

**MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT  
MEETING  
MONDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE 2015 3.20PM  
TOWN HALL**

**Present:** Cathaoirleach Irene Winters, Councillors Daire Nolan, Shay Cullen, Pat Kavanagh, John Snell, Pat Casey.

**In attendance:** District Manager Loraine Lynch, District Administrator David Porter, District Engineer Paul Byrne, Administrative Officer Jackie Carroll, Community Culture and Social Development, Clerical Officer Caroline Lynch.

**Cathaoirleach Irene Winters** opened the meeting and following a request from Cllr Kavanagh it was agreed to discuss the item on the allocation of tourism funding first.

#### **ALLOCATION OF TOURISM FUNDING**

It was asked where the allocation came from for the Vartry River walk.

Cllr. Shay Cullen provided an explanation. He advised the Members that the funding came from the "NPPR funding". As approved at the Annual Budget Meeting. The allocation will be used to upgrade the walks around the Vartry Reservoir. The proposal was put forward to the SPC who agreed to the allocation. There are four other projects, one in each of the Municipal Districts. This will be hugely beneficial to the Roundwood area. It will increase the walk from 10 km to 30 km. The work will commence shortly and there will be four TUS workers employed.

It was remarked that it was not known this money was available. It was suggested that perhaps the executive from the SPC's would write to the District Administrators advising them of all funding opportunities as they arise. The Members were in support of this and the project and congratulated Cllr. Cullen on securing the funding. The members requested that the process for submission and funding of projects be clarified.

#### **CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> MAY 2015**

Proposed by Cllr. John Snell. Seconded by Cllr. Pat Casey.

## ENGINEER'S REPORT

Paul Byrne presented the District Engineer's Report.

- Railing to direct pedestrians at Merrymeeting:  
Paul Byrne advised that this will be done.
- TUS workers refused entry at Glenealy Graveyard:  
Mr. Byrne advised he is unaware who gave this instruction. Following enquiries it appears that it was none of his staff. Mr. Byrne suggested that if the situation reoccurs then he should be contacted with the name of the person involved.
- St. Joseph's Road, Newtown:  
Mr. Byrne advised that this will be put on the list to be looked at.
- Relocate bin and sign at Black Castle:  
Mr. Byrne is unsure where the litterbin and sign can be relocated to. The bins are used a lot as it is next to the car park and picnic area. He suggested visitors go the other side of the arches to take photos. There is a parking machine there too however that would be too costly to move. He agreed to keep it on the agenda.
- Street Cleaning:  
Mr. Byrne advised this is done on a regular basis. The Members pointed out that some residents are using the bins to dispose of household waste.
- Rumble Strips at Cunningham's Corner:  
Mr. Byrne advised that Declan Marnane is in favour of this however it is necessary to monitor the speed for a period, and then if speeds are reduced Mr. Byrne will look at removing the rumble strips by the end of the year.
- Laneway in Newtown – trench:  
Mr. Byrne advised that it is unclear if this is a private or public road. Also it has to be clarified whether it is in the Greystones Municipal District area.
- Bus shelters/stops:  
Mr. Byrne advised a letter is to issue to Bus Eireann.

Cllr. Pat Kavanagh left meeting at 3.49 p.m.

The following issued were raised by the Members:

- Plants planted by Tidy Towns volunteers have been stolen.
- Footpaths in Wicklow Town – it was proposed that the granite kerbing be restored.
- Small section of footpath Colley Row – cut back the hedging.

- District Engineers list of works for road and footpath repairs.  
Mr. Byrne advised that he has a list of projects that the Municipal District surveyed. The Members asked for concrete figures for the next meeting and it was suggested that the Council is not aggressive enough in seeking funding from bodies like the NTA and NRA.
- Footpath to Clermont campus.
- Bramble Glade has not received their sign. Mr. Byrne advised that Housing Department have not released the funding.

It was suggested that any queries the Members wish to raise should be emailed to David Porter, Paul Byrne or the office. If the matter has not been addressed it can then be discussed in detail at the next meeting.

## **REDUCTION OF SPEED LIMITS WITHIN CERTAIN HOUSING ESTATES**

David Porter advised of a list of estates where the reduction of the speed limit is being considered. He had previously circulated maps and a covering letter from the Roads Dept. with the Agenda. The Members had previously suggested five estates in the district. The Members asked the following:

- Who will enforce the speed limit?
- Can it be done if the road is not taken in charge by the Council?
- Can all estates be included?

David Porter advised that this is the start of the process. Bye-laws will have to be changed. It was agreed to direct these queries to the Roads Dept.

## **PRIDE OF PLACE – PRESENTATION BY JACKIE CARROLL**

Jackie Carroll gave a brief update on this matter.

Wicklow Town has been nominated for “Pride of Place”. The adjudicators have accepted an invitation to visit Wicklow Town on Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2015 during the Taste of Wicklow festival. There will be a formal presentation in the Parochial Hall where a short film will be shown. They will be given a tour of the town – An Tairseach Ecology Centre, CEART, the skate park, Slí na Slainte trail, the heritage trail, Kilmantin Arts. Ms. Carroll acknowledged the assistance of the Chamber of Commerce. She asked if the Cathaoirleach or Leas Cathaoirleach could be present. It was agreed Cllr. John Snell would attend on Sunday. Cathaoirleach Irene Winters would be available on Monday in Tiglin.

The Members thanked Ms. Carroll. Ms. Carroll left the meeting at 4.31 p.m.

## **PARKING SURVEY REPORT**

David Porter advised the Members that Martin Cook is working with Christine Flood on this report. He advised that 60% of responses were from Wicklow Town.

He gave a brief overview of the draft report and advised the members that any changes to the parking arrangements could have an impact on the WMD budget. He informed the Members that the report will be circulated when it has been completed. Some Members were not aware of the 15 minutes grace period for parking in a loading bay.

The Members feel parking is an important part of the rejuvenation of town centres and the parking regulations should be consistent throughout the County. The members requested that this issue be included on the next agenda for a full discussion.

### **STREET CLEANING BUDGET**

Lorraine Lynch advised that there has been a reduction of €15,968 in the 2015 Street Cleaning budget and this is an item for consideration in the 2016 budget.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

David Porter advised of correspondence from the OPW acknowledging the application for funding in relation to coastal erosion and the issues in Glendalough cemetery.

### **AOB**

Votes of Sympathy were passed for the following and a minutes silence was observed:

Donal Kavanagh

The Members suggested votes of sympathy were given in advance of the meeting to be read out at the end of each meeting.

The meeting closed at 4.43p.m.

**SIGNED:**

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**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

**SIGNED:**

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**DATE:**

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