

**MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
MEETING
MONDAY 23rd MAY 2016 4PM
FINE GAEL ROOM, COUNTY BUILDINGS**

Present: Cathaoirleach Irene Winters, Councillors Gail Dunne, Daire Nolan, Shay Cullen, John Snell, Mary Kavanagh.

In attendance: Acting District Manager Debbie Cromie, District Administrator David Porter, District Engineer Paul Byrne, Clerical Officer Caroline Lynch.

Cathaoirleach Irene Winters opened the meeting at 4 p.m.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD ON 25TH APRIL 2016

It was proposed by Cllr. Gail Dunne, seconded by Cllr. John Snell and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District meeting held 25th April, 2016.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Paul Byrne referred to a request from the Members to power-wash the Market Square in Wicklow Town in advance of the Round Ireland Yacht Race. He advised prices will be obtained however it would more than likely be undertaken.

Mr. Byrne advised that the re-painting of the Town Hall will commence after the June Bank Holiday. He estimates it will take 2 to 3 weeks, weather permitting. He advised grey was the preferred colour and some samples were being put on the building. There may be some disruption to pedestrians but the contractor has submitted a pedestrian management plan. Fencing and signage will be put in place.

The Members raised the following issues:

- Repairs to the irrigation system in Wicklow Town – David Porter advised that the company had carried out maintenance on the system. The window boxes and hanging baskets are expected in the second week in June however the window boxes will only be installed on the Town Hall once the painting has been completed.
- Fencing for Glenbrook Heights - Paul Byrne agreed to look at this.

- Disabled Parking spaces in the Murrough car park and in AIB car park – can the space nearest the play park be used as the existing space is the furthest away from the playground. The space in AIB car park is unsuitable to wheelchair users as it is on a slope. Mr. Byrne agreed to look at these two issues.

UPDATE ON THE MURROUGH COASTAL PROTECTION WORKS

Paul Byrne advised that the compound is on site and they are waiting on the delivery of materials. It is estimated the work will take 20 weeks, weather permitting. Mr. Byrne informed the Members that access will be available during the works however it may have to be closed off from time to time. He invited the Members to examine the drawing to familiarize themselves with the works. The Members welcomed the commencement of the works.

TOWN HALL

David Porter advised that the Chief Executive is working on a few options and will meet with the Members when he has made a decision. He also advised that the building will be cleared of any documentation remaining there. It will be shredded, archived or stored as appropriate. The pictures and displays will be put on view in County Buildings, perhaps on a rotating basis depending on the space available.

The Members stressed the huge historical significance the building. They agreed to meet together to discuss making a submission to the Chief Executive. The Members asked if they could be notified of the options that the Chief Executive is considering. David Porter advised he will make that request. The decision remains an executive function and rests with the Chief Executive.

ALLOCATION OF €10,000 TOURISM CONTRIBUTION

The Members suggested using part of this money to produce literature for the Halpin Trail in Wicklow Town and a 17 plaque walk in the town. It was suggested prices are obtained. (Cllr Winters agreed to do this)

Robert Monteith Memorial – this project has over-run and it was suggested a small portion of this money could be used towards this. Some of the members indicated that they would not be in favour of allocating funding to a previously completed project.

Ashford Community & Heritage- WW1 exhibition – The Members received a letter prior to the meeting from Sheila Clarke.

Cliff Walk – it was suggested to use all of the money to sort out the Cliff Walk. It would be of benefit to tourism in the long term. There are a number of issues to be overcome and it is unclear how much money would be needed. The Members agreed to meet a delegation from the Golf Club. David Porter advised that the Tourism Fund must be spent by the end of the year.

The Members agreed to discuss all suggestions at their meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

David Porter advised the Members they are all invited by the Chamber of Commerce to the “Time for Wicklow” event being held in the Golf Club on Tuesday 24th May.

Mr. Porter advised that NTA funding will be available for the footpath from Laragh to Glendalough. Margaret Hartnett and Declan Marnane are the Council staff dealing with this. The Members asked if they could be invited to attend the next Municipal District meeting.

The Members discussed the following:

- Parking in Glendalough – a local landowner had opened one of his fields to drivers. If an accident occurred the emergency services could not access the area.
- Rathnew Cemetery – overgrown and gotten out of hand as there were 2 part time caretakers however one retired leaving just one full time caretaker. The Council have undertaken to have the situation remedied in the cemetery as soon as possible.
- Enduro World Series held recently in Glenealy. This was of huge economic benefit to the area. Congratulations were extended to Robin Seymour on his win in his class.
- Advising farmers of the regulations in relation to burning on their land. It was suggested the Council write to the IFA informing their members.
- Recent article in a local newspaper in relation to the request for a new footpath in Newtownmountkennedy. The Members felt the article misinterpreted their views and they wish to clarify the matter.
- A civic reception for the Wicklow Rugby Club who won the Provincial Towns Cup recently. This could also be considered by the County Council.
- Bye-laws preventing circuses with wild animals from showing within the Town boundary.
- Asked for the road sweeper to clean the road to Rathnew before the Blessings of the Graves next weekend.
- A proposal to re-dedicate the Skate Park at The Murrough. It was asked if this could be included on the agenda of the next meeting.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

The following vote of sympathy was recorded at the meeting:

- Ellen Dunne, Glenview Road, Wicklow Town

The Members discussed the date for the next meeting and AGM. The County Council meeting will be on 13th June. David Porter agreed to check if the date is not outside the prescribed period.

The meeting closed at 5.11 p.m.

SIGNED:

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

SIGNED:

CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE:
