

**Minutes of the Rosslare Municipal District Monthly Meeting
held on the 20th September 2021 at 10.30hrs in the Council Chamber, County
Hall, Carricklawn, Wexford, and MS Teams (Remote).**

Presiding: Cllr Jim Moore – An Cathaoirleach

Councillors: Cllr Jim Codd – Leas Cathaoirleach
Cllr Ger Carthy
Cllr Lisa McDonald

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

Remote Attendance

Officials: Ken Jones – Executive Engineer (Water)
Helen Meehan – Senior Staff Officer (Housing)
Liam Bowe – Executive Planner
George Colfer – Executive Engineer (Environment)
Ger Mackey – A/Senior Executive Officer (Community)

Apologies: Cllr Frank Staples

Cllr Jim Moore, An Cathaoirleach, noting the absence of Cllr Frank Staples, welcomed all those in attendance and commenced the meeting
He reminded those in attendance of the current guidelines in relation to physical attendees of the meeting.

Congratulations

Congratulations were afforded to Wally O'Neill following the success of the *Red Book Culture Night*, and also to Dr Frank Hogan of the *Tagoat Medical Centre* who has retired following 46 years of service.

Congratulations were also afforded to the Rapparees, following the Enniscorthy club winning their first *Wexford Senior Hurling* title in 43 years, with a score line of *Rapparees 6-18 St Anne's 1-17*.

It was also noted that the father of Mark Collins, Executive Engineer, was the captain of the Rapparees the last time they won the championship in 1978.

Sympathies

Sympathies were extended to the families of the late Oliver Doyle - Broadway, Seamus Carroll – Taghmon/Cullenstown, Larry Connors – Taghmon, Christy

Owens - Kilmore, Frances Foley – Duncormick, and Jack Higginbotham – Killeens, Wexford Town, founding member of Wexford RNLI

1. Confirmation of Minutes

1.1 Monthly Meeting 19th July 2021

The Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of July 19th 2021, were proposed by Cllr Ger Carthy, seconded by Cllr Jim Moore.

1.2 Matters Arising

- 1.2.1 Housing - Various
- 1.2.2 Planning Enforcement
- 1.2.3 Planning Enforcement – Killuger
- 1.2.4 Planning Enforcement - Ballynagale
- 1.2.5 Planning Enforcement - Ballygillane

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

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.

3.4 Planning Report

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

A discussion followed.

Planning Applicant - First Time Buyers Grants

Following observations made by Cllr Ger Carthy regarding inadequate responses from the Planning Department in relation to planning levies, which in turn was endangering the *First Time Buyers* grant of a constituent, the Executive Planner requested that Cllr Ger Carthy send on the details directly to him to progress the matter.

An Bord Pleanála – Section 5(4) Referrals

Following queries raised by Cllr Jim Moore regarding *Matters Arising* 1.2.3 & 1.2.4 the Executive Planner confirmed that there was a statutory 16 week assessment period following receipt of a referral by An Bord Pleanála.

Kilrane Business Park – Waste Management Facility

Following queries raised by the Members, the Executive Planner advised the meeting that this site was subject to a “live” planning application which was currently in the public consultation period.

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.

Cllr Lisa McDonald arrived at the meeting.

3.9 Environment Report

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

A discussion followed.

Kilrane Business Park – Waste Management Facility

The Members raised numerous concerns regarding the ongoing complaints they had received in relation to the Waste Management Facility, questioning the decision of Wexford County Council to grant a waste permit amid the continuing problems being faced by the local residents.

A discussion followed.

The Senior Engineer agreed to present a full and detailed report on the matter at the next meeting.

The Senior Engineer then outlined the waste permit application process and confirmed that the Mattress Amnesty had been a huge success with in excess of 2,700 mattresses being collected in Wexford.

South End of Rosslare Beach – Access Steps

Following observations made by Cllr Lisa McDonald, the Senior Engineer advised the meeting that the necessary repairs had been completed to the steps.

Cllr Lisa McDonald requested the Senior Engineer revisit these works as they did not appear to be “Fit for Purpose”.

The Senior Engineer agreed the steps were steep and not fully accessible but reminded the Members that there was an alternative access point which was fully accessible.

Summer Ready – Rosslare District

Following further observations made by Cllr Lisa McDonald regarding the limited access to some of the Districts Beaches, the Members again requested that a review be initiated to ensure all beaches would be “Summer Ready” next year.

The Senior Engineer agreed to present a report on “Summer Ready” in the District to the Members at the October Monthly Meeting.

Carne Pier – CCTV

Following an assertion by Cllr Ger Carthy that information contained within a substantial WCC report on the CCTV system at Carne Pier was incorrect, as it was not and had not been functioning correctly as stated within the report, Cllr Ger Carthy requested clarification on the identity of the author who had given the false information. The Senior Engineer agreed to investigate the matter and revert.

