

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 19th April 2021 at 10.30hrs in the Block A, Ground Floor Meeting
Room, County Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford, and MS Teams (Remote).**

Presiding: Cllr Frank Staples – An Cathaoirleach

Officials Present: Nóirín Cummins – District Manager
Dean Waters – Staff Officer

Remote Attendance

Councillors: Cllr Lisa McDonald – Leas Cathaoirleach
Cllr Ger Carthy
Cllr Jim Codd
Cllr Jim Moore

Officials: Annette O'Neill - District Director / Director of Services
Mark Collins – Executive Engineer (Roads)
Ken Jones –Executive Engineer (Water)
Helen Meehan – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)
Tom Banville – Senior Executive Officer (Planning)
Liam Bowe – Executive Planner
George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)
Michael Brazzill – Executive Engineer (IRM)

Apologies: None

Cllr Frank Staples, An Cathaoirleach, welcomed all those in attendance and commenced the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting – 15th March 2021

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of March 15th 2021, were proposed by Cllr Jim Moore, seconded by Cllr Jim Codd, and agreed by all present.

1.2 Matters Arising

- 1.2.1 Planning Department - Record of Protected Structures / Thatched*
- 1.2.2 Irish Water - Taylorstown WTP Update*
- 1.2.3 Planning Enforcement - Taghmon Piggery Update*
- 1.2.4 Environment Department - Canal / Lake Big Update*
- 1.2.5 Motion - Greenway*

The responses and information provided in relation to queries from the previous meeting were noted.

Sympathies

Sympathies were extended to the family of the late Rosaleen (Rose) Finnegan, Pembrokestown, Duncormick, founder of the Wexford Branch of Arthritis Ireland.

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

2.1 Proposed Developments for Taking in Charge in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993 and Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

a) Ozier Grove

On the proposal of Cllr Jim Moore, seconded by Cllr Jim Codd, it was agreed to proceed as outlined.

For information purposes, Cllr Jim Moore requested clarification on the statement “*Backyard services will not transfer to Irish Water*” included in the document presented.

The Senior Executive Officer, Tom Banville, agreed to clarify and revert.

2.2 Amenity & Art Grants 2021 - Eligible Applications / Allocations

On the proposal of Cllr Jim Moore, seconded by Cllr Jim Codd, the allocations were adopted as presented.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

The Chair invited the reports, as directed, with minutes to reflect the order of business in which items were taken.

3.1 Roads Report

The Executive Engineer presented his previously circulated report and responded to questions from the Members agreeing to investigate matters raised, confirming that outdoor staff were operating under the current restrictions of level 5.

A discussion followed.

Roads Programme 2021

The Executive Engineer advised that works would commence in May and continue until year end.

Killinick / Kilrane Lay-by's – Update

The Executive Engineer advised that, in line with the District Manager's Report, these works had been delayed under the covid-19 restrictions, however works would be commencing over the coming days and following completion of works the maintenance of these areas would be kept under review.

Ashfield Roundabout

A number of options regarding the Ashfield Roundabout sponsorship/enhancement were presented by the District Manager and Roads Engineer.

A discussion followed.

The District Manager stated that an in-house low maintenance design, which was unique and represented the District, was the preferred option.

Cllr Ger Carthy stated that the locations needed to be maintained and the re-development works needed to be prioritised.

The District Director advised that works had been delayed due to the period of lockdown, that a plan had been initiated for these strategic lay-by's and roundabout, and that in the meantime the areas would be maintained to a normal standard. She also requested a little more time to fully explore the options available for the development of these important locations.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Frank Staples, stated that he was in favour of Wexford County Council preparing a design.

On the proposal of Cllr Ger Carthy, seconded by Cllr Frank Staples, it was agreed to proceed with an in-house design which would then be presented at the next meeting.

3.2 Water Services Report

Ken Jones, Executive Engineer, delivered the previously circulated report and responded to the queries raised by the Members.

3.3 Housing Report.

Helen Meehan, Senior Staff Officer, delivered the previously circulated report and responded to queries from the Members.

A discussion followed.

Housing Supply – Social & Private Rented

Following observations made by Cllr Lisa McDonald regarding the supply of social housing in the District and the lack of solutions being offered, the Senior Staff Officer undertook to provide a full and comprehensive District specific report detailing current availability to include all forms of social housing/private rented supply and demand within the District.

Cllr Jim Codd supported the request for this information and asked that it include the number of people although eligible for HAP (*Housing Assistance Payment*) that were subsequently unable to find appropriate accommodation within the District.

Estate Maintenance

Following observations from Cllr Ger Carthy, regarding an update on the programme of works and the possibility of reinstating a funding provision for the upkeep of Social Housing Estates, and his request for the Senior Executive Officer to attend the next meeting of Rosslare Municipal District, the Senior Staff Officer agreed to pass on the query and request to Michael Drea, Senior Executive Officer.

Annette O'Neill, District Director, confirmed that following the discussions at the monthly meeting in January the subject had been highlighted to the Director of Housing and the Director of Roads, but that there was no further update at this time.

