

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE
PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON MONDAY,
15th APRIL at 9.30 a.m.**

Attendance:

Councillors:

Cllr. John O'Rourke (Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Jackser Owens (Leas-Cathaoirleach)
Cllr. Kathleen Codd-Nolan
Cllr. Cathal Byrne
Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy
Cllr. Aidan Browne

Officials:

Ms Carolyne Godkin, Director of Service
Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer
Ms. Edel Nolan, Staff Officer
Mr Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer.
Mr Larry McHale, Project Resident Engineer.
Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer
Ms Siobhan Murphy, Executive Scientist.
Ms. Deirdre Mullally, Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme.

Via Teams:

Mr Eoin Newman, Assistant Planner.
Ms Eimear Kennedy, Volunteer Coordinator, Fleadh Cheoil.
Ms Verona Murphy, TD.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the March Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 25th March 2024

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Codd Nolan the Minutes of the March Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 25th March 2024 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Matters Arising

Cllr Murphy requested an update on the appointment of the Heritage Officer and the Information panels for Vinegar Hill.

Cllr Owens queried if the position of Adult School Warden for Enniscorthy had been advertised?

Cathaoirleach Cllr O'Rourke queried why the Amenity Centre in Enniscorthy could not accept Duvets and Pillows and why constituents were required to travel to Holmestown with same.

The District manager updated the members with email correspondence she had received from Roads Department in connection with the replacement of Adult School Wardens and informed the members that HR are currently in the recruitment process to appoint a new Heritage Officer.

2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:

2.1 Planning

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

The members raised the following concerns:

- Are there plans to build houses on piece of vacant ground in Cherry Orchard area?
- Request for update on the County Development Plan and the Local Area Plan?
- Request for update on the Enniscorthy Development Plan and in particular the Zoning for Enniscorthy.

Mr Newman committed to reverting to the members with replies to the queries.

2.2 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service

The Community, Libraries and Fire Service reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

Ms Deirdre Mullally, Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme presented to the members on the Scheme. The members made the following comments:

Is there any additional funding available from this scheme?

Is the scheme only for people living on their own ?

What is the wait time for a visit once applied for?

Ms Mullally confirmed that there is no funding through this scheme, it is only to help people access the existing grants available.

Cllr Murphy proposed that a representative from The Local Link be invited to attend the May Monthly meeting and Cllr Byrne seconded this proposal.

Cllr O'Rourke queried if the SEAI could be requested to expedite visit times to people who are availing of the services of the Healthy Age Friendly Homes Programme.

Cllr Murphy queried if the Fire Personnel with Wexford County Council is now at full capacity?

Cllr Byrne requested if CCTV could be used to deter illegal dumping in Blackstoops?

Cathaoirleach Cllr O'Rourke requested that Wexford County Council carry out remedial works on The Still Pond as it has deteriorated and is in a very poor state. Cllr Byrne and Cllr Browne supported Cathaoirleach Cllr O'Rourke's request.

The Members also requested officials to attend to an issue of Sewerage running into the Pitch N Putt Club grounds.

Director of Services Ms Godkin answered all the questions and committed to investigating the Still Pond issue.

2.3 Housing

The reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted. The Members put forward several queries and concerns, in particular:

- The delivery date of both An Glasain and Castlelands estates.
- The possibility of sourcing funding for resurfacing works programme for Housing Estates within EMD?
- An update on the expressions of interest for land received?.

Director of Services Ms Godkin and Ms Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer answered the members queries confirming a delay on the release of houses in Castlelands and the issue was now resolved, and the house would be released shortly. Ms Redmond committed to reverting with further answers and updates before the next meeting.

2.4 Municipal District Report

The Municipal District report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Shopfront Painting & Flower Grant Scheme 2024

The Enniscorthy Municipal District Shopfront Painting & Flower Grant Scheme 2024 will be advertised on 26th April. The scheme will assist business owners / operators to carry out works which will improve the exterior appearance of their business premises. Applications will be invited from commercial properties in the following locations: Ballindaggin, Bree, Bunclody, Enniscorthy, Davidstown, Ferns and Kiltaly. Full details will be available on our website.

Grants available for 2024 is as follows:

Shopfront Painting	€300
Flower Grant Scheme 2024	€150

Applications will also be available from the Enniscorthy Municipal District office. Completed Application Forms must be submitted to: Enniscorthy Municipal District, Market Square, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

Any queries please telephone Enniscorthy Municipal District 053 919 6830

Email: emdreception@wexfordcoco.ie

Closing date for receipt of completed Application Forms is: 5pm Friday, 31st May 2024.

Cllr Murphy requested that Awnings be included in the Shopfront Scheme.

Town and Village Renewal TV22WX14 - Enniscorthy Well Being & Activity Garden

The draft lease for the Enniscorthy Wellbeing and Activity Garden is being finalised. The tender documents for the Design and Build of the garden are being drawn up and will be advertised in the coming weeks.

All-Weather Astro Pitch, Ross Road, Enniscorthy

A two year contract with Wexford Community Alliance is being drawn up.

Proposed rates to be charged are as follows:-

€60 per hour for half pitch (training)

€120 per hour for full pitch (training)

€140 per match (daylight)

€160 per match (with lights)

(20% discount for all Wexford Football Alliance members)

Details to be finalised are:-

- Booking System (online and to be user friendly)
- Indicative Cash Flow and financial management
- Profit management /investment proposals
- Reporting arrangement to the Council
- Details and experience of staff that will manage & operate.
- Off-peak proposals or unused hours on the pitch
- Confirmation of Health & Safety Statement / training etc

Wexford Co Co will have a formal maintenance arrangement in place for the pitch with the contractor for a period post commissioning.

