

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 16th February 2022 at 10.30hrs in the Council Chamber,
Carricklawn, Wexford, and MS Teams (Remote).**

Presiding: Cllr Jim Moore – An Cathaoirleach

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

Officials: Nóirín Cummins – District Manager
Annette O'Neill - District Director / Director of Services
Mark Collins – Executive Engineer (Roads)
Barry Kelly – Executive Technician
Caroline Creane – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)
Dean Waters – Staff Officer

Remote Attendance

Councillors: Cllr Frank Staples

Officials: Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment)
Michael Drea – Senior Executive Officer (Housing)
Tom Banville – Senior Executive Officer (Planning)
Ger Mackey – A/Senior Executive Officer (Community)

Apologies: Ken Jones – Executive Engineer (Water)

Cllr Jim Moore, An Cathaoirleach, welcomed all those in attendance and commenced the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 19th January 2022

Cllr Lisa McDonald requested an amendment to the draft minutes as presented, and proposed that the following paragraph be inserted under item 3.9 *South End of Rosslare Beach – Access Steps*

South End of Rosslare Beach – Access Steps

Following further observations made by Cllr Lisa McDonald, regarding the safety aspect of this access point, she again reaffirmed her belief that it was not “Fit for Purpose”.

The Senior Engineer agreed to investigate and report to the next meeting.

Cllr Lisa McDonald requested that the necessary works be completed to ensure that the area is Summer Ready.

The amendment was seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy.

Following the amendment, the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of January 19th, 2022, were proposed by Cllr Ger Carthy and seconded by Cllr Frank Staples.

1.2 Matters Arising

- 1.2.1 Matters Arising (Housing) – Proposed Pilot Scheme*
- 1.2.2 Michael Drea, Senior Executive Officer – Housing For All / A new housing plan for Ireland*
- 1.2.3 Matters Arising (Environment) – Seaview Update & South End of Rosslare Beach / Access Steps*

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

Cllr Lisa McDonald expressed her dissatisfaction with the format of the report from Gerry Forde, specifically in relation to the *South End of Rosslare Beach / Access Steps*.

Following a recommendation by the Chair it was agreed that the responses could be revisited, as necessary, under the appropriate agenda item.

Cllr Ger Carthy noted that he was still awaiting a submission or response regarding his request for copies of all correspondence between **Wexford County Council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland**, and the **National Roads Authority** in relation to the Bus Stop in Tagoat.

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

2.1 Special Speed Limit Review – Pre-Draft Consultation

This item was noted by the Members.

3. District Manager Report

3.1 District Managers Report - January

3.2 District Managers Report - February

3.3 Rosslare Harbour and Kilrane Village Development Team - TVR Photographic Update

3.4 Kilmore Quay - Sewerage Scheme Update

3.5 UTAS Wexford - Update

3.6 RMD Flag - Danescastle Primary School Project

The District Manager delivered her reports and responded to questions raised by the Members.

Skeater Rock Public Amenity

Cllr Lisa McDonald congratulated the Chair and the District Manager for the Skeater Rock public amenity initiative. This was agreed by all those in attendance.

Little Sea Viewing Area

Cllr Ger Carthy congratulated the Bannow Historical Society and Wexford County Council for delivering the Little Sea Viewing Area. This was agreed by all those in attendance.

Greenway Project

Following observation by the Members, the District Manager advised the meeting that the Rosslare Strand to Rosslare Harbour Greenway was being considered as a stand-alone project, whilst the full Greenway project was awaiting the ongoing rail review.

Kilmore Quay Marine Park project.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore and Cllr Jim Codd, congratulated Wexford County Council on the Kilmore Quay Marine Park project.

Delegation to Dunkirk

Cllr Frank Staples stated that strong links with Dunkirk should be encouraged with regard to the opportunities associated with possible Economic and Tourism initiatives, and although he would not be in a position to join the delegation that he fully supported the intended trip to France.

