

**Minutes of the New Ross Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on Wednesday 8th December 2021 in St Michael's Theatre, New Ross**

Presiding: Councillor Pat Barden

In Attendance: Councillor John Fleming
Councillor Anthony Connick
Councillor Michael Sheehan
Councillor Michael Whelan
Cllr Bridin Murphy

Officials Present: Mick McCormack – District Manager
Eamonn Hore - District Director
Dan McCartan – Senior Executive Engineer
Eilis Furlong – Executive Engineer
Martina Donoghue – AO Housing
Ger Walsh – Staff Officer
Walter Crean – Architectural Technician Housing
Alan Fitzhenry – Business Development Officer

Others Present: David Looby New Ross Standard

Standing orders were suspended to allow a presentation by Alan Fitzhenry on the Greenway and for Walter Crean to bring LAC 2108 to the Members. This was proposed by Cllr Fleming and Seconded by Cllr Connick.

Presentation on South East Greenway

A presentation was given by Alan Fitzhenry and he responded to questions from the Members. He advised the Members that he is liaising with all relevant agencies and has met 33 Businesses so far and is linking in with the owners of vacant properties. The Members offered their congratulations on the work to date and suggested that information nights be held, that a piece of land at the Pink Rock be investigated for a picnic area, as well as parking at Mountelliot and he agreed to revert to them on those issues. It was suggested that a charity walk be held to open the Greenway. similar to the Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge charity walk.

LAC 2108

Following discussions, agreement to the above was proposed by Cllr Sheehan and seconded by Cllr Connick and agreed by all.

The Chairman thanked the presenters for their attendance and presentation.

Sympathies

All Members sympathised with the family of Lorraine Bolger, Adamstown and wished a good recovery to her daughter Aishling and the occupants of the other car. The Emergency services were thanked for their response to the accident.

Cllr Fleming sympathised with the McNamee family on the death of Bridget McNamee, Fatima Place, Ballywilliam

Congratulations

Cllr Sheehan and Cllr Connick congratulated Mrs Tessie O Connor, Old Pondfields on her 100th birthday.

The Members all congratulated the Emergency Services involved in the response to Storm Barra.

Cllr Whelan congratulated Tintern on winning the Community prize at the 2021 RDS Irish Forest and Woodlands Awards.

Cllr Barden congratulated Tadhg Furlong on being the only Irish player named on the World Rugby Men's 15s Dream Team of the Year 2021.

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting – November 2021

The 10th November 2021 Minutes were proposed as presented by Cllr Connick and seconded by Cllr Fleming

Matters Arising

N/A

2.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations.

2.1 District Managers Report

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

Nollaig – A Traditional New Ross Christmas

He advised the Members that the Christmas campaign is well underway with a Christmas Market in the Courtyard of the Theatre, free concerts in the theatre and in Conduit Lane and free parking in all Wexford County Council public Car Parks each Saturday in December from 11am and then from the 20th to the 24th December.

CCTV

The Members were informed that the Data Impact assessments and requirements are currently being worked on and the application will then be forwarded to the Garda Commissioner for sanction.

Destination Towns

Works are continuing on the Destination Towns Project with lots of procurement design and Tender assessment work being carried out on the Information Kiosk and wayfinding signage, along with submission of claims to Failte Ireland. The District Manager thanked Sharon Ryan on her work on the claims. Further work on Brennans lane Arch and Goat Hill was also carried out in the last few weeks the Members were told.

Pedestrianisation

The District Manager advised the Members that the Initial Feasibility study is complete and that the Traffic Surveys were completed with analysis ongoing and that the report is expected after Christmas and that he expects to bring the findings to the Members in the first quarter of 2022,

Playground Pearse Park

The Members were advised that works are continuing on at pace in Pearse Park on the New Playground which is expected to be opened before Christmas.

Arrow Ceremony at the Hook New Year's Day

A scaled down Arrow Ceremony at the Hook is to take place this year where the Chairman, accompanied by the Cllrs of New Ross Municipal District and one Dunbrody Archer, will cast an arrow into the sea, claiming the Estuary for the people of New Ross on New Year's Day.

Nationwide

All were asked to tune into Nationwide on that evening of 8th November at 7pm where New Ross Town and the Murals would feature strongly.

Emergency Phone Number

The Members were advised that the Out of hours Emergency Contact number of 1890 666777 will continue to operate throughout the Christmas period but that from 1st January 2022 that the number would change to 053 9196000.

The Members requested that a banner welcoming the diaspora back to New Ross for Christmas and into the next year, be placed in Quay St

The Members also mentioned a concern about a lack of car charging points outside New Ross town. The Director advised that he would revert to the Members on the issue.

Special Projects

The report was made available to the Members and the District Manager answered queries on it.

In relation to the Greenway and the Timber fencing from Stafford's towards the bridge, the Members felt that the timber fencing was totally inappropriate in this urban setting, particularly as the NRMD has used metal fencing on the Riverside walk on the opposite side of the river. The members also requested that access be maintained to the flood barrier at Stafford's by means of a gate.

The Members requested that Special Projects attend the next meeting with updates on the Murphy building and John St projects.

Roads Report

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

In relation to Storm Barra, the Members thanked the Engineer and her team for their work during the storm and its aftermath.

She agreed to revert to the Members in relation to an end date to the diversions in Duncannon, signage in Tominearly and Ballyanne and the us shelter at the Apex Leisure centre, as well as with a date for the lights turn on at Cherries Road.

Following a discussion on speed ramps, the Members were advised that should they be contacted in relation to specific requests for speed ramps that they should bring them to the Engineer who will assess the need.

2.3. Water Services Report

The Senior Executive Engineer made his report available to the Members and apologised for his delay in attending the meeting, which was caused by Emergency works.

2.4. Housing Report.

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

The Vacant house list had been sent to the Members earlier and she advised that she would revert to the Members in relation to the repair and lease scheme.

2.5 Planning Report

The Planning report was made available to 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

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 LAC2018 - Proposed demolition of an existing derelict dwelling and the proposed construction of a 2-storey duplex at 15 Bullawn, New Ross, Co Wexford. Walter Crean, Housing Department

Approved earlier in the meeting

4.0 Other Business

4.1 Presentation by Alan Fitzhenry, Business Development Manager Greenway. (Presented earlier in the meeting)

5.0 Notice of Motion/s –

N/A

6.0 Correspondence

N/A

7.0 AOB

The District Manager was complimented by the Members on having the budget for Duncannon Fort transferred to the Municipal District

The Members agreed to meet to discuss the election of the new Cathaoirleach,

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed _____

Cathairleach

Date _____