

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL
DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD ON MONDAY 21st
SEPTEMBER, 2020 AT 3.00 P.M. IN
THE RIVERSIDE PARK HOTEL, ENNISCORTHY.**

Attendance: Councillors:

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

Officials:

Mr. Ger Mackey, District Manager
Mr. Tadhg O'Corcora, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer
Ms. Mary Clince, Asst. Staff Officer
Ms. Martina Donoghue, Administrative Officer
Ms. Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the July Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 20th July, 2020

On the proposal of Councillor Codd Nolan, seconded by Councillor O' Rourke, the Minutes of the July Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 20th July, 2020 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

Irish Water - Cllr Cathal Byrne asked if any response had been received from Irish Water in relation to providing serviced sites in rural villages. Mr Ger Mackey to write to Irish Water with a view to facilitating a deputation from Enniscorthy Municipal District Members.

Enniscorthy Greyhound Track – Cllr Codd Nolan commended all who strived to keep the track open and welcomed its opening to the end of 2022, with a review to follow.

Former Murphy Floods Hotel site - In reply to Cllr Owens, Mr. Ger Mackey stated that

while this was a private site, a process was being put in place to have this site reviewed by Consultants.

Votes of Sympathy:

Councillor Jackser Owens proposed a vote of sympathy to the following families on their recent bereavements

Family of Celine O'Leary, James Kodjac O'Connor, Tony Casey, Bradley Family and Davin Family.

2. Draft Bye-Laws for the prohibition of consumption of intoxicating liquor on streets and in public places – information only.

Members were circulated with the draft bye-laws for the prohibition of consumption of intoxicating liquor on streets and in public places and were informed that they would be going to the Community SPC and to Wexford County Council for consideration.

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:

4.1 Planning

Ms. Niamh Lennon attended the meeting to discuss planning matters. Queries highlighted included planning permission for 5g masts and their proximity to sporting facilities. Works commenced and then stopped on Berryfields Housing Estate in Ferns, with children getting in on the site. Ms. Lennon responded to all queries raised.

4.2 Housing, Community, Environment, Libraries and Fire Service

Housing

Ms. Martina Donoghue, Administrative Officer highlighted the main points of the Housing Report circulated to the Members prior to the meeting. A number of queries were highlighted by the Members, in particular:-

- Allocation of apartments at Main Street, Bunclody.
- Houses in Milehouse, (The Forge) - What is the makeup of the houses and when will the applicants get notification of their allocation. Ms. Donohoe undertook to send this information to the Members. She stated that initially 11 x 4-bedroom houses and 1 x 2-bedroom house will be delivered and these were expected around the end of October, 2020.

Community

Cllr John O'Rourke raised the following items –

Quad Bikes on Vinegar Hill - Vinegar Hill was being subjected to a lot of damage by louts on quad bikes.

St. Mary's Graveyard – Disappearance of family artefacts from graves.
St. Patrick's Special School building at Bohreen Hill - Can Wexford County Council engage with HSE and Management to acquire this building for recreational use.

Cllr Codd Nolan asked for an update on the 2nd phase of the Sports Hub and also asked if there was a maintenance plan for the upkeep of Enniscorthy Peace Park.

The District Manager informed the Members that the construction of a pavilion and some works on the field were being dealt with by the Special Projects Team. Members should see the improvement to the Peace Park, with staff being assigned to it. The matter of the quad bike on Vinegar Hill was being followed up with the child's parents. And he undertook to talk to the Caretaker of St. Mary's Graveyard. St. Patrick's Special School would have to be referred to the Property Section.

Cllr Owens stated that the footpath in the car park on Vinegar Hill was full of weeds. Window broken in house in Irish Street from the Peace Park. Grass from grass cutting being left on the footpaths.

Cllr Aidan Browne asked for a focus on getting a good clean-up of the town, with attention to paving missing from paths. Cllr O Rourke also referred to the many Contractors who dig up the cobble locking without restoring it properly. Cllr Byrne asked if the brickwork in Market Square could be looked at and replaced where necessary.

The District Manager undertook to bring a report back to the Members at the next Meeting on reinstatement works.

Cllr Murphy also raised the issue of plants, shrubs and momentous being taken from graves in Bunclody. She stated that quads should have an identifying number on them when being used in public places.

Environment

Cllr Codd Nolan asked if there was an alternative location for the clothes bins currently located in Old Dunes Stores Car Park, which were very exposed and unsightly.

Mr. Mackey stated that the bins located at Ross Road were also particularly bad and undertook to raise the matter with the Environment Section.

