

**MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF  
THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE  
PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON TUESDAY,  
19<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30 a.m.**

**Attendance:**

**Councillors:** Cllr. Aidan Browne (Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Jackser Owens (Leas-Cathaoirleach)  
Cllr. Pat Kehoe  
Cllr. Cathal Byrne  
Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy  
Cllr. John O'Rourke

**Officials:** Ms Carolyne Godkin, Director of Service  
Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager  
Ms. Edel Nolan, Staff Officer  
Mr Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer.  
Mr Larry McHale, Project Resident Engineer.  
Ms Siobhan Murphy, Executive Scientist.  
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer  
Mr Marcus Linehan, Executive Planner.  
Ms. Angela Finn, Senior Staff Officer.  
Mr Eamon Hore, Director of Service

**Via Teams:** Ms Michele Bridges Carley, Administrative Officer.

**Apologies:** Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer.

Councillor Barbara Anne Murphy wished all gentlemen present a happy International Men's Day.

**Congratulations:**

The members extended their congratulations to;

- The Marshalstown Castledockerel Junior Football club on their recent win in the County Junior Championships
- The Alzheimer's Association group on the excellent event ran in Castle Gardens.
- Festy Ebosele on his first start for the Irish National Football Team.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes:**

**1.1 Minutes of the October Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024**

On the proposal of Cllr. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. Owens the Minutes of the October Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy

held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

## **1.2 Matters Arising**

Cllr Owens requested an update on the issue raised in the October Meeting with regards to Slaney Search and Rescue. The District Manager informed Cllr Owens that a meeting was held with the group and the district office is awaiting a proposal from Slaney Search and Rescue.

Cathaoirleach, Cllr Browne, recommended the suspension of Standing Orders to facilitate a change in the Order of Business. Mr Eamon Hore Director of Services had requested to address the members. Following this recommendations proposal by Cllr Owens, seconded by Cllr Kehoe, standing orders were duly suspended. An Cathaoirleach, Cllr Browne, requested the order of business to be reflected in the minutes.

Mr Hore furnished the members with a report on the operation of Active Travel – Safe routes to Schools Scheme at St Aidan’s Primary School for their review. Mr Hore requested the Members to review the report and discuss and then decide what actions if any they wish to recommend for the school in relation to reinstating an Adult School Warden. Mr Hore informed the Members that the scheme was working well, and he hoped the Members would see this also.

Cllr Owens disagreed with Mr Hore. Cllr O’Rourke proposed that the Members give time to look at the report and have a special meeting about the matter on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 11.30am. This was seconded by Cllr Byrne.

## **2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:**

### **2.1 Planning**

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

Cllr Kehoe requested an update on the planning application lodged for a site in Templeshannon.

On the proposal of Cllr. Browne, seconded by Cllr. Kehoe it was agreed to proceed to ‘In Committee’ at this juncture of the meeting to discuss a sensitive Planning issue.

The members of the press were asked to leave the meeting at 9.39am.

The normal business of the meeting resumed at 9.55am.

Cllr Murphy asked the timeline for a pre planning meeting, the Executive planner informed Cllr Murphy that there was no delay for Enniscorthy District in pre planning meetings, Cllr Murphy requested that this be reflected in the monthly Planning reports.

## **2.2 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service**

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

The members raised the following queries:

- Request for bed frame to be removed from N80 opposite Morrissey's garage near Bunclody.
- Removal of dumped mattresses.
- Request for dates of Christmas Tree recycling to be advertised.
- Mattress amnesty dates?
- Dog fouling bin review.

Director of Services Ms Godkin and Siobhan Murphy, Executive Scientist answered all the members queries and committed to carrying out a survey of dog fouling bins in Enniscorthy.

## **2.3 Housing Reports**

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

- Update on when Castlelands houses will be allocated and people notified.
- Clarification on House in Old Forrest.
- Request for pilot scheme for Housing Estates to carry out repair works on footpaths and roadways.

