

MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING

MONDAY 24TH OCTOBER 2016 3 P.M.

WURZBURG ROOM, COUNTY BUILDINGS

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

IN ATTENDANCE: District Manager, Joe Lane; District Administrator, David Porter; District Engineer, Paul Byrne; Senior Engineer Housing, Breege Kilkenny; Senior Executive Architect, Shelly Barrett; Assistant Staff Officer, Catherine McCann.

Cathaoirleach John Snell opened the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD ON 19TH SEPTEMBER 2016.

It was proposed by Cllr. Shay Cullen, seconded by Cllr. Daire Nolan and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District meeting held 19th September 2016.

HOUSING PROGRESS FCA HALL

Senior Executive Architect, Shelly Barrett, addressed the members in relation to the proposed construction of 8 no. housing units on the current FCA Hall site. The Scheme will consist of 4 two-bed houses; 3 one bed apartments and 1 two-bed apartment. Ms. Barrett advised the meeting that this will also involve relocation of the FCA Memorial Garden to the site adjacent to the existing car park. Extra car parking spaces will have to be provided. The District Manager, Joe Lane, advised the Councillors that if the members of the FCA engage with Wicklow County Council, the Council will try to reach agreement with them on the design of a suitable memorial.

Mr. Lane informed the meeting that the Scheme is currently at Part 8 Planning Consultation Stage and is on display until mid-December. He will aim to up-date the Members at the January 2017 Municipal District Meeting.

The Cathaoirleach suggested that the Members of Wicklow Municipal District could meet with all members of the FCA to move the issue of relocation of the Memorial Garden along and bring the matter to a conclusion.

Senior Engineer, Breege Kilkenny, up-dated the Members regarding the proposed development of Convent Lands, Wicklow Town. This Scheme is to be funded nationally under a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model. Wicklow was chosen as one of 6 Local Authorities for this type of development and is to facilitate the delivery of social housing units only. The Local Authority will have full nomination rights to the Scheme.

The Senior Engineer informed the Members that there a number of site constraints such as steep slopes and houses may need to be staggered in different places to avail of natural light.

The Scheme will proceed to Part 8 Consultation Process Stage in February 2017.

The Cathaoirleach and Members welcomed the fact that this was a vacant site that would be providing houses for people in the area and thanked the Senior Engineer, Senior Executive Architect and all the staff in Housing for their hard work on these projects.

Breege Kilkenny and Shelly Barrett left the meeting at 3.35 p.m.

DRAFT BUDGETARY PLAN 2017

It was proposed by Cllr. Irene Winters and seconded by Cllr. Gail Dunne to adopt the Draft Budgetary Plan for 2017 including the General Municipal Allocation of €37,000.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Paul Byrne presented the District Engineer's Report:

Coastal Protection Works

Mr. Byrne advised that the main work had now been carried out in respect of the Coastal Protection Works at The Murrough. There are still some small ancillary works to be completed. The works are on target and on cost. Costs have been significantly reduced due to work being carried out by the Council's direct labour crew.

Glendalough/Laragh Public Lighting

The District Engineer informed the members that work is on-going in relation to the public lighting at Glendalough/Laragh. The bases for the columns are being prepared by our own WMD staff. The lantern heads have been ordered. It is hoped to have the 32 lights connected by January 2017.

Up-date on Discretionary Fund Footpath Works

The Cathaoirleach commended the District Engineer and the direct labour crew for the job carried out in respect of the laying of new footpath from Centra, Rathnew to the GAA Pitch. The Cathaoirleach asked if Mr. Byrne could provide the Members with a breakdown of the overall costing of the works involved.

Laragh-Glendalough NTA Funding

Works commenced on 12th October 2016 and the Engineer advised the Members that he hoped they would be completed by the end of November.

The Cathaoirleach, on behalf of all the Members, conveyed best wishes to Senior Executive Officer, Margaret Malone, Transportation & Roads, on her new position with the NTA in Harcourt Street.

Low Cost Safety Improvement Scheme 2017

The District Engineer indicated that he had made an application under the LCSIS, for the provision of a footpath in Newtownmountkennedy up to the GAA pitch. The Members indicated that this was very important for the GAA community in Newtown.

The Members asked if, in future, they could be made aware of the timeframe for any proposals for the Low Cost Safety Improvement Scheme. Mr. Byrne advised the Members that he was given only a few days notice with regard to making submissions for the Scheme.

The District Engineer will inform the members of the result of this application.

Promotion of Wicklow Municipal District

The Members agreed that Wicklow Municipal District was one of the finest Districts in the Country, however, they felt that the District was not making the best of what it has to offer in promoting the area. Some suggestions made by the Members were naming roundabouts and the promotion of sports people from Wicklow. The Cathaoirleach requested that Wicklow Municipal District invite the Tourist Board to attend one of the Municipal meetings in order to engage with the Board and draw down maximum amount of funding available for the District.

As some of the roundabouts are maintained by the NRA, the District Administrator advised that he will pursue the possibility of promotion of named roundabouts in the District.

Mr. David Porter also advised the Members that €5,000 has been set aside for maps promoting the Wicklow Municipal District. The Members were asked to decide how they wish to use that funding either for several large scale mounted maps showing attractions or if they would prefer to allocate the funding towards information leaflets/brochures, etc.

The Members agreed to meet to discuss the matter and will revert to the District Administrator with their decision.

Review of Parking ByeLaws

The District Administrator informed the Members that a draft will be circulated to all Cllrs prior to the next Council Meeting due to be held on 7th November, there will be schedules attached which will be unique for each Municipal District. Members will be asked to submit any changes/amendments before 21st November. The Byelaws will go on public display from 28th November 2016 to 10th January 2017. The byelaws should be adopted at the full Council Meeting in March 2017.

It was brought to the District Administrator's attention that there is no speed limit on the road at Saunders Lane, going from the roundabout down to the Old N11. Mr. Porter will contact the Engineer dealing with the speed limit review for the County and up-date the Members at a later stage.

Any Other Business

Deputy John Brady's proposal for Beach Wheelchairs

The District Engineer advised that the Environment Section were looking at the possibility of provision of wheelchairs on our beaches at some stage. There may be issues with storage of the wheelchairs.

Sharpeshill Dog Pound

The Members asked the District Administrator to correspond with the Environment Department for an up-date as to why three dogs at the Pound are not on display for the general public nor do the dogs appear on the Sanctuary's website. Mr. Porter was also asked to enquire about the tendering process for Sharpeshill.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

The following votes of sympathy were recorded at the meeting:

1. Tommy Tyrrell, Aughrim;
2. Mick Carey, Wicklow Town;

The members and those in attendance at the meeting stood for a minute's silence as a mark of respect for the deceased and their families.

The meeting closed at 4.25 p.m.

SIGNED: _____

SIGNED: _____

DATED: _____