

MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING

HELD IN DISTRICT CHAMBER, TOWN HALL

MONDAY 26th September 2022 @ 2.30 p.m.

Present: Cathaoirleach Paul O'Brien, Councillors Irene Winters, Mary Kavanagh, John Snell, Gail Dunne & Shay Cullen.

In Attendance: Acting District Manager Breda McCarthy
District Engineer Kevin Scanlon
District Administrator Joan Sinnott
Assistant Staff Officer Jason Smith
Wicklow People Myles Buchanan

Wicklow County Council – Housing & Planning
Senior Engineer – Fergal Keogh
Senior Engineer – Declan Marnane
Executive Planner – Patrice Ryan
Executive Architect – Emma Hickey
Administrative Officer – Siobhan O'Brien

Cathaoirleach Paul O'Brien opened the meeting at 2.30 p.m.

Cllr Mary Kavanagh entered the meeting at 2.40 pm

Cllr John Snell entered the meeting at 2.50 pm

ITEM 1

Confirmation of the Minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Meeting held on the 25th July 2022.

It was proposed by Cllr Shay Cullen and seconded by Cllr Gail Dunne and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes of the Wicklow Municipal District Monthly Meeting held on 25th July 2022.

ITEM 2

Part 8 – Ballynerrin - Social Housing Units Development

To consider report in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning and Development regulations 2001 (as amended) in respect of the proposed development to construct 10 No. Social Housing Units and all associated works at Ballynerrin Upper, Wicklow.

The Chief Executives Report of August 2022 had been circulated to the members in accordance with Part 8 of the Planning Acts 2000 (as amended).

Executive Architect Emma Hickey presented the details of this application to the meeting.

Details summary

Proposed construction of 10 unit housing development consisting of :-

- 6 No. 2-Bed Units (2 storey houses)
- 4 No. 3-Bed Units (2 storey houses)

On a site at Ballynerrin, Co Wicklow, to include a provision of a new access road from the adjacent site. The presentation identified with key points and site drawings with consideration of passive surveillance of open spaces.

It was proposed by Cllr Gale Dunne and seconded by Cllr Shay Cullen and unanimously agreed by all members present that the Council proceed with the development of 10 Houses at Ballynerrin, Wicklow Town as set out in the Chief Executives Report of August 2022 and circulated to the elected members :-

FOR (5) Cllrs Shay Cullen, Gail Dunne, Paul O'Brien,
Mary Kavanagh & Irene Winters

Against (0)

Absent (1)

Abstaining (0)

MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS

- Members thanked the Planning Staff for making the presentation.
- Agreed this was beneficial to our area and housing needs.
- Member raised the need for adequate access, paths and parking and this was positively identified within the presentation as part of the plan.
- Cathaoirleach Paul O'Brien raised a consideration to be given to the naming of the estate and proposed Liam Kavanagh. It was proposed by Cllr Paul O'Brien and seconded by Cllr Gail Dunne.

ITEM 3

Material Contravention - Phase 2 Primary Healthcare Centre – Knockrobin

To consider Material Contravention Report (as circulated) in accordance with Section 34 (6) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) PRR 22/683, Jen Properties (Partnership), applied for planning permission for modifications to Phase 2 of the Primary Healthcare Centre granted under Planning ref. 19/1017.

Executive Planner Patrice Ryan presented to the members and outlined that the planning permission was being sought for an extension to the existing Primary Healthcare Centre at Knockrobin/Glebe (pr 19/1017). The existing site is zoned for residential use as set out in the current County Development Plan, and therefore the granting of this application would result in a material contravention of the plan.

The proposed Phase 2 includes plans for a care hub providing services for people with chronic diseases. The building will accommodate Tusla services, HSE mental health and social care services, primary care administrative offices as well as ancillary accommodation including staff facilities, offices, meeting rooms, reception/waiting areas and plant rooms.

The proposal will remove 83 no existing car parking spaces on the site and will provide 236 car parking spaces. This is an increase of the car parking numbers on site from that previously under PRR 19/1017 from 212 car parking spaces to 236 car parking spaces.

The above was put to a vote by the members and was passed unanimously to proceed with a material contravention of the County Development Plan 2013 – 2019.