Housing Staff members in attendance answered the members queries and committed to reverting to the members with answers on a breakdown of delivery of proposed housing builds in 2025. Director of Service Ms Godkin informed the Members that a proposed pilot scheme in collaboration with Housing and Roads is in discussions at present and more details will follow once finalised.

## **3.4 Municipal District Report**

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

### **National Supervalu Tidy Towns Competition**

Congratulations and well done to all the Tidy Towns groups in the district who entered the competition. Tidy Towns groups from Bree, Bunclody, Ballindaggin, Ferns all increased their points on last year.

Enniscorthy Tidy Towns brought home a gold medal for the first time in this year's prestigious National Supervalu Tidy Towns Awards earning 371 points – an improvement of 15 points on last year's mark. This is a fantastic achievement for Enniscorthy. The adjudicators noted that "the town has a charm and the amenities

are excellent". They also commended the local group on "a lot of work accomplished to date" and noted that "it's clear Enniscorthy has many plans in the pipeline that will enhance the town and the lives of its residents."

I wish to thank all the volunteers, groups and members of the Enniscorthy Municipal District outdoor staff for their continued efforts in keeping the town and district tidy and looking it best. The dedication, commitment and passion of the volunteer groups is something to be proud of.

Enniscorthy Municipal District will continue to work with the Tidy Town Committees to make Enniscorthy District a better place to live and visit.

### **Bellefield Road Community Playground and Public Realm**

The Cathaoirleach of Enniscorthy Municipal District Cllr. Aidan Browne and Minister James Browne officially opened the Bellefield Playground and Public Realm on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October. The new playground was funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Community Recognition fund and is a great new amenity for Enniscorthy community and visitors.

### **Brooklyn Information Sign**

Information is being gathered for a new sign to be located at the Brooklyn bench. Brooklyn was filmed in Enniscorthy in 2014, and the book is now on the French school curriculum. A number of schools are expected to visit Enniscorthy from France in 2025 to do the Brooklyn Movie Bus Tour run by Cathy Keane.

### **Civic Honours**

It is proposed that Nomination Forms will be sent to the Members to suggest individuals and groups for consideration for receipt of a Civic Honour. The Civic Honours Sub Committee will meet in January 2025 to select nominees for approval by the Municipal District.

### **Enniscorthy Riverside Trail**

The Cathaoirleach of Enniscorthy Municipal District Cllr. Aidan Browne and Minister James Browne officially opened the scenic trail on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> October. The new 600m loop around the Urrin River extends the existing Enniscorthy Riverside Trail. Enniscorthy Smart Town Team Community Group in conjunction with Rory O'Mahony Wexford County Council submitted a successful application to the Department of Rural and Community Development under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme for the accessible link path to the trail.

The trail has proved to be very popular with the public and is well used by the residents of Enniscorthy Town and visitors alike and is recognised for its beautiful scenery.

Words of appreciation were given on the day to the landowners Kevin Cooney and John Molloy, H & H Group contractor Mick Hughes and David Byrne and David Cheevers from Irish Rail Dervla Tierney and Alan Quirke, Enniscorthy Smart Town Team and Wexford Walking trails for promoting the trail.

Works are ongoing on the design and planning to extend the trail network to link to the Ringwood and Borodale trails.

### **All-Weather Astro Pitch, Ross Road, Enniscorthy**

Works on car parking at the facility are almost complete. We are awaiting final certifications from the Contractor before official handover to WCC.

An information meeting for clubs has been arranged for Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> November. Two representatives from each club have been invited to attend the meeting.

### **Playful Spaces Project**

The launch of the musical equipment will take place in the Orchard Peace Park on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November at 10.00am. The project is supported by Healthy Wexford through the Healthy Ireland fund.

The musical instruments are a great addition to the park. The play-along-the -way concept makes for a more interesting journey through the park. Enniscorthy MD will continue to make improvements and promote and develop the park to encourage more users to the park.

### **Programme of Events**

#### **Bunclody Christmas Lights Switch On**

The Bunclody Christmas lights switch on will take place on Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November with music and entertainment from 5pm.

#### **Enniscorthy Christmas Light Switch On**

The Enniscorthy Christmas Lights switch on event will take place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November commencing from 5.00pm. The event will commence with a festive parade from the Castle to the Market Square.

