

TRANSPORTATION, WATER EMERGENCY SERVICES SPC
Strategic Policy Committee meeting 23rd September, 2021 @ 2.30am via
Zoom

Present:

Cllr Derek Mitchell, Chair
Cllr. Pat Fitzgerald
Cllr Joe Behan
Cllr. Vincent Blake
Colm Lavery, Director of Services, Transportation, Water & Emergency Services
John Bowes, Senior Engineer, Roads
Michael Flynn, Senior Engineer, Transportation, Water & Emergency Services
Deirdre Forde, Executive Engineer
Aidan Dempsey, Chief Fire Officer
Tim Morgan, Environment/Conservation
Helena Dennehy, Senior Executive Officer
Tomas Peare, Development Construction
Vicky O Neill, Staff Officer
Margaret Coughlan, Trade Union
Damien Marah, Asst. Staff Officer
Aidan Cleary, ARUP

Apologies:

Allyson Minion, Administrative Officer

Non-Attendance:

Cllr. Irene Winters

Item 1: To note the minutes of 6th July 2021

Proposed Cllr. V Blake, Seconded Cllr J Behan.

Item 2: Update TII Funder Projects

John Bowes, SE, gave a brief update on TII projects. (Report previously distributed)

The following comments were made by Committee:
Parallel Road

Footpath from Kilmacanogue to Bray included in upgrade and grass verge was unsafe and dangerous.

Scheme Stage 1 and 2 Audits completed. Stage 3 will include safe operation of road users including pedestrians.

N81

The committee welcomed and noted all the work that has been carried out on the N81.

M11/N11 Junction 4 to 14

Clarity was sought on closing Junction 10, and the 6 accesses at the junction. It will cause backlog of travel in various areas, and looked that 2 of the busiest accesses should remain open. Closing access will force locals onto the N11 and then off N11 to complete short local trips.

John Bowes, SE, informed that safety and geometry were issues involved in decision to close Junction 10, as well as policy as junction 10 is within 1km of junction 11. Members were also informed that submissions are open until 4th October 2021.

Aidan Cleary from ARUP gave a presentation. He informed that to improve or retain in present form Junction 10 up to required standard would involve major infrastructural move, ie, moving the M11 westwards to accommodate. He gave further details on the upgrade.

John Bowes, SE, suggested a meeting to be arranged with project team and Cllr Mitchell and others interested to discuss points raised in more detail.

Item 3 – Fire Services Policy update.

Aidan Dempsey, CFO, gave an update on the Fire Services. (Report previously distributed)

Colm Lavery, DOS, advised that the information and topic will need to be discussed with Bray Municipal Member's as well, mentioning that the issue will need to be discussed at a full Council Meeting as will have budget implications in the region of €2 million. He hopes to have discussed with Bray Municipal members in advance of the November Council Meeting.

Agreed by Committee:

- (i) Presentation to Bray MD members
- (ii) Invite response and submission from Bray MD members
- (iii) Possibly return to SPC as needed and if not move to present to full Council.

Item 4 – Water Services Policy Update

- Helena Dennehy, SEO, advised that discussions are still on-going in relation to the proposed end to Service level agreement and move to full single public utility for Irish Water. Discussion in WRC is expected to re-commence Quarter 4 2022.

- We are meeting 80.8% of the service level indicators up to Quarter 2 2022. We are measured against 70+ indicators monthly.
- Arklow Waste Water Treatment plant commenced at end of August.
- Blessington waste water treatment plant upgrade is due to commence in quarter 4 of 2021 and be completed end of 2022.

Members raised the water issue in Gorey in the media and asked what is done to ensure it does not happen in Wicklow. Colm Lavery informed that under the SLA with Irish Water Wicklow County Council run Wicklow plants. Informed that alarms sound in plants if issues, but technicians and operatives on the ground respond immediately. They are constantly using SCADA system, to monitor water condition. Irish Water also carries out regular review of plants.

Members asked if questions raised and submitted to IW in the past will be answered at next meeting. Next IW clinic to be held 4/10/21 and H Dennehy, SEO, will send question to IW advance of next scheduled members clinic meeting.

Item 5: NTA Schemes Update

DOS and SE gave a update on NTA, Non National and National Road schemes, Covid Stimulus, Outdoor Infrastructure, Urban Fund schemes. (Report attached)

The following matters were raised by the committee:-

- Bray Public Transport Bridge explanation sought of process by which consultation and/or discussion between Ballymore Homes, the applicant for the Golf Club, WCC and the NTA. It was also asked if there was potential conflict in the fact that WCC granted extension to the 5 year planning permission to the Golf club.
- Various issues relating to the development involving An Bord Pleannala, local residents, EIA study and possible future submission dates.
- Members asked if the bridge cater for the Luas and will it be aligned for this use.

Response: Michael Flynn, SE, advised screening already completed by WCC. Seapont Court temporary access discussed.

Michael Flynn, SE, informed that bridge will be used for the Luas and benefit public transport. He also addressed all points relating to consultation between developers. Informed that WCC will be having an online meeting with An Bord Pleanala on the 19th October 2021. Councillor Mitchell requested that he be able to attend.

- Members raised the issue of a lack of funding for footpaths throughout the county.

Response: Committee informed that where funding is available it will be applied for and that members also have discretionary spend for public realm.

- Speed Limit review – discussed
- Delgany to Blacklion status queries – With An Bord Pleanala oral hearing scheduled for 19th October 2021 – May then progress to CPO stage.

Item 8 – AOB

H Dennehy, SEO said we have no more meetings scheduled for 2021. If another meeting is required to discuss Bray Fire Brigade it can be arranged.