

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 15th June 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 Lisa McDonald Cllr Frank Staples
Officials:	Nóirín Cummins – District Manager Annette O'Neill - District Director / Director of Services Mark Collins – Executive Engineer (Roads) Dymphna O'Connor – Senior Executive Officer (Community) Caroline Creane – Senior Staff Officer (Housing) Gerry Forde – Senior Engineer (Environment) Sonia Hunt – Executive Planner Dean Waters – Staff Officer

Remote Attendance

Councillors:	Cllr Ger Carthy
Officials:	Ken Jones – Executive Engineer (Water)
Apologies:	N/A

Cllr Jim Moore, An Cathaoirleach, advised that the requisite quorum was present, Cllr Ger Carthy would be joining the meeting remotely, and that Cllr Lisa McDonald was slightly delayed, welcomed Dymphna O'Connor and all those in attendance and commenced the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 18th May 2022

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of May 18th 2022, were proposed by Cllr Frank Staples and seconded by Cllr Jim Codd.

1.2 Matters Arising

1.2.1 Housing – Various

The response 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.

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

2.1 Consideration of Section 183 Notice – Lands at Bridgetown

The District Manager introduced the agenda item and requested approval for the Section 183 Notice to proceed to the next stage and be submitted to the Plenary Council for consideration.

Cllr Jim Moore proposed that the Section 183 Notice move forward as outlined. Cllr Jim Codd seconded the proposal.

2.2 Schedule of Municipal District Works – Rosslare Municipal District 2022

The District Manager introduced the draft Rosslare Municipal District Schedule of Municipal District Works 2022 for the consideration of the Members.

A discussion followed.

Following a proposal by Cllr Frank Staples, which was seconded by Cllr Jim Codd, the Schedule of Municipal District Works 2022 for Rosslare was adopted and agreed by all.

3. District Manager Report

3.1 District Managers Report

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

The Little Sea Viewing area / Carrig-on-Bannow Community Centre

The District Manager confirmed that the opening of The Little Sea Viewing and Environmental Area would take place at 14:00hrs on Friday 17th June 2022, with the official opening of the Carrig-on-Bannow Community Centre Enhancement Works directly following.

Cllr Lisa McDonald joined the meeting.

Skeater Point – New Amenity

The District Manager confirmed that the official opening of the new amenity would take place on Friday 24th June.

Following the report, Cllr Frank Staples praised all the positive aspects of the report and stated that the rural communities within the District were now thriving under the administration of the newly established municipal authority.

National Enterprise Awards

The Chair referenced the recent success of the only Wexford based nomination at the National Enterprise Awards. The Rosslare based company Professional Hair Labs, were successful in securing the Best Export category.

The Chair was delighted to have attended the event on behalf of the district and proposed that a letter of congratulations be issued to the company and that the good wishes of the Rosslare MD be extended to them for the future.

3.1.1 DHLGH Planning Circular No. 04/2022 Section 254 Street Furniture Fees Waiver Regulations

The Members noted the content of the circular.

Maire de Ouistreham – Informal visit to County Hall on 16th June.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, advised the meeting that the Maire de Ouistreham, Romain Bail, and a small delegation were attending the Rosslare Harbour Festival 2022.

He further advised that as part of their visit, an informal visit to County Hall had been arranged for 15:00hrs on Thursday 16th and invited all the Members to attend.

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.

4.1 Roads Report

The Executive Engineer delivered his report and responded to questions from the Members and noted other matters raised by Members including;

- *Road Junctions (Strimming) - Safety Concern*
- *Line Marking - Safety Concern*
- *Ballymitty & Wellingtonbridge pedestrian crossing - Safety Concern*
- *Railway Bridges – Safety Concern*
- *Pennylands / Paddy's Rock – Surface / Verges*
- *Fingerpost Signage*

HGV Damage / Safety Concern - La Rochelle / Greenore Park / St Mary's Terrace

The District Director confirmed that Director of Services (Roads) and the Road Safety Officer are actively seeking solutions to the ongoing issues.

Hedgecutting – Safety Concern

The District Engineer confirmed that if there is a Road Safety issue Notice Under Section 70 of the Roads Act 1993 can be issued from Wexford County Council being the Road Authority for the County.

Flooding - OPW

The District Engineer informed the meeting that the application seeking OPW funding for flood barriers at properties impacted by the December flooding is under consideration.

A discussion followed.

It was confirmed that flooding maps were available to view on the OPWs national flood information portal, which provides location specific access to flood risk and flood management information.

The Executive Engineer further confirmed that the process in relation to longer term solutions and a more detailed drainage assessment for the area was being progressed.

Emergency Flood & Drainage Works

The Executive Engineer advised that Emergency flood & drainage works had been completed at various locations, with further works ongoing.

