

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF  
ENNISCORTHY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
HELD ON MONDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2019 AT 3.00 P.M.  
IN THE PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY**

**Attendance: Councillors:**

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

**Officials:**

Mr. John Carley, Director of Services  
Mr. Ger Mackey, District Manager  
Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer  
Ms. Joanne Kehoe, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Bernie Quigley, Staff Officer  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner  
Ms. Martina Donoghue, Administrative Officer

**Apologies: Officials:**

Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer

**1. Confirmation of Minutes:**

**1.1. Minutes of the July Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on the 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.**

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke, the Minutes of the July Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Chairperson.

**1.2. Matters Arising.**

Cllr. O'Rourke enquired about the position of the grant allocated to Boolabawn Lane under the Community Involvement Scheme as agreed at the July Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy.

The Director of Services stated that the decision made by the Members at the July Meeting regarding this allocation was setting a precedent and differed from the agreement made by the previous Council some years ago.

Ms. Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer confirmed that she had met with the group this week to discuss options regarding the groups contribution to the works.

The Chairperson, Cllr. Codd-Nolan along with all Members welcomed the new District Manager, Mr. Ger Mackey to the Enniscorthy District. They acknowledged Mr. Mackey's extensive experience, positive attitude and support over the years to Community Groups in the district and they looked forward to working with him.

Mr. Mackey thanked Cllr. Codd-Nolan for her kind words and spoke of his time as Town Clerk in New Ross. He stated that it's a time of opportunity for Enniscorthy with the extension of the Motorway, the Technology Park along with a number of other large schemes in the pipe line for the town and district. He continued by stating that he was looking forward to working with the Members and felt it was an honour to be appointed to the role of District Manager.

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

### **2.1. Planning**

Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner attended the meeting to discuss Planning Matters and responded to all queries raised, in particular the following was discussed:-

- Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy

Ms. Kearns informed the Members that some material amendments had been made to the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy for the Southern Region and therefore the plan has gone on public display for a period of 4 weeks from 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 to 11<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

Cllr. Byrne raised his concerns that Enniscorthy is not highlighted as a central area in the plan. Cllr. Byrne hoped that the Members will have the opportunity to view the submissions following the end of the consultation period.

Ms. Kearns agreed with Cllr. Byrnes concerns and stated that Wexford County Council had made some submissions making a stronger case for Enniscorthy, however, not all submissions were included.

It was noted that the Enniscorthy Municipal District can make a submission up to the closing date and it was agreed that the District Manager and the Senior Executive Planner would work on same which would then be circulated to the Members for their information.

The Members concurred with Cllr. Byrnes concerns.

- Cllr. Murphy asked what the waiting time for a pre-planning meeting was and the reason it was taking so long for an appointment.
- Cllr. Browne enquired about the plan for Templeshannon. Mr. Carley responded and stated that all proposals will come before the Members.

### **2.2. Housing, Community & Environment**

Ms. Martina Donoghue, Administrative Officer attended the meeting to discuss Housing Matters as outlined in the report circulated prior to the meeting. The Members highlighted a number of concerns to which Ms. Donoghue responded, in particular:-

- Number of emergency units in the Enniscorthy District.
- Procedure for families who receive notices to quit from private rented accommodation and find themselves homeless.
- Number of social houses provided in Enniscorthy over the last 10 years – Ms. Donoghue outlined the number of units provided for the district.

- Need for 1 bed units in Enniscorthy.
- The length of time to re-let a property after it becomes vacant.
- Anti-Social Behaviour.
- Provision of housing units for smaller villages throughout the district.

### **Environment**

Cllr. O'Rourke raised the issue of an embankment in front of the barrier which is in place at the walkway between Druim Catha and Vinegar Hill . Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer stated that a lot of illegal dumping had taken place in this area and the barrier was assisting with this issue, however, he would make enquiries to see if it could be removed. It was noted however, if the illegal dumping reappeared the barrier may have to be re-instated.

Cllr. Owens asked if the barrier at the laneway between Fr. Murphy Park and Fr. Cullens Terrace could be widened as it is too narrow to allow buggies/wheelchairs to get through.

Cllr. Byrne asked if a letter had been written to the Minister regarding the ban on the use of smoke coal. Mr. Carley confirmed that Wexford County Council is liaising with the department on the best way forward to deal with this issue. Cllr. Byrne expressed his fear that Enniscorthy is getting lost in the context of things and that the letter to the Minister was to recommend a ban for Enniscorthy. Mr. Carley stated that at present Wexford County Council is not in a position to enforce any ban but are very proactive in the area of air pollution. It was noted that the air quality in Enniscorthy is good the vast majority of times.

