

MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING

MONDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2016 AT 3:00 P.M.

WURZBURG ROOM, COUNTY BUILDINGS

PRESENT: Cathaoirleach John Snell, Councillors Gail Dunne, Daire Nolan and Shay Cullen.

IN ATTENDANCE: District Manager, Joe Lane; District Administrator, David Porter; A/District Engineer, Alan Martin; Assistant Staff Officer, Catherine McCann.

APOLOGIES: Councillors Irene Winters and Mary Kavanagh.

Cathaoirleach John Snell opened the meeting at 3:07 p.m.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD ON 29th November, 2016.

It was proposed by Cllr. Daire Nolan and seconded by Cllr. Shay Cullen and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District meeting held 29th November, 2016.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Alan Martin presented the District Engineer's Report:

Up-date on Coastal Protection Works

The works are now substantially complete. There are some smaller works, for example, the lifting holes on pre-cast concrete slabs need to be sealed and the railings on the steps to the beach are being fabricated at present. Grass seed has been sown and the fencing has been taken down.

Glendalough Laragh Public Lighting

Mr. Martin informed the Members that the lighting columns have been delivered and the lanterns are expected to arrive early in the New Year. It is proposed to raise the columns and lanterns, at the same time, this will take approximately 3 days.

The Members expressed concern over the width of kerbing on the road towards the Brockagh Centre. The Members requested that the A/Engineer ensure the Municipal District was satisfied with the kerbing as there was unease, in general, with regard to buses turning up at the Brockagh Centre.

Newtownmountkennedy public lighting on R772 near Coillte Office

Mr. Martin advised the Members that the Municipal District are expecting the delivery of lanterns for this Scheme this week and he estimated that works should be completed by January 2017.

Up-date on Discretionary Fund Footpath Works

Regarding the construction of the footpath at Centra, Rathnew, the A/District Engineer informed the Members that ESB Networks have moved the mini-pillar this week and works on the footpath are now complete.

The Cathaoirleach complimented the direct labour crew for their excellent work on constructing the footpath. The footpath had made a huge difference to the area and was already getting a lot of use. He reminded the meeting that the original estimated costs for the footpath were high. He asked if the District Administrator could elaborate on what the actual costs involved were. Mr. Porter advised the Members that the original estimated cost for construction of the footpath was €52,000 and that the works were going to be completed for considerably less. As all the final costs are not available e.g. the ESB the current out-turn is estimated to be €38,000-€40,000. This would represent a saving of approximately €12,000.

Laragh-Glendalough NTA Funding

Mr. Martin informed the Members that all works would be finished this week.

Review of Parking Bye-Laws

The District Administrator informed the Members that a draft copy of the parking bye-laws and Schedules had already been circulated to each Member. He said the main item for the Wicklow members to discuss was the Schedule applicable to Wicklow Town and pointed out that the bye-laws would be listed as an item on the Agenda for the January meeting. Mr. Porter proposed that the Parking Bye-Laws should be discussed and decided by the Members at the Municipal District Meeting scheduled for 23rd January 2016.

The issue of income from parking and, in particular, car parks in Wicklow Town was raised by the Members. The District Administrator advised that 57% of income was from car parking with 43% of the income being generated by on street parking e.g. Abbey Street and Church Street produced approximately 40% of the total income. The remaining smaller car parks generated between two to three per cent each of the total income.

Mr. Porter asked Members to make any submissions or raise any concerns in relation to the Parking Byelaws before the next District meeting.

The Members requested a breakdown of on-street parking in Wicklow Town. Mr. Porter confirmed he would provide the Members with a percentage breakdown for on-street car parking at the next meeting.

The District Administrator advised the Members that he would also provide a breakdown of the location and type of offence for the member's information.

Estate Development Grants

Mr. Porter advised that 24 applications had been received for Estate Development Grants and that funding of €8000 is available for distribution. More detailed forms have been circulated to

Residents' Associations and allocation of the Grant will be placed on the Agenda for the next Wicklow Municipal District Meeting.

Wicklow Hospice

The Cathaoirleach advised the meeting that, following consultation, with the Wicklow Hospice Committee, it was decided to approach each Municipal District with a view to trying to secure €10,000 from each District for the Hospice. This suggestion was presented to the Protocol Committee in a bid to raise €50,000 for the hospice. The hospice will benefit County Wicklow not just Wicklow Town. In addition, the Wicklow Hospice Sub-Committee, made up of five County Councillors, proposes to hold a fund raising night in the Newtown Park Hotel on Friday 7th April 2017. Each public representative will have a responsibility for selling a certain number of tickets.

The Members present unanimously agreed to contribute €10,000 to Wicklow Hospice.

The Cathaoirleach congratulated the Members of the sub-committee for their support and endorsement of this worthy cause.

Correspondence

The District Administrator, Mr. David Porter, advised the Members that an application from the Network of Cities with Lakes had been received from a group in Greece regarding twinning. He informed the Members that this particular application was not specifically appropriate to Wicklow Municipal District but may be more properly dealt with by Wicklow County Council and the application has been referred to the Protocol Committee for their consideration.

Flag South-East Programme

David Porter informed the Members that two projects from Wicklow Port had been included in the initial application for funding.

Glor na Casca 1916 Commemoration

The Wicklow Municipal District received a letter from Patrick Power seeking a donation for attending the Wicklow 1916 Commemorations in full period costume. Mr. Porter made the Members aware that Mr. Power's application had been unsuccessful under the 1916 Commemorative Grants Scheme. The District Administrator was informed by the 1916 Steering Group that all funds were now allocated. The members requested that the 1916 committee be asked to reconsider the application from Mr. Owens and Mr. Power as they had attended virtually all 1916 events throughout the County. The District Administrator agreed to contact the 1916 committee again.

The Members congratulated the Cathaoirleach and the District Administrator for organising the recent unveiling of the Monument at Leitrim Place.

Vartry River Protection Society

The Cathaoirleach raised the issue of the proposed Roundwood Water Treatment Works. The Vartry River Protection Society recently held a meeting and conveyed their interest in addressing the Members prior to the full Council Meeting regarding an Irish Water planning application for the new

Treatment Works in Roundwood. Wicklow County Council granted planning permission to Irish Water for the new plant. The Vartry River Protection Society has appealed the decision to An Bord Pleanala. Currently, there are 15 million litres of water per day going into the river, should Irish Water's application be successful, this would result in a significant reduction of flow per day into the river, i.e. 5 million litres .

Councillor Pat Kavanagh

The Cathaoirleach paid his respects to former Councillor Pat Kavanagh who passed away a year ago. He also sympathised and conveyed his best wishes to all her family.

The Cathaoirleach also wished the staff and Members a very Happy Christmas.

The meeting closed at 3.45 p.m.

SIGNED: _____

SIGNED: _____

DATED: _____