

**MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING
MONDAY 28th SEPTEMBER 2020
THE CHAPEL, WICKLOW COUNTY CAMPUS, CLEREMONT HOUSE, RATHNEW.**

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

Apologies: Cllr Irene Winters.

In attendance: District Manager Brian Gleeson,
District Engineer Kevin Scanlon,
District Administrator Joan Sinnott,
Assistant Staff Officer Anne Marie Kelly,

Director of Services Joe Lane,
Senior Executive Engineer Helena Fallon,
Senior Executive Engineer Gillian Power,
Senior Executive Planner Edel Bermingham,
Administrative Officer Siobhan O'Brien,
Administrative Officer Merlin Ovington,
Myles Buchanan Wicklow People.

Cathaoirleach John Snell opened the meeting at 3.00 pm.

ITEM 1.

Confirmation of the Minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Meeting held on the 27th July 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 Meeting held on the 27th July 2020.

ITEM 2.

Confirmation of the Minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Special Meeting held on the 12th August 2020.

It was proposed by Cllr Mary Kavanagh and seconded by Cllr Shay Cullen and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Special Meeting held on the 12th August 2020.

ITEM 3.

To consider report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) in respect of the demolition of an existing dwelling house and construction of 2 no. 3 bed semi-detached houses and a domestic on site waste water treatment system at Blackhill Road, Ballykillavane, Glenealy.

Director of Services Housing & Corporate Estate Joe Lane presented the details of the Part 8 application to the members.

- 0.4 acre site.

- Demolish existing pre-1964 dwelling which is uneconomical to refurbish and construct 2 semi detached dwellings.
- Shared waste water treatment system with capacity for 2 dwellings (suitable for community type use).
- In accordance with Wicklow County Development Plan.
- One minor modification not included in CE's report being the omission of the red brick finish on the facade of the dwellings.

Observations

- Need for social houses in the rural area.
- Proposed dwellings located beside a narrow road.
- These houses cannot be sold due to the shared waste water treatment system.

The above was put to a vote by the members, and was passed by a margin of 3 votes for, 1 against, 1 abstaining and 1 not present that the Council proceed with the development as set out in the Chief Executives Report dated September 2020 and circulated to the members (with 1 minor amendment being the removal of the red brick on the front façade).

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| FOR | Cllr Mary Kavanagh, Cllr Shay Cullen, Cllr John Snell |
| AGAINST | Cllr Gail Dunne |
| ABSTAINING | Cllr Paul O'Brien |
| NOT PRESENT | Cllr Irene Winters |

Item 4 was put back until later in the meeting to allow Mr. Ovington time to arrive to give the presentation.

ITEM 5

To consider Material Contravention Report in accordance with Section 34 (6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) PRR 19/1017 for a 3 storey building as Phase 2 of the Wicklow Primary Healthcare Centre and Knockrobin/Glebe, Rathnew, Co. Wicklow.

Senior Executive Planner Edel Bermingham informed the members that planning permission is being sought for an extension to the existing Primary Healthcare Centre at Knockrobin/Glebe (pr 19/1017). The site is zoned for residential use as set out in the current County Development Plan, and therefore the granting of this application would result in a material contravention of the plan.

The above was put to a vote by the members and was passed unanimously to proceed with a material contravention of the County Development Plan 2013 – 2019 (objective R2) as set out in the Chief Executives Report dated 18th September 2020 and circulated to the elected members viz

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| FOR | Cllr Mary Kavanagh, Cllr Shay Cullen, Cllr John Snell, Cllr Gail Dunne, Cllr Paul O'Brien |
| AGAINST | 0 |
| ABSTAINING | 0 |
| NOT PRESENT | Cllr Irene Winters |

ITEM 6

To nominate a representative from Wicklow Municipal District to the Wicklow County Council Access and Inclusion Committee.

It was proposed by Cllr John Snell, seconded by Cllr Paul O'Brien and unanimously agreed to nominate Cllr Gail Dunne for the next 18 months with Cllr Mary Kavanagh taking over after that time.

ITEM 7

To consider the passing of a resolution to appoint The Chapel/Hall in Clermont as an alternative location for the holding of future Wicklow Municipal District Meetings.

It was proposed by Cllr Shay Cullen and seconded by Cllr Gail Dunne and unanimously agreed to appoint Wicklow County Campus, Clermont as an alternative location for the holding of future Wicklow Municipal District Meetings.

ITEM 8

District Engineers Report

Housing:

- Work continuing on general maintenance and repairs.
- Technical support to WCC-Housing Dept:
 - Re-lets and emergency accommodation:
 - 6 standard.
 - 1 emergency accommodation.
 - 8 returned to WCC Housing Dept.
 - 1 have works continuing on site.
 - 8 house purchases being finalised.
 - DPGs: 2 finished. 2 ready to start.