Our Lady's Island – Water Level Management Project

Following the decision by An Bord Pleanála on the 3rd September to approve the *Water Level Management* application by granting with conditions, Cllr Ger Carthy commended the Environment Team for their work on the project and stated that a request for funding should be made immediately.

The Senior Engineer advised the Members that the funding application would be made simultaneously with the Foreshore Licence application.

Pig Farm – Killuger

The Senior Engineer advised the meeting that the Environment Department were still awaiting a court date for the case.

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 regarding coastline protection in other areas.

The Senior Engineer stated that the OPW had agreed to fund the detailed design for the main scheme and this was progressing.

The Senior Engineer also confirmed that following a positive meeting with the OPW's Technical Team regarding the emergency works assessment, it was hoped to receive a formal funding agreement to carry out these emergency works, with commencement to follow in the coming weeks prior to the onset of the winter storms.

The Executive Engineer, George Colfer, advised the meeting that contractors had been recommended.

The Executive Engineer also advised that consultants had been appointed to conduct an *Erosion Risk Management* survey at St Helen's, which would include 23 properties. He further advised that he would provide updates as appropriate.

The Senior Engineer thanked the Members and departed from the meeting.

3.3 Housing Report.

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

A discussion followed.

Affordable Housing & Social Housing Supports

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, stated that it was an absolute priority to formulate a strategic approach as a District and that a presentation was required on how this approach specifically applies to this District, which was without the same urban setting, and how best to deliver on its implementation.

Vacant Stock

Following observations from the Members in relation to Long Term Voids, An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, requested a “*Table of Performance*” be presented to the next monthly meeting detailing all the vacant stock in the District, how long this stock was unavailable (in days), the cost of necessary remedial works, funding issues (if any), and expected timelines before readiness for allocation.

The Senior Staff Officer agreed to request this information and revert.

HAP (Housing Assistance Payment) Applicants - District Specific Data

Following observations made by the Members the Senior Staff Officer agreed to request District specific data, if available, detailing the number of successful HAP applicants that were subsequently unable to find suitable accommodation in the District.

Wet Hostel - County Wexford

Following observations and concerns raised by Cllr Jim Codd, the Senior Staff Officer advised the meeting that there was no “*Wet Hostel*” facility in County Wexford, agreeing to relay his concerns to the Senior Executive Officer for Housing.

Social Housing – Needs Assessment

The Senior Staff Officer advised the meeting that the *2021 Housing Needs Assessment* forms were currently being circulated to those on the Housing Supports List as required.

3.1 Roads Report

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

Traffic Management – Whitford Roundabout

Following concerns raised by the Members regarding the Traffic Management in this area, and a request to combine efforts and resources to find an appropriate solution, the District Engineer agreed to liaise with the Wexford Borough District Engineer regarding the matter.

Traffic Plan – Clongeen

Following concerns raised by An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, the District Engineer agreed that the school area needed to be reviewed.

Ashfield Roundabout

Following concerns raised by Cllr Ger Carthy expressed at the previous meeting regarding the need for a safety barrier at this location to give protection to a

dwelling, the District Engineer updated the Members advising that the matter had been referred to TII for their consideration.

Review of Speed Limits

The Executive Engineer advised the Members that submissions were being accepted regarding existing speed limits.

Following a request by Cllr Lisa McDonald the Executive Engineer agreed to circulate the dedicated e-mail address to the Members.

3.2 Water Services Report

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

The Members requested that pre-notification be circulated prior to the commencement of any major works.

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.

Countywide – Engagement with Communities

The A/SEO advised the Meeting that his Department would be reaching out to communities over the coming weeks in an effort to identify their current needs, and also confirmed that he would report back to the Members when the information had been gathered.

An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Jim Moore, offered the full support of the Members, stating it was vital to re-engage with communities.

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.

Events – Culture Night by Candlelight

The Members noted the success of the Castle Lake Arts Festival 2021 in the grounds of Johnstown Castle (August 7th), the Garden Fest in Piercestown (August 28th), and the recent event held for Culture Night at the *Church of the Assumption* in Our Lady's Island (September 17th).

Projects – Kilrane & Killinick Lay-Byes

Cllr Ger Carthy commended all those involved with the ongoing progress at both sites.

4.1 The Times - Seagrass

Noted

5. Correspondence

5.1 Write by the Sea Literary Festival Invitation/Tickets – Lucy Moore, Chair, Write by the sea Committee.

Noted with thanks.

6. Notice of Motion/s –

None

7. Any Other Business

None

8. Special Business (Internal / External Presentations etc)

None

An Cathaoirleach noted that the meeting had been held in full accordance with the current Covid-19 guidelines and within the allowed time of 1hour 55mins, and thanked all those in attendance both physically and remotely.

THAT CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

Signed on the 26th October 2021



Cllr Jim Moore
An Cathaoirleach
Rosslare Municipal District

