

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES, GREYSTONES ON TUESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7.30 P.M.

Present: Councillor G. Walsh, Cathaoirleach
Councillors T. Fortune, N. Lawless, G. McLoughlin, D. Mitchell & J. Whitmore

Also Present: Mr. M. Nicholson, Greystones Municipal District Manager
Mr. R. O’Hanlon, Greystones Municipal District Engineer
Ms. M. Porter, Greystones Municipal District Administrator
Mr. E. Forristal, Executive Engineer, Greystones Municipal District
Ms. K. Coughlan, Greystones Municipal District

At the outset, a vote of sympathy was passed to Ms. Philomena Keane, School Warden, and her family, on the recent death of her father. A minutes silence was observed in remembrance of him.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor N. Lawless, seconded by Councillor D. Mitchell and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 25th July 2017, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2. PRESENTATION ON SECOND PHASE OF FARRANKELLY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Declan Marnane and Ms. Noelle Sweeney from the Wicklow County Council Housing Section to the meeting. Mr. Marnane & Ms. Sweeney gave a slide show presentation which showed details of the house types, layout and public facilities that were planned for phase two of the Farrankelly housing development. They pointed out that new footpaths and public lighting would be included, as well as a pedestrian route through to the bus stop on the R761, and they answered any questions from the members in relation to the development.

3. UPDATE ON GREYSTONES HARBOUR DEVELOPMENT

A meeting had taken place earlier in the evening with Mr. Tim Storey, the fishermen’s representative, at which issues with commercial moorings and related issues were discussed.

It was agreed that a report on nourishment of the north beach be circulated to the members and that Wicklow County Council be asked again to provide a copy of the Arup report on erosion.

At the earlier meeting it was agreed that Sisk would provide a list of what was offered to the fishermen and Tim Storey would provide a list of what the fishermen’s requirements were, for circulation to the members, and that a further meeting would be held on Tuesday 31st October 2017 at 6.30 p.m. in the Civic Offices, prior to the monthly meeting of Greystones Municipal District.

4. ARRANGEMENTS FOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

A meeting planned for earlier in the evening to discuss the Christmas Lights was postponed until 31st October 2017 at 6 p.m.

It was agreed that the Christmas lights would be turned on on Saturday 25th November. Councillor G. McLoughlin advised that the Greystones 2020 group were willing to organize the event again this year and that they would collect contributions from local businesses.

5. UPDATE ON PROVISION OF PUBLIC TOILETS AT THE HARBOUR, GREYSTONES

It was agreed that discussion on the expressions of interest submitted in relation to the provision of public toilets at the harbour be held in committee because of the commercially sensitive information being considered, so members of the public and the media were requested to leave the chamber.

Following discussion it was agreed that additional information be sought from the proposed developers before any decision was taken.

6. ALLOCATION OF 2017 DISCRETIONARY FUNDING

A report outlining agreed allocations to date had been emailed to the members in advance of the meeting together with a list of requests / other considerations for funding.

Following discussion it was agreed that the remainder of the public realm funding be allocated to implement the recommendations from last year's tree surveys and to cover any over-run on the Mill Lane and St. Crispin's projects already agreed.

It was also agreed to provide €2,000 to the Christmas Market group for a marquee at the harbour and a further €2,000 for a Battle of the Bands competition, subject to their submission of full details of last year's event.

Finally it was agreed to allocate a total of €10,000 to commence a programme of providing road name signs on all public roads.

7. REPORT FROM GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ENGINEER

A report on works carried out and planned in the district was circulated to the members and the District Engineer answered any queries from the members in relation to same.

Following discussion it was agreed that the following issues be referred to Wicklow County Council:

1. Parking on footpaths at Blacklion and Kenmare Heights
2. Cycle lane at Killincarrig
3. Drain clearing and repair of barriers on Charlesland Dual Carriageway
4. Footpath at Glenbrook Park
5. Works at The Breeches, Kilcoole.

8. NOTICES OF MOTION:

(a) Motion in the names of Councillors D. Mitchell & G. McLoughlin (deferred from July meeting):
“The Council should write to Irish Rail to ask them to ensure that diesel carriages they are about to order can have a selection of doors only open at short platform stations as in other commuter railways. This will enable longer diesel trains to serve Greystones and double the Wicklow train capacity which is standing room only at rush hour”.

Councillor D. Mitchell informed the members that he had already written to Irish Rail in relation to this matter and had received a reply from them advising that the new carriages would not be able to only have a selection of doors open at short platform stations.

Following discussion it was agreed that Councillor Mitchell would compose a further letter to Irish Rail outlining alternative options and that the District Administrator would forward same to Irish Rail on behalf of the Greystones MD members.

(b) Motion in the names of Councillors D. Mitchell & G. McLoughlin:
“The parking bye laws should be changed on Marine road to ban with appropriate fines, camper vans or other camping vehicles, from parking for more than 1 night there or in another part of Greystones. A night time stay should be defined for enforcement purposes as parking at 3 am”.

The District Administrator informed the members that she had made enquiries from a number of local authorities and that overnight parking by camper vans did not appear to be an issue elsewhere. She pointed out that there were currently two and four hour maximum parking limits in Greystones but that these were not enforced. She stated that if a decision was taken to enforce the limits, they would have to be enforced across the board and not just for camper vans.

Following discussion it was agreed that the District Administrator would contact Roscommon County Council to see how they enforced their ban on overnight parking by camper vans, and that the matter would be considered again at the October meeting of the Municipal District.

(c) Motion in the names of Councillors G. McLoughlin & D. Mitchell:
“That Greystones Municipal District requests that Larry Keegan, the developer who owns the land in the centre of Kilcoole, attends a meeting with the district Councillors to show his plans and vision for this crucial piece of infrastructure in the village prior to applying for planning permission”.

Following discussion on this motion it was agreed to invite Mr. Keegan to attend the October meeting of Greystones Municipal District.

(d) Motion in the names of Councillors G. McLoughlin & D. Mitchell:
“That Greystones Municipal District writes to Irish Rail to urgently request a shelter at the Kilcoole Train Station before winter sets in”.

Following discussion on this motion it was agreed to write to Irish Rail to request that they follow up on their commitment to provide a shelter at the Kilcoole railway station.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The District Administrator informed the members that letters had been received from Sr. Kathleen Lyng and Ms. Catherine Coveney thanking them for the presentations made to mark their retirements from St. Brigid's NS and St. Laurence's NS respectively.
2. The District Administrator informed the members of the contents of a report received from the Housing Section of Wicklow County Council outlining the position with regard to the re-housing of former residents of Fairfield Park in Greystones. It was agreed to circulate this report to the members. The members paid tribute to the housing staff for their efforts in this regard and asked that their appreciation be conveyed to them.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor G. McLoughlin thanked her fellow Councillors, Council staff, and everyone else involved in the presentation made to the judging panel for the Bank of Ireland Enterprise Town competition earlier in the day.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: _____
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

DATED THIS _____ DAY OF _____ 2017.