

**Minutes of the New Ross Municipal District Monthly Meeting  
held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2020 in the Tholsel, New Ross**

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**Presiding:** Councillor Michael Whelan

**In Attendance:** Councillor John Fleming (Via Teams)  
Councillor Anthony Connick (Via Teams)  
Councillor Michael Sheehan (Via Teams)  
Councillor Pat Barden (Via Teams)

**Apologies:** Cllr Bridin Murphy

**Officials Present:** Mick McCormack – District Manager  
Eamonn Hore - District Director (Via Teams)  
Annette O Neill – Head of Finance (Via Teams)  
Dan McCartan – Senior Executive Engineer (Via Teams)  
David Murphy – A/Executive Engineer (Via Teams)  
Martina Donoghue – AO Housing (Via Teams)  
Liam Bowe – Executive Planner (Via Teams)  
Ger Walsh – Staff Officer (Via Teams)  
David Lee – Clerical Officer

**Also in Attendance:** Martina Kenny, ESB (Via Teams)  
Jimmy Purcell ESB (Via Teams)  
Dan Mernagh ESB (Via Teams)

### **Holding of Council Meetings**

At the start of the meeting the District Manager read into the record as follows:

*“Following recent legislative amendments, meetings of Local Authorities can now be held remotely and in particular statutory decisions can also be made remotely.”*

### **Congratulations**

Congratulations were extended by Cllr Whelan to David Looby on being shortlisted for a Mental Health Media award. He also congratulated St Kearns on their tribute to the 100 year anniversary of the St Kearns explosion.

Cllr Fleming congratulated all who were involved in securing the new Fire Station for New Ross. He also extended congratulations to President Elect Biden.

Cllr Sheehan welcomed the additional funding for the Greenway and also welcomed the news in relation to the new Fire Station.

Cllr Whelan congratulated all involved in winning the Bank of Ireland Begin Together award and also congratulated Sean Reidy on his book, 'Dunbrody, a famine Odyssey'.

### **Sympathies**

Cllr Whelan extended sympathies to the families of Mick Nolan, Ballinteskin, Peggy Ryan, Fisherstown, Aine Kenny, Campile and to David Lee on the death of his grandmother, Bridget O' Neill, Adamstown

Cllr Fleming extended sympathies to the families of John McCabe, Adamstown, John Roche, Adamstown and Evan Fitzgerald, Killane. He also suggested that a mark of respect be paid in relation to the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

Cllr Connick sympathised with the families of Noel McNulty, New Ross and Mary Murphy, Millbanks

Cllr Sheehan offered condolences to the family of Julie Cullen, Irishtown

Cllr Barden extended sympathies to the families of John McCabe, Adamstown, Lawrence Joyce, Clonroche, the McNulty family, New Ross and to the Kenny and Ryan families, Campile.

### **Suspension of Standing Orders**

On the proposal of Cllr Connick and seconded by Cllr Sheehan, Standing Orders were suspended to allow for a presentation from representatives from the ESB in relation to the installation of a line from Great Island to New Ross and a presentation from Annette O Neill, Head of Finance in relation to the adopting of the Draft Budgetary Plan – GMA Allocation.

### **ESB Presentation**

Following a presentation, the ESB representatives then responded to queries from the Members. It was agreed that maps of the proposed routes would be sent to the Members.

### **Draft Budgetary Plan – GMA Allocation**

The draft budgetary plan for 2021 was presented to meeting by the Head of Finance who outlined the details noting that the proposal is to retain the level of funding at the same level as 2020. Following a discussion members approved the proposal as outlined noting the difficult financial position of the council as a result of the pandemic.

The head of Finance also outlined the proposal for movement in the Special Rates Incentive Scheme (SRIS) that is in place for some ratepayers in the former New Ross TC rating area. Following a discussion the proposal was approved as presented. The proposal will now be incorporated into the 2021 Draft Budget.

## **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes**

### 1.1 Monthly Meeting – 9th September 2020

The September Minutes were proposed as presented by Councillor Connick and seconded by Cllr Barden.

### 1.2 Monthly Meeting – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020, cancelled due to Covid 19

## **Matters Arising**

N/A

## **2.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.**

### 2.1. District Manager's Report

The District Manager delivered his report and responded to queries raised by the Members.

In response to a query from the Members, he agreed to ask Special Projects to attend the next meeting. He also advised that a Business Development Officer is being appointed to look at business opportunities from the Greenway.

The District Manager also agreed to arrange a meeting as soon as possible with Thomastown Municipal District. In relation to parking charges at Christmas, he informed the Members that a county wide decision would be made shortly.

The District Manager highlighted aspects of the report from the Special Projects team. The Members welcomed the progress reports on the projects and Cllr Barden congratulated the Executive on the amount of projects being carried out in the District.

The District Director advised that he was also hopeful of being able to secure funding for the proposed RV Park after planning has been approved.

### 2.2. Roads Report

The Roads Engineer delivered his report and responded to queries from the Members.

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### 2.3. Water Services Report

The Senior Executive Engineer delivered his report and responded to queries from the Members.

### 2.4. Housing Report.

The Housing report was delivered by the Administrative Officer, Housing who responded to queries from the Councillors.

Following queries in relation to the plans for housing in Rosbercon, the Administrative Officer, agreed to email the Members with the details of the plans.

### 2.5 Planning Report

The Executive Planner delivered his report and answered questions from the Members.

### 2.6 Planning Grants

The content of the report was noted by the Members.

### 2.7 Planning Refusals

The content of the report was noted by the Members.

### 2.8 Libraries Archives & Arts Report

The content of the report was noted by the Members.

### 2.9 Community Development Report

The content of the report was noted by the Members.

### 2.10 Environment Report

The content of the report was noted by the Members.

### 2.11 Fire Services Report

The content of the report was noted by the Members.

### 2.12 Members Query System - NRMD

The content of the report was noted by the Members.

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

#### 3.1 Draft Budgetary Plan - GMA Allocation - Annette O' Neill, Head of Finance

Dealt with at the start of the meeting

#### 3.2 Estate to be taken in Charge: Cois na Mara, Fethard-on-Sea

#### 3.3 Estate to be taken in Charge: Corderraun Close, Dunmain

Following discussions and following advice from the Director of Services that taking on estates has a potentially onerous financial liability for the Council and advice from the Senior Executive Engineer that the main cost is usually the waste water treatment plant, it was proposed by Cllr Connick and agreed by Cllr Whelan to take the above estates in charge.

### **4.0 Other Business**

#### 4.1 Briefing on ESB Great Island/New Ross line - Martina Kenny, Jimmy Purcell and Dan Mernagh

This presentation took place earlier in the meeting

### **5.0 Notice of Motion/s –**

N/A

### **6.0 Correspondence**

#### 6.1 Request for support - Terrerath Community Hall Development Plan

The Members unanimously agreed to support the plan

### **7.0 AOB**

Cllr Sheehan requested if workshops could be held for groups considering applying for Town and Village funding. He was informed that Community already do those Workshops, although not during the current pandemic.

Cllr Connick was pleased that the Gardai have been approved overtime to do more checkpoints on Sunday nights in the Irishtown.

**THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathaoirleach**

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_