Roads and Footpaths:

- 2020 roads programme:
 - Surface dressing programme. Completed in early August.
 - Overlay programme awarded to Colas and Plazamont. Due to start next week.
- Church Hill temporary 1-way system (Covid fund) design finalised. Info letter to be sent to residents and businesses this week. Work commencing next week.
- Leg of Mutton junction footpath and bus improvements (NTA fund) commenced last week. Work ongoing at ducting and lighting.
- M11 to Ashford footpath improvements (NTA fund) starting tomorrow at M11 end.
- 2 other NTA fund projects (Laragh-Glendalough footpath improvements and Rocky Road footpath works) currently being assessed for procurement options.
- Wicklow Town Main Street 1-way (NTA fund) design complete. To be discussed with Members.
- Newtown footpath widening (NTA fund) design complete. Finalising details with NTA and procurement to follow.
- 2 Town & Village projects have been approved. Pedestrian traffic management in Laragh and Roundwood. Works to commence in coming weeks.
- There are 6 other roads/footpath project applications we are waiting on assessment.
- Road Opening Licences (approx. 9) continue to be processed and agreed.

Environment:

- OPW completed emergency repair works to the damaged rock armour/revetment at the Murrough behind the Recycling Centre.
- Works to Vartry River weir (Climate change fund) details agreed with IFI and works ongoing this week.

Planning

- Part 8 projects recently closed and awaiting decisions are Glenealy (2 units) and South Quay (Pontoon).

Playgrounds

- Ongoing maintenance and repairs.

Public Liability

- 1 new case (1 material damage, 0 personal injuries) and 0 settled/closed.

Discretionary Works:

- Separate report issued to be discussed.

Outdoor Recreation:

- Reservoir Car Park, Roundwood. Works virtually complete. Gates and fencing to be completed.

2020 Roads Programme-Overlay projects**Regional Roads**

R772 ASHFORD MAIN ST

R115 SALLYGAP

R765 SLAUGHTER

Local Roads

L5094 MONEYSTOWN-BALLYCULLEN

L1037 NEWTOWN TO ALTIDORE

L1037 SEASON PARK

L5106 BALLINTESKIN MARLTON TO T JUNCTION

L1059 LARAGH EAST TO DRUMMIN

L5713 HIGH STREET WICKLOW TOWN

L5601 BALLYNERRIN-ST PATRICKS ROAD

L51240 SEAVIEW HEIGHTS

L5715 UPPER NEW STREET WICKLOW TOWN

L1059 BALTYNANIMA

Comments/Queries

The members praised the staff of WMD for their success in securing funding from the NTA under their July Stimulus Plan which will allow for changes to traffic management arrangements to facilitate and improve facilities and safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

- Update required on LIS Shinnagh Lane – *Kevin Scanlon* - *Waiting on contractor.*
- Update required on completion of footpath between Ballinalea and Rathnew.

- Update required on pedestrian Crossing on Dunbur Road – *Kevin Scanlon – meeting with second contractor to get quote.*
- Update required on proposed footpath at Ashtown Lane – *Kevin Scanlon – Will give this to a contractor to complete.*
- Signage required to halt mountain-biking on the Cliff Walk, highly dangerous activity. – *Kevin Scanlon – Not sure if bikes can be banned on Cliff Walk will come back with options.*
- Town Team Parking Report is not being acted upon. – *Brian Gleeson – A response was furnished to the Town Team in relation to each of the proposals contained in the report. WMD is in ongoing discussions with the Team on specific proposals with a view to progressing actions where feasible and subject to funding constraints. It was pointed out that, for example, the proposed one way systems for Church Hill and Main Street are included in the report under the medium and long term objectives but are subject to the provision of NTA funding.*
- The members welcomed the works at the Leg of Mutton Junction, the Weir in Ashford and proposals for the junction at Lynhams Hotel Laragh.

ITEM 9

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

Fitzwilliam Square: Church and Bridge Street virtually complete. Works have started on lower level (pedestrian section). 7 trees removed from inside railing and being replaced with 4 new trees, with 5 additional trees being planted outside the railing. An information display will be placed at entrance.

Library: Progressing well. Works now focusing on entrance.

Town & Village: Traffic lights now operational at the Dunnes Stores Junction NTMK.

Vartry Car Park: Virtually complete. Gates and fencing still required.

