

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 20th July 2022 at 10.30hrs in the Council Chamber, Carricklawn,
Wexford, and MS Teams (Remote).**

Presiding:	Cllr Lisa McDonald – An Cathaoirleach
Councillors:	Cllr Jim Moore Cllr Ger Carthy Cllr Jim Codd
Officials:	Annette O'Neill - District Director / Director of Services Dymphna O'Connor – Senior Executive Officer (Community) Caroline Creane – Senior Staff Officer (Housing) Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment) Melissa Goff – Senior Staff Officer (Environment) Sonia Hunt – Executive Planner Cathrine Agnew – Project Officer (Ports, Past and Present) Therese Nolan – Executive Architect (Housing) John Byrne – Executive QS (Housing) Barry Dunphy – Nicholas O'Dwyer Consulting Engineers Kevin O'Connell - Nicholas O'Dwyer Consulting Engineers Dean Waters – Staff Officer

Remote Attendance

Officials:	Ken Jones – Executive Engineer (Water) Mark Collins – Executive Engineer (Roads)
Apologies:	Cllr Frank Staples – Leas Cathaoirleach Nóirín Cummins – District Manager

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, welcomed all those in attendance and commenced the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 15th June 2022

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of June 15th 2022, were proposed by Cllr Ger Carthy and seconded by Cllr Jim Moore.

1.2 Annual Meeting 27th June 2022

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of June 27th 2022, were proposed by Cllr Jim Moore and seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy.

1.3 Matters Arising

1.3.1 Housing – Various

1.3.2 Environment – Steps Feasibility

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

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

At this point members acknowledged;

- Confirmation from the Special Projects team of the recently received approval from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to progress the Rosslare Strand to Rosslare Harbour greenway as a phased element of the larger Wexford Town to Rosslare Harbour greenway.
- Confirmation of the grant funding secured for the purchase of the Bank of Ireland building in Rosslare Harbour
- National Media coverage of the Beach Matting launch in Rosslare Strand

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

None

3. District Manager Report

3.1 District Managers Report

In the absence of the District Manager, the Staff Officer delivered the report and highlighted certain items.

The Members acknowledged the positive progress on projects included in the report and acknowledged the many community festivals being delivered in the district over the coming weeks and months and wished them well with these events.

Write by the Sea Literary Festival

The Staff Officer advised that the *Write by the Sea Literary Festival* would be officially launched on the "Street" in Carricklawn on Friday evening, July 22nd at 16:30hrs and that the festival itself is scheduled for 23rd to 25th September.

Joint Policing Committee – Quarterly District / Gardai Meetings

The Staff Officer advised that as previously requested by the JPC, the members of the Municipal Districts were to hold quarterly/scheduled meetings with the local Gardaí and to provide the JPC a short report of matters discussed highlighting particular issues where additional support may be needed. He further advised that the next meeting could be arranged if the Members deemed it appropriate.

3.1.1 Beach Access Review Report 2022

The District Director introduced the report and brought the members through the contents focussing on the list of proposed actions as established during the review.

A discussion followed.

The Members thanked the Director for the comprehensive report and agreed that the framework was now in place to allow for an achievable plan of action to be formulated and delivered.

The S.E. Environment welcomed the report and stated that the Environment Department looked forward to working closely in partnership with the District to deliver the agreed actions.

The District Director also advised the meeting that work was commencing on a new District sign which would hopefully be installed at a select number of beach locations, committing to finalise a prototype for further discussion.

On the proposal of Cllr Ger Carthy, seconded by Cllr Jim Codd, the *Beach Access Review Report 2022* was approved by all present.

The Members requested that an update on the progress of the proposed actions be brought to the October meeting.

4. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

Following a request from the S.E. Environment and subsequent proposal by An Cathaoirleach, which was agreed by the Members, the order of business was changed and invited as directed.

