

## **Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Municipal District of Baltinglass held in the Civic Offices, Blessington on 24<sup>th</sup> of July 2017, at 10.30 a.m.**

**Present:** Councillor Vincent Blake  
Councillor Edward Timmins  
Councillor Jim Ruttle  
Councillor Gerry O'Neill

**In Attendance:** Mr. Sean Quirke, Director of Services  
Mr. Dermot Graham, Executive Engineer  
Ms. Susan Nichols, District Administrator  
Ms. Sharon Mulhall, Assistant Staff Officer

**Apologies:** Councillor Pat Doran  
Councillor Tommy Cullen

### **1. To confirm the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

It was proposed by Cllr J. Ruttle, seconded by Cllr. E. Timmins and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2017.

### **2. To confirm the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 26<sup>th</sup> June 2017**

It was proposed by Cllr E. Timmins, seconded by Cllr J. Ruttle and agreed to confirm and sign minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Baltinglass dated 26<sup>th</sup> of June 2017.

### **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **4. To consider amendments to Burial Ground Policy Review, as referred from Wicklow County Council on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2017**

A document with the proposed amendments to the burial grounds policy review had been circulated with the agenda and the various proposals were discussed. The members agreed the following:

**Item 1 -** It was proposed by Cllr. V. Blake, seconded by Cllr. E. Timmins and agreed that no changes or amendments would be proposed for the policy regarding 'Definition of Locals Only'

**Item 2 -** It was proposed by Cllr. V. Blake, seconded by Cllr. E. Timmins and agreed that no changes or amendments would be proposed for the policy regarding 'Advanced Purchase – Double Graves at time of burial/purchase only'

**Item 3 –** 'New Extensions – Lawn Cemetery Style'. Following some discussion, it was agreed to defer this item to the September meeting for further consideration.

**Item 4** – ‘Headstones and surrounds – Memorial Applications’ was agreed by all members present.

**Item 5** – ‘Part Lawn Cemetery Graveyards – requirements in relation to removal of illegal surrounds, etc’ was agreed by all members present.

**Item 6** – ‘Pricing Policy going forward’. It was proposed by Cllr. E. Timmins, seconded by Cllr. J. Ruttle and agreed that the prices quoted of €800 for single and €1600 for double would be inclusive of VAT.

**Item 7** – ‘Signage Policy – Open Graveyards’ was agreed by all members present.

**Item 8** – ‘Capital Programme over 10 years’. It was proposed by Cllr. V. Blake, seconded by Cllr. E. Timmins and agreed that the wording “Wicklow County Council will not be considering an extension at this location” in relation to Knockananna graveyard be removed.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Ruttle, seconded by Cllr. G. O’Neill and agreed that the following wording in the policy:

“Baltyboys, Templeboden – No option for extension by Co Co in this graveyard. Can be served by works at Burgage and new extension already at Manor Kilbride”.

Be replaced with:

“Baltyboys, Templeboden - All other local options to extend graveyards at Templeboden and Baltyboys should be explored”

Proposed works at Burgage graveyard were discussed and a report was requested to be made available for the next meeting.

**Item 9** – ‘Closed Cemeteries – proposals/rights of burial (possibly 7 graveyards)’ was agreed by all members present. It was proposed by Cllr. G. O’Neill, seconded by Cllr. V. Blake and agreed that discussions would take place in relation to access at Scurlox Graveyard.

**Item 10** – ‘Health and Safety Programme’ was agreed by all members present.

**Item 11** – ‘MD minimum responsibilities for Maintenance’ was agreed by all members present.

**Item 12** – ‘Height/Depth/Location of headstones/memorials’ was agreed by all members present.

All amendments and comments are to be submitted to Ms Helena Dennehy, Senior Executive Officer by mid September so it was agreed by the members that the next meeting would take place on 18<sup>th</sup> of September to allow for final consideration.

