

Minutes of Greystones Municipal District Meeting held in Civic Offices, Greystones on Tuesday 31st March, 2015 at 7.30 p.m.

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

Also Present: Mr. M. Nicholson, Greystones District Manager
Ms. M. Porter, Meetings Administrator
Mr. R. O'Hanlon, Greystones District Engineer
Ms. K. Coughlan, Meetings Secretary

Apologies from: Councillor J. Whitmore

At the outset the members passed a vote of sympathy to the family of Anne Nolan from Willow Grove and Jackie Lewis from Bray who died recently. A minutes silence was observed in remembrance of them.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

It was proposed by Councillor G. Walsh, seconded by Councillor D. Mitchell and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 24th February 2015, as circulated, be adopted and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2. Schedule of Municipal District Works for Greystones

Details of the schedule of municipal district works for Greystones had been circulated to the members in advance of the meeting together with a list of suggested projects for the NPPR allocation of €84,375, a programme of road restoration and improvement works for 2015 and a letter from the District Manager.

During the course of the discussion on the matter, members stated that they would have liked to see a breakdown of the funds available to all the municipal districts stating that residents of the Greystones district were contributing substantially more in property tax than elsewhere in the county and that the allocations should reflect this. All members were dissatisfied with the amount allocated to the Greystones municipal district.

In relation to the allocation of the NPPR funding the members agreed that each Councillor should submit their suggestions to the District Administrator within the next ten days and that a decision be made on that at the April meeting. Members asked that they be consulted on the preparation of the next five year plan for road restoration and improvement works.

At the suggestion of the District Administrator it was agreed to consider notice of motion (a) as follows at this point because it would have an impact on the budget if agreed as it costs circa €12,500 per annum to employ a warden:

Motion in the names of Councillors D. Mitchell & G. McLoughlin:
'The Council should provide 2 Road Crossing Wardens at Blacklion for the 3 new schools'

The District Engineer informed the members that he would have reservations about the safety of a school warden at this location and in his opinion the employment of a warden would be hazardous having regard to the road width. He stated that conditions of the planning permission for the schools required a Traffic Management Plan involving the three schools that could not be fully assessed until the new school was opened and operating. He pointed out that the Planning Section of Wicklow County Council had written to the schools in this regard.

Following discussion it was agreed to assess the situation during the coming months and if deemed necessary to apply for sanction from the Department of the Environment to employ two School Wardens for this location and consider funding options for next year. In the interim it was suggested that the possibility of redeploying one of the existing School Wardens to this location be considered.

A vote was then taken on the schedule of municipal district works as presented and the members voted as follows: in favour – Councillors N. Lawless, G. McLoughlin, D. Mitchell & G. Walsh; against – Councillor T. Fortune.

It was agreed that €5,500 be allocated to Greystones Tidy Towns, €2,500 be allocated to Kilcoole Tidy Towns, €2,000 be allocated to Newcastle Tidy Towns, €2,000 be allocated to Delgany Tidy Towns and €1,200 be allocated to the Greystones Rugby 7s from the Economic Development and Promotion budget of €2,000. It was further agreed that circa €1,200 be allocated to cover the shortfall in the cost of the St. Patrick's Day Parade from the Tourism Development and Promotion budget of €5,000.

3. Progress report on Greystones Harbour Development

Ms. M. Porter circulated a progress report on the Greystones harbour development and read it to the members.

Following discussion on the report the members asked for more details on the specific options for landing and berthing facilities for local fishermen. They also asked that the mechanism for the proposed land transfers from the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) Company should stipulate that all public works in each phase should be completed before the next phase is released rather than in advance of the release of the final phase.

Members also asked for a plan of the clubhouse construction programme showing finishes, etc. as well as an update on progress on securing a new partner and timescale for works, etc. in advance of the April meeting.

Finally members nominated Councillors D. Mitchell and G. Walsh to represent the Greystones Municipal District as Directors on the SPV Company.

4. Report from Greystones District Engineer

A progress report on NTA and Department of Transport projects as well as other works was circulated to the members and the District Engineer answered any queries from the members in relation to same.

Members asked that this report be emailed to them as well as the plans and submissions made in relation to the Delgany Village Improvement scheme.

The District Engineer informed the members that he had requested that the bus stop at Blacklion be stepped back as a condition of the McDonalds planning application if granted and that some minor works would be carried out at the junctions on St. Vincent Road.

Councillor D. Mitchell stated that the Burnaby Residents Association were very keen to keep the old granite kerbstones in place in the Burnaby.

5. Notices of Motion:

- (a) Motion in the names of Councillors D. Mitchell & G. McLoughlin:
'The Council should provide 2 Road Crossing Wardens at Blacklion for the 3 new schools'

This notice of motion had already been dealt with in conjunction with item 2 on the agenda.

- (b) Motion in the name of Councillor G. Walsh:
"That this council look at the existing layout at the junction of Lower Green and Main Street, Kilcoole. Residents of Lower Green have been experiencing difficulty exiting onto Main Street safely due to vehicles being parked there both legally and illegally in both directions, close to the junction."

The District Engineer informed the members that the four parking spaces at this junction were put in place, following a lot of public consultation and representations, as part of the Main Street improvement works carried out in recent years. He stated that any proposal to remove parking spaces to improve visibility at the junction would have to include all four spaces from a technical point of view and would require further public consultation as it would have an impact on both residential and commercial premises in the vicinity.

6. Correspondence

1. The District Administrator referred to correspondence circulated from the Bray Area Partnership and following discussion it was agreed to invite representatives from the Group to attend the May monthly meeting. It was further agreed to start the May meeting at 7.00 p.m. Members asked that the Group be requested to include proposals for funding in their presentation and to submit details of projects undertaken in Bray in the past two years so that they could get a feel for what the Partnership is about.
2. The District Administrator informed the members that it was hoped to introduce Pay Parking by Phone in Greystones in early May and she enquired if they would like the operator to give a presentation on the details at the April meeting. This was agreed.
3. The District Administrator informed the members of a 'Wings for Life' event that would take place in the district on 3rd May in aid of spinal cord injury research.
4. The District Administrator informed the members of a request from the Wicklow Pride Group to purchase and display flags in the area and to paint a pedestrian crossing in rainbow colours to mark Wicklow Pride Day that will take place in Arklow

during the summer. The District Engineer informed the members that it was illegal to paint pedestrian crossings as requested.

5. The District Administrator informed the members that following the last meeting sponsorship had been sought from The Wicklow Times as requested for the presentation pieces for People of the Year Awards. She also pointed out that the suitability and availability of a venue within the district for such an event had been looked at. She stated that she had not received confirmation from the Wicklow Times that they would sponsor the presentation pieces but that the Greystones Golf Club had expressed their willingness to cater for the event at a reasonable cost.

Following discussion on this matter it was agreed that the Municipal District proceed with People of the Year Awards on Thursday 28th May 2015 in the Greystones Golf Club and that the association with the Wicklow Times be continued. It was also agreed that the District Administrator and the Cathaoirleach would meet with The Wicklow Times regarding same.

7. Any Other Business

1. Councillor G. McLoughlin asked that planning lists for the Greystones Municipal District be circulated to the members each month so that large planning applications in the district could be discussed.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____

Meetings Administrator

Dated: _____