

# **MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON TUESDAY, 15<sup>TH</sup> APRIL at 9.30 a.m.**

## **Attendance:**

**Councillors:** Cllr. Aidan Browne (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Pat Kehoe  
Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy  
Cllr. John O'Rourke  
Cllr. Jackser Owens (Leas-Cathaoirleach)

**Officials:** Ms. Carolyne Godkin, Director of Service  
Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager  
Ms Siobhan Murphy, Executive Scientist.  
Ms. Barbara Nolan, Staff Officer  
Mr. Marcus Linehan, Executive Planner  
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. Larry McHale, Project Engineer  
Mr. David Whitty, Executive Engineer, Special Projects  
Ms. Therese Nolan, Senior Executive Architect, Housing  
Ms Elizabeth Howard, Creative Community Engagement  
Officer, Library Services

**Via Teams:** Ms Sharon Ryan, Senior Staff Officer, Housing

**Apologies:** Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer

## **Congratulations:**

Cathaoirleach Cllr Browne congratulated the Wexford Football League team who returned in triumph getting their second ever Oscar Traynor Trophy having beaten Limerick & District League 1 goal to Nil last Sunday in Jackman Park. All agreed this was a great achievement for Willie Peare and the team.

It was proposed by Cllr Owens and seconded by Cathaoirleach Cllr Browne that this be marked by a Civic Reception.

## **Votes of Sympathy:**

The Members expressed their sincere sympathies to the following: -

- To Cllr Owens on the passing of Betty Owens
- To the family of Bernie Lennon on the passing of her brother Dick Freeman
- The O'Shea family on the passing of their brother Noel O'Shea

## **1. Confirmation of Minutes:**

### **1.1 Minutes of the March Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Kehoe, the Minutes of the March Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

### **1.2 Matters Arising**

Cllr Owens requested an update on the Murphy Flood site. Senior Executive Engineer Neville Shaw said that there should be some movement on the site in the next few weeks. District Manager confirmed that there would be a valuation of the site completed before the next meeting.

## **2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:**

### **2.1 Planning**

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

Several issues were raised by the members and responded to by Executive Planner including:

- Plan in relation to Old Convent in Templeshannon.
- Progress of houses in The Lyre.
- Granting of planning where there is a local connection.

Executive Planner answered the members queries and committed to revert to the members on The Lyre.

### **2.2 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service**

The Community, Environment, Libraries and Fire Service reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

The members raised various concerns including:-

- Litter picking on N80
- Mattress Amnesty
- Bin surveys

Executive Scientist Siobhan Murphy responded to the Members queries and advised that CCTV has been approved for six “hot spots” for dumping. These are a temporary measure.

### **2.2.1. Presentation by Bunclody Place Making Project**

Therese Nolan, Senior Executive Architect Housing Construction and Elizabeth Howard, Creative Community Engagement Officer, Library Services, gave a presentation on the above and answered questions from the Councillors. The Councillors were supportive of the project.

## **2.3 Housing**

The reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted. Ms. Sharon Ryan and Ms. Therese Nolan responded to questions and comments from the members in relation to the report in particular:-

- Number of units being delivered not matching need
- Anti Social Behaviour statistics – inclusion of number of issues resolved
- Timeframe on delivery at The Lyre
- Use of technology to aid delivery – i.e. 3D Design and Modular Homes

## **2.4 Municipal District Report**

The Municipal District report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The District Manager answered questions from the Councillors.

### **Pairc Na Gabhar Bunclody**

Following on from discussions between Wexford County Council and the local Community Development Group a plan for the development of the Goats field in Bunclody has prepared by Catherine Fitzpatrick, Executive Technician, Enniscorthy MD. The field is located between Termonbarry Housing estate and the National School.

The plan has received pre planning approval and will now proceed to the Part 8 Planning process. The plan can be viewed by the public on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> April in St. Aidan's Hall Bunclody between the hours of 3.00pm and 7.00pm. The project will be progressed when funding is sourced.

### **Amenity and Arts Grants and Residents Association Grant Schemes 2025**

The Enniscorthy Municipal District received 88 applications under the Amenity & Arts Grant Scheme and approximately 21 under the Resident Associations Grant Scheme. Applications have been considered by the Elected Members and will be brought to the April Enniscorthy MD meeting for approval.