The Members also highlighted the issue of overgrown trees in the Bohreen Hill and Red Pats Cross areas.

### **2.3. Enterprise**

None

### **2.4. 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.

The Members raised a number of queries to which Ms. Kehoe responded, in particular:-

- Requirement for Stop Signs in Oakley Housing Development. It was noted that this development had not been taken in charge.
- Quality of re-instatement works being carried out by service providers and contractors on footpaths in the town. Ms. Kehoe confirmed that Road Opening Licences are provided by the Council for these works with specified conditions. It was noted that temporary re-instatements are carried out in the short term until a permanent re-instatement can be carried out.
- The question of who is responsible if an accident occurs before permanent re-instatement is completed was raised and discussed.
- Footpaths to Aldi/Lidl.
- Roundabout repairs.
- Entrance to Vocational School inaccessible to wheelchair users.

- Road Lining – close broken white lines which were previously single lines – misunderstanding by members of the public – request for information to be made available.
- Prohibition of car parking spaces in Bunclody for works being carried out during the night.
- Irish Water – reduction in staff in Enniscorthy area. Mr. O’Corcora undertook to report back to the Members at the next meeting.

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

A brief discussion took place.

### **4. Water Services Report.**

Mr. Tadhg O’Corcora attended the meeting to update the Members on Water Services. The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

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

None.

### **6. Correspondence.**

#### Deputation

District Manager, Ger Mackey read a request for a deputation by Ballycarney Development Group. It was noted that historically the Enniscorthy Municipal District Chairperson, District Manager and appropriate Official meet with the deputation and report back to the Committee.

On the proposal of Cllr. O’Rourke, seconded by Cllr. Owens the Members agreed to continue with the protocol previously agreed and that Cllr. Codd-Nolan and Mr. Mackey meet with the Ballycarney Development Group as requested.

#### Memorial Plaque

Correspondence received from Mr. Declan O’Connor regarding a request to place a small brass memorial plaque in memory of his father Dermot O’Connor to the existing seat located in the Mall, Bunclody was discussed. It was noted that this seat was erected by the Bunclody Tidy Towns and the District Manager undertook to consult with the Tidy Towns on Mr. O’Connors behalf.

#### London/Wexford Annual Dinner

It was noted that the London/Wexford Annual Dinner is scheduled for 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 and on the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. Byrne it was unanimously agreed that the dinner be represented by the Chairperson, Cllr. Codd-Nolan.

Cllr. Murphy took this opportunity to thank the Enniscorthy Re-Enactors for the fantastic work they do, in particular their contribution to the Rock N Food Festival.

### District Manager Report

The District Manager, Mr. Mackey circulated a report outlining proposals under the following:-

- Establishment of Town Teams.
- Connect Enniscorthy.
- Health Enniscorthy.

A brief discussion took place and the Members supported the District Manager in his endeavours.

### **7. Any Other Business.**

Cllr. O'Rourke complimented the mattress and sofa amnesty that occurred recently which he feels will assist with illegal dumping.

Cllr. Owens thanked the Council Officials for assisting with the recent patron which was held in the new graveyard and asked if it was possible to provide a sound system for future patrons. Cllr. Owens also asked if the graveyard had been given a name and if it is possible to erect a statue therein. The District Manager confirmed that the graveyards are governed by bye-laws.

Cllr. Owens asked if funds ring fenced by the Enniscorthy Town Council a number of years ago for works, which were not carried out, to the grotto at Moran Park were expended on another project. Mr. Carley, Director of Services stated that as this was over 5 years ago, he was not in a position to answer this question.

Ms. Kehoe stated that a review had been carried out on this location and the Access Officer had confirmed that the location is not suitable for the installation of steps.

Cllr. Owens enquired about the use of the infill field at the Sports Hub for underage soccer. The Director of Services confirmed that issues had been highlighted including the type of footwear worn for soccer. Other options were discussed.

On the proposal of Cllr. Owens, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke it was agreed to host a lunch for Ms. Liz Hore, previous District Manager at 1.00 p.m. on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2019.

### **Votes of Sympathy**

The Members extended a vote of sympathy to the Redmond family on the death of their Mother.

### **Congratulations**

The Members extended congratulations to the following:-

- The Woodsman Horseshoe Club who won the All Ireland Final recently.
- The Bunclody Golf Club on hosting the 109<sup>th</sup> Irish PGA Championship in August, 2019.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**DATE**