

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 17th November 2021 at 10.30hrs in the Council Chamber, County
Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford, and MS Teams (Remote).**

Presiding: Cllr Jim Moore – An Cathaoirleach

Councillors: Cllr Ger Carthy
Cllr Lisa McDonald

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

Remote Attendance

Councillors: Cllr Jim Codd – Leas Cathaoirleach

Officials: Liam Bowe – Executive Planner
Ken Jones – Executive Engineer (Water)

Apologies: Cllr Frank Staples
Ger Mackey – A/Senior Executive Officer (Community)

Cllr Jim Moore, An Cathaoirleach, welcomed all those in attendance, acknowledged the continued absence of Cllr Frank Staples, and noted that Cllr Ger Carthy would be attending the meeting but had been delayed, before stating that the requisite quorum was present and commencing the meeting. He further advised those present that the meeting would be a maximum of 1hr 55mins in line with current Covid-19 protocol.

Congratulations

Congratulations were afforded to the ***Irish Heritage Trust*** and ***Johnstown Castle Estate, Museum & Gardens*** for the successful official opening ceremony by the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue T.D.

Johnstown Castle opened its doors to the public for the first time in 2019 exactly 850 years after the arrival of the Anglo-Normans to Wexford. The arrival of the pandemic meant that the occasion was not officiated until, Thursday, November 11th, 2021.

Congratulations were also afforded to **Teagasc, Agriculture and Food Development Authority**, following the announcement that they are to build a new €9m centre for research and innovation at Johnstown Castle.

The **National Agricultural Sustainability Research and Innovation Centre, (NASRIC)** will provide practical integrated solution to improve soil health, restore and protect biodiversity, improve water quality, reduce emissions of greenhouse gases and ammonia, and enhance soil carbon sequestration, whilst creating a further 85 jobs for the sector.

The recent Handball success of Mark Doyle, Taghmon, in the boys 15 and under age group in the Golden Gloves annual ranking event in Belfast was also noted.

Sympathies

Sympathies were extended to the family of the late Brian Murphy.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 18th October 2021

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of October 18th, 2021 (reconvened on the 26th October), were proposed by Cllr Lisa McDonald and seconded by Cllr Jim Codd.

1.2 RMD Special Meeting - 11th November 2021

None - to be presented at the December Meeting.

1.3 Matters Arising

1.3.1 Housing - Various

1.3.2 Libraries, Arts & Archives - Decade of Commemoration event for the Rosslare Municipal District

1.3.3 Water - Authorised and/or Unauthorised Mobile Homes / connection policy

1.3.4 Outgoing correspondence to: James Bohan, Senior Engineering Inspector, South East Region, Transport Infrastructure Ireland - Complete

1.3.5 Outgoing correspondence re: Circulation of Rosslare Municipal District Flag to Schools - Complete

The responses and information provided in relation to queries from the previous meeting were noted. Following a recommendation by the Chair it was agreed that they could be revisited under the appropriate agenda item.

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

None

3. 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.

3.2 Water Services Report

The Executive Engineer responded to questions from the Members.

It was noted by the District Manager that a report had not been circulated by the Executive Engineer prior to the meeting for the consideration of the Members.

3.1 Roads Report

The Executive Engineer delivered his report and responded to questions from the Members agreeing to investigate certain matters raised.

Cllr Ger Carthy arrived at the meeting.

Drainage

Following observations made by Cllr Lisa McDonald and Cllr Jim Codd regarding the ongoing issue of drainage at various locations, the Executive Engineer advised the meeting that the Rosslare Municipal District received an equal portion of funding, in relation to the other 4 Districts, for annual drainage works.

Directional Signage

Following observations from An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, regarding missing signage and/or signage in disrepair, the Executive Engineer agreed to conduct a survey of signage when the opportunity arose.

Bus Shelters

Following queries raised by the Members, the Executive Engineer confirmed that the installation programme was under review and would have regard to the roll-out and delivery of Active Travel projects.

Cllr Ger Carthy requested copies of all correspondence between a) *Transport Infrastructure Ireland* b) *The Roads Department* c) *Rosslare Municipal District* in relation to the delivery of Bus Stops in both Tagoat and Killinick.