Join Santa, Mrs Claus, the Elves, and characters from Rathnure Panto, and Leacy's School of Dance for some festive fun. Free kids face painting and the North Pole Post Box will be in the Market Square to post your Santa letters.

There is a prize on the day for best Christmas outfit.

South East Radio will broadcast live from the Market Square from 3pm.

## **Santas Enchanted Christmas Experience**

The Santa's Enchanted Christmas Experience will run from Saturday 30th November to Saturday 23rd December. A Marketing Campaign is ongoing. New dates for Friday's and Sunday's have just been released.

## **Best Christmas Window Display Competition**

Enniscorthy Municipal District will host the Best Christmas Window Display Competition again for 2025.

Business owners in Enniscorthy, Ferns and Bunclody are invited to take part, as dressing windows for Christmas really helps to create a wonderful atmosphere in our towns and villages.

The most festive winning entry will be announced on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December and will receive €500 worth of Wexford County Chamber Vouchers sponsored by Enniscorthy Municipal District.

The members looked for an update on Christmas Parking Arrangements and requested that we would look at the following;-

- CE Scheme workers to carry out duties one day a week in Bunclody and Ferns.
- Brooklyn themed mural for the town.
- Slainte Care Community Programme for Bunclody.
- New Public Toilet in Enniscorthy.
- Pure Mile scheme to be rolled out in Bunclody and Ferns.
- Projects to promote Eileen Gray.

Cllr Kehoe commended the Ballindaggin Tidy Towns group for their awards received in the Environment Awards.

District Manager Ms Claire Lawless answered the Members queries and commented how the Tidy Towns groups were doing a fantastic job keeping the district looking well.

Cathaoirleach Browne at this juncture called for a break in the meeting to allow for tea 10.23am. Meeting resumed at 10.38am.

## **2.5 Roads Report.**

The Roads Report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. The members raised the following issues:

- Overgrown ditches at junctions in Caim and Marshalstown.
- Number of Public Lights not working to be reported.
- Issue of anti-social behaviour at the Grotto in Moran Park, would a fence be erected to prevent same.
- Parking on footpaths outside Cathedral at Mass times.
- The requirement of raised pedestrian crossing at top and bottom of the Mall in Bunclody.
- Various roads requiring attention throughout the district.
- Update on Safe Routes to School for the Community College.

Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer for roads replied to the members queries and informed the Members that works have been carried at the junctions mention in the October meeting and committed to bringing the light faults back to the relevant section.

## **2.6 Flood Defence Report.**

The report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

## **2.7 Special Projects.**

### **2.7.1 Presentation on the concept design for the Enniscorthy Castle Quarter.**

Cathaoirleach Cllr Adian Browne informed the meeting that this item was being deferred to the December meeting.

The Special Projects report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

Director of Service Ms Carolyne Godkin informed the members that the sale of the Castle Nightclub building was near completion and this site would be an integral part of the proposed Castle Quarter development.

A discussion ensued on the progress of the proposed carpark and public realm area at the old Murphy Floods site. It is expected to be the new year before it is finished. Cllr O'Rourke requested that the Farmers Market be approached with the view of moving into the site once completed.

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

None.

## **4. Correspondence.**

The District Manger updated the members that she had received acknowledgement of receipt of the letter sent to An Garda Siochana requesting an update on the CCTV Schemes for Enniscorthy and Bunclody.

**5. Any Other Business.**

Cllr Murphy raised the issue of the movement of polling stations for the upcoming election to schools which is putting great pressure on parents for childcare and requested that more communication is given in future election processes.

Cathaoirleach Cllr Adian Browne brought the meeting to conclusion by wishing both Cllr Byrne and Cllr Owens the very best in the upcoming general election. Director of Service Carolyne Godkin on behalf of the officials also wished both candidates the very best.

This concluded the business of the Meeting at 11.17am.

          Cllr Aidan Browne            
**CATHAOIRLEACH**

  17<sup>th</sup> December 2024            
**DATE**