### **Enniscorthy Municipal District Shopfront Painting & Flower Grant Scheme 2025**

The Enniscorthy Municipal District Shopfront Painting & Flower Grant Scheme 2025 will be advertised on 15<sup>th</sup> April. The scheme will assist business owners / operators to carry out works which will improve the exterior appearance of their business premises. Applications will be invited from commercial properties in the following locations: Ballindaggin, Bree, Bunclody, Enniscorthy, Davidstown, Ferns and Killealy. Full details will be available on our website.

Grants available for 2025 is as follows:

Shopfront Painting

€300

Flower Grant Scheme  
Awning

€150  
€500

Applications will also be available from the Enniscorthy Municipal District office. Completed Application Forms must be submitted to: Enniscorthy Municipal District, Market Square, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

Any queries please telephone Enniscorthy Municipal District 053 919 6830  
Email: [emdreception@wexfordcoco.ie](mailto:emdreception@wexfordcoco.ie)

Closing date for receipt of completed Application Forms is: 5pm Friday 20th May.

### **Welcome to Enniscorthy signage**

Following Enniscorthy's outstanding achievement in winning a *Gold Medal* in the 2024 SuperValu National Tidy Towns Competition, it is proposed to install new signage on two main approach roads to the town in the coming weeks. This will publicly acknowledge the award and promote community pride, while also enhancing the positive image of Enniscorthy for visitors and residents alike.

### **Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2025**

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2025 was launched by Minister Calleary on Wednesday 19 March 2025.

The Closing date for receipt of applications is:

- Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025 for the Building and Land Acquisition Measure and
  - Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July 2025 for the Main Scheme and Project Development Measure.
- Applications should be emailed to [townandvillage@drcd.gov.ie](mailto:townandvillage@drcd.gov.ie)

This 2025 TVRS is designed to support the revitalisation of rural Ireland by focusing on stimulating town centre economic and social regeneration. This will be achieved through projects which support sustainable employment creation, town centre resilience and regeneration, enhancing our streetscapes, and bringing vacant and derelict buildings and lands back into use as community multi-purpose spaces through refurbishment and renovation.

#### **Grant Levels:**

For the 2025 Scheme, the minimum grant which is available is €50,000. The maximum level of grant funding available is remaining at €500,000 in respect of one application from each Local Authority. A maximum of €300,000 will apply in respect of a further 3 applications, this is an increase of €50,000 on the 2023 Scheme.

**1 additional application**, up to €300,000, will be available to counties with an inhabited offshore island and/or Gaeltacht areas for projects that support vibrant sustainable communities.

**1 application must** be in respect of Towns/Villages that have not previously received funding under the Standard Town & Village Renewal Scheme in the last 5 years.

#### **Expressions of Interest:**

Under the Main Scheme and Project Development Measure, Local Authorities are required to advertise for expressions of interest from towns/villages in their area and to select up to 7 proposals for development into detailed applications to be submitted to the Department.

#### **Rate of Aid:**

The rate of Aid for projects under the Main Scheme and Project Development Measure will remain at 90%. For counties in the North West Region, in recognition

of the reclassification of this as a Region in Transition, the rate of aid will be 95% under TVRS 2025.

The rate of Aid for projects under the Building or Land Acquisition Measure is up to 100% of the purchase price of the building or land.

Any queries relating to the 2025 Scheme should be emailed to:

[townandvillage@drcd.gov.ie](mailto:townandvillage@drcd.gov.ie).

### **Small Scale Capital Projects**

The meeting to discuss future small scale capital projects has been postponed due to meeting with the Minister. A new date for meeting is to be decided.

### **Town and Village Renewal TV22WX14 - Enniscorthy Well Being & Activity Garden**

Work commenced on site on 16th September 2024. The site workers have made substantial progress with the site clearance and groundworks including the laying of service ducts. Installation of the granite seating and timber cladding to the amphitheatre area is now well advanced with paving works are ongoing. The new main access point is now fully paved. The project is still on track for the estimated completion date in June.

