

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF
THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE
PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON MONDAY,
20th NOVEMBER at 9.30 a.m.**

Attendance:

Councillors:

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

Officials:

Mr Tom Enright, Chief Executive.
MsCarolyn Godkin, Director of Service
Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer
Ms Niamh Lennon, Executive Planner VIA Teams.
Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer
Ms. Edel Nolan, Staff Officer
Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer
Mr Rory O'Mahoney, Senior Executive Engineer
Ms Sharon Ryan, T/Senior Staff Officer
Mr Mick McCormack, Town Regeneration Officer
Mr Shay Howell, Senior Executive Architect
Mr Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer.

Apologies Officials:

Cllr. Aidan Browne

Votes of Sympathy:

The Members expressed their sincere sympathies to the following: -

Cathaoirleach O Rourke extended sympathies to Deputy Verona Murphy on the passing of her Father Paddy Murphy Snr. R.I.P.

Congratulations:

The Members expressed congratulations to the following: -

To the members of the Community Allotments on their recent awards.

To Wexford County Council staff involved in the reopening of the Wilton Bridge.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the October Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 16th October 2023

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Codd Nolan, the Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 16th October 2023 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

Cllr Murphy congratulated the outgoing Heritage Officer on her new position; however she raised the query as to when the Heritage Information Panels for Vinegar Hill would be in situ.

Cllr Murphy also queried as to what if any action had been taken with regards to the Signage on Vape Shops in Bunclody?

Cathaoirleach O Rourke noted that Planning had issued enforcement letters to shops in question.

Cllr Owens requested clarification that there will be replacements for Officials if not in attendance at monthly meetings in future. Ms Godkin affirmed this.

2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:

2.1 Community and Recreation Facilities in Enniscorthy Municipal District Update.

Chief Executive Mr Tom Enright and Director of Services Ms Carlyne Godkin gave a presentation on the current Facilities in different stages of progress in the Enniscorthy Municipal District. Mr Rory O'Mahoney and Mr Shay Howell gave updates on their areas of responsibility also.

Projects included:

- *Athletics Track Pavilion; field event equipment & booking system.*
- *New Astro Turf Facility at Ross Road*
- *Belfield GAA Complex & Public Realm Improvements*
- *Future Fairgreen Playground*
- *Turret Rocks: New Amenity Development*
- *Turret Rocks: Wexford Football League Plans*
- *Riverside Walking Trail extension & upgrade works*
- *Market Square Bunclody Public Realm Improvements & new Playground*
- *Bunclody Parish Field*
- *Creative Ireland Spaces – Orchard Peace Park Consultation.*

Cllr Owens thanked officials for their presentation and welcomed all that was in progress. He noted that the Athletics track requires changing rooms and toilets as a matter of urgency. Cllr Owens also requested that the fencing be reinstated around

the Fairgreen Playground as a matter of Health and Safety, and he noted that it was disappointing that the riverside country walks had not progressed further.

Cathaoirleach O'Rourke thanked all concerned for the presentation and stated that it was great for once to see Enniscorthy painted in a positive light, that work is being done in the background that will benefit all of Enniscorthy District, sending a clear message that things are happening for Enniscorthy.

Cllr Murphy also welcomed the contents of the presentation however she called for more Community Development in Bunclody alongside the proposed development of the Parish Field and construction of houses. Cllr Murphy also requested more information on the Orchard Peace Park Consultation.

Cllr Codd Nolan noted the great work in progress and suggested that more collaboration with groups like the GAA be considered on future projects. Cllr Codd Nolan requested that a Skate Park be included in future projects.

Cllr Byrne made 3 observations on the presentation as follows.

1. The requirement of more parking spaces at the proposed Playground at Spring Valley
2. The need to prioritise the link to Borodale on the Country Walk trail.
3. Have any mitigating factors been devised with regards to the possible flooding of the proposed Park/Playground in Bunclody?

Mr Enright and Ms Godkin replied to all members queries and noted their observations. Mr Enright reiterated that he understands the members frustration in the length of time projects take, however projects do take time and work is progressing and things will get done.

The meeting paused for tea break.10.30am.
Meeting resumed at 10.40am.

2.2 Planning

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

2.3 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service

Community

The Community Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Environment

The Environment Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

The members raised numerous queries to include.

- Illegal dumping at Carleysbridge, action taken to prevent same.
- Update on Water Treatment system for Ballindaggin?
- Update on the use of CCTV in dumping black spots?
- Will the use of CCTV cameras be mobile/roaming or stationary cameras?
- The possibility of running the Mattress Amnesty twice a year?

Ms Carolyne Godkin and Mr Rory O'Mahoney, Senior Executive Engineer for Environment answered the members queries and Mr O 'Mahoney committed to discussing the Mattress Collection scheme with his section to see if it can be extended to outside the amenity sites.

Libraries & Fire Service

The Libraries and Fire Service Reports circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Cllr Murphy queried as to if there has been any increase in numbers applying for the Fire Service since conditions improved. Ms Godkin committed to getting numbers from Recruitment Section and revert to members.

