

## Minutes of Greystones Municipal District Meeting, held in Civic Offices, Greystones on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014.

### **Present:**

Cllrs. Tom Fortune, Nicola Lawless, Gráinne McLoughlin, Derek Mitchell, Gerry Walsh, Jennifer Whitmore  
Eddie Sheehy, Chief Executive, Wicklow County Council  
Bryan Doyle, Director of Services,  
Christine Flood, Senior Executive Officer  
Myra Porter, Meetings Administrator,  
Anne Marie Roberts, Assistant Staff Officer,

**Apologies:** Joe Lane, Director of Services/Municipal District Manager

Myra Porter opened the meeting by welcoming the new Members to the first annual meeting of the new Greystones Municipal District and requested nominations for Cathaoirleach.

### **1. Election of Cathaoirleach.**

It was proposed by Cllr. Gráinne McLoughlin and seconded by Cllr. Nicola Lawless that Cllr. Tom Fortune be elected as Cathaoirleach of the Greystones Municipal District. As there were no other nominations received, Cllr. Tom Fortune was elected as Cathaoirleach of the Greystones Municipal District.

Cllr. Fortune thanked his fellow councillors and expressed his delight at his nomination and election as Cathaoirleach and stated that he is looking forward to working with councillors and staff. He also welcomed the changes as part of Local Government Reform and is looking forward to facing the challenges ahead with everyone working together for the betterment of the Greystones Municipal District.

### **2. Election of Leas-Cathaoirleach**

It was proposed by Cllr. Gerry Walsh and seconded by Cllr. Jennifer Whitmore that Cllr. Gráinne McLoughlin be elected as Leas-Cathaoirleach for the Greystones Municipal District. As there were no other nominations, Cllr. McLoughlin was elected Leas-Cathaoirleach of the Greystones Municipal District.

Cllr. McLoughlin thanked the members for her nomination and election and stated she is also looking forward to the year ahead and to working with her fellow councillors and staff for the betterment of the Greystones Municipal District.

### **3. Adoption of Standing Orders**

Myra Porter referred to the standing orders which were previously circulated with the Agenda for this meeting and informed the Members that there were further minor amendments made to Municipal District Standing Orders which would standardise them across the five M.D areas, which will be circulated to members. Ms. Porter recommended that this matter be deferred until the July meeting to allow members time to consider the revised standing orders. Members raised some queries regarding some of the items in the standing orders which were circulated, in particular items relating to reserved functions and exclusion of Members. Ms. Flood clarified the items in question for the Members in answer to their queries.

At this point in the meeting Mr. Bryan Doyle gave the Members an overview of the new Municipal Districts functions, budgetary processes, Irish Water and proposed staff changes within Greystones. He also took queries from Members regarding same and welcomed further contact from them in the coming weeks with any queries they may have.

Mr. Sheehy also provided the Members with a verbal update on the budgetary process and the proposed training for Members in relation to the adoption of the Municipal District and Council budgets. Mr. Sheehy also stressed to the Members that there was a lot of work for the Members to undertake in the coming 6 months regarding adoption of budgets and many other plans for Wicklow Co Co. Regarding the adoption of the 2015 budget Mr. Sheehy strenuously pointed out to the Members that prior to the adoption of same, it was important to note that if any reduction in Local Property Tax is proposed that this shortfall will not be made up by the Department.

It was agreed by the Members that the Adoption of Standing Orders could be put on the agenda for the July meeting of the Municipal District for consideration and adoption and that the revised document would be circulated to the Members in advance of that meeting.

### **4. Schedule of Meetings**

Myra Porter stated that the date and time of meetings set out in the in the standing orders circulated was a suggestion and that it was up to the Members to agree the schedule at this meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr. Gráinne McLoughlin and seconded by Cllr. Nicola Lawless that the meetings of the Greystones Municipal District would be held on the last Tuesday of every month between 7.30pm and 9.30pm. This was agreed by the Members. It was also agreed that there would be no meeting in the month of August.

It was also agreed that, if required, a separate meeting could be held in early September 2014 to discuss the Municipal District Budget for 2015.

### **5. To Nominate Members to the following Committees:**

Myra Porter referred to the active Committees of the former Greystones Town Council and advised that there must be a minimum of 3 members on each of the two proposed but advised that there can only be 3 of the Greystones Municipal District Members on the Bray/Greystones Cliff Walk Management Committee. There will be 3 members from the Bray Municipal District on this committee also.

(a) **Town Twinning Committee** – it was agreed by the Members that further discussion on this committee was required and that it would be put on the Agenda for the July Meeting

(b) **Community Affairs Committee**

It was proposed by Cllr. Gerry Walsh and seconded by Cllr. Jennifer Whitmore that Cllrs. Tom Fortune, Gráinne McLoughlin & Nicola Lawless be elected to the Community Affairs Committee. This was agreed by the Members and it was further agreed that the remaining Municipal District Members would assist the Community Affairs Committee as required.

(c) **Bray/Greystones Cliff Walk Committee**

It was proposed by Councillor Nicola Lawless and seconded by Cllr. Gráinne McLoughlin that Councillors Derek Mitchell, Gerry Walsh and Jennifer Whitmore be elected to the Cliff Walk Committee. This was agreed.

At this stage the floor was opened up to Municipal District Members for questions to Mr. Doyle, Mr. Sheehy & Ms. Flood. Members asked questions relating to Joint Policing Committees, Chain of Office, Logo's/Crests, Social Media. Mr. Sheehy, Mr. Doyle & Ms. Flood answered their questions and were informed that some of their items will have to be referred to the Corporate Policy Group for consideration and decision. They also again welcomed further contact from the Members in the coming weeks with any queries they may have and provided them with email addresses to contact them.

Mr. Doyle informed the Members that it was important to note that all agenda's and minutes would be issued to the Members via email. The Corporate Policy Group will consider requirements for mobile phones and electronic tablets.

Cllr. Tom Fortune closed the meeting by thanking the Members once again for electing him as Cathaoirleach and the staff for their attendance and assistance. He again reiterated that he was looking forward to the challenges ahead and to working with everyone.

The next meeting is at 7.30pm in Greystones Civic Offices on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2014

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson Meetings Administrator

Date: \_\_\_\_\_