

**MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING
MONDAY 27th JULY 2020
THE CHAPEL, WICKLOW COUNTY CAMPUS, CLAREMONT HOUSE, RATHNEW.**

Present: Cathaoirleach John Snell,
Councillors Gail Dunne, Paul O'Brien, Mary Kavanagh, Shay Cullen &
Irene Winters.

In attendance: District Manager Brian Gleeson,
District Engineer Kevin Scanlon,
District Administrator Joan Sinnott,
Senior Engineer Declan Marnane,
Senior Executive Engineer Gillian Power,
Assistant Staff Officer Anne Marie Kelly,
Jan Van Dijk (Van Dijk Architects),
Stephen Coy (Tuath Housing),
Myles Buchanan Wicklow People.

Cathaoirleach John Snell opened the meeting at 3.15 pm.
Senior Engineer Declan Marnane, Senior Executive Engineer Gillian Power, Jan Van Dijk and
Stephen Coy left the meeting at 16.15pm.

ITEM 1.

Confirmation of the Minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Annual Meeting held on the 22nd June 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr Gail Dunne, seconded by Councillor Paul O'Brien and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes of the Wicklow Municipal District Annual Meeting held on the 22nd June 2020.

ITEM 2.

Confirmation of the Minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 22nd June 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr Irene Winters and seconded by Cllr Shay Cullen and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Ordinary Meeting held on the 22nd June 2020.

ITEM 3.

To consider report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) in respect of the proposed construction of a group housing scheme consisting of three no 3 bed housing units at Ballinteskinn, Wicklow. The construction of a new entrance including a culvert of the stream, and the replacement of the pipes at the existing entrance with a new culvert.

The Chief Executives Report of July 2020 had been circulated to the members in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended; RE: Part VIII of the Planning

and Development Regulations 2001 – 2006 as amended, regarding the development of 3 no houses, Ballintekin, Wicklow.

Senior Executive Engineer Gillian Power presented the details of this proposed development to the members.

- 3 bungalows – 1 detached, 2 semi detached to be located beside the 8 existing bays.
- Units will match existing dwellings.
- Demand for accommodation at this site, and proposal aims at maximising development potential of site.
- Proposals are in accordance with the objectives of the County Development Plan and Traveller Accommodation Plan.
- Proposal includes measures to address flooding.
- 3 submissions received.

Comments/Queries.

- The members raised the issue of an existing agreement between WCC and local residents in which it was agreed to limit the number of units on the site to 6. It was felt that by voting to grant this Part 8, this would be renegeing on this agreement.
- It was stated that local Residents are very concerned with the proposal.
- Senior Engineer Declan Marnane explained to the members that the proposed 3 additional units would not be considered as an expansion of the original site, but would be a separate entity with its' own entrance.
- It was agreed that in order to make an informed decision on the Part 8, a request was made to seek further information and also seek legal advice on the agreement made previously.
- It was unanimously agreed to defer the vote on this Part 8, and convene a special meeting at a date to be decided.

ITEM 4.

Presentation from Tuath Housing in relation to a proposed housing scheme at Hillview, Wicklow Town.

Jan Van Dijk of Van Dijk Architects and Stephen Coy from Tuath Housing Association presented the details of this proposal to the members.

- Site located at entrance to Hillview Estate, steep topography, L shaped site of ½ ha.
- The proposal includes provision for 22 units (3 storey) - (6 apartments, 16 Duplex's), using a mix of durable and sustainable materials. All units will have dual aspect. Larger units to have outdoor space, with smaller units just a balcony.
- Proposed open space of 0.1166 ha proposed on upper part of site.
- Allocation of units to those on Wicklow County Council's housing waiting list.

Comments/Queries

- Apartments & Duplex units not suitable for Wicklow Town. – *Jan Van Dijk (Site topography and size not suitable for semi D's)*
- Concerns that further development would add to the already existing problem of anti social behaviour in this estate.

- Housing bodies reduce housing waiting list however add an extra layer of administration.
- Apartments tend to have problems with damp. – *Jan Van Dijk (current building regulations have resulted in higher standards with regards to apartments and damp will no longer be a problem).*
- This proposal may offer those who have raised their families an opportunity to downsize.
- Request made to set up a meeting with Tuath Housing Association and members with regards to antisocial behaviour at Glenbrook Estate NTMK.

ITEM 5.

To consider the passing of a resolution to appoint The Chapel in Clermont as an alternative location for the holding of the September Wicklow Municipal District Meeting to be held on Monday 28th September 2020 @ 3.00pm.

It was proposed by Cllr Gail Dunne and seconded by Cllr Shay Cullen and unanimously agreed to appoint The Chapel in Clermont as an alternative location for holding the September Wicklow Municipal District Meeting on Monday 28th September 2020.

ITEM 6.

Presentation to Pat Davis.

Local artist Pat Davis was honoured by Wicklow Municipal District for his work on decorating the pier walls with his colourful paintings, and was presented with €500 in Wicklow Town Vouchers towards the purchase of art materials and paint.

ITEM 7.