The Executive Engineer agreed to revert with the Bus Shelter Plan for the District.

3.3 Housing Report.

Caroline Creane, Senior Staff Officer, presented the previously circulated report and responded to queries from the Members, agreeing to investigate certain matters raised.

A discussion followed.

Matters Arising - Capital Projects / Capital Plan

Following a request for clarification by the Senior Staff Officer regarding the reason County Architect, Shay Howell, was requested to attend this meeting, Cllr Ger Carthy, reaffirmed that it was to discuss current and future housing delivery projects, and referred the Senior Staff Officer to the contents of the October minutes.

The Senior Staff Officer agreed to relay this information and again request the attendance of County Architect, Shay Howell.

Matters Arising - Single Dwelling Houses / Cost Benefit Analysis

Following a request by Cllr Ger Carthy at the previous meeting, for a commitment from the Director of Services for Housing, that a Cost Benefit Analysis be carried out by an independent QS consultant in relation to the construction of Single Instance Housing around the villages of South Wexford, in an effort to advance the development of traditional single dwelling properties, he queried why the request had not been actioned and why the matter was not mentioned in the Senior Staff Officer's responses under matters arising.

No further update was made available.

Matters Arising - Housing / Compulsory Purchase Orders

Cllr Lisa McDonald stated that the response from the Housing Department under matters arising was not acceptable, and instead of answering the question it highlighted the lack of communication across differing Departments.

Strategic Policy Committee

The Members discussed the admission made at the recent Housing SPC that Wexford County Council did not have a policy for rural housing.

A discussion followed.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, stated that the lack of housing in the District was extremely worrying and the concern was, that due to its rural nature, Rosslare Municipal District did not fit the profile of the other 4 Districts leading to a shortfall in the delivery of appropriate housing units.

Housing Meeting

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, proposed that a meeting with the housing management team be arranged to discuss and formulate solutions to address the unique needs of the District.

Cllr Lisa McDonald seconded the proposal.

Cllr Ger Carthy requested that the cost benefit analysis report that he previously requested, be made available prior to or at this meeting.

The District Manager agreed to liaise with the Chair and the Housing Department to arrange the meeting as requested.

Home Adaption Grants

Following observations made by Cllr Jim Codd, regarding the 3 tiered priority process of the grant, the Senior Staff Officer agreed to have a full report available in advance of the next meeting.

3.4 Planning Report

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

On behalf of the Members, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, thanked Liam for his engagement and responsiveness over the years and wished him well in his new role with An Bord Pleanála.

3.4.1 Derelict Sites Update

Tom Banville, Senior Executive Officer, introduced the content of the previously circulated report and responded to the queries raised by 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.

3.9 Environment Report

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

3.9.1 Seaview / Coastal Erosion - Update

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

Cllr Lisa McDonald made her apologies and departed from the meeting.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, reminded those present that the current Covid-19 guidelines allowed a maximum time of 1 hour 55 mins for the meeting.

Rosslare Harbour – Public Convenience

Following observations made by Cllr Ger Carthy, the Senior Engineer agreed to investigate the possibility of installing a Public Convenience in Rosslare Harbour.

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.

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

4.1 The District Manager Report

The report was delivered by the District Manager.

Recreation Officer

Following observations by Cllr Ger Carthy, regarding the appointment of a Recreation Officer, the District Manager agreed to investigate the matter.

4.1.1 The Norman Way - Local Business and Community Information Evenings

Noted by the Members

4.1.2 The Norman Way - LAMA Awards Finalist 2021 (Awards Ceremony in Dublin on Saturday 27th).

Noted by the Members

5. Correspondence

5.1 Notification to All Members from Access Officer, Caroline Horan

Noted

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

Trinity Handball Alley

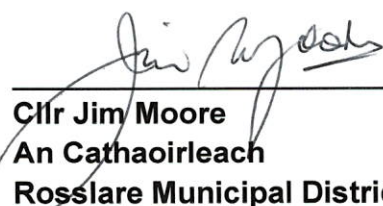
Following queries from Cllr Jim Codd, regarding the possibility of re-establishing the Hand Ball Alley at this location, the District Director agreed that this matter would be investigated.

8. Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc)

None

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 15th December 2021



Cllr Jim Moore
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District