

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

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

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. A. Kavanagh, Greystones Municipal District  
Ms. K. Coughlan, Greystones Municipal District

Apologies from: Councillor T. Fortune

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At the outset the members passed a vote of sympathy to the wife and family of Keith Thomas, former Mayor of Holyhead, Wales who died recently.

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Barry, seconded by Councillor S. Stokes and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2023, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

**2. PRESENTATION ON SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL SCHEME FOR ST. KEVINS  
NATIONAL SCHOOL**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Daniel O'Keeffe and Ms. Noelle Navya from Barry Transportation and Mr. Conor Page, A/Senior Executive Engineer and Mr. Aaron O'Connor, Executive Engineer, Wicklow County Council to the meeting.

They gave a Powerpoint presentation on the progress to date, the design and the next steps for the Safe Routes to School Scheme for St. Kevin's National School and answered any questions from the members in relation to same.

Members welcomed the scheme and the fact that it was hoped to have the front of school works carried out during July and August when the school was closed. They were critical of the timescale for the overall Safe Routes to School process and cited the need

to have similar schemes introduced for other schools in the district. They were advised that pencil bollards would only be provided at St. Kevin's school and would not replace all the bollards currently in place on Rathdown Road. Members commended the parents and teachers from St. Kevin's for starting a 'cycle bus' to the school and they enquired if any funding was available for signage to mark that.

In relation to proposals for rear access to St. Kevin's school from Church Lane, the members were informed that an Options Report was being prepared to look at all issues, including road surface, footpaths, etc. on Church Lane and that the residents there would be consulted. Mr. C. Page stated that there would be a Part 8 process for the Church Lane proposals and that would allow for interested parties to make submissions. He pointed out that it was proposed to keep the rear access gate to the school locked outside school hours.

The District Engineer stated that with the closure of the upper entrance into Applewood Heights, traffic on Church Lane had decreased substantially. He stated that Church Lane was an important strategic link for western access to the town centre and that the road would be re-surfaced when the new scheme was designed. He pointed out that the rear access lane to St. Kevin's school was owned by the school and that the situation would be monitored when the lane was opened.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the team for attending and for their presentation.

### **3. 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. The District Engineer answered any queries from the members in relation to same. He pointed out that the Council would engage consultants to carry out a study of Dr. Ryan Park and that there were statutory processes to be completed in relation to the Chapel Road Cycle & Footpath Scheme. He stated that the design of any new footpath on the northern end of Priory Road would be very challenging and would require land acquisition and he pointed out that a proposed footpath on Sea Road in Kilcoole was part of the Pathfinder Route from Greystones harbour to Kilcoole train station and that the NTA required that the Greystones section of that be completed first.

The District Engineer assured the members that any discretionary funding not spent in the year it was provided was rolled over and would not be lost and he pointed out that discretionary funds could only be spent on capital works and not on general maintenance. He informed the members that a traffic and safety assessment would

need to be carried out before any decision was taken to provide raised tables on St. Vincent Road and he stated that he did not have a timeframe from the housing section for the removal of the retaining wall at the Three Trout housing scheme. He stated that he would follow up on the provision of a bin on Bellevue Road and a name sign for Kenmare Heights and that the paving stones at the AIB would be replaced as soon as possible. He pointed out that, following consultation with the residents, apple trees had been planted at the closed upper entrance to Applewood Heights.

In relation to the proposed Convent Road scheme Mr. O'Hanlon stated that minor changes were required to the Options Assessment and that it was hoped to have it available for the May meeting as well as an update on the Chief Executive's report on the Part 8 for Killincarrig village. He stated that discussions were ongoing with landowners in an effort to have the Cliff Walk re-opened but it was a very slow process. He pointed out that there was dramatic erosion at the north beach which was being assessed by the Environment Section with assistance from the Coast Guard and that Irish Rail was assessing erosion from surface water run-off between Bray and Greystones.

Members welcomed the Engineer's report and updates and following discussion, they requested the following:

- monthly updates on the Chapel Road scheme
- details of funding and timeframe for environmental assessment of Dr. Ryan Park
- environmental assessment of the sandpit at Killincarrig
- assessment for the provision of raised platforms on St. Vincent Road
- report on Part 8 for Killincarrig
- provision of signage at the Cove steps to warn of slippery surface when wet

#### **4. NOTICES OF MOTION**

(a) Motion in the name of Councillor D. Mitchell:

"The Council should write about the excessive duration of Bus Services to the Airport, to the NTA & Dublin Port Consultation about the new Port Bridge. Duration is listed at 1 hour 39 mins almost the same time as Belfast. This has meant that many have now transferred to the car from the bus, the opposite of what is said we are trying to achieve."

Councillor D. Mitchell stated that the Aircoach journey to the airport from Greystones took so long that people were using their cars instead and he was critical of the fact that the Aircoach now only operated on a two hourly basis during the daytime with no night-time service.

Following discussion on this motion, it was agreed to make a submission to the Dublin Port Consultation process and to write to the National Transport Authority in relation to this matter.

**5. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. The District Administrator updated the members on details of Holyhead twinning events and reminded them of the open invitation to all members to attend the Holyhead Summer Festival on the last weekend in July.
2. The District Administrator referred to an email seeking funding in the sum of €3,000 for the Tidy Towns group in Greystones to enable them to complete a project to protect marram grass and other vegetation on the south beach. It was agreed to consider this request at the May meeting when it was hoped to also consider the Schedule of Municipal District Works for Greystones Municipal District.

**6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

No other business was discussed.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

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

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

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