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

A report on National roads from Tom O’Leary, Senior Executive Engineer was circulated at the meeting. Works on junction in Baltinglass are at tender process and it is envisaged that contracts will be in place next month. All surface dressing is complete in the district and all

road improvements in Blessington area are complete. Road improvements in Tinahely area are ongoing and should be complete by the end of August.

#### **6. To consider Tourism projects for 2017**

Tourism brochure for Blessington Lakeside heritage trail are available and other brochures should be available soon. The members agreed to submit ideas for 2017 projects to Susan Nichols. Cllr. V. Blake suggested that consideration be given to providing funding for the All Ireland Drama Competition being held in Carnew in 2018.

#### **7. To agree holding the Ordinary meeting scheduled for 25<sup>th</sup> September 2017 in Carnew**

It was agreed to hold the Ordinary Meeting of Baltinglass Municipal District on 18<sup>th</sup> of September 2017 at 10.30am in Carnew. Cllr. P. Doran will be requested to check the availability of the Community Care Centre.

#### **8. To receive update on footbridge in Baltinglass**

Susan Nichols, District Administrator, advised the members that a report from Margaret Hartnett, Senior Executive Engineer, had been received viz:

*The bridge was assessed as part of the 'Baltinglass Town Centre Refurbishment Plan' and the options therein to improve the pedestrian safety along the bridge. The bridge is a protected structure and we appointed a consultant to analyse the conservation impact of installing a new pedestrian bridge alongside the existing masonry arch bridge. It reached the conclusion that the bridge should be a separate structure and located on the northern (upstream) side of the existing bridge.*

Sean Quirke, District Manager, advised that the purchase of land at one side of the river could possibly help in any future construction of a footbridge, however this would be subject to approval and funding. It was proposed by Cllr. J. Ruttle, seconded by Cllr. G. O'Neill and agreed that the possibility of purchase of lands at "The Dutchman's Inn" in Baltinglass be pursued with the auctioneer.

#### **9. To receive update on next phase of Glending housing estate**

Ms. S. Nichols advised the meeting that a report had been received from Declan Marnane, Senior Engineer, viz:

"The closing date for receipt of tenders was Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July.

- Four tenders were received
- These are with the consultant Architect and QS for examination and recommendation
- A report is expected shortly
- This contract is for 14 houses
- When this contract is completed, the refurbishment of Glending will be 75% complete
- It is expected that 2 more phases will complete all the works
- The start of this phase of works is dependent on the tenants moving back to the phase just completed and the tenants in the new phase moving and freeing up their houses for the works"

#### **10. To receive update on CLÁR expenditure**

Mr. D. Graham, Executive Engineer advised that a Multi Use Games Area in Knockananna is due to commence in the next two weeks under 2016 funding. Under 2017 funding a footpath and public lights to link the GAA pitch and the village have been confirmed.

#### **11. Any Other Business**

Cllr. G. O'Neill advised the members that An Garda Síochána were planning to reopen a station in Hollywood. He felt that the community would be better served if the station in Donard were to reopen instead. Following some discussion on the matter, it was proposed by Cllr. G. O'Neill, seconded by Cllr. J. Ruttle and agreed to write to An Garda Síochána Superintendant in Baltinglass and the County Wicklow Joint Policing Committee supporting the reopening of Donard Garda Station.

Cllr. G. O'Neill proposed that a letter be sent to the Department of Social Protection requesting a local office for Blessington. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. J. Ruttle and agreed.

Members agreed to support a proposal in objection to the development of a windfarm by A.B.O Wind Ireland Ltd. on the Aughrim/Annacurra hills, planning reference number 17/814.

Details of the Community Facilities Scheme 2017 were circulated. These awards were proposed by Cllr J. Ruttle, seconded by Cllr E. Timmins and agreed.

There being no more business Cllr. V. Blake closed the meeting. The next meeting of Baltinglass Municipal District will be held on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

Signed:   
Cathaoirleach

Signed:   
District Administrator

Dated: 18<sup>th</sup> September 2017