

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 21st June 2021 at 10.30hrs in the Council Chamber, County Hall,
Carricklawn, Wexford, and MS Teams (Remote).**

Presiding: Cllr Frank Staples – An Cathaoirleach

Councillors: Cllr Ger Carthy
Cllr Jim Codd
Cllr Jim Moore

Officials: Nóirín Cummins – District Manager
Annette O'Neill - District Director / Director of Services
Mark Collins – Executive Engineer (Roads)
Dean Waters – Staff Officer

Remote Attendance

Councillors: Cllr Lisa McDonald – Leas Cathaoirleach

Officials: Dan McCartan – Senior Executive Engineer (Water NR)
Caroline Creane – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)
Liam Bowe – Executive Planner
George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)
Annette Dupuy – Healthy County Coordinator

Apologies: None

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

Sympathies

Sympathies were extended to the families of the late Thomas Dempsey - Taghmon, David Killeen - Murrintown, Geraldine Grace - England formerly Rathangan, Mervyn O'Toole - Foulksmills, and Bob Cowman, Housing Officer - Wexford County Council.

Congratulations

Congratulations were afforded to the new Bishop of Ferns, Ger Nash, and his predecessor Dennis Brennan.

Congratulations were also afforded to the Mercy National School, St John's Road, Wexford Town, following its participation and success in the 2021 "Wexford Fittest Schools" competition.

Following a proposal by the Chair, the Members agreed to firstly deal with item **8.1** in the order of business, as it was carried over from previous meeting due to technical difficulties.

8. Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc)

8.1 Healthy Wexford - Presentation by Annette Dupuy, Healthy County Coordinator, Community Development

Annette Dupuy gave an overview of “*Healthy Wexford*” and responded to questions from the Members.

The Members thanked the *Healthy County Coordinator* for the excellent presentation and acknowledged the importance of the role.

Annette Dupuy thanked the Members and then departed from the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting – 17th May 2021

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of May 17th 2021, were proposed by Cllr Jim Moore, seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy, and agreed by all present.

1.2 Matters Arising

1.2.1 Water Services - Irish Water Connections / Planning Enforcement

(a) *Irish Water / Planning Enforcement Query - initial response as presented at March Monthly Meeting*

(b) *Irish Water / Planning Enforcement Query - requested clarification*

1.2.2 Housing - Various

1.2.3 Environment Department - Preliminary Risk Management Study

1.2.4 Planning / Dangerous Place and Derelict Site inspection/s - Old Mill, Bridgetown.

1.2.5 Planning / Dangerous Structure inspection - Burial Ground, Killag

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

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) Sandylane, Mauritiustown, Rosslare Strand

Following a proposal of Cllr Ger Carthy, seconded by Cllr Jim Moore, it was agreed to proceed as outlined.

2.2 Schedule of Municipal District Works - Rosslare Municipal District 2021 (Draft)

Following a proposal of Cllr Ger Carthy, seconded by Cllr Jim Moore, the *Schedule of Municipal District Works* was 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 certain matters raised.

Grass Cutting and General Maintenance

Following queries from Cllr Ger Carthy, the Executive Engineer agreed to keep all areas under review, and to reassess the schedule for Tagoat Village.

Access / Egress to Beaches of the District

Following a discussion regarding the need for safe accessibility to scenic locations during the summer months, the Members agreed to forward any areas needing attention to the District Manager.

Forth Mountain Access Road – The New Line to Pennylands

The District Director advised the meeting that following discussions with the Roads Director of Services, funding to the value of 100k had been secured for improvement works.

The Members commended the District Director for securing the funding.

Road Maintenance

The Members highlighted several areas of concern and agreed there was a lack of investment being allocated by central government.

The Members again expressed concerns regarding the disrepair of the road network inherited from the New Ross Municipal District in 2019.

A discussion followed.

Cllr Ger Carthy proposed a deputation be organised to the *Minister for Transport* to outline the many concerns that the Members of the District had in relation to the road network. The proposal was seconded by Cllr Jim Codd and agreed by all present.

It was then agreed that the matter would be discussed first with the Director of Service for Roads and Transportation.

3.2 Water Services Report

Dan McCartan, Senior Executive Engineer, delivered the previously circulated report and responded to the queries raised by the Members.

Cllr Ger Carthy requested his appreciation be noted for the detailed reports regarding his *Irish Water / Planning Enforcement* query.