Libraries & Fire Service

Councillor Murphy congratulated the Library Service for the service they provided to the community during the pandemic.

4.3 Enterprise

It was proposed by Cllr Codd Nolan, seconded by Cllr Byrne and agreed that a quarterly report be sought from Special Projects and the Economic Development Section.

4.4 Municipal District Report

Mr. Mackey, District Manager updated the Members on the main points of his report, circulated prior to the meeting, in particular:-

- **Amenity Area at Ross Road** - Four expressions of interest have been received and it is now proposed to make the plot available to these four clubs as a training facility subject to agreement by the clubs concerned with the conditions of use. The grass pitch would have to be managed and plans for a booking system put in place.
- **Technology Park** - Site preparation work has commenced on the development of the Enniscorthy Technology Park. It is important that this work is completed in advance of winter in order to allow for building work to commence.
- **Enniscorthy Trails Feasibility Study project** - Work has commenced on this feasibility study. This is an important step in developing the Enniscorthy Trails, to include a trail from Edermine to Scarawalsh and from the town to Vinegar Hill.
- **Santa's Enchanted Castle.**

Promotion and initial planning has commenced on Santa's Enchanted Castle, 2020.

Town & Village Renewal Acceleration Programme Measure 3.

Two applications have been submitted under Measure 3:

Large Town over 10,000 population: Max grant €40,000

The Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy (RSES) describe Enniscorthy as an exemplar Smart Town. The proposed project is a Smart Enniscorthy Project. To adapt a vacant building in the centre of Enniscorthy town to facilitate safety-compliant remote co-working, training and 3rd level student supports, thereby increasing footfall in the town centre and creating economic activity and place making by creating a new model of business.

Small Town under 10,000 Population: Max grant €40,000

The development of three Christmas festivals, celebrating "local" in the three main towns/villages within the Enniscorthy Municipal District. The project will act as a key support and confidence building measure, allowing the villages to build reliance, celebrate and support local creativity and to enjoy the senses of place that are their villages.

The Built Heritage of Enniscorthy

Key buildings and structures within the town are being illuminated to highlight the significant built heritage that exists in Enniscorthy. Phase One of this project will include the following buildings/structures.

- Enniscorthy Castle
- Church of Ireland

- The Athenaeum
- St. Aidan's Cathedral
- Enniscorthy Bridge

The Municipal has received funding of €4,500 for this project from the Department of Media, Tourism, Arts, Culture, Sports and Gaeltacht.

Traffic Management in the environs of St. Aidan's Primary School.

The opening of St. Aidans Primary School and the necessary Covid restrictions put in place by the school authorities has put pressure on traffic flows and movements in the immediate environs of the school. The Roads Department are working closely with the school authorities to manage the traffic issues that have arisen.

Enniscorthy Shopfront Painting & Flowers Grants Scheme.

Members were informed that there was a total of 42 applications being processed for the Shopfront Painting Scheme with a total of 19 applications for the Shopfront Flowers Grants Scheme.

Cllr Byrne asked if a feasibility study could be carried out for an extension of walkway to Edermine and if it could be linked with Boradale.

6. Roads Report.

Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer highlighted the main points of the Roads Report circulated prior to the meeting, in particular the Roads Programme, Community Involvement Scheme, Hedge Cutting, Traffic Lights and School Safety works.

The Members put forward a number of queries to Mr. Dempsey:-

- Salville Road - .Mr Dempsey to contact landowners
- Traffic congestion Fr. Cullen Terrace and Templeshannon. Agreement with the schools and the need to find the best solutions for residents and car users in the area.
- Condition of Footpath from Red Pats Cross to Tomduff.
- Line marking at Plummers Cross
- L61663 in Cora Bunclody
- Road at Macmine Cross – no stop or yield sign.
- Sign for Marshalstown
- N80 – people turning off to local roads – road markings changing from solid white to broken – to be referred to David Codd, Road Safety Officer.
- L61662 off R746 – needs proper job done on road surface.
- Potholes on Wheelagower Lane
- Flashing sign at Dorans Bridge – batteries replaced, will review.

Mr. Dempsey informed the members that under Active Travel Measures, 2020, Enniscorthy Municipal District had received an allocation of €175,000.00 to carry out works at Duffry Gate, Bellfield Road, Ross Road, Railway Square and Bree Village and responded to all queries raised.