Trinity Handball Alley

Following comment by Cllr Jim Codd, the District Manager advised the meeting that she had just received notification from Anthony Bailey that the Property Section had forwarded a draft report on the matter to the Director of Services for consideration and approval, confirming it would be made available shortly.

Cllr Lisa McDonald made her apologies and temporarily withdrew from the meeting.

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

Following a proposal by the Chair and agreement by the Members, the Chair invited the reports as directed, with minutes to reflect the order of business in which items were taken.

4.9 Environment Report

The Senior Engineer delivered the previously circulated report and dealt with the queries which were raised by the Members.

Coastal Erosion Presentation

The Senior Engineer advised the meeting that he would like to deliver a Coastal Erosion Presentation, approximately 30mins in length, to the Members in March. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore agreed to facilitate the request.

Bing Wastewater treatment Plant

Cllr Frank Staples requested a presentation on the Bing Wastewater Treatment Plant be presented by Fionnuala Callery, Senior Executive Engineer, Water Services, and/or Yvonne Kelly, Senior Staff Officer, Water Services, at the next

meeting. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, agreed that a presentation would be most welcome.

The District Manager agreed to action this request.

Rejuvenation of Public Piers and Harbours – 35m Fund

Following comment by Cllr Jim Codd regarding the **Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine** fund of 35 million in response to Brexit and its economic impact on fishing communities, and with Local authorities in coastal areas being encouraged to apply for government funding to improve pier and harbour infrastructure, Cllr Ger Carthy requested that the criteria for the scheme be circulated to the Members for their consideration.

4.9.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update

The Senior Engineer updated the Members on the status of the *Seaview Coastal Erosion Scheme* and responded to their questions.

A discussion followed.

The District Manager advised the meeting that in reference to the previous motion adopted in June 2021 by Wexford County Council –

'Wexford County Council calls on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to facilitate a meeting with the Council and the National Coastal Management Strategy Steering Group to highlight the immediate concerns of Wexford County Council and secure the responses required to address the coastal erosion issues in Wexford'

and the proposal at the previous RMD meeting to refer this matter to the County Secretary to follow up on the correspondence sent to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage on July 5th, 2021, as there had been no action or comment received in response to this correspondence, the County Secretary had now advised that the motion would be deferred until March.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, noted the update.

4.1 Roads Report

The Executive Engineer delivered his report, which included a Bus Stop/Shelter overview, and responded to questions from the Members agreeing to investigate certain matters raised.

A discussion followed.

Bus Shelters

Following observations by Cllr Ger Carthy regarding the Tagoat Bus Shelter, which was missing from the report, the Executive Engineer apologised for the oversight.

The District Manager advised the meeting that she and An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, had requested a Bus Shelter update from Aled Williams, Bus Éireann's

Senior Operations Manager for the Southern region, at their recent meeting, and had specifically requested details on proposed Shelter in Tagoat.

Cllr Ger Carthy then requested an update on the 4 Bus Shelters which were required in Tagoat, Kilrane, Killinick, and Rosslare Strand.

The Executive Engineer advised the Members that the National Roads Authority and Wexford County Council had agreed a four-year plan, which would provide 4-5 Bus Shelters per year for the County, with chosen areas meeting certain criteria regarding a minimum threshold of services per day and population concentration.

A discussion followed.

The Executive Engineer then stated that a Shelter would be delivered in Wellington Bridge within 6 months, with funding also being agreed for the Coast Road in Rosslare and Kilrane.

Cllr Ger Carthy then requested that a meeting be arranged between the Members, the District Manager, the District Engineer, and David Codd, Chief Technician and Road Safety Officer in an effort to progress the matter. Cllr Jim Moore agreed that a meeting would bring clarity to the ongoing issue.

Community Shelter Project / Killinick – Design Stage

Cllr Frank Staples stated that the Community Shelter Project in Killinick which was currently at the Design Stage, could possibly double up as a Bus Shelter.

Rural Link Coordinator

Cllr Ger Carthy stated that it would be beneficial to meet the Rural Link Coordinator. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, agreed that a meeting should take place between the Members and Coordinator.