District Engineers Report.

Housing

- Work continuing on general maintenance and repairs.
- Technical support to WCC Housing Department:
 - Re-lets and emergency accommodation:
 - 7 standard.
 - 0 covid-19 self isolation.
 - 1 emergency accommodation.
 - 9 returned to WCC Housing Dept.
 - 2 have works continuing on site.
 - DPG's: 3 finished. 1 ready to start.
 - Part V: 0 houses snagged.

Roads and Footpaths:

2020 roads programme:

- Surface dressing programme. 19 roads done during past 2 weeks. List attached almost completed – weather dependent, should be finished by Wednesday 29th.
- Overlay jobs tender is being awarded this week with work commencing next month. List of jobs to be sent later this week.
- Glen Strand footpath repaired and overlaid with tar.
- Road opening licences (approx. 11) continue to be processed and agreed.
- 0 road closure applications processed.

Environment:

- OPW planning emergency repair works to the damaged rock armour/revetment at the Murrough behind the Recycling Centre. Possible September start date. More details closer to the time.
- Increased dumping and usage of bins around Wicklow Town is adding to work load.

Planning:

- Part 8 projects recently closed and awaiting decisions are Glenealy (2 units) and South Quay (Pontoon).
- Reports on applications and compliance with applications continue to be issued.
- Estate taking in charge reports and inspections continue with WCC staff.

Playgrounds:

- Ongoing maintenance and repairs.
- Repairs at Ashford awaiting part and Murrough sand starting this week.

Public Liability:

- 2 new cases (2 material damage, 0 personal injuries) and 0 settled/closed.

Discretionary Works:

- Maritime Project. Location being finalised then installation.
- Ballynerrin Lights. Installation complete and 3 others upgraded, awaiting ESB.

Outdoor Recreation:

- Reservoir Car Park. Site clearance complete. Ground works continuing.

Comments/Queries

- Update requested on lighting of historical buildings.
- Update requested on the replacement of the crossing on Dunbur Road as it is posing safety concerns.
- Surface dressing welcome.
- It was agreed to circulate the list of micro-surfacing and overlay projects to the members. District Engineer Kevin Scanlon advised the members that there are plans to overlay at some entrances to estates around the town, and carry out micro-surfacing on High Street and New Street.

ITEM 8.**Project Updates – Fitzwilliam Square/Library/Town & Village/Vartry Car Park.**

District Engineer Kevin Scanlon advised the members of the following.

Fitzwilliam Square: Good progress is being made on the Fitzwilliam Square project. 65% of roadworks are complete.

Library: This project is on target to be complete on schedule by the end of the year.

Town & Village: Works in NTMK almost complete. Elmore due to start installing new lighting mid/late August.

Vartry Car Park: Site cleared, and stone surfacing being brought in. It is anticipated to have the works complete by the end of August.

Comments/Queries

- A question was raised on the possibility of planting some small trees at the square. – *Kevin Scanlon to check with Margaret Hartnett and Tony Quirk Engineers overseeing this project.*
- A question was raised on the possibility of erecting a plaque on the railings surrounding Fitzwilliam Square giving some historical information.- *Kevin Scanlon to check with Margaret Hartnett and Tony Quirk Engineers overseeing this project.*
- Will there be a parking charge in the Vartry Car Park. – *Kevin Scanlon – free parking will be available.*

ITEM 9

Christmas Lights

A request was made by Wicklow Town & district Chamber of Commerce for funding towards this year's Christmas lights in the town. The members were broadly supportive of the proposal to provide funding, however they suggested the Wicklow Town Team should also be invited to support. It was agreed that District Administrator Joan Sinnott would write to both parties on this matter.

It was proposed by Cllr John Snell and seconded by Cllr Paul O'Brien and unanimously agreed by all the members to provide €20,000 to the Wicklow Chamber of Commerce towards the cost of the Christmas Lights for 2020.

ITEM 10.

Re-opening Committee Update.

District Manager Brian Gleeson informed the members that there was positive feedback with regards to the shop local promotional video. Information stickers have now been placed on all parking meters and social distancing stencil marks have been provided to many businesses around the town. At present there are a number of S254 applications received with regards to outdoor seating, and that it will be important to keep the message out there that Wicklow is open for business. He stressed the importance of local business applying for supports available for those affected by Covid 19 restrictions, including the business re start grant and rates waiver scheme.

ITEM 11.

2020 Discretionary Funding.

It was agreed to put this item on the Agenda for the September meeting. It was agreed that a progress report would be sent out to the members.

ITEM 12.

Correspondence.

No correspondence received.

ITEM 13.

A.O.B.

The members raised concerns with regards to the population targets for the County and in particular for the Wicklow District as set out in the County Development Plan. If the targets are to be met, it

would mean that development of housing would be severely restricted in the coming years which would be bad news for local people seeking to purchase a new home. It was decided to convene a meeting with officials in the Planning Department to discuss.

CATHAOIRLEACH JOHN SNELL CONCLUDED THE MEETING AT 5.15 PM

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed: _____
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dated: _____