

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 15th March 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

Presentation/s: James Doyle – Garda Superintendent

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)
Michele Bridges Carley – Administrative Officer (Housing)
Liam Bowe – Executive Planner
George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)
Cathrine Agnew – Ports, Past and Present

Apologies: Tom Banville – Senior Executive Officer (Planning)

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

Following discussion, it was agreed that the presentation of Superintendent James Doyle, scheduled to commence separately directly after the meeting, would instead take place within the monthly meeting framework and have the press in attendance.

The Members further agreed that the end of the presentation/session would be held “*in committee*”, thus allowing any sensitive matters to be raised confidentially.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting – 15th February 2021

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

1.2 Matters Arising

1.2.1 Community Department - T&VR 2021 EOI Extension of Time

1.2.2 Irish Water - Planning Enforcement Query

1.2.3 SEO Planning - Harbour View Hotel

The responses to the previous month's queries were noted.

Congratulations

Congratulations were afforded to;

- Chief Executive Tom Enright, the Special Projects Team, and Wexford County Council, following the announcement of €18.5 million funding for the Trinity Wharf development under the Government's *Urban Regeneration and Development Fund*, which would see much needed Economic, Cultural, and Social Development of the County.
- Seafood Processing Plant, *Sofrimar Unlimited Company*, following the announcement that the plant would receive funding from the *Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine*, under the *European Maritime and Fisheries Fund Programmes - Seafood Processing Innovation Scheme*.

Sympathies

Sympathies were extended to the family of the late Katie Connors, and also all those affected directly or indirectly by the ongoing 10 year conflict in Syria.

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

2.1 Resident Association Grants 2021 - Eligible Applications / Allocations

On the proposal of Cllr Jim Moore, seconded by Cllr Ger Carthy, 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, and confirming that only works deemed essential were allowed whilst operating under level 5 restrictions.

Rosslare Europort - Tailback

On behalf of the residents of Rosslare Harbour, Kilrane, and Tagoat, Cllr Ger Carthy requested that the amount of Articulated Trucks waiting to check-in to Rosslare Europort be investigated and if deemed necessary that the problem be escalated to the Department of Transport.

The Executive Engineer agreed to investigate the issue and revert.

Bus Shelters – Countywide

Following queries raised by Cllr Jim Codd, the Executive Engineer confirmed that a WCC submission had been sent to the NTA (*National Transport Agency*) regarding the funding of several bus shelters in the District and County. The Executive Engineer agreed to ascertain the timeframe of decisions/allocations and revert.

2021 Roads Programme

The Executive Engineer also presented the newly finalised 2021 Roads Programme, agreeing to circulate to the Members following the Meeting.

A discussion followed.

Noting the increased attention to the New Ross end of the District in the programme, Cllr Jim Moore proposed the programme as presented, seconded by Cllr Lisa McDonald.

The programme was fully endorsed and agreed by all present.

3.2 Water Services Report

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

Taylorstown WTP, High Lift Treated Water Pump Replacement

Following a request by Cllr Jim Moore, the Executive Engineer agreed to request an update from Dan McCartan, Senior Executive Engineer, on the Taylorstown capital works.

3.3 Housing Report.

Michele Bridges Carley, Administrative Officer, delivered her previously circulated report and responded to queries from the Members.

Homeless Exclusions

Following observations made by Cllr Jim Codd, the complexities of dealing with homeless exclusions for behavioural issues were clarified and explained by the Administrative Officer.

The Administrative Officer confirmed that such homeless exclusions were only necessary in a limited number of cases, the current numbers involved for the County, that each individual/situation was dealt with on a case by case basis, and that timeframes were case dependent.

3.4 Planning Report

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

Pig Farm - Killuger

It was confirmed that enforcement proceedings are underway, however, following concerns raised by the Members regarding the timeframes involved and other matters in connection with this case, the Executive Planner agreed to relay those concerns to the enforcement team dealing with the matter.

Pig Farm - Taghmon

Cllr Jim Codd also raised concerns regarding the timeline of this case. Following a specific request from Cllr Frank Staples, the Executive Planner agreed to advise of the date of any *Warning/Enforcement* correspondence from *Wexford County Council*.

Log Cabins

Following a query from Cllr Ger Carthy regarding permissible development, the Executive Planner advised the Members that the Draft Development Plan was the vehicle to be used for policy changes, and that any such changes could be initiated through this process by the Councillors of Wexford County Council.

Thatched Dwellings

Following a query from Cllr Jim Codd regarding the number of thatched dwellings in the District, the Executive Planner advised that this information was freely available from the current *Record of Protected Structures* (RPS), agreeing to bring this information to the next monthly meeting.

