

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD THROUGH MICROSOFT
TEAMS ON MONDAY 17TH MAY, 2021 AT 3.00 P.M.**

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

Officials: Ms. Carolyn Godkin, Director of Services
Ms. Amanda Byrne, Director of Services
Mr. Brian Galvin, Senior Engineer
Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms. Bernie Quigley, Staff Officer
Mr. Tom Fox, Executive Engineer
Ms. Annette Dupuy, Healthy County Co-Ordinator
Ms. Martina Donoghue, Administrative Officer
Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer
Ms. Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner
Mr. Niall Sheehan, Assistant Planner
Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer
Mr. Michael Sweeney, Senior Staff Officer

Visitors: Ms. Verona Murphy, T.D.
Mr. Sean Breen, Design Consultant, Mulcahy Walsh & Partners

Apologies: Mr. Ger Mackey, District Manager
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Senior Executive Engineer

Votes of Sympathies

The Members expressed their sincere sympathies to the following:-

- The O'Leary family on the death of Stephen O'Leary.
- The family of James Louis Murphy.
- The Larkin family on the death of James Larkin.
- The family of Imelda Dagg.

Congratulations

The Members wished the businesses of the district the best of luck in their reopening this week and acknowledged Katie Nolan and Kelsey White-Burke on their recent writing success.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the In Committee Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 13th April, 2021

On the proposal of Councillor O'Rourke, seconded by Councillor Codd-Nolan, the Minutes of the In Committee Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 13th April, 2021 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Minutes of the April Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 19th April, 2021

On the proposal of Councillor O'Rourke, seconded by Councillor Codd-Nolan, the Minutes of the April Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 19th April, 2021 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.3 Matters Arising

Cllr. Byrne asked for an update on the circulation of the Road Map for the installation of Broadband as undertaken by Mr. Dempsey at the April Meeting.

2. Draft Master Plan for the Enniscorthy North Business District.

Mr. Brian Galvin, Mr. Tom Fox, Ms. Amanda Byrne and Mr. Sean Breen attended the meeting to discuss the above.

Mr. Fox made a presentation to the Members followed by a presentation from Mr. Breen on concept design. Mr. Fox outlined the next steps and the programme of works.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Mr. Fox and Mr. Breen for their presentation and welcomed the plan as presented.

Cllr. Codd-Nolan welcomed the Master Plan and asked how many benches would be provided in the rest area outlined in the presentation.

Mr. Breen and Mr. Galvin responded by stating that the area in question has limited space, however, the concept design was in the very early stages.

Cllr. Byrne also welcomed the plan and queried lighting and the provision of a second bus stop. Mr. Galvin confirmed that lighting is included in the overall plan and undertook to look at the provision of a second bus stop. In relation to funding secured by Wexford County Council in 2020 for the provision of a cycle lane Mr. Galvin stated that the proposal for this funding has not been approved by the department to date and at this point he is not in a position to confirm if these funds can be made available for the Enniscorthy North Business Project.

Cllr. Browne asked if any assistance will be given to Businesses for signage to which Mr. Galvin replied that it is anticipated that there will be a consistent signage theme throughout the scheme including consultation with the relevant businesses.

Cllr. Murphy stressed the importance of a link from the Old Dublin Road to Enniscorthy Town and queried the provision of a footpath on the link road. Cllr. Murphy also asked for consideration to be given to a pedestrian crossing at the Primary Care Centre.

Mr. Breen stated that the provision of a pedestrian crossing could be discussed with roads, however, uncontrolled crossings with dip kerbs can prove to be a good solution. Phase 2 of the development provides for a full loop with footpaths on both sides of the Old Dublin Road.

3. Healthy Wexford.

Ms. Annette Dupuy attended the meeting to discuss Healthy Wexford, Ms. Dupuy gave a presentation to the attendees outlining the following:-

- Healthy County Coordinator role.
- Healthy Ireland Framework 2013-2025 including its vision and goal.
- Understanding the Healthy Ireland Goals.
- Planned Initiatives.

A discussion took place on a number of the initiatives outlined in the presentation including smoke/vape free areas for children and young people, spaces and places for wellbeing and Healthy Wexford Branding.

Cllr. Browne asked if it was preferred that input into the smoke/vape free areas from clubs be done at local or county level.

Cllr. Codd-Nolan asked for consideration to more than one bench to be provided along walks to facilitate people with disabilities and the elderly.

