

**Minutes of the New Ross Municipal District Monthly Meeting  
held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022 in The Tholsel, Quay St., New Ross.**

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**Presiding:** Councillor Michael Sheehan

**In Attendance:** Councillor Anthony Connick  
Councillor Pat Barden  
Councillor John Fleming  
Councillor Michael Whelan  
Councillor Bridin Murphy

**Officials Present:** Mick McCormack – District Manager  
Eamonn Hore - District Director  
David Murphy– Acting Executive Engineer - Teams  
Martina Donoghue – AO Housing - Teams  
Ger Walsh – Staff Officer  
Sharon Ryan – Asst Staff Officer  
Sonia Hunt – Executive Planner  
Eoin Newman – Asst Planner

**Others Present:** Simon Bourke – Press  
Deputy Verona Murphy

**Apologies:** Dan McCartan – Snr Executive Engineer  
Brendan Cooney – Snr Executive Scientist

The Cathaoirleach welcomed all attendees both in person and through Teams, to the meeting.

### **Sympathies**

The Cathaoirleach sympathised with Cllr Connick and Cllr Whelan on the loss of their mothers, Mrs Peggy Connick and Mrs Myra Whelan. Cllr Connick and Cllr Whelan on behalf of their families, appreciated the condolences and support they had received. Cllr Sheehan and Cllr Fleming also sympathised with the family of Paddy Murphy, Bosheen.

Cllr Connick sympathised with the family of Miriam Hoare, wife of Gearoid Hoare in Water Services and with the family of Cllr James Tobin, Waterford City and County

Council. He requested that a letter of sympathy be sent to Waterford City and Council.

Cllr Barden offered condolences to the families of Lil O Connor, Enniscorthy and Dick Fortune, Adamstown

Cllr Fleming sympathised with the families of Mary Kehoe, Monamolin and Paddy Bradley, Adamstown

## **Congratulations**

Cllr Whelan congratulated Wexford Ladies Intermediate football team on qualifying for the All Ireland finals.

Cllr Murphy congratulated Charlie Tector on being inducted to the Leinster province's Academy squad as a Year One player.

Cllr Murphy, Cllr Fleming, Cllr Barden and Cllr Sheehan, all congratulated the organisers of Adamstown Show on its success.

Cllr Fleming and Cllr Connick congratulated the organisers and the hosts of the UK and Ireland Field Archery Championships which took place in Woodville house.

Cllr Sheehan congratulated the Hooked on Diversity organisers and both Cllr Sheehan and Cllr Connick congratulated New Ross Pipe band on the successes of the Championships held recently in Pearse Park

## **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes**

### **1.1 Monthly Meeting –**

The 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022 minutes of the monthly meeting were proposed as presented by Cllr Fleming and seconded by Cllr Murphy.

### **1.2 Annual Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual Meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022 were proposed as presented by Cllr Whelan and seconded by Cllr Barden

### **1.3 Special Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

The minutes of the above meeting which was held to pass a vote of sympathy to the Connick and Whelan families on the death of Mrs Peggy Connick, mother of Cllr Anthony Connick and Mrs Myra Whelan, mother of Cllr Michael Whelan were proposed by Cllr Murphy 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.

#### **Town and Village Renewal 2022.**

The District Manager congratulated Cushinstown and Fethard Development groups on getting through the Expression of Interest phase on the Town and Village renewal Grant 2022. He advised that there was also an application in for Duncannon fort and one under the Building Acquisition measure for the Court House but that this is only a first shortlisting phase and a lot of work is required to get the applications in for the 22<sup>nd</sup> July and they then go through a rigorous assessment at department level before an announcement on successful applications towards the end of the year.

#### **St Stephens Cemetery Extension**

The Members were advised that works were still on course to be finished for 29<sup>th</sup> July with the exception of the columbarium wall which has been ordered and that there will be an official opening once the works are complete.

#### **National Play day New Ross**

New Ross was successful in the application for funding for National Play Day 2022. The events took place in the Library Park on 9<sup>th</sup> July from 11am to 4pm and included dance, crafts, games and competitions and workshops by 'the Nutty Scientists'. All events were free and it was well attended and a great success.

#### **LLPPS Rd 4**

Round 3 of the LLPPS is now complete. In Round 3 the events were brought out to the District and overall it went very well culminating with a big crowd in Camross Hall for a free concert with Green Road as the headline act. Another €25k has been received for Round 4, and for this there is a single signature event, a concert with The High Kings, on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September in St. Michael's Theatre. The District Manager was delighted to secure them for this intimate gig and the grant will allow the tickets to be substantially subsidised.

#### **Summer Sessions**

Summer Sessions was back for 2022 with a fantastic line-up of events over 7 weeks in the Library Park with the opening by the Cathaoirleach to be on the 16<sup>th</sup> July. This festival is funded by NRMD through the Festivals fund and the District Manager thanked Tomas Kavanagh and his team in St Michaels Theatre for running the events again this year.

The events are:

July 16th Dublin City Ramblers,  
July 23rd Route 66,  
July 30th "Rock 'n' Roll Kids' Paul Harrington and Charlie McGettigan  
Aug 6th The Moonrockers,  
Aug 20th The Unusual Suspects,  
Aug 27th Celtic Weave

There were also to be 4 children's shows on Sunday afternoons and the Summer panto on from August 2nd to 5th.

