

**Minutes of Bray Electoral Area Committee meeting held in Civic Offices. Bray on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009.**

**Present:** Cllrs. J.Byrne, J. Brady, C. Fox, M. Glynn, B. Nevin, J. Ryan, P. Vance

**In Attendance:**

Eoin Heslin, Senior Executive Engineer, Greystones Area

Myra Porter, Senior Staff officer, Greystones Area

Des O' Brien, Director of Services

Catherine Halligan, Senior Executive Officer, Housing & Corporate Estate

Cllr Ryan requested suspension of Standing Orders to discuss the ongoing flooding at Briarwood, Bray.  
Cllr Fox agreed to deal with the matter during the meeting.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

It was proposed by Cllr Byrne and seconded by Cllr Brady that the minutes as circulated, be confirmed and signed.

**2. Receive Deputation from Rockfield, Carigoona & Sugarloaf Residents Association**

Cllr Fox welcomed Mr Christy Devlin, Chairperson and other representatives of the Residents Association.

Mr Devlin thanked the meeting for receiving the deputation advising that the Association has been in existence since 1970 and originated as a Housing Committee.

Mr Devlin raised the following issues, which the Residents would like to see addressed by the Council:

- Provision of speed ramps, which are required to safeguard children. There are large volumes of traffic within the estate, due to residents, deliveries, parking by parents when collecting and dropping off children for school, parking by those attending funerals and weddings in the church. Drivers are ignoring speed limits, especially at the entrance into the estate.
- Bus Shelter required on N11, the previous shelter was removed when the road was improved some years ago. Mr Devlin quoted ongoing correspondence with Dublin Bus, which suggested that they were awaiting responses from Wicklow County Council regarding issues in relation to the shelter.
- Improvements required to footbridge, as cappings have been broken, there are no lights on the bridge and the lights at the entrance to the bridge are not effective due to overhanging trees.
- Provide bottle banks to replace those removed when road works were carried out, possibly in new development, which recently got planning permission.
- Sewerage problems at no 19 Rockfield Park, causing problems between houses numbers 16 to 19. Requested that this be examined and works carried out to prevent re-occurrence. The residents of No. 19 had to call out a private contractor at the weekend recently, at a cost of €210; can this be refunded, as they are pensioners?
- Three residents currently experiencing problems obtaining the deeds of their houses, house numbers 7, 10, & 14, can this be expedited?

Des o' Brien responded that the Council will write to Dublin Bus to establish the exact position regarding the provision of a Bus Shelter on the N11 and that the sewerage problem will be investigated, members advised that there were also ongoing sewerage problems at 22 Carigoona Close. Mr o' Brien advised that it would not be possible to impose requirements in relation to the provision of bottle banks, in relation to the new development, as planning permission has already issued.

Eoin Heslin advised that he will liaise with the school in relation to the provision of ramps/pedestrian crossing near the entrance and will examine whether funding is available for same. He also agreed to look at the overgrown trees and loose cappings on the footbridge.

Cllr Nevin asked the Area Engineer to examine the public lighting in the vicinity of the post Office as he had received a complaint regarding same recently.

C. Halligan agreed to follow up the problem being experienced by residents in obtaining the deeds of their houses.

#### **4. Consideration of Housing Report.**

It was agreed to deal with Housing at this point in the meeting. C. Halligan confirmed that members had received the recent Housing Progress Report and answered questions on it.

Ms Halligan also advised the meeting that details regarding allocation of the new houses in Farrankelly and filling of casual vacancies in the Greystones were being issued to members today. Members raised concerns regarding the long list of names circulated as being considered for housing in Farrankelly, stating that this raises expectations, does not allow for flexibility and is not a good practice, the procedure should be examined by the Housing SPC. Ms Halligan advised that the procedure had been considered by the SPC, there were concerns that some members were not respecting the confidentiality of allocations, there was evidence of letters issued by members to prospective tenants. The allocations list circulated took account of the possibility of negative Garda reports and refusal of house offers by some applicants etc., Ms Halligan further advised that the requirement under the new Housing Act, for members to adopt an allocations policy, should resolve most issues of concern, in the meantime the current practice will continue.

In response to members concerns regarding the delay in commencing refurbishment works at Vartry Heights, Ms Halligan advised that it is intended to commence works in the coming weeks, on a small number of houses utilising the existing 5 empty houses, to provide accommodation while works are undertaken.

In response to a query regarding a house in Wolf Tone Square Ms Halligan advised that Wicklow Co. Co. housed some Bray TC tenants in Enniskerry and in exchange Wicklow Co Co have nomination rights regarding the allocation of the house.

In response to queries raised by members Ms Halligan confirmed that there were 7 houses throughout the county which the Council is considering selling, including number 59 Monastery Grove, due to the substantial cost of refurbishing of same in order to re let it. Members raised concerns regarding setting a precedent selling housing stock and requested that priority should be given to those on the Housing list.

#### **3. Report on recent planning Applications**

Des O' Brien answered members queries on report recently circulated. Cllr Byrne referred to recent complaints regarding the allotments in Killegar, which may be contravening planning laws. Mr O' Brien advised that the matter is with the planning Enforcement Section and will be followed up.

#### **5. Works proposed and carried out in the area.**

E. Heslin circulated his report and answered member's questions on same.

#### **Suspension of Standing Orders to address Flooding at Briarwood.**

Cllr Ryan stated that he has been advised by Bray Town Council, that this matter should be resolved by Wicklow Co. Co. as the water is coming in to the estate, from public roads in the county area. He asked E. Heslin for his opinion on a resolution to solve the problem.

E. Heslin confirmed that meetings have recently been held between officials from Wicklow Co. Co and Bray Town Council, in an effort to establish the exact cause of the problem and to resolve the matter.

E. Heslin and D. O' Brien advised that the flooding would appear to be as a result of works carried out to the roundabout on the southern cross and also water coming off the Golf Club lands, causing some water to by pass the drains and works carried out by a private house owner is also contributing to flooding in the estate. Members were advised that a notice has been served under the Roads Act on the Golf Club, requesting the Club not to allow surface water discharge on to the public road.

Following further discussion, D. O' Brien advised members that the Council need to establish exactly what the issues and solutions are, a further meeting of officials is scheduled for Friday 20<sup>th</sup> November, he agreed to email members with an update after the meeting.

## **6. Maintenance of Bray Southern Cross Road.**

Members criticised the condition of the road, stating that it is not acceptable, as it is a main approach to the town and requested a short-term maintenance schedule and longer term landscaping proposals.

E. Heslin advised of the problems caused by contractors for Bord Gais and his ongoing contact with the contractors, to have the areas re-instated. Long term it is hoped that arrangements can be made with Bray Town Council regarding maintenance. D. O' Brien agreed to provide an update for the next meeting.

## **7. Notices of Motion.**

There were no Notices of Motion for this meeting.

## **8. Correspondence and items outstanding.**

M. Porter updated members on items included on the outstanding queries list, which issued with agenda.

## **9. Any other Business**

- Cllr Nevin raised a query in relation to the minutes of the October meeting, which he felt should be clarified in relation to call vetting. As the minutes had already been adopted when Cllr Nevin arrived at today's meeting, it was agreed that his query should be put in writing.
- Cllr Ryan confirmed that he met recently with Mr Darren Murphy, who provided correspondence to confirm that he is representing the families of both the Bray firemen who lost their lives.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The next meeting will be held at 3.30pm on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010, in Greystones.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Meetings Administrator

Dated this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2010