2.4 Housing

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The Members put forward several queries and concerns, in particular:

- Is Air to Water systems a requirement?
- Choice Based Letting system is not working and it disadvantages the elderly, requested a review of the System.
- What is the waiting time on the list for Disabled persons grants?
- The length of time vacant houses in the district have been vacant?

Ms Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer answered the members queries and undertook to revert to the Members with more information on some matters.

A discussion on the Choice Based Letting system took place, Ms Godkin informed the members that the system is a different way to communicate the number of houses available, that the procedure for allocating has not changed, it is a time efficient system which places the responsibility on the applicant to check their application. A review will only be carried out after the system has been in place for one year. She also informed the members that disabled and elderly will be communicated with separately as will homeless and traveller community members.

2.5 Municipal District Report

The Municipal District report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Streetscape Enhancement Scheme 2022

The works have now been completed under the scheme. The funding drawdown request has been submitted to the Department. Business owners have been refunded. A promotional video was filmed to showcase the works that have been

carried out. Cllr Codd Nolan queried how many businesses took part and Ms Lawless confirmed 16 property owners availed of the funding.

Town and Village Renewal - Enniscorthy Well Being & Active Garden

Results of the GPS survey on the new site for the activity garden are favourable. A topographical survey is underway, and we are currently preparing a Part V111 report with a plan to bring it before the Members at the December MD meeting.

Vinegar Hill

Trail Head signage for formal Wexford Walking Trails are at design stage. Advertising way markers will be placed in the town to improve linkage from the town up to Vinegar Hill. Lead time on seating for the trails is six weeks.

Bunclody CCTV Scheme

The Garda CCTV advisory committee have confirmed that the Bunclody CCTV Section 38 application will be dealt with by the committee at their next meeting which is now scheduled to take place on 8th December. Cllr Murphy suggested that at this meeting that the Commissioner be requested to approve the Enniscorthy CCTV Scheme.

Electrical works at the Presentation centre

A complete electrical overhaul was carried out on the main access door to the Presentation centre. We also entered into a maintenance agreement with Electro Automation Ltd. for the upkeep and servicing of this door going forward. A separate electrician was engaged to remove the outside lighting bollards and to carry out repairs/bulb replacements to the internal lighting in the entrance hall and toilets.

Enniscorthy Sports Hub

- Online Booking System
- Track Upgrade
- Sport Equipment
- Lighting Upgrade

Enniscorthy MD Traffic and Car Parking Bye-Laws 2023

The Enniscorthy MD Traffic and Car Parking Bye-Laws 2023 are in force from today 20th November 2023.

Tour de France- Cycle City Label

Following on from the successful application of the Tour the France Cycle City Label, the official launch will take place in December. More details to follow.

Enniscorthy Christmas Light Switch on.

The Christmas Lights switch on event will take place on Friday 24th November commencing from 5.00pm.

Bunclody Christmas Lights Switch On

The Bunclody Christmas lights switch on will take place on Saturday 2nd December with music and entertainment from 4pm and the switch on between 5pm and 5.30pm.

Santas Enchanted Christmas Experience

Ticket sales for Santa's Enchanted Christmas Experience are progressing well. The number of tickets sold to date is 2500. The event will run from Wednesday 25th November to Saturday 23rd December.

Enniscorthy Municipal District Christmas Market

Soak up the Christmas atmosphere, pick up a gift or treat yourself to Christmas crafts at the Enniscorthy MD Christmas Market. The market will take place in the Market Square on December 8th, 9th, 10th, 15th, 16th & 17th from 12pm to 6.30pm.

Cllr Murphy queried if the proposed Shop window Competition was being extended out to Ferns and Bunclody, Ms Lawless confirmed it was.

Cllr Owens raised the query in regard to the timeframe for works on the proposed Murphy Floods Site Project. Ms Lawless stated that this was in under the Special Projects Team remit, and she would ask for an update at next meeting.

Cllr Byrne queried if some planting or landscaping could be carried out on a piece of ground at the bottom of Castle Hill leading into Slaney Place. Ms Lawless informed Cllr Byrne that the District Office was currently obtaining quotes for works to be carried out on the said piece of ground.

2.6 Roads Report.

The Roads Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

The Members raised several queries to which Mr. Dempsey, Executive Engineer responded: -

- Traffic issues in Pearse Road
- Laneway at Shamrock GAA grounds
- Traffic lights at St Aidan's School, reinstate same.
- Lights on Pedestrian Crossing at Slaney Street not working?
- Removal of Duffry Gate Island at junction at St Aidan's Villas?
- Repair of the road out by Clonhaston.
- Completion date of Pedestrian Crossing at Church Road, Bunclody?
- Safety works required on N80 from Clohamon junction to Ryland Road.
- Timing on Lights in Ballindaggin Village requires checking.
- The use of Kiltrea Bridge by H.G.V.'s
- Safety works in Castledockerel village commencement date?

