

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF  
ENNISCORTHY MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
HELD ON MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 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  
Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance  
Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer  
Ms. Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer  
Ms. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Bernie Quigley, Staff Officer  
Ms. Deirdre Kearns, Senior Executive Planner  
Ms. Martina Donoghue, Administrative Officer  
Mr. Michael Doyle, Executive Engineer  
Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer

**1. Confirmation of Minutes:**

**1.1. Minutes of the September Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on the 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2019.**

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Byrne, the Minutes of the September Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Chairperson.

**1.2. Matters Arising.**

None.

**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 confirmed that Wexford County Council had made a further submission to the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy as agreed at the September Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy.

Ms. Kearns stated that the submission focused on two main objectives, i.e. that Enniscorthy would be designated as a key town and as an exemplar of smart growth.

The District Manager felt that the designation of Enniscorthy as a key town may be a battle, however, showcasing Enniscorthy as a smart town with the proposed development of a Smart Town Strategy is a new angle for consideration.

Ms. Kearns continued by stating that economic development was also a focus in the strategy. It was noted that submissions will now be considered in the hope that the strategy will be adopted before Christmas, which, will allow for the commencement of the County Development Plan.

A discussion took place and the Members highlighted the following:-

- Cllr. Murphy hoped that the submission will be looked upon favorably and felt that the designation of Enniscorthy as a smart town would be beneficial.
- Cllr. Owens asked why Enniscorthy was not considered especially considering the issue of unemployment.
- Cllr. Byrne thanked the Officials for the submission and hoped that when reviewed the submission will be taken into account.

Ms. Kearns responded to all queries raised.

Cllr. Murphy asked if the Material Bank for Bug/Bee Hotels would be rolled out to other areas and suppliers. Ms. Kearns confirmed that this project is currently being trialed as a pilot and it is not known to date if more than one supplier will be necessary.

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

### **Housing**

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, in particular:-

- Number of emergency units in the Enniscorthy District.
- Cllr. Browne raised concerns regarding the number of houses being built by Wexford County Council and stated that he would like to see the Council focusing more on building houses.
- Tenant Handbook – types of repairs listed as the responsibility of tenants.
- Number of clients being facilitated in weekly clinics provided by the Area Housing Officer.
- Vacant Houses.

The Officials responded to all queries raised and it was noted that Wexford County Council are again building some units with a number of housing solutions being provided by Wexford County Council.

It was further noted that a waiting time for an appointment in any of the 4 clinics is two weeks, however, if the wait becomes longer at any time, more resources will be given to that district to clear any backlog.

It was agreed to move to Item Numbers 3 and 4 on the Agenda.

### **3. Draft Budgetary Plan 2020 – GMA Allocations.**

Ms. Annette O'Neill, Head of Finance attended the meeting to discuss the Draft Budgetary Plan 2020 – GMA Allocations.

Ms. O'Neill briefed the Members on details of the report circulated prior to the meeting and asked for Members support for adoption of the plan as presented.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. O'Rourke the Members approved the proposed Draft Budgetary Plan Report 2020 - GMA Allocations as presented.

At this point in the meeting on the proposal of Cllr. O'Rourke, seconded by Cllr. Owens it was agreed to go into Committee.

### **4. Housing Maintenance Presentation.**

Mr. Michael Doyle, Executive Engineer attended the meeting and gave a presentation to the Members on Housing Maintenance.

The Members thanked Mr. Doyle for the in-depth presentation and thanked the housing staff for their courtesy and feedback.

A number of queries were raised and discussed, including:-

- Heat Pumps.
- Smoke Alarms.
- Carbon Monoxide Alarms.

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

##### **Community**

Cllr. Browne enquired about the possibility of the provision of water fountains around the town as part of a Healthy Ireland Initiative.

Cllr. O'Rourke recommended an audit be carried out in the town to locate the positions of old fountains that were previously used to utilise the service already in place.

The Officials felt this was a good initiative and undertook to arrange for the Senior Executive Engineer to look at the possibility of utilising the previous system and liaise with Irish Water.

##### **Environment**

Cllr. O'Rourke highlighted concerns regarding incidents of a foul odour and fumes in the Shannon and Upper Drumgoold areas of the town.

Mr. O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer stated that Irish Water had been up in the Shannon area and once a report has been issued it will be forwarded to the Members. Mr. O'Corcora undertook to investigate the issue in Upper Drumgoold.

It was noted that the Environment Awards will take place on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2019 in the Ferrycarrig Hotel, Wexford.

### **2.3. Enterprise**

Cllr. Murphy requested a monthly report under Enterprise.

Library Services and the provision of a new Library for Enniscorthy was discussed.

### **2.4. Municipal District Report**

Mr. Mackey, District Manager highlighted the main points of the report circulated prior to the meeting which were noted by the Members.

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Browne the development of a Smart Town Strategy by the proposed Town Team was unanimously agreed.

On the proposal of Cllr. Browne, seconded by Cllr. Murphy the Members unanimously agreed to the establishment of a Town Team.

## **5. Roads Report.**

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

Cllr. Codd-Nolan informed the attendees that this would be Ms. Kehoes final meeting before she takes up her new position as Senior Executive Engineer in the Special Projects Department. The Members thanked Joanne for all her work during her time in the Enniscorthy District.

The Members welcomed Mr. Neil Dempsey who will be taking up the position of Executive Engineer in the Enniscorthy District.

Ms. Kehoe stated that the construction of a footpath in Galbally had been selected under the GMA for 2019, however, following examination the area in question is not suitable and therefore Ms. Kehoe asked the Members to consider the provision of a footpath in Ballyhogue on a phased basis, to commence in 2019.

Following a brief discussion the Members unanimously agreed to proceed with proposed works in Ballyhogue.

The Members raised the following to which Ms. Kehoe responded:-

- Provision of a ramp and signage in Bridgemoor Housing Development. It was noted that changes to speed limits can only be made during a speed limit review which is due to commence in 2020.
- Commencement for the introduction of 4 hour parking in Bunclody.
- Public Lighting – energy saving.
- Speed Limit signage on the Motorway towards Oylegate.
- Condition of Monalee Cross Road towards Enniscorthy.

**6. Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.**

Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer outlined the main points of the report circulated prior to the meeting. A brief discussion took place.

**7. 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 and the Members raised a number of concerns to which Mr. O'Corcora responded.

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

None.

**9. Correspondence.**

None.

**10. Any Other Business.**

The Members addressed a number of issues, in particular the following was discussed:-

- Provision of a Pedestrian Crossing on the Quay.
- Public Lighting.
- Gates in Chapel Lane.
- Provision of an additional Disabled Parking Space in the Duffry Gate Car Park.
- Bonfires at Halloween.
- Cleaning of drains and gullies.
- Signage.
- Access to Vinegar Hill from Hillview/Druimcatha.
- Playing Field for underage Soccer Clubs in the area.

**Congratulations**

The Members extended congratulations to the following:-

- Cllr. O'Rourke extended congratulations and a sincere thanks to Touched by Suicide for the services they provided over the last 12 years the people of Wexford. This service was provided free of charge and funded solely by way of contributions, sponsorships and grants and Cllr. O'Rourke stated that the closure of this service comes with great sadness. All Members wished to be extended with these sentiments.
- Tom Murphy, Leinster Development Squad, Amateur Boxing who recently won a gold medal.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

At this point in the meeting it was unanimously agreed to go into Committee.

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

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**DATE**