

**MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE  
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE  
PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON MONDAY,  
17<sup>th</sup> July at 9.30 a.m.**

**Attendance:**

**Councillors:**

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

**Officials:**

Mr. Paul L'Estrange, A/Director of Services  
Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager  
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Angela Finn, Senior Staff Officer, Housing  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer  
Mr Vincent Gallagher, T/Senior Executive Technician  
Mr Tom Byrne, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Edel Nolan, Staff Officer  
Ms. Caroline Creane, Senior Staff Officer  
Mr Claude Clancy, Administrative Officer

**Remotely**

**Apologies Officials:**

Ms. Carolyne Godkin, Director of Service  
Ms Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner

Cathaoirleach O Rourke proposed the business under 6.1 Amendment of Enniscorthy Municipal Standing Orders with regard to changing the time of meeting to 9.30am on the third Monday of each month move to the first item on the agenda, the amendment was proposed by Cllr Owens and seconded by Cllr Byrne.

**Congratulations:**

The Members expressed congratulations to the following: -

- Edermine Rowing Club on the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.
- Thank and congratulate the members of Wexford County Council staff that attended the bus driver that got into difficulty and assisted teachers and children to get up to the school.
- Dylan Hudson on winning the Leinster Intermediate Stroke play in Pitch N Putt.

## **Votes of Sympathy:**

The Members expressed their sincere sympathies to the following:-

- The Dobbs family of Redmond Street on the passing of the Late Tilly Dobbs.
- The McBride family from the Shannon on the passing of the Late Mrs McBride.
- Mr Abraham Dunne, Senior Engineer Wexford County Council on the passing of his mother the Late Mrs Sarah Ann Dunne.

## **1. Confirmation of Minutes:**

### **1.1 Minutes of the June Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. Browne, the Minutes of the June Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach, subject to the following amendment:

Cllr Murphy requested an amendment to the minutes; it was in fact Cllr O Rourke who congratulated Bunclody on the marking of the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of 1798.

### **1.2 Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. Browne, the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

### **1.3 Matters Arising**

The Members requested an update on the following: -

An update on the request for the opening of Toilet on Vinegar Hill to 9.00pm?

Ms Lawless District Manager said she will look into the possibility of same and revert with an answer for September meeting.

Cllr Codd Nolan asked if there would be a representative for the Director while she was on leave at the meeting?

Cllr O Rourke noted that as Mr Paul L'Estrange had sent no apologies as Acting Director it showed complete disdain and discourtesy to the Members of the Enniscorthy Municipal District.

## **2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:**

### **2.1 Planning**

The reports circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Cllr Owens stated that as there was no representative from planning and no Director he had three matters with regards to Planning and he would not talk to anyone other than the Director.

The other members also noted their aggrievance as to the lack of a representatives to answer questions. It was requested that a letter be sent to the Chief Executive to highlight the Members grievance at the non-attendance of officials which shows complete disdain and discourteousness to the Members.

The members queried

- as to when the Local Area Plan for Enniscorthy would happen?
- queried the Zoned Land Tax Map, farmers are concerned and need to know if they should contact Revenue?
- as to whether the residents of Cherryorchard and Mile house development have been made aware of this development?

Ms. Lawless, District Manager stated that she would bring the Members queries to Planning for answers.

### **2.2 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service**

#### **Community**

Mr Claude Clancy and Mr Niall Conway, KPMG presented via Teams to the Members an update on the Draft Wexford Local Economic and Community Plan.

The members raised the following queries:

- How is Wexford County Council Involved?
- Where is the Funding coming from?
- Has funding been secured?
- What was meant by the reference to 'Rangers'?

Mr Clancy and Mr Conway answered the Members Queries.

At this juncture the feed to Teams went down due to a technical issue.

It was agreed that the Members would review the rest of the presentation and if they had any queries or required changes that they would contact Mr Clancy directly.

It was again noted that there was no representation at Director level, Ms Lawless updated the Members that Mr Paul L'Estrange had made contact and that he apologised for his absence as he had in his diary that the meeting was in the afternoon and he would join them shortly.

The Community Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

The members asked if the following schemes are being offered:

- Sponsorship of Roundabouts to make more attractive?
- Paint Tin Amnesty?
- Mattress Amnesty?

Ms. Lawless and Mr Dempsey answered the members questions and Ms. Lawless undertook to bring the relevant queries back to Environment section for replies.

A/Director Mr. Paul L'Estrange joined the meeting at this point, Cathaoirleach O'Rourke welcomed him and accepted his apologies for the mix up in time of meeting.

### **Environment**

The Environment Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

### **Libraries & Fire Service**

The Libraries and Fire Service Reports circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Cllr Codd Nolan queried the situation with the retained Fire Service Strike. Mr L'Estrange gave the Members an update on the current position of the proposals from the Labour Court and the pending vote by the Unions.