HGV Parking – Safety Concerns

Cllr Ger Carthy requested an update following the safety concerns he raised at the last two meetings regarding parked HGV's along the hard shoulder of the N25 in the vicinity of Kilrane and other locations nearby, and his subsequent request for the installation of temporary bollards as both preventative and safety measures. Cllr Ger Carthy also requested an update on the provision of off-road parking for the HGV's.

The District Engineer advised that safety works are ongoing and that he will discuss the provision of a new parking area with the Director of Services.

Kilrane National School – Safety Works

Following concerns raised by Cllr Frank Staples, the Executive Engineer agreed to provide an update on the safety works.

Clongeen Traffic Plan

Cllr Jim Codd requested an update on the Clongeen Traffic Plan.

Growtown Flooding

Cllr Jim Codd stated that the area of Growtown is constantly flooded and that a solution needed to be found to solve this problem, requesting that the statement be recorded in the minutes.

Flooding – OPW Report / Countywide Review

Following on from the decision taken at the January Meeting to arrange a meeting with the OPW when their report had been circulated and the Countywide review had taken place, Cllr Jim Codd reaffirmed the need for such a meeting which was fully supported by all members.

4.2 Water Services Report

The previously circulated Water Services report was noted by the Members. The absence of the Executive Engineer, Ken Jones, was also noted.

4.3 Housing Report.

The previously circulated Housing report was noted by the Members.

1.2.2 Matters Arising - Michael Drea, Senior Executive Officer / Housing For All - A new housing plan for Ireland

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, thanked the Senior Executive Officer for agreeing to attend the meeting following the adjournment of this agenda item at the previous meeting and invited the Senior Executive Officer to now respond to the questions of the Members.

The Senior Executive Officer advised the meeting that a provision of 6 additional staff for the Capital Programme had been sanctioned along with a Vacant Homes Officer.

A discussion followed.

The Senior Executive Officer requested the agreement of the Members to initiate the development of small clusters of 4-7 houses in the District, where the appropriate services were available, with an advertisement seeking expressions of interest for the purposes of appropriate land acquisition.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, queried if this initiative was being driven by the Planning Department or the Housing Department.

The Senior Executive Officer advised that the initiative was being driven by the Housing Department, whilst having regard to planning issues, which created a joined-up thinking approach by both Departments.

Cllr Ger Carthy advised the Senior Executive Officer that there was no wastewater capacity in many areas throughout the District and requested a progress report on the pilot scheme for the delivery of individual houses in the District which he had proposed, and which had been seconded by his colleague, at the last meeting.

A discussion followed.

Cllr Ger Carthy advised the Senior Executive Officer that this is a decision made by the Executive, not to implement policy for the Members. Cllr Ger Carthy further stated that the Executive should honour the commitment given to him a month ago.

The Senior Executive Officer advised the meeting that there was no detailed discussion at the previous meeting regarding the Pilot Scheme. He also confirmed that the Housing Executive had met with the Chief Executive and following this meeting the preferred option was to build clusters of 4-7 houses in villages where there was demand, and that in terms of economics this was more viable than building single one-off houses.

Cllr Ger Carthy stated that a commitment had been made by Shay Howell, County Architect, at the last meeting, and that he did not understand the reluctance by the Executive to do what the Members had requested. He further stated that if the Executive were going to do their own thing, he had finished talking.

Cllr Ger Carthy departed from the meeting.

The Senior Executive Officer advised those present that the Wexford County Council would meet the need for housing in the District through cluster housing, but where there is a particular need identified for a one-off house we would absolutely provide the necessary supports.

A discussion followed.

The Senior Executive Officer advised those present that following engagement with the Planning Department, specific areas would be named having regard to current services, but this would not exclude other areas. He further advised that another meeting between the Housing Department and Planning Department was scheduled for the 22nd February, with the advert to be finalised for publication following this meeting.

