

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES,  
GREYSTONES ON TUESDAY 30<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2018 AT 7.30 P.M.**

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

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

Apologies from: Mr. R. O'Hanlon, Greystones Municipal District Engineer

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At the outset the District Administrator welcomed staff members from the Greystones MD office who were sitting in on the meeting.

The District Administrator informed the members that item three on the agenda, the election of Leas Cathaoirleach, would be deferred until the February meeting to comply with procedures as outlined in the Local Government Acts.

A vote of sympathy was proposed to the Gammell family on the recent death of James Gammell and it was agreed that a letter of condolences be sent to the family.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor N. Lawless, seconded by Councillor G. McLoughlin and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

**2. ELECTION OF CATHAOIRLEACH**

Councillor N. Lawless proposed that Councillor D. Mitchell be elected as Cathaoirleach for the remainder of the current term and this was seconded by Councillor G. McLoughlin.

As there were no other proposals, Councillor Mitchell was deemed elected. He thanked his fellow Councillors for electing him and paid tribute to Councillor G. Walsh for his work as Cathaoirleach during the past six months. He stated that he would like to progress the transport issues in the District during his term of office. He handed a letter tendering his resignation as Leas-Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District to the District Administrator.

All the other Councillors wished Councillor Mitchell well on his election and thanked Councillor Walsh for his term as Cathaoirleach.

On behalf of the staff of the Municipal District the District Manager also congratulated Councillor Mitchell on his election and paid tribute to Councillor Walsh for his work over the past six months.

**3. REPRESENTATIVES FROM GLENVEIGH PROPERTIES PLC**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Tony McLoughlin from Glenveigh Properties Plc. and Mr. Michael Hussey from O'Mahoney Pike, Architects to the meeting.

Mr. McLoughlin and Mr. Hussey outlined the proposals for the public park at the harbour and confirmed that there was no change to the size of the park. They also informed the members that it was proposed to reduce the number of houses in terrace twelve from twenty nine to twenty six. They pointed out that the houses would now be detached and semi-detached instead of terraced and that this would remove the requirement for an embankment along the railway line and resolve some Irish Water issues. They also confirmed that the stones removed from the old Gap Bridge would be re-used

for seating in the development. They pointed out that there would be approximately sixty five public parking spaces in that development area and circa three hundred public parking spaces in the whole development when completed. They also confirmed that they had been in contact with the Greystones Outdoors group and that they would discuss the requirements for the dog park with the campaign group. They stated that the boardwalk would not be open until the apartments were completed.

Following discussion the members sought clarification on the details of the public park play area that were included in the original plan for the harbour. They asked that they be circulated with a copy of the proposed plans for the park and that they be given a timeframe for the various phases of the development. They suggested that the timeframe should also be included on the website. Some members were critical of the public lighting in the plaza, and they all agreed that block 'D' of the development would be the focal point in the harbour and required an interesting architectural design.

In reply to a query from the District Administrator, Mr. T. McLoughlin stated that they would have no objections to the planting of memorial trees in the new park.

#### **4. REPRESENTATIVES FROM IARNROD EIREANN**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Jane Cregan and Mr. Chris Rafferty from Irish Rail to the meeting.

Mr. Rafferty confirmed that the Railway Station in Greystones would remain as a partially manned station with accessibility issues managed from the Bray station. He stated that it was not possible to have the station fully manned at this stage because of manpower issues but that it was hoped to have it fully manned at some point in the future. In reply to a query from the members he stated that the pedestrian gate opening into the La Touche Road car park should be open at all times.

Ms. Cregan stated that it was intended to rent out the commercial unit within the station. She pointed out that the perilous financial situation in Irish Rail had forced the company to look at options for maximizing revenue and so they had considered options for renting out the station. However, it was not now intended to proceed with that due to the huge opposition locally and negative feedback.

The members suggested that the entrance / exit to the station should be improved as there were long delays at peak times and they requested that additional ticketing machines and bike parking facilities be installed. They also requested that a shelter and ticketing machine be provided at the station in Kilcoole.

The Cathaoirleach referred to a transport plan that he had prepared and submitted to Irish Rail and he was invited by Mr. Rafferty to meet with him to discuss this document.

#### **5. MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT**

A report from the District Engineer listing a roundup of works carried out in 2017 had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting. The Executive Engineer answered queries from the members in relation to same.

Following discussion, it was agreed to ask the District Engineer for a report on the Ballyronan Road for the February meeting.

#### **6. 2018 ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE**

Councillor G. McLoughlin informed the members that arrangements for this year's parade were progressing well and she highlighted the need for stewards to help out on the day. She pointed out that a troupe of Sea Cadets from Holyhead was travelling over for the parade together with some officials and members from the Holyhead Round Table. She stated that the troupe were having difficulty in securing permission from the Department of Foreign Affairs to wear their full uniform for the parade and she proposed that the MD write to the Ministers to seek this permission. This was agreed.

Following discussion it was also agreed that the Holyhead Council officials be invited to sit on the Reviewing Stand for the parade and that arrangements be made to host them on the evening of the 17<sup>th</sup> March.

**7. NOTICES OF MOTION:**

There were no notices of motion for consideration.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. The District Administrator informed the members that a Civic Reception would be held in Greystones Golf Club on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February to honour the achievements of local golfer, Paul Dunne.
2. The District Administrator informed the members that submissions on the 2018 Newtownmountkennedy Local Area Plan could be made up to the 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2018. The members requested that they be supplied with a hard copy of the plan.
3. The District Administrator informed the members that the Public Participation Network had produced a handbook on funding available and wished to launch this prior to the monthly MD meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> May. It was agreed that this launch should take place at 6.30 p.m. on that evening.

**9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

1. The District Manager informed the members that the Boundary Commission was currently inviting submissions on its review of boundaries in the County.
2. The District Manager informed the members that the County Wicklow People of the Year Awards would be held this year in the Glenview Hotel, Delgany on Friday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2018. He suggested that since the County Wicklow event was being held in the Greystones Municipal District, the MD should not hold separate district awards this year. Following discussion the members agreed to go ahead with Greystones District Awards in 2018.
3. Councillor J. Whitmore showed the members plans of the proposed new playground for the south beach in Greystones which will be the most inclusive playground in the country with special features to cater for all needs.
4. Following discussion, the members agreed to send the following notice of motion for consideration at the County Council meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018: "That the Council fully supports parents, students and staff of Coláiste Ráithín to have the new school opened immediately and calls on the Minister for Education to have an interim solution to allow students to access the school immediately".

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: \_\_\_\_\_

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

DATED THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2018.