

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Municipal District of Baltinglass held in the Civic Offices, Blessington
on 26th of June 2017, at 10.30 a.m.**

Present: Councillor Vincent Blake
Councillor Edward Timmins
Councillor Jim Ruttle
Councillor Gerry O'Neill
Councillor Pat Doran
Councillor Thomas Cullen

In Attendance: Mr. Sean Quirke, District Manager
Mr. Declan Geraghty, District Engineer
Mr. Dermot Graham, Executive Engineer
Ms. Susan Nichols, District Administrator
Ms. Sharon Mulhall, Assistant Staff Officer

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 22nd April 2017

It was proposed by Cllr P.Doran, seconded by Cllr. E. Timmins and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 22nd April 2017.

2. To receive presentation on proposed Housing Capital Projects for the Tinahely area

The meeting received a presentation from Mr. Joe Lane, Director of Services, Ms. Shelly Barrett, Architect, and Mr. Graham Wynne, Executive Engineer, in relation to the proposed Capital Projects in Tinahely. Details of the proposed construction of units at Derry Drive, School Road and Kilcommon View were circulated to the meeting. The time frame for building the units is 2019-2020. A discussion took place and concerns were raised including:

- the proposed terrace style housing
- proposals to split one-bed housing over two levels
- accessibility issues for older people

3. To receive presentation on Vacant Site Levy

A presentation was made by Ms. Sorcha Walsh, Senior Planner and Lisa Rothwell, Assistant Planner, on the implementation of the Vacant Site Levy. The meeting was advised as to the procedures and the rates that will apply. Information was also circulated to all members.

4. To consider Speed Limit Review – Report on Speed Limit Consultation Submission and Recommendations

A report on proposed speed limits in the district had been circulated to the members and a discussion took place on the proposed limits. It was advised that new submissions could be made, but if a decision had been made on a limit this would not be amended. The following amendments were requested by the elected members:

- include 60kmph at Golden Hill Road L8875
- leave the existing 100kmph speed limit on N81 from Annalecky to Baltinglass
- extend the 80kmph speed limit north of Blessington northwards past Crosschapel Cross on N81
- extend the 50kmph speed limit past the bungalows towards Kelsha Cross on the Kiltegan Road L3260 in Talbotstown

5. To consider Roads Reports (national and non-national roads)

A report from Mr. Tom O'Leary, Senior Executive Engineer, in relation to National Roads had been circulated with the agenda. An update was provided in relation to works in Baltinglass which are to begin in July. Verge trimming is to commence on the N81 on Monday 3rd of July for approx 6 weeks.

A report on non national roads had been circulated with the agenda. Mr. Declan Geraghty, District Engineer, advised the meeting that he is to meet with the Dunlavin Forum in relation to the footpaths in Dunlavin. Cllr. O'Neill congratulated the staff on the good works carried out on Togher and Lacken Gap.

6. To consider Housing Report

Susan Nichols advised that there was no housing report available.

7. To review draft Tourism brochures

A draft of the tourism brochures for West Wicklow was circulated to the meeting. A suggestion was made that the Michael Dwyer monument be included on the heritage trail.

8. To consider Tourism projects for 2017

Cllr. E. Timmins advised the meeting that Baltinglass ring fort is the second biggest ring fort in Ireland and proposed that signage be put in place to highlight the area to tourists. This was seconded by Cllr. T. Cullen. The members agreed to submit suggestion for tourism project to Susan Nichols before the next meeting.

9. Any Other Business


Susan Nichols advised that a petition had been received from residents in Dunlavin in relation to the pedestrian crossing outside the school. Another petition had also been received prior to the meeting in relation to the junction at the Branch, Manor Kilbride.

The meeting was advised that a panel is to be put in place for relief School Traffic Wardens in the county. It was noted that the School Traffic Warden in Baltinglass had resumed duty and was welcomed back to the position.

Cllr O'Neill offered congratulations to the Gael Scoil in Blessington on its 10 year anniversary.

There being no more business Cllr. Blake closed the meeting. The next meeting of Baltinglass Municipal District will be held on Monday 24th of July 2017.

Signed: 
Cathaoirleach

Signed: 
District Administrator

Dated: 24th July 2017