- Line marking required throughout the town.

Mr Dempsey informed the members of the following replies:

- The traffic issues at Pearse Road are a matter for the private parties involved and the Gardai. Roads Section can look at the possibility of erecting temporary bollards to prevent parking on foot paths in the area.
- Laneway at Shamrocks GAA does not have a road number therefore it is difficult to get works carried out, Roads will investigate securing funding for works and in meantime the patcher will be sent out to patch potholes.
- He advised as the works at St Aidan's are part of a programme of works through Active Travel that it would be advisable to wait until the works are complete and then review the requirement of the traffic lights.
- The lights on pedestrian crossings mentioned were awaiting an electrical Connection and is currently with ESB Networks.
- The junction at St Aidan's Villas is also part of the programme of works through Active Travel and it is up for revising.
- The road out by Clonhaston has undergone Uisce Eireann works and Mr Dempsey is following up with them with regards to resurfacing works.
- Mr Dempsey confirmed that he is pushing to get TII to do some improvement works done on the N80 from Clohamon to Ryland Road and informed members that resurfacing works are due to commence on N80.
- Mr Dempsey committed to looking at the timing on the Lights in Ballindaggin village.
- He also advised that the use of H.G.V.'s on the bridge at Kiltrea cannot be stopped however he will look at the possibility of putting a yield sign either side of the bridge to try reducing speed.

Cllr Codd Nolan requested that the streetlights in Castledockerel be repaired, Mr Dempsey gave details of the company currently on tender to repair Street Lighting and confirmed he would follow up on same.

Cllr Owens requested that a Adult School Traffic Warden be put in place at the crossing where traffic lights have been removed in the interim, Mr Dempsey committed to speaking to Active Travel re same.

Cllr O Rourke requested that line marking is carried out at both sides of the bridge in Carleysbridge and in Moran Park, he also agreed to the Laneway at Shamrocks GGA requires works. He also requested that the bollard system used at St Aidan's is considered for outside the childcare facility in Templeshannon.

A discussion with regards to having a meeting with all parties involved in the traffic issues in Pearse Road be held and that all Clubs and residents be informed of same and invited to attend.

2.7 Flood Defence Scheme Report/Update.

Mr Larry McHale gave a brief update on the Flood Defence Scheme and confirmed he is concentrating on a plan to get the Scheme moving.

2.8 Special Projects.

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

On the proposal of Cllr Byrne and seconded by Cllr Owens the members agreed to suspend the Standing Orders for 20 minutes to allow the meeting to continue.

Ms Niamh Lennon joined the meeting via Teams at 11.55am to answer queries on the Planning report and apologised for her late attendance.

The members raised the following queries:

- Has there been any planning applications for the Factory site in Moran Park Area?
- The length of time a party has to appeal a refused planning application?
- Has any action been taken regarding the Vape Shop signage in Bunclody?

Ms Lennon indicated that an appeal can be made up to four weeks of refusal of a planning application and she confirmed that the Vape Shop Signage issue had been referred to Planning Enforcement and Ms Lawless confirmed that enforcement letters had been sent to the relevant premises in Bunclody.

Ms Lennon committed to contacting Cllr Owens on his query regarding the Factory site in Moran Park once she had investigated the matter.

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

None

4. Notices of Motions

4.1 Consider Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr John O Rourke

“Lobby Minister of Education for funding to support primary schools in our area for counselling services”.

Cllr O Rourke spoke briefly on the need for counselling services for primary school children, all members agreed and supported Cllr O'Rourke's motion. The motion was proposed by Cllr O Rourke and seconded by Cllr Murphy.

4.2 Consider Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr John O Rourke

“Lobby the Minister for Education to look at applying and rolling out a driving education module for transition years in secondary schools.”

Cllr O Rourke spoke briefly on his reasoning for this motion, all members agreed and supported Cllr O'Rourke's motion. The motion was proposed by Cllr O Rourke and seconded by Cllr Codd Nolan.

5. Correspondence.

None

6. Any Other Business.

6.1 Section 38 Notice. The members noted the proposed works for Castledockerel Village.

6.2 District Development Projects 2023/24 Allocation. Cllr O Rourke indicated that Mr. Neil Dempsey would revert at the December Meeting with costing and proposals for this matter.

Cllr Byrne requested an update on the proposal of the location of a bus stop for Local Link at the new Primary Care facility on the Old Dublin Road. Ms. Godkin confirmed she had not received a response to her correspondence, and she would revisit the matter.

Cllr Byrne also noted that a new business had been established in the premises which was previously occupied by St Patrick's Special School and wished them well.

Director of Service Ms. Carolyne Godkin asked the members if they were in agreement to proceed to Part XI on the development as Turret Rocks. Cllr Owens proposed to proceed to Part XI and this was seconded by Cllr Byrne.

This concluded the business of the Meeting at 12.10pm.

John O Rourke
CATHAOIRLEACH

18th December 2023
DATE