Social Housing / Housing Support Services – Out of County Applicants

Cllr Jim Codd sought clarification surrounding WCC procedures when dealing with Social Housing / Housing Support applicants that were advised to return to their County of origin and apply for those supports from the relevant authorities in that County. The Senior Staff Officer agreed to seek clarification as requested.

3.4 Planning Report

The Executive Planner delivered his previously circulated report and dealt with the queries which were raised by the Members.

Planning Enforcement – Ballygillane Road, Rosslare Harbour

Following a query from Cllr Ger Carthy regarding the action that had been taken on a case of possible unauthorised development, the Senior Executive Officer outlined the enforcement process and case specific actions and timelines.

A discussion followed.

Cllr Lisa McDonald stated that the Senior Executive Officer needed to listen to the concerns raised, that Members were entitled to clarity of information, and that his responses needed to be consultative and informative.

The Senior Executive Officer noted the frustration of the Members and agreed that following the meeting the site would be re-inspected and that any necessary and/or appropriate action would be taken.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Frank Staples, requested that a case update be forwarded to the Members by e-mail following this inspection. The Senior Executive Officer agreed to action this request.

3.5 Planning Decisions – Grants

The content of the report as previously circulated was noted by the Members.

3.6 Planning Decisions - Refusals

The content of the report as previously circulated was noted by the Members.

3.7 Libraries Archives & Arts Report

The content of the report as previously circulated was noted by the Members.

3.8 Community Development Report

The content of the report as previously circulated was noted by the Members. The absence of a Community representative was noted by the Chair.

Following a request by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Frank Staples, the District Manager agreed to ensure that a Community Representative would be in attendance at the next meeting.

3.9 Environment Report

George Colfer, Executive Engineer, delivered the previously circulated report to the Members and responded to queries raised.

Canal / Lake Big - Woodtown

The Executive Engineer confirmed the recent drainage works were undertaken by private landowners and that future drainage works would need to be completed under a private scheme.

Our Lady's Island – Water Level Management Structure

The Executive Engineer advised the Members that *An Bord Pleanála* issued a request for further information on the planning application for Lady's Island water level management structure and that the information was submitted on the 7th April 2021, with decision on the application pending.

Motorhomes / Camper Vans

Following concerns raised by the Members regarding a site in Kilmore with possible unauthorised development of a Motorhome / Camper Van park, and the attendance of vehicles from outside the County, Cllr Jim Moore confirmed that the Gardaí had been notified.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Frank Staples, requested an update be made available for the next meeting.

Kilmore Quay – Charter Boat Operators

Following concerns raised by Cllr Jim Codd on the deepening financial crisis facing many of the Charter Boat Operators, Annette O'Neill, District Director, assured the Members that as instructed at last week's meeting of the full Council, the 75% reduction introduced for 2020 would also apply in 2021.

A discussion followed.

Cllr Jim Codd requested further clarification surrounding the system in place with regard to the marina and harbour wall berths, requesting that assurances be given to those forced to vacate a more expensive marina berth which would allow for a return to the marina when the industry recovered.

The Executive Engineer advised the Members that he would request an update from the Harbour Master and revert.

3.10 Fire Services Report (February & March)

The content of the reports as previously circulated were noted by the Members.

3.11 IRM Risk Remediation Programme

The Executive Engineer presented the *Insurance Risk Management* report for the District and responded to queries raised.

Cllr Lisa McDonald praised the pro-active approach Wexford County Council were taking with the preventative measures, increasing safety and reducing the risk of accidents, injuries and claims.

Annette O'Neill, District Director, acknowledged the delivery of great results throughout the District and County and stated that the works, although not significant with regard to size or cost, made a real difference to the lives of many people.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Frank Staples, agreed with the comments of his fellow Councillor and the District Director, also commending the Executive Engineer and the Insurance Risk Management team for the work being completed in the District.

3.12 Members New Support System

The previously circulated report was noted by the Members.

4. District Manager Report

The District Manager delivered her report and responded to questions from the Members.

TVR2019 - Bridgetown

Cllr Ger Carthy welcomed the work currently underway in Bridgetown and congratulated all those involved with the project. This was agreed by all present.

Active Travel 2021 – District Funding

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Frank Staples, congratulated the projects that would receive funding under the Active Travel 2021 Programme and thanked the District Director and the District Manager.

Killinick / Kilrane Lay-by's – Update

Discussed earlier in the meeting under item 3.1

Ashfield Roundabout

Discussed earlier in the meeting under item 3.1

5. Correspondence

5.1 Litter, Waste, Action Committee - Hugh Maguire, Administrative Officer - Environment Section

The District Manager introduced the correspondence from the Environment Department.

On the proposal of Cllr Frank Staples, seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy, Cllr Lisa McDonald was nominated to represent Rosslare Municipal District on the Litter/Waste Action Committee.

5.2 Ports Past, Present - Evaluation Report

5.3 Ports Past, Present - Rosslare Port Fest

5.3.1 Press Release

5.3.2 Flyer & Poster

The remaining correspondence was noted.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business


None

8. Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc)

None

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 17th May 2021



Cllr Frank Staples
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District

