

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF
ENNISCORTHY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
HELD ON MONDAY 18th FEBRUARY, 2019 AT 4.00 P.M.
IN THE PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY**

Attendance: Councillors:

Willie Kavanagh (Cathaoirleach)
Barbara-Anne Murphy
Keith Doyle
Johnny Mythen
Kathleen Codd-Nolan
Oliver Walsh
Paddy Kavanagh
John O'Rourke

Apologies:

John Carley, Gerry Forde.

Officials:

Mr. Pdraig O'Gorman, A/Director of Services
Ms. Elizabeth Hore, District Manager
Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Joanne Kehoe, Executive Engineer
Mr. Larry McHale, Resident Engineer
Ms Deirdre Kearns, Senior Planner
Ms. Kate Stafford, Staff Officer, Roads Section
Ms Elaine Warren, Roads Section
Ms. Mary Cline, Asst. Staff Officer
Mr. Brendan Cooney, Senior Executive Scientist

The Chairman welcomed the new representative for the press, Brendan Keane.

Votes of Sympathy:-

- Cllr Barbara Ann Murphy - Nancy Bond, Bunclody, who died at the age of 102.
- Cllr Kathleen Codd Nolan - Lambert Family, Glenbrien on the death of Mary.
- Cllr Johnny Mythen - John Harrington, Wexford, who represented Wexford in football.
- Liz Hore - The family of Michael O Leary, Auctioneer, Slaney Street, and Vice President of the Chamber on his sad passing.
- Tadhg O'Corcora - Fellow worker Michael Murphy on the death of his brother Sean Murphy.

Congratulations:-

- Cllr John O'Rourke - Eanna Doyle, Cloughban AFC who has been chosen to represent Ireland at U 17 squad level.
- Cllr Paddy Kavanagh - Enniscorthy Rugby Club, who recently won the League.
- Cllr Willie Kavanagh - Oylegate Junior B team who recently won an All Ireland title.
- Cllr Oliver Walsh - Darren Byrne on receiving Man of the Match representing Wexford Senior Hurling Team.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1. Minutes of the January 'In Committee' Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on the 21st January, 2019.

On the proposal of Cllr. Barbara Ann Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Oliver Walsh, the Minutes of the January 'In Committee' Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 21st January, 2019 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Chairperson.

1.2. Minutes of the January Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 21st January, 2019.

On the proposal of Cllr. Barbara Ann Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Oliver Walsh the Minutes of the December Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 21st January, 2019 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Chairperson.

1.3 Matter Arising.

None.

2. Presentation on E-Parking.

Ms. Kate Stafford and Ms. Elaine Warren attended the meeting and made a presentation to the Members on the introduction of E-Parking in Enniscorthy town.

Ms. Stafford stated that E-Parking was essentially the ability to pay for parking by an electronic means – cashless parking, and was an additional parking option and an alternative to Pay & Display. It was fully integrated with WCC Parking systems. Park by App – you download the App to your phone, follow the instructions on screen to register, then tap on any street or car park shaded in blue on the map to park at that location or tap on the search icon to see a list of locations.

E-Parking to date – Months of robust testing and integration from contract signing in June 2018 to going live in January 2019. Usage has exceeded expectation, and is steadily growing, advertising would continue, and feedback has been extremely positive. Members were asked for their continued support and assistance in promoting this initiative.

In reply to Members queries, Ms. Stafford stated that the app would allow for a further 2 hours parking to be purchased from the initial two hours and it would be the existing enforcement by the Traffic Warden monitor usage of car parking spaces.

The Members thanked Ms. Stafford for her in-depth presentation.

Ms. Liz Hore briefed the Members on a new commercial parking scheme that will enable employers to give their staff access to discounted parking rates. The initiative aimed to support jobs and employment in the town by reducing car parking with discs available for periods of 3 months or 1 year.