Cllr Frank Staples requested the opportunity to discuss locations prior to the meeting scheduled for 22nd February. The Senior Executive Officer agreed to facilitate this request.

Cllr Jim Codd voiced concerns over the depletion of rural villages and stated that *"Housing for All"* was actually *"Housing for Some"*.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, expressed concern regarding areas without the necessary services and for rural sustainability, requesting that Councillors be informed of the advertisement content prior to its publication.

Following comments by the Members regarding housing demand in the District and the nominated areas of choice on the Housing Support Form not being a true indicator of demand in the District, the Senior Executive Officer advised those present that funding provided by the Department is based on figures of housing

demand, and these figures are purely based on the areas of choice which were nominated by those seeking housing support, whilst also accepting the Councillors comments regarding the practice of strategic nominations.

Cllr Lisa McDonald re-joined the meeting.

4.4 Planning Report

The previously circulated report was noted by the Members before the Senior Executive Officer responded to their questions.

The Senior Executive Officer confirmed that enforcement cases 023/2019 Kiluger Pig Farm & 0220/2020 Ballynagale had been referred to *An bord Pleanala* under Section 5(4) of the Planning Development Act 2000 (as amended), in September 2021.

Cllr Lisa McDonald requested a report be made available for the next meeting detailing the current status of 3 ongoing enforcement cases;

Killuger, Killinick – Pig Farm
Ballynagale – Pig Farm
Kilrane Business Park – Waste Management Facility

The Senior Executive Officer agreed to provide the information and circulate as requested.

Following acknowledgment from the Chair of the current time being 12:30, Cllr Lisa McDonald proposed the suspension of Standing Orders. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Jim Codd and the meeting continued.

4.5 Planning Decisions – Grants (Monthly & Annual)

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

4.6 Planning Decisions – Refusals (Monthly & Annual)

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

4.7 Libraries Archives & Arts Report

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

4.8 Community Development Report

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

4.10 Fire Services Report

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

4.11 Members New Support System

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

5. Correspondence

5.1 Sparkles (Kilmore Quay) - Letter of Thanks

Noted.

5.2 Energia Renewables - South Irish Sea Offshore Wind Project Update

Noted.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None.

8. Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc)

8.1 Ports, Past and Present - Cathrine Agnew, Project Officer

Cathrine Agnew, was welcomed to the meeting by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, on behalf of the Members.

The Project Officer gave an overview of the progress to date and forthcoming events, before responding to questions from the Members.

The Members thanked Project Officer, Cathrine Agnew, and congratulated her on the progress to date prior to her departure from the meeting.

7. Any Other Business

The Burrow Lifeboat Memorial - 40th Anniversary Ceremony

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, advised the members that a wreath laying ceremony was taking place on Sunday 20th February at the Burrow Lifeboat Memorial in Rosslare Strand, marking the 40th anniversary of the Memorial which commemorates the heroism of the rescue crews involved in the sinking of the *MEXICO* tragedy, and invited all the Members to join him in attendance.

March Monthly Meeting – Meeting Deferral

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, suggested to the Members that with their agreement he would recommend the deferment of the RMD March Monthly meeting until Wednesday 23rd, to allow for the preparation of St Patrick's Day celebrations and events. Cllr Lisa McDonald proposed the recommended date change, which was seconded by Cllr Frank Staples.

Congratulations

Cllr Jim Codd afforded best wishes to *Mixed Martial Arts (MMA)*, bantam weight division, fighter Brian Moore (*The Pikeman*), on his upcoming fight at the 3 Arena.

Sympathies

Sympathies were extended to the families of the late Aidan Brennan - Bridgetown, Maria Breen – Duncormick, Michael Waters – Taghmon, Christy Owens - Kilmore, Frances Foley – Duncormick, Fr Jim Curtis – Piercestown, and Reverend Fr James Ryan – Cleariestown.

Sympathies were also extended to Deputy Verona Murphy, Cllr Joe Sullivan, and Maura Bell, on the recent death of their respective mothers.

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 23rd March 2022



Cllr Jim Moore
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District