

**Minutes of Greystones Electoral Area Committee Meeting held in Civic Offices,  
Greystones on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2010.**

**Present:**

Cllrs G.Jones, T. Fortune, D.Mitchell, S. Harris  
Joe Lane, Director of Services  
Des O' Brien, Director of Services  
Myra Porter, Senior Staff Officer  
Eoin Heslin Senior Executive Engineer  
Catherine Halligan, Senior Executive Officer

Following receipt of request from Cllr Fortune, for a suspension of Standing Orders, to discuss flooding issues in the Harbour, it was agreed to take this item at 2.45pm.

Chairperson of the Committee, Cllr Mitchell welcomed Joe Lane, as the Area Manager, to replace Sean Quirke.

M. Porter circulated schedule of meetings for the coming year.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes.**

It was proposed by Cllr Harris and seconded by Cllr Jones that the Minutes of meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2009, as circulated be confirmed and signed.

Item Nos 2 was deferred until later in the meeting, pending the arrival of Des O' Brien, Director of Services

**3. Housing Progress Report**

Ms Catherine Halligan joined the meeting and answered questions on the Housing Progress Report. Members requested details of proposals to provide Social Housing in the future. Ms Halligan advised that based on the expected allocation for this year, it is hoped to provide some small infill schemes and some single houses catering for special needs, there are no proposals for building new schemes anywhere in the county. The other options available are the Rental Assistance Scheme, Social Housing Leasing and Casual Vacancies as they arise. Ms Halligan advised that both the Department and the Council have advertised seeking provision of groups of 10 to 12 houses, which would be suitable for leasing to provide Social Housing, there has been no response to date.

Ms Halligan also advised the meeting of the appointment of Ms Kiara Kavanagh as Tenant Liaison Officer and Ms Noeleen Roche as Estate Development Officer, contact details to be circulated to the members.

**4. Accessibility Projects for 2010.**

Eoin Heslin circulated details of projects for which funding has been sought and also details of proposed zebra crossing at Crowe Abbey, which will be provided from 2009 funding, works on which will commence shortly, subject to the agreement of members. Cllr Fortune requested the provision of a pedestrian crossing in the vicinity of Centra Shop and Colaiste Craobh Abhann in Kilcoole. Mr Heslin agreed to consider same. Members requested that consideration also be given to

the provision of a crossing on Victoria Road between Brady's and Centra. Members welcomed the proposals for a crossing at Crowe Abbey and stated that the road from Tesco to Killincarrig needed urgent attention due to the condition of its surface. Mr Heslin advised that application has been made for a large scheme and also for funding for road surfacing, and is hopeful that some funding will be made available to at least surface the road. Mr Heslin stated that he had examined the need for a crossing on Victoria Road, but felt that this location is lower down the priority list than other locations as there are fewer pedestrians in this area, advising that it could be re-considered in the future.

#### **5. List of works proposed and carried out in the area.**

Eoin Heslin circulated his report and answered queries on same. Members raised concerns regarding the final design of the Transport Interchange, which they felt may not be of practical use and will not have the capacity to facilitate motorists, pedestrians and buses.

In relation to Pay Parking, it was requested that the yellow lines be completed at Trafalgar Court, Whitshed Road and Heathervue and that the €3 all day parking and free parking at weekends in car parks be advertised by erecting large notices at the entrances. E. Heslin responded that in his opinion an article in a local newspaper would be the most effective way to promote the free parking, but agreed to consider the erection of further signs.

In response to a request for details of maintenance programme for rivers and streams, E. Heslin advised that this work is normally carried out in early summer and will be done in June. It was agreed to replace bins in Kilcoole, Cllr Fortune to supply details. Replying to a request to carry out works on the roundabout in Kilcoole to facilitate pedestrians, E. Heslin advised that there were no plans to carry out further works at this location. It was also requested that the blocked drains on Bellevue Road be cleaned.