Ms. Dupuy confirmed that Wexford GAA were already on board for the smoke/vape free areas, however, she welcomed input from any club. It was noted that it has proved more efficient if the input is submitted by the main body of clubs and groups. Ms. Dupuy spoke of Healthy Enniscorthy and confirmed that work is commencing on the provision of accessible trails and a dementia friendly Enniscorthy.

The Members thanked Ms. Dupuy for her welcomed presentation.

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:

4.1 Planning

Ms. Niamh Lennon attended the meeting to discuss planning matters and updated the Members on the Planning Report which was circulated prior to the meeting. In response to the query raised by Cllr. Murphy at the April Meeting, Ms. Lennon confirmed that Wexford County Council were not in a position to make a submission on the planning application for a Wind Farm on the Blackstairs in Co. Carlow as no formal notification was given by Carlow County Council.

The Members put forward a number of queries to Ms. Lennon, in particular:-

- Planning Applications for stand-alone garage type spaces, over the size permitted under the Development Plan at residential properties to enable people to work from home Ms. Lennon stated that the preferred option would be for applications for extensions to existing properties where no set restrictions apply. It was noted that the Planning Department would have concerns regarding large detached garages being subsequently turned into houses.
- Responses from the Planning Section to representations made by the Members being forwarded by post – request for responses to be emailed to the Members. Ms. Lennon responded by stating that there are some difficulties with using email due to legislation around certain correspondence, however, she undertook to speak to management and revert back to the Members.
- Difference between working from home and running a small business from home with regard to planning. Ms. Lennon confirmed that if a person is working from home then there is no change of use necessary, however, if a person is running a small business then the premises becomes commercial.
- Resubmission of a planning application following refusal within the four-week appeal period if the applicant does not wish to appeal but wishes to put forward a further application. It was noted that this can prove difficult.

4.2 Housing

Ms. Martina Donoghue, Administrative Officer attended the meeting to update the Members on Housing. and highlighted the main points of the Housing Report circulated prior to the meeting. Ms. Donoghue stated that this was her last Enniscorthy Meeting and introduced Ms. Roseanne Redmond who would be stepping in to deal with housing matters at all future meetings.

The Officials updated the Members on a number of issues raised at the previous meeting, in particular Taking in Charge, The Willows, Bunclody, Grass Cutting and Vacant Houses.

The main points of the Housing Report circulated prior to the meeting were highlighted following which a number of queries were raised by the Members:-

- Expedition of house at Ross Road.
- Request for extension of closing date of the Marketing Strategy for Affordable Housing. Ms. Godkin outlined the terms of the strategy.

16:14 p.m. - At this juncture Cllr. Browne stepped out of the meeting.

- Cllr. Owens confirmed that the Taking In Charge of the Willows was not the query raised by residents, they did in fact wish to name the estate to make the estate their own.
- Works to boundary fence at Bellefield Springs – Cllr. Owens stated that a petition had been left at the Enniscorthy Municipal District Offices from the residents in this regard. Cllr. Codd-Nolan and Cllr. Byrne concurred with Cllr. Owens request and hoped this issue could be looked upon favourable by the Council.
- Clarification on the eligibility of RAS tenants to apply for Wexford County Councils housing list.

16:21 p.m. – At this junction Cllr. Browne returned to the meeting.

The Officials responded to all queries raised.

The Members thanked Ms. Donoghue for her attendance at the meetings and stated that the Enniscorthy Municipal Districts loss is another districts gain.

Community, Environment, Libraries and Fire Service

Community

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Environment

The Members raised the issue of the lack of the provision of Dog Bins in a number of areas of the town. The matter of the provision of a mattress amnesty for Enniscorthy was also raised along with the possibility of organising a 2K Clean Up Scheme in the Enniscorthy District.

A discussion took place regarding the recent press release for Litter Prevention.

It was noted that all concerns regarding litter can be forwarded by Cllr. Browne who is a member of the Litter & Waste Action Sub-Committee.

Libraries & Fire Service

The Libraries and Fire Service Reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted. Cllr. Murphy stated that she was delighted to see the Libraries reopen to the public.

4.3 Enterprise

Noted.

4.4 Economic Development Report

The Economic Report submitted to the Members prior to the meeting was noted and the Members welcomed the inclusion of this report at their monthly meetings. The Members in particular mentioned the Outdoor Seating and Accessories Scheme and wished the businesses the best of luck when they reopen on the 7th June.

4.5 Municipal District Report

It was noted that no Municipal District Report was available in the absence of the District Manager.

