

MINUTES OF MEETING OF GREYSTONES TOWN COUNCIL HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES GREYSTONES ON TUESDAY 26TH MARCH 2013 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Councillor K. Kelleher, Mayor,
Councillors T. Fortune, G. Jones, C. Maloney,
G. McLoughlin, D. Mitchell, B. Norman, J. O'Sullivan &
S. Stokes

Also Present: Mr. J. Lane, Town Manager
Mr. E. Heslin, SEE, Wicklow County Council
Ms. M. Porter, A/Town Clerk, Greystones Town Council
Ms. K. Coughlan, Greystones Town Council

At the outset Councillor C. Maloney proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of the late Sean Daly who died recently.

The Mayor, Councillor K. Kelleher, proposed a vote of sympathy to the Town Manager Mr. J. Lane and his wife on the recent death of his mother in law, Mary Bennett.

Councillor G. McLoughlin proposed a vote of sympathy to Ms. Margaret Traynor, Blacklion on the death of her husband John.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor C. Maloney, seconded by Councillor T. Fortune and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting of the Council held on 26th February, 2013, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Mayor.

2. UPDATE ON GREYSTONES HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT

The A/Town Clerk, Ms. M. Porter, circulated a report from Wicklow County Council, which outlined the current position in relation to the harbour development at Greystones.

Following discussion it was agreed to invite representatives from SISK to attend the April meeting of the Town Council to outline their proposals for the development.

3. DISCUSSION ON 'THE GATHERING 2013'

Councillor G. McLoughlin stated that a marketing campaign was being organised for County Wicklow to attract visitors to the county. She also pointed out that a brochure detailing events planned had been produced and would be widely circulated.

4. 2012 ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

A copy of the Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2012 had been circulated to the members with the agenda.

It was agreed that over-expenditure totalling €81 on salaries in the sum of €66 and bank and loan charges in the sum of €15 be approved and that the Annual Financial Statement for the year ended 31st December 2012 be adopted and forwarded to the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.

5. REPORTS FROM WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL

(a) Works Carried Out

A report on works carried out had been emailed to all the members prior to the meeting. Mr. E. Heslin, SEE answered queries from the members in relation to same.

Following discussion it was agreed to refer the following matters to Wicklow County Council:

1. Arrows on cycle lanes and access to residence on Marine Road, Greystones
2. Blocked gulley/drain on New Road, Greystones
3. Video survey of Bellevue Road, Greystones
4. Provision of speed ramps on Kimberley Road, Greystones outside St. David's School and St. Brigid's National School

The A/Town Clerk, Ms. M. Porter, advised the members in relation to the County Council's policy going forward in relation to memorial seats at the seafront.

(b) Flooding in Greystones

The County Council works report included an update on flooding issues around the town. Mr. E. Heslin, SEE updated the members on progress following an earlier meeting with affected residents and landowners and he answered any further questions from the members in relation to same.

It was also agreed that the County Council would seek a meeting with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, the Gardai, the National Roads Authority and the National Transport Authority in relation to recent flooding on the N11, which had a huge impact on traffic travelling in and out of Greystones.

(c) Site for Signs in Greystones

Councillor G. Jones had detailed areas that he thought suitable for sites for signs advertising local charitable events in the town. Following discussion it was agreed that the Town Engineer would identify four suitable sites for placing signs advertising local charitable events at the entrances to the town

6. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The A/Town Clerk, Ms. M. Porter, advised the members of the contents of a letter received from the Greystones Family Resource Centre seeking to make a presentation to the Town Council.

Following discussion it was agreed to invite them to either the May or June meeting, i.e. whichever one the Consultants for the Part 8 Cycle Path Works from the harbour to Lidl were not attending.

2. The A/Town Clerk, Ms. M. Porter, advised the members of the details of a forthcoming National Tourism Conference in Carlow on 18th – 20th April 2013 – estimated cost per delegate €525.

3. The A/Town Clerk, Ms. M. Porter, advised the members of the contents of a lengthy letter received from the Department of Education and Skills in relation to the provision of primary school places in Greystones. She circulated a copy of this letter to the members.

Following discussion on this matter it was agreed to write back to the Department of Education & Skills to outline the members' concerns about school places from September 2014 onwards and to

seek details of the methods used by the Department to determine the projected future demand for primary school accommodation. It was further agreed to request that they give consideration to providing a new school in Charlesland to the south of the town where the population growth is. It was also agreed to copy the letter to the five local TDs.