Flooding – Bridgetown Dredging

The Executive Engineer advised that the OPW are scheduled to commence dredging works in the canal at Bridgetown during the first week of July.

4.1.1 Bus Shelter Progress Report

The Executive Engineer delivered an update as outlined below 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*

4.2 Water Services Report

The Executive Engineer delivered his report and responded to questions from the Members.

4.3 Housing Report.

The Senior Staff Officer delivered her previously circulated report and responded to questions from the Members and agreed to investigate any specific matters outstanding and respond appropriately, these specific items included;

- *Vacant House in Mullinour*
- *Women's Refuge*

Nominated Areas of Choice – Integrity of Data / Information Gathering Exercise

The response from the Housing Department contained under Matters Arising (item 1.2.1) was noted by the Members.

Appropriate Land Acquisition / Turnkeys - Expressions of Interest

The Senior Staff Officer advised the meeting that the deadline for receipt of expressions of interest had been extended to the 5th July in relation to appropriate land acquisition for the development of small clusters of 4-7 houses in the District. She further advised that a briefing document for interested parties was available on the website.

Tagoat - Delivery of Social Housing Units

Following comment from the Members, the Senior Staff Officer referring the Members to the response contained under Matters Arising (item 1.2.1) confirmed that the single stage process should only be used on non-problematic sites thereby reducing the financial risks involved.

The Senior Staff Officer agreed to request that the Capital Team attend the next meeting to outline the process in greater detail.

Staffing Structure & Continuity

The Members raised concerns regarding staffing continuity in the Housing Department.

A discussion followed.

The District Director assured the Members that housing remains a priority for the Chief Executive and the Management Team.

Cllr Lisa McDonald proposed the following emergency motion *“That Housing Staff be prioritised in this climate”*.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr Jim Codd and agreed by all the Members.

4.4 Planning Report

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

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.

4.7 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.

The Chair welcomed Dymphna O'Connor, Senior Executive Officer, and wished her well in her new role in the Community Section.

4.9 Environment Report

The Senior Engineer 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;

- *Review of Bins at Beach Locations – 4-Pronged Strategy*
- *Mauritiustown Steps – Completion of Works*
- *Beach / Coastal Review – Environment & RMD*

Rejuvenation of Public Piers and Harbours Funding

The Senior Engineer confirmed to the meeting that works were progressing following the funding received for Kilmore Quay and Carne under the **Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine Rejuvenation of Public Piers and Harbours Infrastructure Scheme**.

Four Winds – Steps Installation Feasibility

The Senior Engineer advised that the temporary staircase at Arthurstown is not suitable for use at the Four Winds location for the following reasons;

- *Near vertical gradient differs from sloping cliff at Bing*
- *Cliff unstable and substantial works would be required*
- *Height difference between Four Winds and Arthurstown*

New Water Quality Monitoring Station

The Senior Engineer advised that a new water quality monitoring station has been installed at Wellingtonbridge which will monitor the water quality of the river that feeds into the important shellfish area of Bannow Bay.

He further advised that Wexford County Council now has two real time water quality monitoring stations, the first on Wexford Harbour promenade and the second at Wellington Bridge. These are the first in Ireland and will both give real time water quality data which will be used to improve detection of pollution incidents in the River Slaney and Bannow Bay. This project is being run in conjunction with **Waterford Institute of Technology / South Eastern Technological University (SETU)** under an EU Ireland/Wales funded project called stream. Both sites were chosen in 2019, due to the very important shellfisheries at Wexford Harbour and Bannow Bay, which according to **BIM** are worth approximately €13 million to the local economy.

Bannow Bay – European Innovation Partnership

In response to observations made by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, regarding locally led results-based schemes, to address water contamination problems in the Bannow Bay area, the Senior Engineer advised the meeting that it was planned to proceed with an application and that he would have an update on the proposed project under the **European Innovation Partnership** for the September meeting.

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 and confirmed the following;

- *Environmental survey works (benthic/seabed, habitat, bathymetric surveys) are now complete*
- *Coastal wave modelling is being undertaken.*
- *The above information will form part of the planning application to An Bord Pleanála which is scheduled for Q4 2022.*
- *Regular surveys and visual inspections have confirmed that the 2021 emergency works have secured the first part of access road.*

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 Irish Water Small Towns and Villages Growth Programme – Update no.3

The correspondence was noted.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

None

The Members agreed that the remainder of the meeting would be held in-committee.

8. Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc)

8.1 Special Projects / Proposed Rosslare Harbour to Wexford Greenway Update – Brian Galvin, A/Director of Services, Sean Meyler, Executive Engineer, and Fintan Ryan, Executive Engineer.

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 Frank Staples and the meeting continued.

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 20th July 2022



**Cllr Lisa McDonald
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District**