## **CCTV**

The Data Impact Assessments are currently being worked through and the District Manager advised that it will then be forwarded to the Garda Commissioner for sanction.

## **Destination Towns**

The Members were advised that works are continuing on the Destination Towns Project on the tourism information kiosk and the wayfinding signage and the bin replacements.

## **UK/Ireland Crossbow Championships Woodville House 9<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> July**

The District Manager congratulated the organisers of the UK/Ireland Crossbow championships which was held in Woodville House which was a great success and brought archers over from all parts of the UK and Ireland. A Civic welcome was held for them in the Tholsel where the Chairman officially welcomed them to New Ross.

## **All Ireland Pipe Band Championships 2022**

He also thanked the organisers of the National Pipe band championships which took place in Pearse Park, New Ross on Sat 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Over 33 bands attended the event and it was a massive success. He congratulated and thanked Brian McMahon and Cllr Anthony Connick who were instrumental in getting the event to New Ross as well as The Chieftain and Cathaoirleach who presented prizes and represented the Municipal District as the main sponsors of the event. He informed the Members that there was significant economic benefit to the Town and District and a big economic spend in the areas in the days around this event.

## **Magdalene Laundry Commemoration event in St Stephens Cemetery**

This District Manager congratulated the organisers of the Magdalene Laundry Commemoration who held a dignified ceremony at the grave in St Stephens Cemetery on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> July. It was a well attended event and the organisers had a flower laying ceremony and raised the Magdalene laundry commemoration flag.

## **Hooked on Diversity**

He also congratulated the organisers of Hooked on Diversity who had a series of events in and around the Hook area on the weekend of the 2<sup>nd</sup> July. Hooked on diversity celebrates difference together and he thanked them for organising these events which were launched by the Cathaoirleach of NRMD at an event in the Hook on Friday 1<sup>st</sup> July. The role of Cllr Whelan in the event was acknowledged.

## **Tri the Hook**

The Members were advised that the Tri the Hook Sprint Triathlon takes place on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> August, beginning with a 750 meter swim in Baginbun Bay, followed by a 20 km cycle and ending with a 5 k run along the Baginbun road to St Mogue's GAA Grounds in Fethard on Sea. It's the 11<sup>th</sup> year of this major event on the Hook peninsula with up to 400 entrants expected and a large number of spectators and the organisers and participants were wished best of luck with it.

In relation to a query on Terrerath Castle, the District Manager advised that he would follow up the query and revert to the Members.

All the Members expressed their delight at the success of the Town and Village applications from the New Ross area to date and wished the groups further success in the next stages.

## **Special Projects**

The Special Projects report was made available to the Members.

In relation to a query on the official opening of the fire station, the Members were advised that it would probably take place in September but that in the meantime a tour would be arranged for the Members.

The Members were advised that the Brennans Lane/Shambles project would be run through the Municipal District with the assistance of Special Projects and that currently consultants are being procured.

## **2.2. Roads Report**

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

The Members and Director welcomed David Murphy as Acting Executive Engineer, and thanked Eilis Furlong for her work in New Ross Municipal District and wished her luck in her new role in Wexford Borough Council.

The AEE advised the Members that Irishtown would be resurfaced in 2023, but Hospital road will be reviewed as a potential candidate for future works and that he would replace a sign at Ballyanne.

He advised that Cullenstown bridge would reopen at the end of July and that he would speak to the Roads Dept re concerns about the road from Ballymacassy Bridge to Clonroche and that he would meet the contractors in relation to concerns about the reinstatement following works at Arthurstown and Ballyhack.

### **2.3. Water Services Report**

The SEE had given apologies but made his report available to the Members.

### **2.4. Housing Report.**

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

She advised that she would e-mail Respond about the convent in the Irishtown and would speak to the SEO and Director about it.

Approval in principle has been received for AHB houses in Hewittsland & they are now included on the monthly report. Wexford County Council will have nomination rights.

The Senior Architect will attend the September meeting to answer queries in relation to Rosbercon.

### **2.5 Planning Report**

The report was presented to the Members.

The Executive Planner introduced Eoin Newman, Asst Planner, and advised that a planner would be allocated to New Ross Municipal District in time for the September meeting.

She also advised that pre planning meetings weren't currently taking place and that she would revert to the Members with the number of requests for pre planning meetings.

### **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 Executive Scientist gave apologies for the meeting but made his report available

## **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**

### **4.0 Other Business**

A presentation on Pedestrianisation at Quay St was given by the Director of Services which included the results of the public consultation which was overall in favour of the pedestrianisation.

A letter of support from County Wexford Chamber was made available to the Members and they were informed that a large premises had been sold lately with the purchasers buying the building due to the imminence of the Greenway and the pedestrianisation of Quay Street.

In relation to funding, the Members were advised that all funding streams would be investigated for the Plaza.

Following a vote, the pedestrianisation was approved with Cllr Sheehan, Cllr Fleming, Cllr Connick, Cllr Murphy and Cllr Whelan voting in favour and Cllr Barden abstaining.

### **5.0 Notice of Motion/s –**

N/A

## **6.0 Correspondence**

6.1 Reply from McCauleys Pharmacy re weekend rota

6.2 Reply from the Mayor of Liverpool re twinning

## **7.0 AOB**

**THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathairleach**

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