## **Festival and Events**

### **Commemorating the 109th anniversary of the 1916 Rising**

The Annual Easter Monday commemoration will take place on Monday, 20th April. The ceremonies will commence with a Special Mass in St. Aidan's Cathedral at 10am followed by a procession to Market Square where the Cathaoirleach of Enniscorthy Municipal District, Cllr. Aidan Browne, will lay a wreath. All are welcome to attend.

### **The Rockin' Food and Fruit Festival 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> May**

The Rockin' Food and Fruit Festival will take place in Enniscorthy over the May Bank Holiday Weekend and promises to be a unique food, family and music festival. Further information can be obtained through the festival website [www.rockinfoodfestival.ie](http://www.rockinfoodfestival.ie).

### **Official Launch of Tour de France, Cycle City Label and Disability Bikes Project.**

National Bike Week 2025 will run from Saturday, **May 10th to Sunday, May 18th**. It is proposed to officially launch the Tour de France Cycle City label and the Disability bikes on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May at 10am. More details to follow.

### **Living Well- Ageing Smart Expo Event**

The Living Well- Ageing Smart Expo Event will take place at the Astro Active, Bellefield, Enniscorthy on 21<sup>st</sup> May from 14.00 to 16.30. All are welcome to attend.

- Cllr Murphy welcomed developments regarding Pairc na Gabhar. Cllr Kehoe had concerns about how it would affect the pathway for the school path to the soccer grounds.
- Cllr Owens had concerns about the condition of the building at Slaney Search & Rescue. Director of Services Carolyn Godkin confirmed that she and the District Manager had met with the group before Christmas and are awaiting their suggestions about a new building.

- Cllr Owens asked about a local link to Blackstoops. The District Manager confirmed that there has been a good response to the local link survey which will close on Friday (18<sup>th</sup> April).
- There followed a discussion about the Shopfront Painting and Flower Grant Scheme and whether this year it should be extended to allow for painting above commercial premises. It was proposed by Cllr Murphy and seconded by Cllr Owens that this change be incorporated.
- Details of the grants will be advertised from 16<sup>th</sup> April.

Cathaoirleach Cllr Browne at this juncture called for a break in the meeting to allow for tea at 10:35 am. The Meeting resumed at 10:52 am.

## **2.6 Flood Defence Scheme Report.**

The Flood Defence Scheme Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

## **2.5 Roads Report.**

Senior Executive Engineer Neville Shaw answered questions and queries from the Members on R746 footpath, walkway at Bellfield, and lights at St Senans. Mr Shaw agreed to follow up on these matters.

## **2.7 Special Projects.**

### **2.7.1 Templeshannon Regeneration Project**

David Whitty, Executive Engineer, Special Projects gave a presentation on the Templeshannon Regeneration Project and answered Members queries and concerns on same. The members commended the plan and made observations/queries as follows:-

- Reduction of parking spaces and potential impact of same
- Funding – will this project be affected by other proposals such as Flood Defence Scheme
- Scope of project – possibility of extending further into Templeshannon

David Whitty responded to the Members queries and advised that it is not within the scope of the project to expand further into Templeshannon and agreed to take on board all the Members comments.

## **3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members.**

- 3.1 Request for Transfer of Land to the rear of 8 Mount Leinster Park, Kilmyshall, Bunclody

**Proposed** by Cllr Murphy, **Seconded** by Cllr O'Rourke

- 3.2 Request for granting of wayleave at Ballyprecas, Kilmyshall, Bunclody

**Proposed** by Cllr Murphy, **Seconded** by Cllr O'Rourke

#### **4. Correspondence.**

Correspondence has been received from the Saint P  re en Retz Twinning Committee regarding the possibility of twinning with Enniscorthy. All Councillors agreed that this could be a great opportunity for cultural, economic and tourism development in Enniscorthy. It was proposed by Cllr Murphy and seconded by Cllr Owens that this opportunity be explored further.

#### **5. Any Other Business.**

##### **5.1 Amenity Grant Funding**

It was proposed by Cllr Murphy and seconded by Cllr O'Rourke that the allocation of funding for Amenity Grants and Residents Associations as set out in the schedule be approved.

This concluded the business of the Meeting at 11.33 am.

**Aidan Browne**

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**20<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

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**DATE**