

MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING

MONDAY 25th FEBRUARY 2019 AT 3PM

DISTRICT CHAMBER, TOWN HALL

Present: Cathaoirleach Daire Nolan, Councillors Gail Dunne, Shay Cullen, John Snell

In attendance: District Manager Brian Gleeson, District Administrator Joan Sinnott, District Engineer Kevin Scanlon,

Cathaoirleach Daire Nolan opened the meeting at 3.09pm.

Councillor Irene Winters joined the meeting at 3.12p.m.

Councillor Mary Kavanagh joined the meeting at 3.16p.m.

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES FROM THE WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING HELD 28th JANUARY 2019

It was proposed by Councillor Shay Cullen, seconded by Councillor John Snell and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District meeting held on 28th January 2019.

DISCRETIONARY FUND 2019

It was proposed by Councillor Shay Cullen, seconded by Councillor Irene Winters and agreed to approve the following projects for funding from the 2019 Discretionary Fund:

- Clearing the broken weir in Ashford – estimated cost €10,000
- Refurbishment of public toilet in Roundwood – estimated cost €20,000
- Replacement and improvements to footpaths in the estates of Sycamore Drive and Mountainview Drive Newtownmountkennedy – estimated €10,000
- Provision of footpath from Hawkstown Road junction to Rugby Club – estimated cost €20,000
- Improvements to Church car park in Glenealy and upgrade of paths and lining near school – estimated cost €10,000
- Maritime project for quay (placing artefacts and install signs) – estimated cost €6,000
- Repair and Improve lighting at Ballynerrin playground – estimated cost €5,000
- Wildflower planting on the Murrough (biodiversity planting along the back of the outdoor gym) – estimated cost €3,000
- Clear and widen footpath from Kidzone to Glebemount – estimated cost €5,000
- Pedestrian crossings at Brittas Bay Caravan Park Sites (3) – estimated cost €15,000
- Provision and improvement of existing footpath from Rosanna roundabout to Ballinalea, Ashford – estimated cost €20,000

- Planting, benches and landscaping Sinnott's Corner green area in Roundwood – estimated cost €7,000
- Traffic calming in Laragh – estimated cost €6,000
- Provision of footpath at Merrymeeting, Rathnew – estimated cost €10,000
- Resurface Seaview Heights Estate, Rathnew (overlay with 50mm tarmac) – estimated cost €12,000
- Contribution to Tidy Towns, Wicklow €5,000 and €1,000 each to Roundwood, Ashford, Newtownmountkenedy, Laragh, Glenealy and Rathnew – total €11,000
- Town Team Website – estimated cost per annum €1,500

The Members were in agreement with the Proposed Footpaths and IPB Hazard Reduction Works for 2019 as circulated with the exception of Item No. 1. It was agreed to remove this item and all were in favour of all other works listed.

The Members expressed disappointment that the Black Castle area was not receiving the attention that it should. It was felt that as an important part of Wicklow's heritage it should be better maintained and made wheelchair accessible with better signage.

The District Administrator advised that she had received an update from the Wicklow Tidy Towns which stated that they sincerely regretted the delays being experienced in completing the final reconstructed sketch for the Black Castle, however assurance was given that an informative and attractive sign would be available soon for both the Black Castle and the Wicklow Abbey as the Geophysical Survey Report had now been completed.

The Members were also made aware of the upcoming public meeting on Wednesday 6th March in the Pastoral Centre when the Wicklow Tidy Towns would launch the Sustainable Energy Community.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Kevin Scanlon presented the District Engineer's report as follows

Housing:

- Work continuing on general maintenance and repairs.
- Technical support to WCC-Housing Dept:
 - Re-lets: 8 new houses received. 2 returned to WCC Housing Dept. 5 have works continuing.
 - DPGs: 4 ongoing at present. 2 in Ashford, 1 in Laragh, 1 in Rathnew. 3 OT reports awaited.
 - Part V: None.

Roads and Footpaths:

- Winter maintenance underway. 11 days/nights gritting since January 28th.
- Works commenced preparing Roundwood to Knockfadda Rd resurfacing. Contractor due on site soon.
- LIS additional 2 projects awarded. Works due to be carried out soon.
- Grand Hotel lights, sensors installed, sequence adjusted. Monitoring in progress.

- Footpath repairs commenced in Newtown.
- Discretionary grant works for 2019 to be discussed later in meeting.
- 2018 Discretionary Works:
 - Glenealy crossing, met Bus Eireann and details to be agreed.
 - Ballinastoe, purchase order given, works with ESB to commence soon.
 - Dunbur Rd crossing, assessing funds available before commencing.
 - Lights at Newtown Main Street, being looked at with other grants.
- Roads in charge queries continue to be processed.
- Road Opening Licences (approx. 45) continue to be processed and agreed.
- ESB/SIRO installing broadband cables on poles in Wicklow, Rathnew and Newtown in the coming months.

Environment:

- Grass cutting and edge cleaning continues.
- Contractor planning to commence works at Laragh Playground in coming weeks provided weather remains mild.
- Cliff Walk works almost complete.

Planning

- Reports on applications and compliance with applications continue to be issued.
- Estate taking in charge reports and inspections continue with WCC staff.
- Housing development between Crinnion Park and Broadlough View commenced.

Playgrounds

- Ongoing inspections and maintenance.

Public Liability

- 3 new claims (1 personal injuries & 2 material damage) submitted to WMD this month.
- 2 historical claims finalised.

Councillors Queries and Comments

- That a proper assessment of the Black Castle area be carried out with a view to seeing what needs to be done.
- Footpath areas around the town that were particularly poor were identified and that could benefit from the IPB Hazard Reduction Works 2019.
- Proposed wildflower garden on the Murrough. Time is of the essence to get it planted within season.
- Potholes at Blairroe.
- To explore the use of rubber type ramps. Already in use in Ard Rua, Barndarrig and they seem to work well.
- Look at resurfacing Dunbur Road. In bad condition after Contractors have left.

CLIFF WALK UPDATE

The District Administrator informed the meeting that the Application Form and map had been submitted to Sport Ireland Trails for the final inspection and that it is anticipated that the inspection would be carried out in the next few weeks. The Members were advised that the waymarking signs

were being erected by Wicklow Municipal District Staff and the Trail Map and the content for the Information Boards were being prepared.

Reference was made to a landowner in the Brides Head/Wicklow Head vicinity who had recently expressed an interest into entering into discussions to extend the walk further.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Hillview Estate

The Members raised concerns regarding the dumping on the piece of ground between the estates. It was agreed that this area will always be a dumping ground until it is developed and built on. It was also highlighted that there is no bin provided at the bus stop which also contributes to some of the littering there.

Twinning

The Members unanimously agreed to award €4,500 to the Twinning Committee for 2019. The District Administrator advised that the Brass Band from Eichenzell would be visiting for St. Patrick's Day and it was expected that there would be over 50 in attendance.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

The Cathaoirleach confirmed that the next Municipal District Meeting is scheduled for Monday 25th March 2019 at 3 p.m. The meeting closed at 4.55p.m.

Signed: _____

CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed: _____

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dated: _____

25th March 2019.