3.3 Housing Report.

Caroline Creane, Senior Staff Officer, presented the previously circulated report and responded to queries from the Members.

A discussion followed.

Staffing Structure – Housing Capital Team

Following further observations made by Cllr Ger Carthy regarding the apparent skeletal staff in the capital team, and also the lack of a Senior Engineer in the capital team, the Senior Staff Officer agreed to investigate the shortfall, if any, in the numbers and staffing structure of the appropriate personnel involved in the planning, design, and delivery of social housing units.

Voids – Long Term / Medium Term

Following a request by Cllr Jim Codd, the Senior Staff Officer agreed to provide details of all houses in the District which had been vacant for a period in excess of 12 months. The Senior Staff Officer agreed to investigate and revert.

Vacant Houses - Timeframe

Cllr Jim Moore noted there are 10 vacant houses in the District and requested detail on the timeframes involved with houses from initial vacancy to allocation of tenancy, illustrating the average vacancy period. The Senior Staff Officer agreed to collate the information and revert.

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

Following a query from Cllr Ger Carthy, regarding the ongoing Ballygillane enforcement case, the Executive Planner agreed to request that an update be forwarded to the District Manager for circulation to the Members.

Planning Enforcement – Ballynagale

Following a query from Cllr Jim Codd, regarding the ongoing Ballynagale enforcement case, the Executive Planner agreed to request that an update be forwarded to the District Manager for circulation to the Members.

3.5 Planning Decisions – Grants

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

3.6 Planning Decisions - Refusals

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

3.7 Libraries Archives & Arts Report

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

3.9 Environment Report

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

Environment Staff – District

Cllr Jim Moore praised the efforts of all staff involved with ensuring that the District is as inviting to visitors as possible and the endless task of litter control, noting weekend workers for particular praise.

3.9.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update

The Executive Engineer advised the meeting that the tender for consultants for the Seaview Coastal Erosion Scheme were currently being assessed, and that the Environment Section were hopeful the contract would be awarded in the coming weeks.

A discussion followed.

The Executive Engineer, confirmed that a Preliminary Erosion Study would be carried out at St Helen's.

He also confirmed that they will be carrying out a Preliminary Erosion Study at Ballyhealy which would be funded by WCC, and although an official application had not been made the OPW have indicated that they would consider funding a much broader erosion and flood study from Kilmore Quay to Carnsore Point. Cllr Ger Carthy requested that this be recorded in the minutes for public record.

A discussion followed.

The Executive Engineer confirmed that any works deemed necessary would need to be subsequently approved and funded by the OPW.

He further confirmed that it was his expectation that emergency works to protect the first section of road would be carried out before Winter.

Cllr Ger Carthy called for a "*Special Meeting*" with the Director, Senior Engineer, and Executive Engineer, to be arranged to discuss the matter.

3.8 Community Development Report

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

Ger Mackey advised the Members that a Community representative had now been nominated to attend future Rosslare Municipal District meetings, and that he would also be available to the Members as and when necessary.

3.10 Fire Services Report

The previously circulated report was noted by the Members.

3.11 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.

Twining – Dunkirk

The District Manager advised the meeting that a response from the relevant authorities in Dunkirk, namely Nordine Henni, Chef de Projet, Cooperation internationale (*item 4.1.1*), had been received for the consideration of the Members, following the introductory correspondence sent on behalf of **Rosslare Municipal District** by Prof. Marc Daumas, Science Attaché, Embassy of France in Ireland, and Dr. Loic Guyon, French honorary consul in Limerick.

The Members agreed that a MS Teams meeting would be arranged after the RMD Annual Meeting scheduled for Friday 25th June.

4.1.1 Twining Correspondence – Dunkirk

Noted as read.

5. Correspondence

None

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

Fisherman Protest

The Members of Rosslare Municipal District wished to confirm their support for the fisherman and the fishing communities that were travelling to Dublin Port on Wednesday 23rd June, in protest at the cut to EU fishing quotas following Brexit.

8. Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc)

8.1 Healthy Wexford - Presentation by Annette Dupuy, Healthy County Coordinator, Community Development

This presentation was dealt with at the start of the meeting following instruction from the Chair.

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 19th July 2021



Cllr Jim Moore

An Cathaoirleach

Rosslare Municipal District