Comments/Queries

- What species of trees will be planted at Fitzwilliam Square?
- Will the proposed information board at the entrance to the square contain historical information regarding the manufacture of the Victorian railings at Sheane's Foundary.

ITEM 4

To consider report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001 (as amended) in respect of the development of a floating pontoon and associated services at South Quay, Wicklow Town.

Administrative Officer Merlin Ovington presented the details of this Part 8 application to the members.

- Proposed pontoon 24 metres in length and aims to increase capacity and accessibility for smaller vessels in Wicklow Port, and will be located at

the quay near Wicklow Glass and Glazing.

- Pontoon designed to rise and fall with the tides.
- Screening for Appropriate Assessment was undertaken because of the pontoons proximity to the Murrough SAC. The screening report found that there would be no impact on the SAC from the proposed development.
- Proposal is consistent with County Development Plan for proper planning and development.

Observations

- This Pontoon is badly needed in Wicklow Port, will ease congestion and allow ease of access for the lifeboat currently moored at the Quay.

The above was put to a vote by the members, and was passed unanimously that the Council proceed with the development as set out in the Chief Executives Report dated September 2020 and circulated to the members viz.

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| FOR | Cllr Mary Kavanagh, Cllr Shay Cullen, Cllr John Snell, Cllr Gail Dunne, Cllr Paul O'Brien |
| AGAINST | 0 |
| ABSTAINING | 0 |
| NOT PRESENT | Cllr Irene Winters |

ITEM 10

2020 Discretionary Funding/NTA Funding.

District Engineer Kevin Scanlon outlined a proposal for a temporary one way system on Wicklow's Main Street. The one way system will run in a southerly direction, from AIB towards market square. It is proposed to reverse the current direction of the one way system on Fitzwilliam Road. Traffic wishing to travel north will have the option to divert onto the side streets or travel past the Dominican Convent and circumvent the town that way. Mr. Scanlon advised that it will be challenging to come up with solutions to address issues at the junctions on the side streets. The one way system can be 'tweaked' as time goes on. Cycle ways will be provided along with increased parking and loading bays along the Main Street.

Mr. Scanlon also informed the members of a proposal for a temporary one way system on Church Hill, with traffic moving from Whitegates towards Wentworth. The one way system will allow for widening of the footpaths and a 2 way cycle track. Information leaflets will be delivered to the residents in the coming days. The proposal is to trial the one way for a period of 4 months.

Comments/Queries

- Extra traffic will be generated on South Quay which is in a fragile condition, also can be issues navigating past the existing hardware shop located on the Quay.
- Concerns that traffic will be diverted on to residential streets.

- Need to consult and involve Town Team, Chamber of Commerce and other stakeholders – *Kevin Scanlon – NTA stipulates that consultation must take place before funding can be granted.*
- *The Members provided unanimous support for both of the proposed one way systems*
- It was requested if fellow members would consider providing funding from the discretionary budget to the town traders towards the purchase of umbrellas for customer use during the winter months. – *The members requested that more information be provided with regards to how much is needed and if match funding from the traders would be provided. It was agreed to discuss this further at the next meeting.*
- It was requested that the issue of footpath upgrade for the Town be included on the next Agenda under Discretionary Funding.
- It was unanimously agreed to defer discussions on the discretionary budget to the next monthly meeting. It was agreed to meet at the earlier time of 2.15pm pre the Ordinary MD meeting commencing at 3p.m.

The Members agreed to the allocation of €10,000 towards the upgrading of footpaths within Sycamore Drive in NTMK from their Discretionary Fund.

ITEM 11
Re-opening Committee Update.

It was unanimously agreed to defer this item to next months' Agenda.

ITEM 12
Correspondence.

District Administrator Joan Sinnott read aloud an email received from the residents of Carrig Court Estate, Rathnew in which they put forward a request to WMD to remove and clear a small area of green open space, in order to provide extra parking spaces in the Estate. Ms. Sinnott advised the members that it would cost approx. €5 to 6K.

Ms. Sinnott also read aloud an email received from TW Scott Golden in which he wished to raise an issue with illegal parking on the pavements in front of 'Sheemore' and Homesavers in the town. Such parking obstructs the view motorists exiting Glebe/Glebe Lane. In his email, he put forward some suggestions, being the installation of bollards on the footpath to prevent vehicles mounting and parking on them. He also suggests that a yellow box be painted at the junction of Glebe Lane and the Wicklow to Rathnew Road to allow for unobstructed entry and exist to residents of Glebe Lane.

ITEM 13.
AOB.

No issues or queries raised.

CATHAOIRLEACH JOHN SNELL CONCLUDED THE MEETING AT 5.05 PM

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed: _____
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dated: _____