## **2.3 Housing**

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

- Status of nine acres being secured for housing at turret rocks?
- The Members wish to be provided with the vacant property list (as they have in the past). Can this be arranged?
- Any update on the sale of the nunnery and land in Ferns to the council?
- How many properties have or are to be retrofitted for climate change purposes in ENMD?
- How many planned houses for the abovementioned nine acres?
- Any update on the Marconi Park project?
- Can a representative from Housing Capital be made available for meetings in future?
- Any expressions of interest in selling land (green or brown) to the council in Enniscorthy?
- When will the houses being constructed in Ferns be ready to allocate?
- EOI's for Emergency accommodation?
- How may Croi Conaithe applications for Enniscorthy?

Mr L'Estrange undertook to revert to the Members to all queries.

## **2.4 Municipal District Report**

Claire Lawless District Manager outlined the main points of report.

The Members raised the following queries: -

- Will the Historic Towns Initiative work together with Tourism?
- Status of the Sports Hub project phase 2?
- Requested that the Sports Hub be advertised more and to make it available to more users.
- The Date for the Public Presentation of the Towns Centre Plan?
- Why is the CCTV for Bunclody Scheme going back to Public Consultation again?
- Signage for Tour De France update?
- The availability of sandbags to the public to prepare for flooding?
- A request for a Local Link Bus stop to be established at the new Care Centre at Blackstoops on the Old Dublin Road.
- Update on the Heritage Panels for Vinegar Hill.
- The relocation of the recycling bins from Astro Pitch site to beside the learn to cycle park and the need for screening.
- The demolition of the Murphy Flood's site works. Also requested that this be included in the report going forward.
- An update on the Call 3 URDF Funding.
- Request for a Tourism representative to attend the September Meeting to update the Members.

It was proposed by Cllr Owens to write to Local Link to request the Bus Stop, Cllr Byrne seconded this.

Ms. Lawless responded to all queries raised and undertook to investigate the erection of the signs for the Tour De France as it had only been brought to her attention recently.

It was noted that the members received the An Taisce Report - IBAL Anti-Litter League Survey 2023.

Cllr Murphy also requested that the Shopfront Improvement Scheme be reviewed to increase the amount of funding available to applicants.

Ms Lawless agreed to review the scheme for next year and increase the amount of funding available if budgets allow.

## **3. Roads Report.**

Mr Tom Byrne gave a brief update on the Safe Routes to School and traffic calming Scheme – St. Aidan's Parish School seeking approval of the proposed plans that had just completed the Public Consultation stage.

- The members queried as to whether the funds mentioned of €80 thousand would cover the project?
- The possibility for the need of double yellow lines at the proposed Summerhill crossing to prevent cars parking close to the crossing.

- When would phase 2 of the scheme take place?

Mr Byrne responded to all queries. Cllr Owens proposed that the plan be accepted and this was seconded by Cllr Byrne.

Cllr Murphy made a proposal to seek further funding from the NTA to enable this scheme to be rolled out to other schools, Cllr Codd Nolan seconded this.

#### **4. Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.**

Cathaoirleach O 'Rourke welcomed Mr Larry McHale back after his illness and wished him well as did all members.

Mr McHale updated the Members on the current position of the Flood Defence Scheme project. The members raised a number of queries to which Mr McHale gave informative and detailed replies.

On the proposal of Cllr Codd Nolan and seconded by Cllr Byrne the members agreed to suspend the Standing Orders for 15 minutes to allow the meeting to continue.

Cllr Owens questioned as to whether a reply had been received from the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to letters sent from Enniscorthy Municipal District. Ms Lawless confirmed that no response was received to any of the three letters sent.

The Cathaoirleach reverted to the Roads Report.

The Roads Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

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

- The road surface on Kilogoley Terrace and the top of the Shannon.
- Lights at Ballindaggin Playground pedestrian crossing to be in place before school reopens.
- Sinkhole in road on N80 on Ryland Road outside of Bunclody Town and also all manholes on N80 which need works after the resurfacing of the road carried out by Carlow County Council.
- The disappearance of Signage with regards to Japanese Knotweed.
- Cutting back of Hedgerows on narrow roads and junctions to make safer for drivers and walkers etc.

On the proposal of Cllr Browne and seconded by Cllr Byrne the members agreed to suspend the Standing Orders for a further 15 minutes to allow the meeting to continue.

- Replacing fencing at the Fairgreen playground.
- Road markings on the streets throughout Enniscorthy Town.
- Road signs for Bree village.
- Resurfacing of the roadway in the Brambles Estate in Galbally.
- Repairs to the road in Greenville.
- The levels or patching works carried out by Uisce Eireann.

## **5. Water Services.**

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. There were no queries raised.

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

None.

## **7. Correspondence.**

None. Cllr Byrne requested that another letter be sent to the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform.

Ms Lawless undertook to write once again to the Minister and send same by registered post.

## **8. Any Other Business.**

At this juncture Cathaoirleach O'Rourke requested that the meeting proceed to 'in Committee', this was proposed by Cllr Owens and Seconded by Cllr Browne.

The Members had a brief discussion on the Local Property Tax Strategic Budget spending. Mr Neil Dempsey outlined costings for a Pedestrian Crossing at St Mary,s Graveyard in Enniscorthy and a Pedestrian Crossing at the National School in Bunclody.

Cllr Owens proposed to proceed with both projects, and this was seconded by Cllr Browne.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

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**John O Rourke**  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**18<sup>th</sup> September 2023**  
**DATE**