Cllr Owens queried the completion date for the Astro Pitch. District Manager confirmed that it would be complete prior to June 2024.

Section 254 Outdoor Dining Licences

Draft licences for the successful applicants have been drawn up. Correspondence will be issued to the applicants this week. Invoice for licence fee of €125 per table and 4 chairs will also be included. Licences will be issued once payment is received.

Businesses that are non-compliant with the conditions will be at risk of losing their licence.

Quarterly Meeting with An Garda Siochána

It is proposed to meet An Garda Siochána in the coming weeks. If the Members would like to include items on the agenda, please submit prior to the agreed date of the meeting. Date to be confirmed.

Civic Awards Evening

16 nominations for Civic Awards have been received from the Members to be agreed at the April meeting. The event will take place on Friday 17th May in Enniscorthy Castle. We look forward to recognising and honouring the outstanding achievements of individuals and groups within the Enniscorthy District.

The 'Wilkie' Way is Unveiled

The naming of the steps on Castle Street has been unveiled. The steps are named after the Late Mr Sam 'Wilkie' Thorpe. Sam Thorpe was born in 1919 and was widely known and acknowledged especially for his excellence as a Hurler and Gaelic footballer. He represented Wexford in both codes and played for Leinster. He also served on Spike Island during World War 2. He was a larger-than-life character who took great pride in his hometown.

Dog Fouling Bins

Enniscorthy MD are looking at Dog Bin locations in certain areas around the town. These bins will be located in areas where there is a genuine need.

It is policy not to place them in housing estates, or on routes where there are already existing waste bins.

It is proposed to place a new dog bin on the green space near Cluain An Oir.

Cllr Owens requested dog fouling bin be installed along the John Street to St John's Villas route.

Easter Monday Commemoration

The Annual Easter Monday commemoration took place on Monday, 1st April. The ceremonies began with a Special Mass in St. Aidan's Cathedral at 10am

The Reserve Defence Forces provided a Colour Party that led the parade to the Market Square. The event was attended by the Ballindaggin Pipe Band, Enniscorthy Historical Re-Enactment Society, Martina Leacy's School of Dance, Judy Heffernan, Anthony Nolan.

Many thanks to the Sub-Committee for organising the event.

The Rockin' Food and Fruit Festival 3rd -6th May

The Rockin' Food and Fruit Festival will take place in Enniscorthy over the May Bank Holiday Weekend and promises to be a unique food, family and music festival. Further information can be obtained through the festival website www.rockinfoodfestival.ie.

Regeneration Roadshows

To enhance awareness and support for owners of vacant/derelict properties and sites, the Regeneration Unit held a Roadshow in the Market Square on Friday last, with the aim to enlighten the public about various grants and programmes tailored to address vacant and derelict properties.

The event ran from 2pm until 6pm which was well attended.

Cllr Byrne raised the issue of a broken streetlight requiring attention in Rectory Fields area.

Cllr Owens requested that the Engineers investigate placing a speed ramp at the bottom of Bohreen Hill junction with Irish Street.

Cathaoirleach O'Rourke at this juncture called for a break in the meeting to allow for tea 10.35am.

Meeting resumed at 10.45am.

2.5 Roads Report.

The Roads Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The Members raised several queries to which Mr. Dempsey, Executive Engineer responded:

- Repairs requested for various roads in the district.
- Repair to the damaged Pedestrian Crossing at Duffry Gate.
- Gully cleaning programme for the district.
- Roadway leading to the Ringwood walk at Kilcarberry requires maintenance.
- The list of roads included on the Community Involvement Scheme and source of extra funding possibility?
- Line Marking throughout the District.

Mr Dempsey informed the members that the road crews were extremely busy at potholes due to excessive amounts of rainfall in past weeks and committed to looking at all roads mentioned as soon as possible. Mr Dempsey also committed to progressing a new gully cleaning programme in the coming weeks. He also updated the members that Roads central have secured funding to carry out safety works on the bridge at the Still.

2.6 Flood Defence Report.

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Cllr Byrne proposed that the members of Enniscorthy Municipal District would seek a meeting with the new minister of Office of Public Works, Cllr Codd Nolan seconded this proposal and Cllr Owens stated that if the minister could not attend Enniscorthy that the members would travel to meet with him.

2.7 Special Projects.

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

5.1 Presentation on Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann Volunteering. Ms Eimear Kennedy, Volunteer Coordinator, Fleadh Cheoil na hEireann presented to the members on the requirement and advantages of the volunteers for the Fleadh.

3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members.

3.1 Municipal Civic Honor Recipients list. The list was noted by the members and unanimously agreed. District Manager informed the members that a provisional date of the 17th May was booked for the event in Enniscorthy Castle.

4. Correspondence.

None.

5. Any Other Business.

Cathaoirleach Cllr O'Rourke and Cllr Byrne raised the matter of Wexford County Council tenants requiring works to upgrade windows and doors and queried if this could be done outside the Grant programme. Director of Services confirmed that could be looked after in under the normal maintenance channels.

This concluded the business of the Meeting at 11.17am.

John O'Rourke
CATHAOIRLEACH

20th May 2024
DATE