Cllr. Paddy Kavanagh stated that with the Bye-Pass set to open in July, initiatives to reduce the cost of parking are welcome in order to encourage business into the Town.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:

3.1 Planning

Ms. Deirdre Kearns informed the Members that Wexford County Council would be making a submission in relation to the Draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region (RSES), which was currently on display, with a closing date for submissions of 5.00 p.m. Friday, 8th March 2019. The Eastern Midlands Regional Authority are also preparing their Regional Spatial and Economic and Spatial Strategy. The Forward Planning Section prepared a submission which seeks the inclusion of Eastern Economic Corridor (Belfast-Dublin-Rosslare Harbour) in that Strategy.

Ms. Kearns stated that Wexford County Council has been directed to suspend the statutory process for preparing its County Development Plan until the RSES is adopted. Notwithstanding this, background work on the plan and its strategies is continuing.

Cllr. Keith Doyle asked that the submission should include recognition of the two towns of Enniscorthy and New Ross. The four towns in the County are strategically important to the strong hinterlands with significant population clusters. Enniscorthy with infrastructure and its connectivity with the By Pass is strategically important to the County and region.

Cllr. Paddy Kavanagh seconded the proposal to make a submission, and felt that the Enniscorthy District was being diluted and it seemed that the plan was to make the weaker towns weaker and the stronger towns stronger.

Cllr. Oliver Walsh updated the Members on the Regional Strategy and the work to get the economic corridor included.

Cllr. Johnny Mythen felt that with population growing, it made no sense to put Enniscorthy and New Ross in a rural setting.

Cllr. Keith Doyle referred to the building of houses at Carleys Bridge by Wexford County Council and concerns from residents that a ditch between Urrin Valley and Millbrook would be removed. Ms. Kearns stated that this matter had been addressed to the satisfaction of the local residents.

Cllr. Paddy Kavanagh raised the issue of 'local need' in relation to planning applications. Ms. Kearns stated that applicants need to submit the information required and it was agreed that she would send out information details to all Members on this matter.

The Members highlighted a number of concerns to which Ms. Kearns responded.

3.2 Housing, Community & Environment

Mr. Padraig O'Gorman, Senior Executive Officer, Housing Section, updated the Members on all Housing Matters as outlined in the report circulated prior to the meeting. He circulated plans for an infill 2 bed bungalow at Marconi Park, Enniscorthy, which had been submitted for funding and Part VIII approval, on a problem site. Mr. O'Gorman informed Members that 34 of the Oaklee houses would be allocated mid March,

with the remaining allocated towards the end of March, 2019. Meadowfield – Phase I of 14 units completed, to be occupied by end of June. Agreement for Phase I of Housing Scheme near new Filling Station on Mile House Road, Enniscorthy, to provide 96 houses, with social housing included. Mr. O’Gorman acknowledged the importance of new houses being built in Enniscorthy.

A brief discussion took place and Mr. O’Gorman responded to all matters raised.

Environment

Presentation on Air Pollution in Enniscorthy

Mr. Brendan Cooney, Senior Executive Scientist, Wexford County Council gave a presentation to the Members on the quality of air in Enniscorthy. He informed them that an air quality monitoring station had been established behind Enniscorthy Library, which went live in December, 2017. The data gathered was being utilized by the EPA as part of their EU obligations in having a national network of air quality monitoring stations and was instrumental in the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment in deciding to extend the existing smokeless zones to the whole country in 2018.

He stated that Enniscorthy and New Ross had the worst air pollution in the county, stating that it would have an impact on people affected by conditions like asthma and COPD. He informed Members that stoves were far more efficient than open fires, which had 25 to 30 per cent efficiency, whereas a stove had about 70 per cent efficiency Mr. Cooney stated that it would be preferable if the entire county was a designated smoke-free zone.

Cllr. Keith Doyle said that he noticed poor air quality when attending matches in the evening time in Enniscorthy and he asked that a letter be issued to the Department calling for a ban on the burning of coal. Cllr. Johnny Mythen stated that it would be advantageous for people to know what times to avoid being out at. Cllr. Paddy Kavanagh agreed that a letter should issue to the Department. While Cllr. Barbara Anne Murphy said that there were some issues with air pollution in Bunclody.

