

## **MINUTES OF WICKLOW MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MEETING**

**HELD IN COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY BUILDINGS**

**MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> July 2022 @ 3.00 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  
Executive Engineer Alan Martin  
District Administrator Joan Sinnott  
Assistant Staff Officer Jason Smith  
Wicklow People Myles Buchanan

Wicklow and District St Patrick's Day Committee  
Secretary Geoffrey Kane  
Treasurer Garrett O'Reilly  
Tara Gargan

Cathaoirleach Paul O'Brien opened the meeting at 3.00 p.m.

### **ITEM 1**

**Confirmation of the Minutes from the Wicklow Municipal District Meeting held on the 27th June 2022.**

It was proposed by Cllr Shay Cullen and seconded by Cllr John Snell and unanimously agreed to confirm and sign the minutes of the Wicklow Municipal District Monthly Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

### **ITEM 2**

**Presentation by Wicklow and District St Patrick's Day Committee on Eichenzell visit June 2022**

Members of the Committee Garrett O'Reilly, Geoffrey Kane and Tara Gargan were warmly welcomed. Tara Gargan made the presentation on Eichenzell June 2022. Items outlined included:

- Visual presentation on the recent visit to Eichenzell to celebrate the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the District of Fulda.
- Key events of the visit included; welcome from Mayor Johannes Rothmund and guided tour of the renovated Town Hall in Eichenzell Castle.
- Highlights of the visit were a visit to: Eichenzeller Wartturm which is a local community area for community based events, visit to their duel signage within the town displaying the twinning with Wicklow. Theresienhof Bierarten which is a community area ran to support young people with intellectual disabilities by enabling young people to develop their skills. Visit to Point Alpha an historic site known formally as the 'iron curtain' which was the crossing point which divided East and West Germany. Visit also included a guided tour of the city of Fulda and its Cathedral and to conclude the visit, the group visited the Schloss Fasanerie where the Mayor hosted a water and light show in celebration. This method was chosen as it was considered sympathetic the environment.
- The committee made a presentation to Johannes and Birgit in recognition of continued friendship between our two towns.

#### MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS

- Members thanked the Wicklow and District St Patrick's Day Committee for making the presentation.

#### ITEM 3

##### **Presentation of Proposed Part 8 – To reconnect the Town Centre and the South Quay through its network of laneways.**

##### **Presented by Executive Engineer Alan Martin, Items outlined included;**

- The project is valued at €250,000 and is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development through their Town and Village Renewal Scheme.
- This project aims to reconnect Wicklow Town Centre and the South Quay through its network of laneways and seeks to reanimate and revitalise these important linkage laneways and create additional place making improvements along South Quay.
- The three focus areas are Quarantine Hill, Salthouse Lane and the Doctors Steps.
- The visual presentation highlighted that the three links will generally have themed murals painted with decorative street lighting with place making improvements at the Scout's Hall, Red Door and Market Street.
- The presentation concluded with outlining the aims of the project: To integrate the Main Street with the South Quay. Increase footfall in both areas. Added security with accessibility. Improved public lighting at identified project locations and to acknowledge Wicklow Town's Maritime History and pride of place.

## MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS

- Members thanked Executive Engineer Alan Martin for his presentation on the proposed Part 8 project.
- Collectively agreed that this positive move to resolve areas of visual disrepair.
- Members discussed the need for regeneration in the area, however there would be a need for CCTV in lane ways to avoid isolated areas being subject to vandalism or drug related crime.
- There would be a need in some areas for heritage dialogue, historical signage explaining the areas historical significance, an example was raised for the inclusion of St Patrick who landed here and should be included in the project.
- It was identified that the first deadline is the end of 2022 with funding to be drawn down by 2023.

## ITEM 4

### Discretionary Fund

- Costings will be ready for September Meeting.
- It was formally proposed by Cathaoirleach Paul O'Brien and seconded by Cllr Irene Winters that €8,000 to go towards Defibrillators as a vital need for public emergencies.
- Members raised their concern regarding the delay in getting previously presented projects completed particularly with the current rising costs of materials.
- A review is needed in relation to the projects to be included within the discretionary with regards to inflationary costs and will need to be re-evaluated.

## ITEM 5

### Engineers Report

#### Housing:

- DPG; 4 Completed, 2 are Works in Progress.
- Relets/Prelets; 2 completed. 4 on site.

#### Roads:

- Roads Programme for 2022.

#### Overlay (RI) and Surface Dressing (RM):

- All roads 90% complete. Outstanding works:
  - Raising Gullies.
  - Sweeping.
  - Line Marking.

**Environment:**

- Brittas Bay bins ordered for in both car parks. Skips and recycling area being prepared.

**Planning**

- One Section 254 application.

**Playgrounds**

- New playground added to WCC stock. Located at Monalin/Wicklow Hills.
- New accessible roundabout installed at The Murrough playground.
- Replacement of adult gym equipment has commenced along Murrough.

**Public Liability**

- 4 personal injury. 1 material damage. 1 settled.

**Projects****Town & Village**

- Wicklow Town – South Quay connections to Main Street. Project Presentation to Members
- Roundwood-footpath at playground and crossing points on hold to review appropriate locations.

**Failte Ireland:**

- Abbey Grounds – Archaeologist Report due mid-August 2022

**NTA:**

- Wicklow One Way: Survey of outstanding works and improvements now complete. Cost analysis in progress. Flower boxes have now been replanted where required.

**Other:**

- Hand Ball Alley: Structural Engineers survey, recommendations and costing's required to determine most appropriate course of action.
- The Wendy: A recent survey of mooring point and securing chain condition concluded that they are not fit for purpose. Repair or replace options to be considered.

**MEMBERS OBSERVATIONS**

- Members raised concerns over the blessing of the graves and the lack of accommodation resulting in tents being erected in the playground.
- The cleaning of Glendalough toilets.
- Update on the Lighthouse Road - informed that ongoing meetings with the landowner and currently liaising with the Law Agent regarding Public Liability.

**ITEM 6**

**Correspondence**

- Wicklow Town & District Chamber of Commerce thanked Wicklow Municipal District for the contribution received towards “The Taste of Wicklow’.

Members also mentioned that the Regatta Committee had also received a contribution of €3,000 towards this year’s Regatta.

**ITEM 7**

**A.O.B.**

CATHAOIRLEACH PAUL O’BRIEN CONCLUDED THE MEETING AT 4.50 P.M.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Date: \_\_\_\_\_