

MINUTES OF DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING OF GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CIVIC OFFICES, MILL ROAD, GREYSTONES, CO. WICKLOW ON TUESDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2022 AT 6.30 P.M.

Present: Councillor G. Walsh, Cathaoirleach
Councillors M. Barry, T. Fortune, 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. K. Coughlan, Greystones Municipal District

At the outset, the members passed votes of sympathy to the Lynch Family on the death of Declan Lynch; to the O'Regan Family on the death of Dave O'Regan; to the Redmond Family on the death of John Redmond; to the Quinn Family on the death of Jackie Quinn and to the Cullen Family on the death of John Cullen. A minutes silence was observed in memory of the deceased.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

It was proposed by Councillor T. Fortune, seconded by Councillor L. Scott and agreed that the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 29th November, 2022, as circulated, be confirmed and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

2. PRESENTATION ON SOUTH BEACH AREA ACTION PLAN

This presentation was deferred until after item 3 on the agenda.

3. REPORT ON SPEED LIMIT REVIEW

A report on the proposals for the speed limit review had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting. The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Michael Flynn, Senior Engineer and Mr. Brian O'Sullivan, Executive Engineer to the meeting. They went through the submissions received and their proposals and they pointed out that the proposals must comply with the Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland.

While most members welcomed a proposed periodic speed limit of 30 kph in the vicinity of schools in the district some members suggested that the speed limit close to schools should be 30 kph at all times.

In response to a query from the members, the District Engineer stated that the default speed limit on rural roads was 80 kph but that the rules of the road required motorists to drive at a speed suitable for individual road conditions. He stated that 80 kph signs in the district were being replaced with rural speed limit signs so that motorists did not see the speed limit as a target.

Mr. M. Flynn informed the members that proposed speed limits could be appealed in the first instance to the County Council and thereafter to TII. He stated that the Safe Routes to School Scheme required lengthy lead in times as well as participation by and consultation with schools and parents associations. He pointed out that only three schools in the county were included in the first round of funding and five schools in the second round.

Following further discussion, Mr. M. Flynn informed the members that it was hoped to bring a report on the review of speed limits to the full meeting on Wicklow County Council in February 2023 for adoption.

PRESENTATION ON SOUTH BEACH AREA ACTION PLAN

A copy of the proposals for the South Beach Area Action Plan had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting.

The District Manager gave a brief background to the proposals and pointed out that it was intended to go out to the market in the new year to invite expressions of interest for developing the site. He stated that proposals must include a hotel and that any disposal of the site would have to be agreed at a full County Council meeting.

Members supported the proposals and suggested that a large hotel, with conference facilities, was required in the area as well as adequate parking. They also suggested that the provision of an amphitheatre and community space should be considered and that as many trees as possible on the site should be maintained.

Following further discussion, the District Manager informed the members that there was plenty of room on the site for a playground and that the market would determine the size of any hotel to be provided.

4. REPORT FROM GREYSTONES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT ENGINEER

The District Engineer informed the members that there was no update on projects since the November meeting and he answered any queries from the members in relation to works. He stated that the road gritting programme was included in the Council's Winter Maintenance Plan which had been circulated to the members and he pointed out that the gritting works carried out in the district created a lot of strain on staff resources and impacted on other works. He stated that the Council gritted roads to keep emergency access to all areas and he pointed out that local roads were gritted on a priority basis. He stated that grit was left at the entrance to hilly housing estates like Burnaby Heights and Rathdown Park for use by residents and he pointed out that grit or sandbags were not given out to members of the public.

The District Engineer informed the members that the Housing Section had agreed to rebuild a wall at Burnaby Lawns and that a fencing panel would be removed from the stream there. He stated that a new footpath had been provided at Bellevue Hill but that not all residents were in favour of providing

public lighting there. He pointed out that Archers Wood was a private development and therefore the Council was not involved in having the ESB supply sorted and he stated that the consultants appointed to look at options for the Delgany village scheme would engage with the Delgany Community Council before choosing a preferred option.

In relation to the Cliff Walk, the District Manager stated that it was taking a lot longer than anticipated to acquire the necessary land to move the path and that a CPO was now proposed if necessary. He pointed out that the funding available must be spent before the end of 2023 and he assured the members that every effort was being made to have this progressed.

Members suggested that a plan should be put in place to have footpaths and cycle paths gritted in bad weather to encourage active travel and they requested that a permanent structure be provided at the top of Applewood Heights together with a yellow box junction on the R761 at the entrance to the estate.

The District Administrator informed the members that some works had been carried out to clean up Dr. Ryan Park and that the Gardai had advised that they had received no further complaints since the Halloween weekend. She pointed out that the fencing at the site at present was temporary during the construction phase and that any permanent fencing would require planning permission. She stated that the Council officials were keeping in contact with the local Gardai in relation to any issues at this location.

5. STANDING ORDER NO. 5 - TIME OF MONTHLY MEETINGS OF GMD

The District Administrator informed the members that daytime meetings would be more suitable for the staff of the Municipal District and suggested that meetings take place from 10.30 am to 12.30 pm on the last Tuesday of every month instead of from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm. She pointed out that it was not possible to have hybrid meetings in the district at present.

Following discussion it was agreed that the monthly meetings of Greystones Municipal District continue to be held from 7.30 pm to 9.30 pm on the last Tuesday of every month.

6. NOTICES OF MOTION

No notices of motion were discussed.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

1. The District Administrator informed the members that the Library Service, in conjunction with the Arts Office and the Greystones Tidy Towns group, intended to erect a story trail in Burnaby Park that would be funded by Creative Ireland. She agreed to seek clarification on questions raised and to circulate the details to the members.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Members enquired about cost rental and social housing that had become available in the district. The Cathaoirleach stated that he understood that representatives from the Land Development Agency would attend the January meeting of Wicklow County Council.
2. The District Engineer informed the members that the Sensory Garden in Burnaby Park had won an award recently and it was agreed to circulate the details of same to the members.
3. The Cathaoirleach thanked his fellow Councillors and staff for all their work over the past year and wished everyone a happy Christmas and New Year.
4. The District Manager also thanked everyone for their co-operation in the past year and wished everyone season's greetings.

THIS CONCLUDED THE BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____ **CATHAOIRLEACH**

CERTIFIED: _____ **DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

DATED THIS: _____ **DAY OF** _____ **2023**