7. LARGE SCALE PLANNING APPLICATIONS IN GREYSTONES

The Mayor, Councillor K. Kelleher, informed the meeting that the Manager's report on submissions made in relation to the Greystones/Delgany and Kilcoole Local Area Plans would be considered by the members of Wicklow County Council at a meeting in April. The A/Town Clerk, Ms. M. Porter, stated that she would enquire if it was possible for the County Council planning staff to circulate a copy of the report to the Town Councillors.

The Mayor, Councillor K. Kelleher, also advised the members that permission had been sought for a four-classroom extension at St. Brigid's NS in Greystones and that the period of planning permission already granted for development at the Watson and Johnson Centre on Mill Road had been extended.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION

- (a) Motion in the names of Councillors G. Jones, G. McLoughlin, D. Mitchell & J. O'Sullivan (deferred from February meeting):

"In view of the lack of progress on creating jobs in the area, the Town Council consider setting up a 'Special Project/Task team' with interested parties to consider progressing the aim of bringing employment to Greystones".

Following discussion on this motion it was agreed that the Town Manager, Mr. J. Lane would liaise with Councillor G. Jones on this matter to progress same through the offices of Wicklow County Council.

It was agreed to consider notices of motion (b) and (d) together as follows:

- (b) Motion in the names of Councillors D. Mitchell, G. Jones, G. McLoughlin & J. O'Sullivan: "The council should use its specialist pothole repair truck in Greystones as the repairs should last a lot longer".

- (d) Motion in the names of Councillors K. Kelleher & B. Norman: "That Wicklow County Council fix the pothole on Trafalgar Road at the veterinary surgery as it is causing a problem for school traffic".

Following discussion on these motions it was agreed to ask Wicklow County Council to repair the pothole and to seek to have the specialist pot-holing machine deployed in the Greystones area.

- (c) Motion in the names of Councillors D. Mitchell, G. Jones, G. McLoughlin & J. O'Sullivan: "The trees on Church Lane, near Hillside, should be cut back as they interfere with houses".

Following discussion on this motion it was agreed that Councillor Mitchell would identify the exact location of the problem trees to the County Council and that consideration be given to having them cut back after the bird nesting season.

- (d) Motion in the names of Councillors K. Kelleher & B. Norman: "That Wicklow County Council fix the pothole on Trafalgar Road at the veterinary surgery as it is causing a problem for school traffic".

This motion had already been dealt with in conjunction with motion (b) above.

- (e) Motion in the names of Councillors K. Kelleher & B. Norman:
“That Wicklow County Council fix the footpath at Curves in Blacklion as it is very difficult for school children and for the residents in Bellevue Demesne”.

Mr. E. Heslin, SEE informed the members that works to this footpath would form part of the proposed Part 8 Cycle and Footpath works from the harbour to Lidl.

- (f) Motion in the names of Councillors B. Norman & K. Kelleher:
“Greystones Town Council should make representation to the Minister of the Environment and Wicklow County Council to endeavour to ensure that proposed local government changes will enable Councillors in full time employment to represent their municipal district”.

Following discussion it was agreed to write to the Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government and Wicklow County Council in relation to this motion. It was further agreed to copy the correspondence to the Association of Municipal Authorities of Ireland.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Councillor C. Maloney commended The Mayor, Councillor K. Kelleher, and all involved in the Greystones St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

The Mayor informed members that the awards would be presented at a function on 4th April 2013 and she thanked all involved for their help, especially the County Council staff.

2. Mr. E. Heslin informed the members of proposals in relation to the provision of pedestrian crossings and footpaths as conditions of planning permissions for the new schools at Blacklion. He stated that there was no funding for a school warden at Blacklion in 2013 but that this matter could be considered at estimates time, following completion of the pedestrian crossing.

3. The Mayor, Councillor K. Kelleher, advised the members that the 2013 Greystones People of the Year Awards would be presented at a function in the Charlesland Hotel on Thursday 25th April 2013.

4. Councillor G. McLoughlin commended the County Council on the efficient manner in which it had sorted the flooding issues in the town.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____ MAYOR

CERTIFIED: _____ A/TOWN CLERK

DATED THIS DAY OF 2013.