

MINUTES OF MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES, GREYSTONES ON TUESDAY 26th APRIL 2016 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Councillor G. McLoughlin, Cathaoirleach
Councillors T. Fortune, N. Lawless, D. Mitchell, G. Walsh & J. Whitmore

Also Present: Mr. M. Nicholson, Greystones Municipal District Manager
Mr. R. O'Hanlon, Greystones Municipal District Engineer

Ms. M. Porter, Greystones Municipal District Administrator
Ms. K. Coughlan, Greystones Municipal District

1. Confirmation of Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor T. Fortune, seconded by Councillor G. Walsh and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 29th March 2016, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2. Proposed Ecopark at Prettybush, Delgany

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Des O'Brien, Mr. Marc Devereaux and Ms. Amy O'Farrell from Wicklow County Council to the meeting.

Mr. D. O'Brien, Mr. M. Devereaux and Ms. A. O'Farrell outlined progress with the proposed Ecopark at Prettybush and answered any queries from the members in relation to same. They pointed out that it was intended to meet with representatives from residents groups in the area in the coming week or two before applying for a waste permit licence. They stated that agreement had not been reached to date on the end use of the park.

Members asked that they be provided with a report on discussions to date and alternative sites considered. They suggested that ongoing maintenance of the site would be a major factor and they spoke about the huge local opposition to the project at the last public meeting.

Mr. M. Devereaux agreed to circulate the members with a full report on progress following the next meeting with resident's representatives in early May.

3. Representatives from Arup and Progress Report on Greystones Harbour Development

A progress report on Greystones Harbour Development had been emailed to the members prior to the meeting.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Sean Mason from Arup Consulting to the meeting. Mr. Mason pointed out that an annual survey was carried out to check that any erosion was within the limits prescribed in the planning permission for the harbour and that access to the north beach was maintained. He stated that any actual erosion was then compared to the erosion predicted in the planning application and shingle was placed on the north beach as required. He stated that the situation was monitored regularly and any issues that arose were dealt with. He pointed out that in the first seven years of surveying, actual erosion was less than that predicted at the point of measurement but that in the last two surveys, actual erosion south of the point of measurement was higher. He stated that this was caused by a number of factors including exceptionally heavy rainfall last winter, wind direction, surface water from the cliffs, hard core at the old dump site and strong waves hitting the cliffs. He pointed out that coastal erosion had been a huge problem since the 1800's and that the current works were never intended to prevent erosion but rather to manage it. He answered any further queries from the members.

4. Date for Annual Meeting

It was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting on Tuesday 28th June 2016 at 7 p.m. prior to the monthly meeting.

5. Allocation of Discretionary Funding for 2016 Schedule of Municipal District Works

The members had been circulated with a list of requests for funding from the discretionary funding total of €38,500. It was pointed out that it had already been agreed to allocate €2,000 to cover the shortfall in income for the 2016 St. Patrick's Day Parade and €1,000 already committed for the 1916 commemorative garden. Councillors N. Lawless and G. McLoughlin had also submitted proposals that had been circulated.

The District Administrator informed the members that an additional request had been received from the Greystones Family Resource Centre seeking funding totaling €2,050. She also pointed out that the Environment Section of Wicklow County Council had agreed to match any funding provided by the Greystones MD from their 'Public Realm Project' budget for the supply of solar powered bins in the town. She outlined the benefits of these bins and stated that a sum of approximately €10,000 would be required.

Following discussion the members agreed in principal to provide the money for solar powered bins from their Public Realm Project budget and they requested a report from the District Engineer on the proposed locations for the new bins, and the sites for relocating existing bins, for consideration at the May monthly meeting.

Following lengthy discussion it was agreed to allocate the Economic Development & Promotion Budget of €11,000 as follows: €4,000 to Greystones Tidy Towns; €2,000 to Kilcoole Tidy Towns; €2,000 to Delgany Tidy Towns; €2,000 to Newcastle Tidy Towns and €1,000 to the People of the Year Awards.

It was also agreed to allocate €2,000 from the Tourism Development & Promotion budget for a photo frame on the Cliff Walk as well as €2,250 for display signs for new town maps; €500 for an open sea swim from Holyhead to Dublin and €500 to a local dog fouling campaign group from the same budget. €2,000 for the St. Patrick's Day Parade and €1,000 for the 1916 Memorial Garden had already been agreed from this total budget of €10,000 leaving a balance of €1,750. It was agreed to allocate this €1,750 at the May monthly meeting.

It was further agreed to allocate a sum of €5,000 for Christmas Lights and €1,500 for the Kilcoole 1916 Centenary Festival from the Operation of the Arts Programme budget of €17,500 leaving a balance of €11,000. It was agreed to allocate this €11,000 at the May monthly meeting also.

It was agreed that no budget should be provided this year for Town Twinning.

6. 2016 People of the Year Awards

The District Administrator reminded members that the closing date for receipt of nominations for the 2016 Greystones Municipal District / Wicklow Times People of the Year Awards was Friday 29th April 2016 and she listed the categories under which nominations could be made. She pointed out that the awards would be presented at a function in Greystones Golf Club on Thursday 26th May, 2016 and that tickets for the Awards night were available to purchase from the MD office at a cost of €35 each. She informed the members that they should attend at the Golf Club at 7.15 p.m. on the 26th May for a photo shoot prior to the function which will start at 8 p.m. sharp.

7. Report from Greystones Municipal District Engineer

The District Engineer had circulated a report that outlined progress with NTA and other projects in the district and he answered any queries from the members in relation to same.

Following discussion it was agreed to ask Wicklow County Council to repair the pedestrian crossing at Kilcoole NS and to survey other ramps and crossings in the district, especially the ones at Crowe Abbey. It was also agreed that the Council look at options to prevent illegal parking at Burnaby Manor, and the traffic lights at the Grattan Park junction with the R761.

8. Notices of Motion

No notices of motion were considered.

9. Correspondence

No correspondence was read.

10. Any Other Business

1. The Cathaoirleach informed the members that she had raised the matter of staff shortages in the Greystones MD office with Wicklow County Council and that if the situation was not resolved before the next County Council meeting, she would ask for a suspension of standing orders at that meeting to discuss the matter.
2. In response to a query from the members in relation to a complaint about dog fouling at the Cliff Walk, the District Administrator informed the members that the Cliff Walk area was outside the remit of the Wardens.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: _____
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

DATED THIS _____ **DAY OF** _____ **2016.**