3.4 Roads Report

Ms. Joanne Kehoe attended the meeting to discuss roads matters and updated the Members on the contents of the roads report circulated prior to the meeting.

Ms. Kehoe stated that there was a budget increase of €170,000 for Road Restoration Schemes, while there was an increase of €100,000 for Surface Dressing Schemes.

It was proposed by Cllr. John O’Rourke, seconded by Cllr. Keith Doyle and agreed that the Schemes be implemented as outlined in the Roads Report.

It was proposed by Cllr. Keith Doyle, seconded by Cllr. Kathleen Codd Nolan and agreed that 4 schools would receive assistance with traffic management in the installation of lights, namely, Marshalstown N.S., Castledockrell N.S., Oulart N.S. and Ballindaggin N.S.

A number of issues were highlighted by the Members to which Ms. Kehoe responded, in particular:-

- Snow – provision of grit.
- Slaney View Park – potholes
- Traffic lights at County Wexford Community Workshop out of order.
- Footpaths in Oulart.
- Footpaths in The Ballagh.
- Lights at Gaelscoil Inis Corthaidh vandalized.
- Danger on roads in Moyne area with construction works underway.
- Roadway at Killagoley
- Lighting on Esmonde Road
- Funding for resurfacing of roadways in villages.

Ms. Joanne Kehoe stated that replacement switches had been provided at the traffic lights at Community Workshop on five occasions and undertook to check with the suppliers if there was a more resilient solution. The OPW had reverted regarding the provision of footpaths in Oulart and drawings were being prepared for the Ballagh footpaths.

4. Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.

Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer updated the Members on the contents of the Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update circulated prior to the meeting.

Mr. McHale stated that the scheme would go to public exhibition in April, 2019 and the documentation required for the public exhibition and statutory notices to landowners affected by the scheme were being prepared. Contact had been made with the Office of Public Works and reconfirmation had been given that the money for the Scheme had been ring-fenced.

5. Water Services Report.

Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora attended the meeting to update the Members on Water Services. The report circulated prior to the meeting noted and Mr. O'Corcora undertook to respond to all queries highlighted by the Members, in particular the following was discussed:-

- Water pressure at Vinegar Hill Villas.
- Odour from water grids opposite the Church at St. Senan's.

Mr. O'Corcora informed the Members that Irish Water had commenced the replacement of existing domestic lead connection from Junction Box to service water main at numerous locations throughout Enniscorthy town. The regional contractor for the water service work is Coffey Northumberland. Consent forms are being sought from house owners in O'Neill's Terrace, St. John's Terrace, Friary Hill, Lower Church Street, Bellefield Road and St. Aidan's Villas.

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

6.1 Annual Report 2018

The District manager circulated the Annual report 2018 for Enniscorthy Municipal District which was proposed by Cllr. Kathleen Codd-Nolan, seconded by Cllr. Keith Doyle, and approved.

6.2 GMA Budget 2018.

It was proposed by Cllr. Johnny Mythen, seconded by Cllr. Keith Doyle and agreed that the GMA Budget, 2018 outlined to the members be approved.

7. Correspondence.

None.

8. Any Other Business.

- **Amenity & Arts Grants** – Ms. Liz Hore, District Manager informed the Members that she would have the applications received to the Members for approval at the March Meeting of Enniscorthy Municipal District.
- **BAM** – Ms. Liz Hore reminded the Members that the M11EJV site visit of the new By Pass for the Elected Members would take place on 21st February, at 10.30am – to meet in the Site Compound at Scarawalsh.
- **Enniscorthy Sports Hub** – Phase two Cllr. Keith Doyle asked for an update at the March Meeting.
- **Bernard Dunne Memorial Seat** – to be provided.

Date for March Meeting – It was agreed that the March Enniscorthy Municipal District Meeting would be held at the earlier time of 2.00pm on Monday, 25th March, 2019 due to St Patricks Day.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE