

**MINUTES OF JULY MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES, MILL ROAD, GREYSTONES, CO. WICKLOW ON TUESDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023 AT 7.30 P.M.**

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Present: Councillor M. Barry, Cathaoirleach  
Councillors T. Fortune, D. Mitchell, L. Scott, S. Stokes & G. Walsh

Also Present: Mr. M. Nicholson, Greystones Municipal District Manager  
Mr. R. O'Hanlon, Greystones Municipal District Engineer  
Ms. T. Kearns, Greystones Municipal District Administrator  
Ms. K. Coughlan, Greystones Municipal District

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At the outset the members passed a vote of sympathy to the family of the late Brian Geraghty from Delgany who died recently. A minutes silence was observed in remembrance of him.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

- (a) It was proposed by Councillor S. Stokes, seconded by Councillor L. Scott and agreed that the minutes of the annual meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2023, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.
- (b) It was proposed by Councillor S. Stokes, seconded by Councillor D. Mitchell and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June, 2023, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

**2. PRESENTATION ON PROPOSALS FOR COMMUNITY LED HOUSING PROJECT**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Michael Reidy, Mr. Francis Grant and Mr. Jay Roche from the Common Ground Community Led Housing Group to the meeting. They circulated their prospectus and showed a short video that outlined their vision for a community led housing project and they answered any queries from the members in relation to same.

Members welcomed the concept of community led housing and queried how it would compare to housing provided by Approved Housing Bodies. They enquired if the concept had national approval, if it was intended for people on the social housing lists, about the financial structures, ownership and disposal, and whether the group had a specific site or project in mind.

Mr. J. Roche stated that the Common Ground group was not an Approved Housing Body but benefitted from collaborating with the 'O'Cualann' AHB. He stated that the group would need state support, perhaps for discounted land, and he pointed out that an important part of the project was building a strong community.

Mr. M. Reidy informed the members that the concept of community led housing was well established across Europe and the United States of America and especially in Denmark and France. He stated that it was aimed at social housing applicants and others in need of housing and that there were income limits for applicants. He pointed out that people needed to invest time and energy in the project as well and that there would be many shared facilities in the project such as sheds, laundry, garden space, etc. He stated that the group was self-funded with grant aid for the past number of years and he pointed out that dwellings could be passed on to family or sold like shares.

Mr. Reidy stated that the group was in ongoing discussions with various state agencies and the Land Development Agency and had met recently with the Minister for Housing and his officials. He informed the members that the group was looking at many sites in north Wicklow and, as there was no process for Wicklow County Council to transfer land, they were working on this at state level.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the group for attending and for their presentation and requested that they circulate a copy of their presentation to the members.

### **3. PRESENTATION ON PART 8 FOR KILLINCARRIG VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SCHEME**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Conor Page, Wicklow County Council to the meeting. Mr. Page circulated documentation, gave some background information and went through the proposed changes in relation to the Part 8 for the Killincarrig Village Improvement scheme. He informed the members that, subject to their approval, it was hoped to advertise the scheme in the coming weeks and invite submissions and to come back to the members with the Chief Executive's report at the October meeting.

Members referred to requests from residents in Killincarrig to include 30 eco-friendly parking spaces in the scheme because existing parking spaces would be eliminated. They also referred to the residents' request to have additional junction improvement works included, the public open space upgraded and sewerage issues in the area resolved. While they appreciated that the current scheme was only for R761 improvements they suggested that the other items needed to be addressed too. They expressed disappointment that they did not receive the plans for this scheme prior to the meeting.

Members requested that Council officials meet with residents of Killincarrig and that they give a commitment to include parking within the scheme. Mr. C. Page stated that the public consultation process would allow members of the public to have their say and he pointed out that the scheme would attract more pedestrians and cyclists, provide a better public realm and provide a sense of 'place' as distinct from Delgany or Greystones with the use of paving, lighting and planting that could all be agreed with the residents. He informed the members that this design scheme had already been approved by the NTA and he pointed out that NTA funding focused on active travel measures that encouraged walking or cycling as opposed to driving.