7. Enniscorthy Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.

Ms. Joanne Kehoe, Senior Executive Engineer, attended the Meeting on behalf of Mr. Larry McHale, and informed Members that the District Manager had written to Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Mr. Michael McGrath, TD in relation to the proposed River Slaney (Enniscorthy) Drainage/Flood Defence Scheme and had received a reply. The final outcome of the Minister's decision following the last public consultation, concluded on the 28th August, 2020, was awaited.

8. 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.

3. Covid 19 Measures - Economic Department.

Ms. Liz Hore, Senior Executive Officer, Head of Enterprise, gave the Members a comprehensive presentation on the Covid 19 Measures undertaken by the Economic Department, i.e. - findings of the Wexford Business Survey Response of 23rd June, 2020 under the following headings;

- Clients Current trading status.
- What % business turnover/sales has been lost since Covid 19
- Have you had to change the work arrangements of your staff?
- Supports highlighted by clients for recovery.
- Supports identified by client companies.
- Where are we now nationally – September 2020
- Covid impact on National Economy
- Wexford Business Supports to SME's impacted by Covid 19- 11 September.
- Wexford Local Enterprise Office response to the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- Applications open again Aug 31st for Microfinance Ireland – Small Business Loans €5K – 25K
- 284 SME's grant aid €650,000.00 – Trading online voucher scheme. Up to €2500 voucher available targeted at smaller businesses.
- Business continuity voucher

- Restart Grants – 3,384 applications received, 2,813 SME's approved (83%) €11.5 million grant aid paid out €15.2 m total Restart Grant funding allocated to Wexford to assist business impacted by pandemic. Restart Grant 22mnd May to 22nd July, 2020 Restart Grant Plus 10th Aug to 30th September, 2020 (first 3 weeks 1,527 applications and €3.8 million approved). New restart grant top up for Pubs, Bars and Nightclubs.

Other supports were listed together with Town & Village Scheme Covid 10 allocations. Various measures to enhance Tourism - focus on outdoors and getting lost in Wexford, visit Wexford.

Members thanked Ms Hore for her presentation and expressed gratitude to the Economic Team on the manner in which grant applications were dealt with so promptly and efficiently.

9. Consideration of Draft Enniscorthy Municipal District Protocol for conferral of Civic Honours.

It was proposed by Cllr Aidan Browne, seconded by Cllr John O' Rourke and agreed that the Draft Enniscorthy Municipal District Protocol for conferral of Civic Honours, be adopted.

10. Establishment of Municipal Honours Sub Committee.

Mr. Ger Mackey proposed the setting up a three person cross party Sub-Committee, with the Cathaoirleach as an ex-officio member.

It was agreed that the following Councillors would form this Committee; Cllr Kathleen Codd-Nolan, Cllr Aidan Browne, Cllr Jackser Owens, Cathaoirleach Barbara Ann Murphy.

11. Date for quarterly meeting of the Joint Policing Committee.

It was agreed to fix a date for this meeting at the October or November Meeting of Enniscorthy Municipal District and to hold meetings on a quarterly basis from then.

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

12.1 Notice of Motion - Cllr Jackser Owens

"That the Residents of Nos 1 to 11 New Range, Templeshannon, Enniscorthy, be granted use of the grounds at the back of the properties for use as allotments."

It was agreed that this Notice of Motion be forwarded to Wexford County Council for inclusion on Agenda of their next Meeting.

12.2 Notice of Motion - Cllr Jackser Owens

“That the Enniscorthy Municipal District give permission to Slaney Search and Rescue to erect a Limestone Memorial Stone at the slipway on the Promenade, Enniscorthy in memory of all those who lost their lives in the River Slaney.”

On the proposal of Cllr Jackser Owens, seconded by Cllr John O Rourke, it was agreed that permission be given to Slaney Search & Rescue to erect a Limestone Memorial Stone at the slipway on the Promenade, Enniscorthy. Slaney Search & Rescue to liaise with Wexford County Council prior to putting this stone in place.

13. Correspondence.

None.

14. Any Other Business.

World Mental Health Day

Councillor Aidan Browne asked if Enniscorthy Castle could be lit up in green to highlight World Mental Health Day on Saturday, 10th October, 2020.

“In Committee”

At this juncture of the Meeting, Cllr John O Rourke asked the Cathaoirleach if the Meeting to go “In Committee”.

Cllr O’Rourke highlighted an ongoing trend of anti-social behaviour, drug use, alcohol abuse, sexual acts, in some of our houses in Nolans Lawn and in the Nabco Houses in Parkton Mews. This behaviour was making life miserable for other residents and could not be tolerated.

Cllr Jackser Owens raised the issue of anti-social behaviour at 62 Pearse Road, Enniscorthy.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE