

Minutes of Greystones Electoral Area Committee Meeting, held in Civic Offices, Greystones, on Monday 21st May 2012.

Present:

Cllrs. G. Jones, T. Fortune, G. McLoughlin & Cllr D. Mitchell, Deputy Stephen Donnelly.
Joe Lane, Director of Services, Community & Enterprise & Greystones Area Manager
Des O'Brien, Director of Services, Planning
A M Roberts, Assistant Staff Officer, Greystones Area Office
E. Heslin Senior Executive Engineer
Sorcha Walsh, Senior Planner, Forward Planning
Aisling McNamara, Planner, Forward Planning

1. Confirmation of Minutes.

It was proposed by Cllr. McLoughlin and seconded by Cllr. Mitchell that the minutes of meeting held on 12th March 2012, as circulated, be confirmed and signed.

2. To discuss the preparation of the forthcoming Greystones/Delgany Local Area Plan (LAP) 2013 to 2019 and to consider the possibility of preparing a combined LAP for the areas of Greystones/Delgany and Kilcoole and to make a decision with respect to the combination or not of these plans.

As the proposal document was previously circulated it was agreed that Members would present any concerns and issues they had regarding the combining of the two plans to Ms. Walsh & Ms. McNamara. Members raised concerns regarding, inter alia:

- Shared services
- Population statistics – actual versus CSO figures
- Provision of infrastructure, in particular in Kilcoole
- Alternative proposal to amalgamate Kilcoole LAP with Newcastle & Newtown
- Provision of a green belt between Kilcoole & Greystones

Ms. Sorcha Walsh informed the Members that the proposal to combine the two plans was first mentioned by the Planning SPC. She understood and took on board the Members concerns but wanted it put on record that she feels the Members may be missing an opportunity for possible future investment, infrastructure and development if they do not combine the two plans. She also pointed out the Members that there would be a greater chance of government funding for a village of Kilcoole's size if it was part of the Greystones/Delgany LAP. If it was kept separate it would not be considered as high a priority for such funding as the other large growth towns. Ms. Walsh also stressed to the Members that they need to be aware of the co-dependency of the two towns. Forward Planning are now planning for development up to 2022 and that further rezoning of land for housing development in Greystones will be required in the next few years as it is currently under zoned.

Following a lengthy discussion on the proposal it was agreed by the Members that the two plans could be put on public display jointly. However, Members wanted it made absolutely clear at the public display that it was a proposal to join the two plans and that they could still be separate plans if public were against it following the period of public display. Ms. Walsh agreed that this would be done as part of the public display but wished it to be on record that if the Kilcoole LAP was to remain a separate plan after the public display period that the Kilcoole LAP will not be reviewed again until it is due for review in 2014 based on the timeframe of the current plan.

3. List of Works Proposed and Carried Out in the Area.

Anne Marie Roberts circulated Eoin Heslin's report. Eoin Heslin answered questions on same as follows;

- Greystones Depot – Members raised concerns about the condition of the current depot and requested a timeframe for completion of the new structure. Mr. Heslin acknowledged that the current depot was in a less than ideal condition but that following an inspection remedial works had been carried out. He informed the Members that the availability of adequate funding was preventing the completion of the new Depot.
- Part VIII for Cycleway – members enquired as to whether there was much interest in the public display. A. M. Roberts and Eoin Heslin informed the meeting that there had been a steady number of callers to the office to review the plans and reminded them that any submissions on same had to be sent to the Planning Department. While there were a number of callers to view the plans they might not make any submissions.
- Cycle paths on Mill Road – Members expressed concern regarding the safety of the current cycleway on Mill Road west of the gateway signs stating that it was very dangerous having seen cyclists dismounting the footpath and onto the roadway. Mr. Heslin agreed to examine same.
- Cliff Walk – Members stated that it was agreed with the Coastguard to erect a sign on the Cliff Walk stating that there was a danger of being trapped on the beach at high tide. Mr. Heslin was unaware of such agreement but agreed to follow it up with Mr. Sean Quirke.
- Members welcomed the proposed works to resurface Church Road in July 2012.

4. Notice of Motion.

(a) Motion in the names of Cllrs G. Jones, D. Mitchell & G. McLoughlin:

"That a footpath is built from Eden Gate estate leading towards Delgany National School as a large number of parents and children travel to the school by foot".

Eoin Heslin informed the Members that a proposal to provide footpaths on the R761 at the Three Trout Bridge which, if works progress, will mean that there will be a continuous footpath on this road from Eden Gate to Delgany N.S. He also informed the Members that there is insufficient road width to provide a footpath on Priory Road.

(b) Motion in the names of Cllrs G. McLoughlin, G. Jones, D. Mitchell:

"That Wicklow County Council ensures that all gullies in the Kilcoole area are cleared as a matter of urgency".

Mr. Heslin informed the Members that works were already underway to commence the 2012 Gully Cleaning Programme for all of the Greystones Engineering Area with gullies that needed to be cleaned marked. Gullies in areas prone to flooding will take priority and it is expected that the works will be completed by the end of July.

(c) Motion in the names of Cllrs G. McLoughlin, G. Jones, D. Mitchell.

"That Wicklow County Council puts some dog waste bins on the main street in Kilcoole and Newcastle".

E Heslin informed the Members that there is no funding available to provide dog bins at present. However, dog waste can be placed in standard litter bins. He also informed the meeting that there has been an ongoing problem with placing domestic rubbish in dog bins.

5. Correspondence & Items outstanding

There was no correspondence or items outstanding.

6. Status Report on Planning in Kilcoole & Greystones.

Des O'Brien referred to previously circulated planning report and answered questions from the Members on same.

7 Housing Report

Anne Marie Roberts referred to the previously circulated Housing Report and informed the Members that there were no personnel available from Housing to attend the Meeting. Members expressed their disappointment at this and requested correspondence to be sent to Housing to ensure that a Member of staff is always available to attend the EAC meetings.

8. Update on Taking in Charge of Charlesland.

Des O'Brien provided the Members with a verbal report on the process to date and informed them that some progress had been made. Members raised the concern regarding the condition of the landscaping and road at present. They stated that when and if the Taking in Charge process is complete a plan of action will need to be put in place to maintain the landscaping of this road to a high standard as it is the main approach road to Greystones. They also highlighted the fact that there are a number of pedestrian crossings that need to be installed/completed before the process is complete. Members acknowledged that with current levels of funding and resources that the Council is not capable of maintaining this road. Mr. O'Brien advised them that should the Charlesland Dual Carriageway be taken in charge in the future that Members could look for a specific budget for the maintenance of this road.

9. Any Other Business

- Fly Tipping – Members raised concerns about the increase in the amount of fly tipping particularly in Blacklion, Farrankelly and the Glen of the Downs. It was agreed to raise the issue with the Environment Department.

The next meeting is Bray Civic Offices on Monday on 16th July 2012 at 1.00pm.

Signed: _____
Chairperson

Signed: _____
Meetings Administrator

Date: _____