The District Engineer stated that these proposals arose from serious traffic issues in the village in the past and that the previous scheme had already been approved by the members. He stated that the proposed scheme would cater for the needs of the area for the next fifty to sixty years.

The District Manager stated that the Council Engineering staff and the NTA recommended that the current scheme go out to public consultation.

Following further discussion during which members again suggested that parking be provided in the scheme, the matter was put to a vote. Councillors M. Barry, T. Fortune, L. Scott and G. Walsh voted in favour of putting the scheme out for public consultation while Councillors D. Mitchell and S. Stokes voted against.

Mr. C. Page informed the members that the Options Assessment Report for the Delgany Convent Road Part 8 scheme would be coming back before the members shortly. He agreed to circulate the report to the members and requested them to contact him with any queries on same as soon as possible.

### **4. PROPOSALS FOR ALLOCATION OF 2023 DISCRETIONARY FUNDING**

The District Administrator advised the members of the discretionary funding available in 2023 for community based projects and following discussion it was agreed to allocate the following amounts: €5,000 to Greystones

Tidy Towns; €3,000 to Kilcoole Tidy Towns; €3,000 to Delgany Tidy Towns; €3,000 to Newcastle Tidy Towns; €5,000 for Greystones Christmas Lights and €2,300 for Kilcoole Christmas Lights.

In relation to the provision of funding for printing of additional town maps, the District Administrator informed the members that there would be procurement issues with the quotation received from the current printer and a requirement to obtain quotations from other companies. She pointed out that there were no plans to have local businesses contribute towards the cost of new maps and she suggested that printed maps may not be the best way forward in light of modern technology and that this needed to be looked at in more detail.

While some members were in favour of getting paper maps printed, others suggested that a QR link to the Greystones.ie website would be more feasible and following further discussion, it was agreed to defer a decision on funding for maps to a future meeting while further information was gathered.

It was also agreed to defer a decision on funding for Tourism and Town Twinning until a future meeting so that costs involved in twinning trips to and from Holyhead later in the year could be taken into account. The District Administrator advised the members that it was intended to hold the annual People of the Year Awards next spring when most clubs and organisations were operating. She also pointed out that no request had been received for a contribution to the Town Team towards their website and social media expenses.

## **5. REPORT FROM GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ENGINEER**

A report from the District Engineer had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting together with an update on NTA projects.

Members enquired about the replacement of a wall at Burnaby Lawns, the provision of a footbridge there and issues with the construction works at the Cois Droichead housing scheme; provision of repeater speed limit signs along the Charlesland dual carriageway; repair of loose paving at the AIB bank on Church Road; repainting of road markings in the district; provision of public lighting at the Pigs Hollow; unfinished works at Delgany Place housing development; erection of new speed limit signs; resurfacing of running track at Shoreline Leisure; beach access from the new boardwalk at the south beach; dumping of building materials in the Three Trout stream; provision of while lines on L1042 road from Kilquade Road to Priors Road junction and the possibility of having a bike rental scheme set up in Greystones. They also sought updates on the reopening of the Cliff Walk, the Greystones Transport Study and the provision of a footpath on Sea Road, Kilcoole.

As time was running out, it was agreed that the District Engineer would respond to the members' queries by email.

## **6. NOTICES OF MOTION**

(a) Motion in the name of Councillor S. Stokes:

"Greystones Municipal District should invite Go Ahead to attend a district meeting to discuss the 184 bus service."

Following discussion on this motion it was agreed to invite 'Go Ahead' to the September meeting to discuss the 184 bus service.

As time had run out, it was agreed to defer items 7 Correspondence and 8 Any Other Business on the agenda to the September meeting.

**7. CORRESPONDENCE**

This item was deferred to the September monthly meeting.

**8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

This item was deferred to the September monthly meeting.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ CATHAOIRLEACH

CERTIFIED: \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

DATED THIS: \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_ 2023