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.

3.8 Community Development Report

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

3.9 Environment Report

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

Canal / Lake Big

Following queries regarding a canal clean-up, the Executive Engineer agreed to investigate if the OPW were responsible for such works and revert to the Members.

Litter / Dumping

Cllr Ger Carthy stated that all possible solutions to support and assist the communities and individuals involved with *litter picking* and *clean up's* should be explored.

A discussion followed.

The District Director advised that similar initiatives were in place in other District's and that any such community support structures would be welcomed.

The District Manager agreed to further discuss with the Environment Department and revert.

Seaview – Coastal Erosion and Beach Access

The Executive Engineer gave an overview on the MS Teams briefing session arranged by the Environment Department for community representatives, held on Friday the 12th March, as requested by the Members at the last monthly meeting. The Members agreed that this was a welcomed and extremely informative presentation and briefing session.

Coastal Path Erosion – Rosslare Harbour

The Executive Engineer advised the Members that long-term solutions were still being investigated, agreeing to report back to the Members in due course.

3.9.1 Ports, Past and Present

The Executive Engineer and Cathrine Agnew presented an update to the Members and responded to their questions.

On behalf of the Members the Chair thanked all those involved with the progress to date.

3.10 Fire Services Report

The absence of a report was noted by the Chair.

4. District Manager Report

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

A discussion followed.

Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme 2020 (ORIS)

Cllr Lisa McDonald welcomed the funding for the projects in the District and stated that the positive outcome was a result of the hard work of all those involved. This was agreed by all present.

Casual Trading

The District Manager advised the Members that discussions were continuing with the legal team, the County Secretary, and all the District Managers, regarding the introduction of countywide Bye-laws in the hope of having these in place before the year end.

The Members requested that the formulation and implementation of Countywide *Casual Trading Bye-laws* continued to be prioritised.

Temporary Licence Agreement

The District Manager advised that as the Members had previously requested to formalise casual trading on a temporary basis, in the absence of current appropriate legislation, by introducing a temporary licence system in the District the parameters for such a temporary licence system needed to be finalised.

4.1.1 Draft Framework –

Trading at Specific Locations on Council Owned Lands

The District Manager presented the *Draft Framework* to the Members.

4.1.2 Draft Application Assessment –

Trading at Specific Locations on Council Owned Lands

The District Manager presented the *Draft Assessment* to the Members.

A discussion followed.

The District Manager confirmed that legal advice received stated that any such *Temporary Licence Agreements*, to cater for outlets deemed appropriate, should only be at locations where the structure is positioned on Council owned property.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Small Business Assistance Scheme for COVID (SBASC) - Liz Hore, Head of Enterprise & Economic Development.

The correspondence was noted.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

Greenway - Rosslare to Waterford

Cllr Carthy expressed his concern and deep regret that the Rosslare to Waterford Greenway had been postponed following the requests by the to ***Iarnród Éireann*** asking for a review of the closed line, and also that one such request had originated from a Wexford County Council Strategic Policy Committee.

The Members agreed with the remarks and requested a full update on the current status of the project.

The District Director advised that the ***Iarnród Éireann*** review of the Rosslare to Waterford line was to proceed and consequently alternative options were now being considered and investigated.

A discussion followed.

Cllr Ger Carthy proposed that a motion be forwarded to the full Council, from Rosslare Municipal District, requesting a feasibility study be completed with a view to allowing a Greenway system to proceed from Wexford to Rosslare. Cllr Lisa McDonald seconded the proposal.

The District Director asked Cllr Carthy to forward the exact wording of the motion to his fellow District Councillors for their consideration prior to finalisation and submission from the District Manager on behalf of the Members.

Cllr Ger Carthy agreed to complete and forward as requested.

8. Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc)

8.1 Policing Matters in the District – Presentation by Superintendent James Doyle

Superintendent James Doyle was invited to attend the Meeting.

Further to the *Chief Superintendents* report to the latest *Joint Policing Committee*, Superintendent James Doyle gave an overview of policing matters within the District.

The Chairman, Cllr Frank Staples, advised the Members of the current time.

On the proposal of Cllr Ger Carthy, seconded by Cllr Lisa McDonald, *Standing Orders* were duly suspended.

The Chair commended the Superintendent on his full and comprehensive report.

A discussion followed.

The Members complimented the Superintendent on the excellent work and high visibility policing he and his team were completing on a daily and weekly basis throughout the District.

The Members agreed that a new “fit for purpose” facility was badly needed at Rosslare Europort for those dealing with immigration and the International Protection seekers.

As previously agreed, the remainder of the Meeting was held “*in committee*”.

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 19th April 2021



Cllr Frank Staples
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District