FOR 6 : Cllr Mary Kavanagh, Cllr Irene Winters, Cllr Shay Cullen, Cllr John Snell, Cllr Gail Dunne, Cllr Paul O'Brien

Against (0)

Absent (0)

Abstaining (0)

MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS

- Members thanked the Planning Staff for making the presentation.
- Members raised the need for the additional car parking spaces to accommodate the flow of visitors. It was outlined that this had been addressed that there was an option to use green space as an option for further spaces, however ultimately there is enough parking spaces and identified that there would be 83% capacity at any given time, 17 % vacancy rate at any given time.
- Members enquired if the centre will accommodate an X-ray facility and would the centre be supported by bus routes. It was confirmed by the District Engineer that the NTA and Bus Eireann have held discussions over the provision of two additional

bus stops on the Rathnew Road, within walking distance of the Primary Healthcare Centre.

- The members concluded that this is a very welcomed service to the area.

ITEM 4

District Engineers Report

Housing:

- DPG; 3 completed. 1 ready to start on site. 4 being assessed and designed.
- Relets/Prelets; 4 completed. 1 on site.

Roads:

- Roads Programme for 2022. Overlay RI Ballykeppogue microsurfacing complete this week. Surface dressing to follow.
- Additional job at Ballyronan Rd, Kilpeddar complete.

Members Discretionary

- Sycamore Drive footpaths. 1 side complete. 2nd side started.
- Benches at Scenic Car Park and Cliff walk installed.
- Information sign for Rathnew ordered.
- Ongoing meetings with Contractors to commence or complete 4 other jobs.

Environment:

- Avian Flu collection done on Friday 16th. Contractor collected approx. 80 birds collected. 2nd collection due in the coming days.

Planning

- Section 254 applications. 2 completed.

Public Liability

- 3 personal injury. 5 material damage.

Projects

WCC

- Approval received for 3 footpath jobs. Togher Beg, Brittas Bay and Vartry Reservoir.

NTA

- Greenhill Road footpath surveying/redesign complete. Works to commence in October.
- Ballinahinch footpath, surveying complete and design underway. Works to Commence in October.
- Rathnew to Glenealy footpath. Substantially complete with snagging to follow.

DOE

Specific Improvement Grant

- Cunningham's Corner, Roundwood. Substantially complete with snagging to follow.

CIS, Community Involvement Scheme

- Dunganstown Church road. Contract awarded. Due to commence in early October.

Climate Change, Adaption and Resilience

- Edge strengthening and drainage at Wicklow Gap. Work commenced. WCC crew.

Low Cost Safety Improvement Works

- Speed signage and cycling signage delivered this week. To be installed in coming weeks.

Town & Village Renewal

- Approval received for Newtown upgrade to shop fronts and facades. WCC and stakeholders currently preparing plans for submission.
- Wicklow Town – South Quay connections to Main St; Part 8 drawings substantially complete and ready for review next week.

MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS

- It was raised that there is a need for raised footpaths in Brittas to avoid parking issues.
- The Ball Alley in Wicklow Town still in disrepair and needs attention to resume its special use.
- Member welcomed the NTA projects, can they be presented & costed and sent out to Tender to ensure that these are commenced as soon as possible.
- Cllr Mary Kavanagh raised the need for a crossing at Greenhill road is incorporated due to the demographics of the area.
- Members enquired if there was an update of the Lighthouse access.
- Nuns Cross School solution needed for footpath expansion.
- Members raised the need to look at Wicklow Main Street in avoidance of claims.
- It was raised for a need for a bus shelter to be erected in Rathnew.
- Members discussed that Convent Road ramps did not go back in and the pedestrian crossing at St Peters School railings have been damaged.
- Abbey grounds are awaiting Archaeology report.

ITEM 5

Correspondence

- District Administrator Joan Sinnott advised members there was no correspondence to be discussed.

ITEM 6

A.O.B.

- Cathaoirleach Paul O'Brien wished to acknowledge with thanks and appreciation our former staff member Pauline Myler who in August commenced a new position in Arklow Municipal District.
- Members agreed we need to increase promoting our area.
- Twinning Team met last week and St Patrick's Day Committee to come together.
- Cllr Shay Cullen raised the need to place a proper itinerary in situ for when our twinning hosts visit.

CATHAOIRLEACH PAUL O'BRIEN CONCLUDED THE MEETING AT 15.40 P.M.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed _____
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Date: _____