Cllr Harris paid tribute to the Council staff and members of the Civil Defence who responded to the overnight flooding which occurred in Redford Park at the weekend. In response to the members concerns and queries in relation to same, E. Heslin advised that the Council will construct a wall at the top of the estate adjacent to house number 124, which should prevent the house flooding in the event of a surge. This wall will also divert water on to the road if the existing pipe does not have sufficient capacity in a flood situation. The double gulleys recently installed at the bottom of the road should increase the capacity of pipe work to allow water reach the stream faster than previously. In relation to the flooding which occurred at the entrance in to Redford Park, E. Heslin stated that most of this water was surface run off from a new development on the upper side of the road, north of the traffic lights. A notice was served on the owner of the property requesting the carrying out of all necessary works, to prevent water flowing on to the public road, within three weeks. Mr Heslin stated that the completion of the entrance driveway and gulleys within the development should ameliorate the problem.

#### **Suspension of Standing Orders to discuss flooding at the Harbour.**

Cllr Fortune stated that members and officials are aware of the ongoing problem of flooding which is causing hardship for residents and local business's advising that flooding over the weekend destroyed premises again. The pipe recently installed by Sispar did not have the capacity for the volume of water. Members stated that it is most unfair to residents that the problem has not been satisfactorily addressed by the Council. Cllr Fortune requested that E. Heslin meet with a local

resident, who advised that he has a possible solution to the problem. All members agreed that urgent action is needed as the flooding has occurred six times since August 2008, they requested the Engineer to do everything possible to resolve the problem, as a matter of urgency, in order to prevent this happening again.

In response E. Heslin advised that the Councils Law Department had been requested to pursue the developer of the apartments in relation to the blocked drain in his premises. It is intended to pursue this matter through the courts, as previous undertakings by the developer to carry out works had not been honoured. The Council will be seeking consent to enter the premises to carry out necessary works. Mr Heslin requested details and exact dates of all incidents of flooding to assist the Councils legal proceedings. Mr Heslin stated that he is willing to listen to any solutions from local residents and will meet with them to discuss same, but does not feel that there is a simple solution to the problem.

## **6. Notices of Motion.**

(a) Notice of Motion in names of Cllr D. Mitchell, Cllr G. Jones and Cllr S. Harris

“The Council should report the amount received, and to be received, from Holywell, Kilcoole, for Community facilities and the footpath and report progress on these items at this and the next meeting.”

M. Porter circulated report. Cllr Mitchell raised concern that the special levy collected for the footpath would have to be refunded if not spent and stated that the money collected should be used to acquire the land necessary to complete the footpath. Following discussion it was requested that an update be provided for the next meeting advising how much was due in levies in total, how much has been received and the date on which it is due for refund, if not spent.

## **2. Status Report on Planning in Kilcoole and Greystones.**

Des O’ Brien joined the meeting at this point and answered members queries on the previously circulated list.

## **6. Notices of Motion**

(b) Notice of Motion in names of Cllr D. Mitchell, Cllr G. Jones and Cllr S. Harris

“To report on the work carried out gritting the roads in the area including the adequacy of supplies, staff and equipment, the level of complaints and any problem areas such as housing estates with entrances on hills and Bellvue Hill. “

Cllr Mitchell suggested that the Council should put plans in place to encourage people to grit out side their homes and business’s. Sand and grit should be made available at the main entrances to estates and consideration should also be given to improving the safety of secondary routes during bad weather. It was requested that consideration be given to these suggestions and that the item be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

(c) Notice of Motion in names of Cllr S. Harris, Cllr D. Mitchell and Cllr G. Jones.

“That this Area Committee seeks a reduction in the speed limit in Templecarrig, Greystones to 50 kmp in lines with the expressed wishes of residents in the locality to the Director of Roads and Transportation and following on from a recommendation in the speed limit review carried out by Wicklow County Council”

Cllr Harris advised that this issue is ongoing, that local residents have liaised with the Gardai and had been dealing with Seamus Walker. Cllr Harris asked the Area Committee to support the wishes of local residents. It was agreed to clarify the position in relation to implementing the recommendations of the speed limit review.

### **Any Other Business**

Responding to a request from members that officials from Planning Enforcement meet with residents of Charlesland and elected members, Joe Lane advised that the four members of the Area Committee should meet with the officials.

This concluded the business of the meeting as it was after 3.30pm and members arrived for the Bray EAC meeting.

Next meeting is on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2010 in Greystones.

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

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

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