

**MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
MEETING
MONDAY 14th DECEMBER 2015 3 PM
TOWN HALL**

Present: Cathaoirleach Irene Winters, Councillors Daire Nolan, Shay Cullen, Pat Casey, John Snell.

In attendance: District Manager Loraine Lynch, District Administrator David Porter, Acting District Engineer Alan Martin, Clerical Officer Caroline Lynch.

Cathaoirleach Irene Winters opened the meeting at 3.20 pm.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD ON 24th NOVEMBER 2015

Proposed by Cllr. Pat Casey. Seconded by Cllr. Daire Nolan.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT BUDGET MEETING HELD ON 3rd NOVEMBER 2015

Proposed by Cllr. Shay Cullen. Seconded by Cllr. John Snell.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Cathaoirleach Irene Winters welcomed Alan Martin to the meeting in Paul's absence. She advised that the procedure is for the Members to email Mr. Byrne in advance.

The Members raised the following issues:

- Road Markings on Wicklow Gap:
The road on the Wicklow Gap is extremely dangerous in fog as the road markings are not visible. It was suggested reflectors would be installed. This matter has been discussed with Paul Byrne however Mr. Martin agreed to look into this.
- Congratulate Paul, Alan, Ruben and staff during the recent heavy rainfall. It was suggested the Members or the public put in submissions in relation to flooding on the Draft Development Plan.

- **Annamoe:**
The Members advised that Mr. Byrne is aware of this issue. There are plans in the springtime to improve and upgrade this drain subject to funding.
- **Stop Sign at top of Black Hill:**
This sign is not installed at this junction. Paul Byrne and the technician are dealing with this.
- **Deer crossing rural roads:**
The Members are concerned about the unprecedented numbers of deer crossing the roads in the uplands area. They asked what the Municipal District can do. It was reported that Minister Humphreys had received a deputation on this matter. The members reported that the Department of Agriculture Food and the Marine are hoping to launch a scheme in January. It was suggested that a message be put in the next edition of Countywise magazine warning drivers.

UPDATE ON CYCLE TRACK

Mr. Martin advised he had spoken with the engineer overseeing this project. It is 60% complete. Mr. Byrne had estimated it would take 3 weeks depending on the weather. It was clarified that the cycle track goes as far as the foot bridge.

BRITTAS BAY AND GLENDALOUGH

David Porter advised that he had spoken to the Environment Section. An advertisement has appeared in the current edition of the Wicklow Times seeking tenders for the operation of Brittas Bay car park, which was passed around to the Members. Two options are available i.e. as is and an option to open the car park for the rest of the year. The Members expressed their disappointment at this and feel their observations were not taken on board. They agreed to write to the Director of Services of the Environment section. They suggested the advertisement be re-advertised. The members suggested approaching Arklow Municipal District as this also affects them. It was suggested that someone from the Environment Section come to the main Council meeting on 11th January.

GLOR NA CASCA 1916 COMMEMORATION

David Porter advised that Brendan Martin had given him a new set of costings i.e. €425 for a flagpole plus €225 to install, €35 for a tri-colour, totalling €685 plus VAT. Mr. Porter also distributed images of the proclamation. He advised there are 6 types costing between €4,000 to €5,000. There is one per Municipal District and the decision lies with each district. The Members want the proclamation in English and Irish. One Member suggested a Ballyknocken granite monument for approximately the same price. This would be more apt as Ballyknocken granite was used to rebuild the GPO

after the rising. The Cathaoirleach of Wicklow County Council also has a copy of this proposal.

Mr. Porter advised that the original proposal included seven trees and the proclamation, one for each of the signatures. However it may not be practical to plant seven oak trees in the town. The Members discussed locations and the park beside the Gaol, the FCA Hall were mentioned. The rock face of St. Patrick's car park was also suggested however it was pointed out that water runs down this wall and could in time erode the plaque. It was suggested a few options could be put to the public on social media. It was clarified that there is one plaque per district and that each district may have their own ideas. It was suggested perhaps the tidy towns groups may like to contribute towards these projects as they maintain the areas where the plaques will be erected. Loraine Lynch advised there is a budget provided for this project. The Members wish to have the proclamation in both English and Irish. It was agreed that Cllrs Shay Cullen and John Snell would discuss this with Brendan Martin and also the granite monument proposal.

CORRESPONDENCE

David Porter advised the latest edition of Countywise was issued.

Mr. Porter advised a letter was received from the Mayor of Marosticia (who are twinned with Montigny) apologising for being unable to attend the Christmas Fair in Montigny.

Cathaoirleach Irene Winters commented on the recent trip to Montigny for the Noel de Marche and advised the Members that their hosts in Montigny were very pleased that all the twinned towns. They plan to visit Wicklow next year for St. Patrick's Day.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY

The following votes of sympathy were recorded at the meeting:

- John Casey
- Matthias Schwab, brother of Birgit Kompel

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 Members commented on the recent civic reception for the juvenile GAA clubs.

Cllr. Nolan left the meeting at 3.45 pm.

The meeting closed at 4.02 p.m.

SIGNED: _____
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: _____