4.9 Environment Report

The S.E. Environment delivered the previously circulated report and dealt with the queries which were raised by the Members, agreeing to further investigate and/or progress certain matters including;

- *Shower Installation – St Helen’s Pier*
- *Lighting – Carne Pier*

Four Winds – Steps Installation Feasibility

The Senior Engineer confirmed that the temporary steps structure currently located at Arthurstown is not suitable for use at the Four Winds location, referring the Members to his technical report under Matters Arising (*item 1.3.2*)

Blue Flag Application – Little Strand, Kilmore Quay

The S.E. Environment advised the meeting that as the Kilmore Quay Main Drainage Project was now underway, it may be possible to apply for Blue Flag status at Little Strand in Kilmore Quay in 2023, if the required 4 year water quality testing and analysis can be completed to coincide with the application process timeline.

The Members welcomed this information and update.

Following comment from Cllr Jim Codd, the Senior Engineer confirmed that this Beach was not currently covered by Beach Bye-Laws.

Meeting – Environment Department & Coastal Team

The S.E. Environment advised that a meeting would be arranged as requested by Cllr Ger Carthy to discuss matters at Carne Pier.

4.9.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update

The S.E. Environment updated members on the current status of the coastal erosion schemes, responded to the queries from the Members and confirmed that a cost benefit analysis was a requirement of the OPW's application for funding process.

The S.E. Environment committed to furnishing the Members with an update on St Helen's Preliminary Erosion Study at the September meeting, and an update on Ballyhealy Preliminary Erosion Study at the October meeting.

1. Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc)

8.1 Rosslare Element of the Film "At the Water's Edge" / Introduction and Screening - Cathrine Agnew, Project Officer - Ports, Past and Present

The Project Officer, Cathrine Agnew, gave an update on the project, introduced the short film extract, and responded to the Members questions.

8.2 Rosslare Coastal Erosion & Flood Relief Scheme / Website Launch - The Environment Department & Nicholas O'Dwyer Consulting Engineers

Project Manager, Barry Dunphy, gave an introduction and overview on the project before engineering lead Kevin O'Connell, gave a project update.

The Project Manager advised that his firm were appointed in January 2022 and described the statutory process and EU legislation involved in the project, confirming that the cost benefit analysis was part of this process and considered many things in this highly sensitive area such as the Social, Leisure, and Economic benefits.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, thanked the team from *Nicholas O'Dwyer Consulting Engineers* for their presentation and opened the floor to comments from the Members.

A discussion followed.

The Members expressed their dissatisfaction and frustration with the delay involved with the roll-out and delivery of this €7.5m scheme and sought assurance that the funding was secured for the delivery of this project which was provided by the project manager.

4.1 Roads Report

The Executive Engineer delivered his report and responded to questions from the Members, providing the following immediate updates;

- *Forth Mountain – Reviewing access point/s road signage.*

- *Road Junctions - Cutting completed in certain areas and continuing.*
- *Line Markings - Improvements across the district where time and funds allow.*
- *Hodgesmill Road - Teagasc completing some excavation works with progress report to be requested.*
- *Hedgecutting – Agreed to confirm with the Roads Department regarding advertising the obligation/s of land owners.*
- *Active Travel Programme 2021 - Progressing to completion but being slowed by competing work required on addressing the significant flood works after the December floods. He advised that design works had commenced on the Wellingtonbridge Junction Tightening & Bus Stop.*
- *Bridgetown - Agreed to review the situation in relation to a proposed pedestrian crossing at Bridgetown playground to determine if there was a need by examining traffic counts and sightlines etc, with a funding application to follow where the need was confirmed.*

Flooding - OPW

The District Engineer informed the meeting that the application seeking OPW funding for flood barriers and flood measures at properties in Bridgetown Village impacted by the December flooding had been approved and the contractor would now progress delivery of the measures.

The Executive Engineer confirmed that an application for funding in relation to Duncormick Village had been drafted and would be submitted to the OPW for approval once finalised.

The Executive Engineer further advised that the OPW had completed the dredging works downstream of the bridge on the canal at Bridgetown as scheduled, with the upstream works to follow in September.

A discussion followed.

The District Engineer confirmed that the OPW grant scheme was only applicable to properties within the village areas around their canal system. He acknowledged that there may be individuals that cannot be assisted through the grant scheme but that this should be minimal. He also confirmed that the process in relation to longer term solutions and a more detailed drainage assessment for the area was being progressed.