5. Naming of Municipal Cemetery.

Mr. Michael Sweeney attended the meeting to discuss the naming of the Municipal Cemetery in Enniscorthy. Mr. Sweeney referred to the documents circulated prior to the meeting and confirmed that no submissions had been received to the naming consultation advertised recently with a closing date of 16th April, 2021. It was noted that the final decision lies with the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy.

Mr. Sweeney outlined a number of suggestions to the Members, following which a discussion took place.

Cllr. Owens suggested St. Marys New Cemetery, however, Mr. Sweeney confirmed that under the Placenames Document duplications are not permitted as they can cause confusion to emergency services. Mr. Sweeney also asked that the Members consider the fact that this is a multi-non-denomination graveyard. A discussion took place regarding the elimination of the use of Saints Names.

Cllr. Codd-Nolan asked if a decision had to be made at this meeting as she felt it was disappointing that no submissions were made under the consultation process. A discussion took place regarding the use of Saints Names and on the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Byrne the Members agreed to their elimination.

It was further agreed that a further public consultation process be prepared listing the following names for consideration by members of the public:-

- Summerhill Cemetery.
- Blackstoops Cemetery.
- Reilig Chnoc an tSamhraigh.
- Reilig na Stolp Dubh.
- Enniscorthy Cemetery.
- Other

6. Playgrounds.

Mr. Sweeney referred to the report issued to the Members in relation to Playground maintenance.

Mr. Sweeney highlighted the main points of the report and the Members raised a number of queries to which Mr. Sweeney responded. In particular playgrounds at Cluain Dara and Marshalstown were discussed.

The facilitation of funding for community run playgrounds was raised and it was noted that while funding does exist for these types of projects insurance posed problems for groups.

It was further noted that Wexford County Council do not have the resources to provide toilet facilities at our playgrounds.

7. Roads Report.

Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer took this item in the absence of Mr. Dempsey. The Members raised a number of concerns, in particular:-

- Traffic Lights at St. Aidans School.
- Clarification on whether applicants of the Local Improvement Scheme were aware they needed to complete new applications.
- Millpark Road – dangerous section of road, request for one-way system to be considered.

Mr. O'Corcora responded to all items raised.

8. Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.

Mr. Larry McHale updated the Members on the main points of the Flood Defence Scheme Report circulated prior to the meeting.

A discussion took place and the Members agreed to write to the relevant Ministers seeking a meeting. Securing the support of the Oireachtas Members were also discussed and agreed.

9. Water Services Report.

Mr. Tadhg O’Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer updated the Members on the Water Services Report circulated prior to the meeting. The Members put forward a number of questions to Mr. O’Corcora to which he responded.

Queries raised by the Member included:-

- Consideration for some repair works to be carried out in the graveyard adjacent to the Orchard Peace Park. A discussion took place and Mr. O’Corcora undertook to come back to the Members in relation to clarification on whether a voluntary committee was in place to maintain this graveyard.
- Water disruptions in Clohamon and Kilmysall.
- Clarification on whether any investigations had taken place regarding the supply capacity in Bunclody to support future development. Mr. O’Corcora confirmed that this is being investigated with improvements planned over the next couple of years.
- Works to Orchard Peace Park – Mr. O’Corcora undertook to look at the issues outlined.

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

10.1 Date for Annual General Meeting

On the proposal of Cllr. Browne, seconded by Cllr. O’Rourke it was agreed to hold the Annual General Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy on the morning of Monday 28th June, 2021.

10.2 Notice of Motion – Cllr. Owens

“To have proper public toilet facilities installed in Enniscorthy”

Notice of Motion from Cllr. Owens was discussed. Cllr. Byrne seconded the motion with support from Cllr. O’Rourke and Cllr. Browne.

The Director of Services undertook to speak to the Environment Department regarding the relocation of the Automatic Public Convenience in the Old Dunnes Stores Car Park. Ms. Godkin also stated that she would make enquiries regarding consultation with businesses to see if they were open to allowing their toilet facilities to be used by members of the public.

Cllr. Owens agreed with the relocation of the APC from Dunnes Stores Car Park and thanked his fellow Members for their support.

A brief discussion took place.

11. Correspondence.

None.

12. Any Other Business.

Cllr. Browne asked for an update on Slaney Street and if Wexford County Council would be making an application for Enniscorthy under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme.

Cllr. Owens raised his concerns regarding the need for people of Enniscorthy to travel to Carlow for their vaccination when a Vaccine Centre is located in the town.

Ms. Godkin responded to the above queries.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE