**MINUTES OF APRIL MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD REMOTELY BY ZOOM ON TUESDAY 26TH APRIL 2022 AT 7.30 P.M.**

Present: Councillor L. Scott, Cathaoirleach

Councillors M. Crean, T. Fortune, D. Mitchell, J. Neary, & G. Walsh

Also Present: Mr. M. Nicholson, Greystones Municipal District Manager

 Mr. R. O’Hanlon, Greystones Municipal District Engineer

 Ms. R. Wood, Greystones Municipal District Administrator

Ms. K. Coughlan, Greystones Municipal District

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At the outset, the members passed votes of sympathy to the families of Lynne Freeman, Greystones; Frank Rennix, Knockroe; Dominic Mitchell, Kilcoole; Danny Hatton, Greystones and Jack Smith, Kilcoole who all died recently.

1. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

It was proposed by Councillor M. Crean seconded by Councillor D. Mitchell and agreed that the minutes of the March monthly meeting held on 5th April 2022, as circulated, be confirmed and signed.

1. **PART 8 FOR AGE-FRIENDLY APARTMENTS AT CARRIG EDEN, GREYSTONES**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Helena Fallon from Wicklow County Council to the meeting. Ms. Fallon went through a Powerpoint presentation, which had been circulated to the members in advance of the meeting, that outlined the details of the proposals for 14 age-friendly apartments at Carrig Eden, Greystones. She stated that it was hoped to have Tiglin manage the apartments and that the new apartments would be offered first to tenants currently living in family homes who would surrender their bigger homes back to the Council.

Members welcomed this proposed development and suggested that the Council work with Tiglin to ensure maximum visibility of their coffee shop at the location. They expressed some concern about the lack of parking at the site and they requested that electric bike charging facilities and some visitor parking be included if possible.

In response to a query from the members Ms. Fallon stated that the new apartments would be offered to eligible applicants on the housing list if existing tenants in larger houses were not interested in moving.

Following discussion it was proposed by Councillor G. Walsh, seconded by Councillor J. Neary and agreed that the Chief Executive’s report on the Part 8 for 14 age-friendly apartments at Carraig Eden, Greystones be adopted.

1. **DISCUSSION OF STRATEGIC HOUSING DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS FOR COOLAGAD, GREYSTONES**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Fergal Keogh, Senior Engineer and Ms. Edel Bermingham, Senior Executive Planner from Wicklow County Council. Mr. Keogh gave details of the application process to date and stated that submissions could be made to An Bord Pleanala up to the 9th May 2022. He stated that the members comments at this meeting would be recorded and would be included with the Chief Executive’s report to An Bord Pleanala which was due to be submitted by the end of May.

Ms. E. Bermingham gave a Powerpoint presentation that showed drawings of the proposals for 580 residential units, and community facilities, on the site. She stated that 58 social housing units would be included and a creche that would cater for 135 children.

Members were very critical of the SHD process and they expressed concern about the density levels proposed in this development and about the height of the proposed apartments. They also suggested that the playing field would require fencing and lighting and they questioned the ability of current school, water, wastewater and road infrastructure to cater for the additional traffic from the development. They spoke about the need to have the community facilities provided at the same time as the residential units and they suggested that the proposed creche size would not be big enough to entice an operator on board.

Members stated that adequate riparian barriers were required and they requested that the social housing units be dispersed throughout the development and not segregated. They stated that pedestrian access should be provided to the local schools and they suggested that the school demand report included with the application was based on Census 16 figures which were out of date. They also stated that a feeder bus service needed to be provided and they were critical of the fact that the LAP was contravened despite the huge amount of work by staff and members when preparing same.

Mr. F. Keogh stated that the topography of the site dictated some of the proposals and he confirmed that required transportation and other studies had been carried out to support the application. In relation to provision of fencing and lighting of the playing pitch, he stated that Cairn Homes were only required to provide the site and the Council would have to fund anything else. Mr. Keogh stated that the objective in the LAP for a link road to the N11 had not been fully explored and may not be approved by TII but that the Council sought to ensure that the proposed development at Coolagad would not preclude such a road in the future.

In conclusion, Mr. F. Keogh agreed to circulate a summary of the members’ comments.

1. **REPORT FROM GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ENGINEER**

The report from the District Engineer had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting and he answered any queries from the members in relation to same.

In relation to the railway crossing at The Grove, the District Engineer informed the members that this belonged to Irish Rail and that they did not encourage buggies or wheelchairs onto the railway line for safety reasons. He stated that they were looking at alternative access as part of their DART Plus proposals.

Following discussion it was agreed that the following matters be referred to Wicklow County Council:

* Road lining at Killincarrig
* Costing for lighting at Pigs Hollow
* Costing for footpaths at Seaview, Kilcoole
* Traffic survey at Blacklion Manor, Greystones
1. **UKRAINE CRISIS - UPDATE ON WICKLOW COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSE**

The District Manager informed the members that approximately one thousand Ukrainians had now arrived in County Wicklow and that the Council was managing the numbers as best it could. He stated that it was a struggle and very challenging to find accommodation for everyone but they were looking at all feasible options. He stated that all offers of suitable vacant accommodation should be directed to Ms. T. O’Brien in the Council’s Housing Section. He pointed out that a ‘Rest Centre’ had been set up in Arklow as well as information hubs, in the Ukrainian language and with interpreters, in the libraries. He stated that the latest refugees were needier in that some had illnesses and injuries and he pointed out that a Response Group, with representatives from all relevant agencies, met weekly to deal with issues.

The members welcomed this information and requested that the matter be put on the agenda for the May meeting

1. **UPDATE ON CHAPEL ROAD FOOTPATH AND CYCLE LANE WORKS**

The District Administrator informed the members of the contents of a report received from the Roads Section of Wicklow County Council which stated that the decision by an Bord Pleanala to confirm the CPO would be advertised in the coming weeks and that the CPO would become operative three weeks after the publication of the notice. The report stated that the Council would then be in a position to issue Notice to Treat which would commence discussions regarding the level of compensation available, and on reaching agreement, the compensation would be paid by Wicklow County Council.

The report concluded by stating that in parallel, Wicklow County Council and the design team were progressing with the detailed design and preparing tender documents with the hope that work would commence circa November 2022, and that the construction period would be sixteen to eighteen months.

This progress was welcomed by the members.

1. **NOTICES OF MOTION:**

No Notices of Motion were considered.

1. **CORRESPONDENCE**
2. The District Administrator informed the members of the details of an email received from Ms. K. Kelleher in relation to forthcoming twinning events. She stated that the Holyhead Festival would take place at the end of July and that all members were invited to attend. She also advised that the Male Voice Choir from Holyhead hoped to visit and perform in Greystones in November and that the Holyhead Santa Clause had been asked to participate in this year’s Christmas Lights event in Greystones on Saturday 19th November. She stated that an official invitation needed to issue to them from the Municipal District and his was agreed.
3. The District Administrator informed the members that a public meeting of the County Wicklow Joint Policing Committee would be held in the Parkview Hotel, Newtownmountkennedy on Wednesday 4th May 2022.
4. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
5. The District Administrator informed the members that, following a motion passed at the March meeting of GMD, proposals were being considered for the provision of a suitable memorial to be placed in Burnaby Park to acknowledge the important contribution to our community of current and former emergency and security service workers. She pointed out that initial estimates for a memorial were in the region of €600 to €1,000. It was agreed that this be funded from the GMD Discretionary budget.
6. Members suggested that the People of the Year Awards should be held again this year in September following their cancellation in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid-19. This was agreed and it was further agreed that the matter be discussed with the co-sponsors, The Wicklow Times.
7. In response to a query from the members in relation to the re-opening of the Cliff Walk, the District Engineer informed the members that while discussions were ongoing between solicitors for the landowners and the Council’s La w Agent, he had requested a ‘pre-works agreement’ to allow the walk to re-open for the coming summer season.

Members welcomed this news and requested that if that ‘pre-works agreement’ was not in place by 10th June 2022, the walk should be re-opened and re-routed down the R761.

1. The Cathaoirleach suggested that the May meeting be held in person in the Council Chamber and this was agreed.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

**SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_CATHAOIRLEACH**

**CERTIFIED: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

**DATED THIS \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ 2022**