Sensory Garden.
- Astro Turf Pitch on Ross Road.
- Paths on Vinegar Hill - overgrown.

3. Town Centre First Project.

Mr. Mick McCormack, Town Regeneration Officer gave a presentation to the members. In relation to the Town Centre First Project, Mr. McCormack sought one nomination from the Elected Members to Chair the Meetings of the Town Team. Mr. McCormack advised that more than one representative from the Elected Members may hinder the application for URDF funding due to recommendations given by the department in relation to membership of the Town Team.

A discussion took place, and the Elected Members expressed their dissatisfaction that following three and a half years of working on this project that only one Member would become part of the Town Team. The Members agreed to nominate one representative, however, it was further agreed that the working group currently in situ would be retained. The Members highlighted their ambition for project success.

On the proposal of Cllr. Codd-Nolan, seconded by Cllr. Byrne, it was agreed that Cllr. Aidan Browne be nominated as Chair of the Town Team with the current working group to be retained.

Mr. Mick McCormack informed the Members that he would advise on all members of the Town Team in due course.

4. Roads Report.

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

17:22 At this juncture of the meeting, Cllr. Byrne left the meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr. Browne, seconded by Cllr. Codd-Nolan the Members agreed to suspend the Standing Orders for a 10-minute period to allow the meeting to continue.

The Members thanked Mr. Dempsey for works to date and raised the following issues:-

- Condition of roads at Hendricks Garage, St Senans to Mr Price, Gimont, Drumgoold, Belfield, St Aidans Villas and Cul de Sac, St John's Villas.
- Request for Pedestrian Crossings - between graveyards and at Templeshannon.
- Potholes.
- Public area outside Post Office – cleaning.
- Funding availability for C.I.S, Active Travel and Road Surfacing.
- Effects of flooding on a number of roads in Enniscorthy.

On the proposal of Cllr. Codd-Nolan, seconded by Cllr. Owens the Members agreed to write to the Minister for Transport, Mr. Eamon Ryan seeking an increase in funding for roads, in particular Active Travel.

The Executive Engineer responded to all issues raised.

5. Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.

It was noted that no report was circulated prior to the meeting. A discussion took place and Cllr. Owens proposed that this committee request a meeting with the Minister Public Expenditure to discuss the scheme. The Director of Services, Ms. Godkin recommended that a meeting with Special Projects be arranged prior to any request being forwarded to the Minister to update the Members on the current position of the scheme.

6. Water Services Report.

Ms. Godkin advised the Members that a replacement for the outgoing Senior Executive Engineer was expected next week.

Cllr. Browne asked that consideration be given to suspend the Standing Orders for a further period. On the proposal of Cllr. Codd-Nolan, seconded by Cllr. Owens, the Members agreed to suspend the Standing Orders for a further 5 minutes.

7. Vinegar Hill.

It was stated that a report would be made available for the March Meeting of this Committee.

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

8.1 *GMA Budget 2022*

Following a discussion, Ms. Godkin undertook to ascertain if funds from 2022 can be transferred to 2023.

9. Correspondence.

Correspondence was received from Blacktown City Council, NSW thanking Enniscorthy for the warm welcome given to Cr. Deputy Brad Bunting on his visit to Ireland in 2022. The correspondence advised that the Mayor will be writing further to the Enniscorthy Municipal District to ascertain Wexford's agreement in forming a relationship to explore how to build on the historic connection through Vinegar Hill.

10. Any Other Business.

On the proposal of Cllr. Browne, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke it was agreed to light up the Enniscorthy Castle in green, blue, and pink to show support to the Rare Disease Day on Tuesday 28th February.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

____ Aidan Browne _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

____ 27-March-2023 _____
DATE