The Executive Engineer also advised that other Emergency flood & drainage works had been completed with further works continuing and emergency resurfacing repairs being planned on some remaining water damaged roads.

Additional Outdoor Infrastructure Scheme (AOIS) – Rosslare District

The District Engineer agreed to provide a detailed update of the works completed throughout the District under the Additional Outdoor Infrastructure Scheme.

4.1.1 Bus Shelter Progress Report

The Executive Engineer delivered an update before responding to questions from the Members.

- *Complete – Bridgetown*
- *Complete – Kilmore Quay*
- *Complete – Rosslare Harbour*
- *Progressing – Bridgetown*
- *Progressing - Killinick*
- *Active Travel - Wellingtonbridge x2*
- *Active Travel – Kilrane x2*
- *NTA Application – Tagoat x2 (North & South)*
- *NTA Application – Drinagh x2 (North & South)*
- *NTA Application - Rosslare Strand*

The Executive Engineer confirmed that the *National Transport Authority* (NTA) had given provisional approval to the applications they had received from the District and that he was hopeful of formal approval shortly.

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

Cllr Ger Carthy proposed that Rosslare Municipal District Meetings be recorded and that an action plan should be formulated using the content of the recordings.

A discussion followed with varying views being expressed.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, paused the discussion to return to the agenda for the meeting advising Members that she would deal with the matter under AOB if time allowed.

4.3 Housing Report

The Senior Staff Officer delivered her previously circulated report and responded to questions from the Members.

Appropriate Land Acquisition / Turnkeys - Expressions of Interest

The Senior Staff Officer advised the meeting that the in the original call for expressions of interest in relation to appropriate land acquisition for the development of small clusters of 4-7 houses and similar Turnkey developments in the District, the Housing Department had received a total of 3 regarding units and 2 regarding land. The second call for expressions of interest saw no further interest from within Rosslare District.

She further advised that the Housing Capital Team were now evaluating the proposals.

A discussion followed.

The Members expressed their frustration with the results of the EOI and the process generally which they believe is being hindered by the current delays in getting Preplanning meetings and called for greater efforts to be made to deliver positive solutions to the housing needs of the district.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, stated that Housing and Planning should be working together to see what could and can be achieved to make a difference to peoples lives.

Newly Launched 50k Grant – For owner/occupiers of Derelict Houses

Cllr Jim Moore requested information on the newly launched scheme for owners of derelict properties being made available to bring properties back to an appropriate habitable standard.

The Senior Staff Officer agreed to investigate the matter and circulate details of the scheme.

4.4 Planning Report

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

Cllr Jim Moore referenced the Planning Enforcement case for Bridgetown Mills and requested follow up with the HSE in relation to vermin on the site.

4.5 Planning Decisions – Grants

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

4.6 Planning Decisions – Refusals

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

4.2 Water Services Report

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 and restated their congratulations to all involved in the success of the recently installed beach mat in Rosslare Strand.

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 Carrig-on-Bannow Community Centre / Letter of Thanks

The correspondence was acknowledged and welcomed by the Members.

5.2 Maire de Ouistreham / Proposed Partnership

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, noted the content of the correspondence and suggested that the local community might be best placed to progress further.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

Action Plan / Recordings

In reference to the proposal by Cllr Ger Carthy, An Cathaoirleach Cllr Lisa McDonald, stated that the adopted minutes were approved by members as a true reflection of the business of the meeting and would be a record of actions agreed. She advised that members should contact the District Manager/Staff Officer if they believe an action is not included in the minutes and on that basis she did not see the necessity in the actual recording of meetings and therefore would not be supporting Cllr Carthy's proposal.

Sympathies

Sympathies were extended to the family of Patrick (Pat) Doyle – Kilmore Quay. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, requested that correspondence be sent, from the District office, to his wife Josephine (former member of Wexford Co Council) and her family expressing their sympathies at the passing of Mr. Doyle. This was unanimously agreed.

Sympathies were also extended to the family of the late Jimmy White - Bannow.

Housing Capital Team – Meeting attendance

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Lisa McDonald, thanked the Capital Team representatives for their attendance.

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 21st September 2022



Cllr Lisa McDonald
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District