

**MINUTES OF THE JULY MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ENNISCORTHY HELD IN THE
PRESENTATION CENTRE, ENNISCORTHY ON TUESDAY,
17th September at 9.30 a.m.**

Attendance:

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

Officials: Ms. Carolyne Godkin, Director of Service
Ms. Claire Lawless, District Manager, EMD
Ms. Lisa Moore, Assistant Staff Officer, EMD
Mr. Neil Dempsey, Executive Engineer, EMD
Mr. David Codd, Chief Technician, Roads Safety Officer.
Mr. Tom Banville, Senior Executive Officer, Planning.
Mr Marcus Linehan, Executive Planner.
Ms. Roseanne Redmond, Senior Staff Officer, Housing

Apologies: Cllr. Jackser Owens (Leas-Cathaoirleach)
Mr. Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer, EMD.
Mr. Larry McHale, Project Resident Engineer, Special
Projects
Ms. Siobhan Murphy, Executive Scientist, Environment
Ms. Angela Finn, Senior Staff Officer, Housing Capital

Votes of Sympathy:

The Members expressed their sincere sympathies to the following:-

- The Davis & Owens Families Enniscorthy on the passing of the late Mrs Teresa Davis, Moran Park, R.I.P.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

1.1 Minutes of the July Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy – 16th July 2024

On the proposal of Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy, seconded by Cllr. John O'Rourke the Minutes of the July Monthly Meeting of the Members of the Municipal District of Enniscorthy held on 16th July 2024 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.2 Minutes of the Special Meeting – Housing Supply EMD – 03rd September 2024

On the proposal of Cllr. Barbara-Anne Murphy, seconded by Cllr. John O'Rourke the Minutes of the Special Meeting – Housing Supply EMD held on 03rd September 2024 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.3 Minutes of the Special Meeting – Part VIII Market Square and surrounding streets.

On the proposal of Cllr. Pat Kehoe, seconded by Cllr. Cathal Byrne the Minutes of the Special Meeting Part VIII Market Square and surrounding streets held on 3rd September 2024 were adopted by the Council and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

1.4 Matters Arising

- Request for Irish Water be invited to the next meeting.
- Request for feedback from the Street Audit carried out.
- Request for bins at Bellefield/St Aidan's Villas.
- Request to write to the GAA about the situation on match days as parking is chaotic.
- Request that large HGV's be directed away from busy areas in the town.

District Manager Ms Claire Lawless answered all queries.

Executive Engineer, Mr Neil Dempsey clarified that he has asked that Satellite Navigation direct traffic away from the busy areas which was to include a weight limit.

2. Consideration of Reports & Recommendations:

2.1 Planning

The Planning reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

The Members raised the following queries:

- Current number awaiting a pre planning meeting?
- Queries regarding derelict sites register

The Executive Planner confirmed that the backlog of pre planning meetings on his list has now been cleared, which came as very positive news to the Members.

Senior Executive Officer for Planning Mr Banville requested that details of potential derelict properties be forwarded to him, and he would organise an inspection of same.

2.1.1 Taking In Charge Policy.

Senior Executive Officer for Mr Tom Banville gave a presentation to the Members on the Taking In Charge Policy.

The Members raised the following queries:

- Legacy issues in estates where there are no connections to Irish Water services
- Request that Developer Provided Infrastructure (DPI) issue be brought to the attention of the Department.
- Queried if The Paddocks estate had applied to be TIC.
- It was feared that building contractors would shy away from building in rural villages as it was felt that Irish Water may not prioritise connections in these areas.
- Request for perimeter fencing in estates to be included when Taking In Charge.

Senior Executive Officer for Mr Tom Banville responded to the questions raised by the Members.

Executive Engineer Mr Dempsey stated there is currently no budget for roads in the Estates nor is the funding to include boundaries/fencing which would be extremely expensive.

Director Of Services Ms Godkin outlined the difficulty that WCC has in taking on estates with legacy issues and explained that the Council are currently struggling with poor water quality, the vast majority of septic tanks that are inspected are not compliant and agreed with Executive Engineer Mr Dempsey that the funding is an issue.

2.2 Community, Environment, Libraries & Fire Service

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

The Members raised the following queries:

- Waste companies have not provided brown bins to all their customers yet as was thought to have happened by January 2024.
- Carrig Graveyard at St Johns, Kilcarbry is overgrown.
- St. Peters Graveyard in Ferns has parking on the main road and steps which makes it difficult to access the grounds for anyone who may have a disability.
- Request for Bins at Bellefield before the opening of the new playground.

Director of Services Ms Godkin will clarify the date by which Waste companies are to supply brown bins to their customers and also undertook to look into the issues raised at St. Peters Graveyard in Ferns and St. Johns Carrig Graveyard Kilcarbry.

2.3 Housing

The reports circulated prior to the meeting were noted.

- The housing department were thanked for providing the Capital Report for EnniscorthyMD although, disappointment was expressed that only 18 houses were being built under housing for all.
- Ms Redmond told the Members that final snagging was being carried out on the houses in Castlelands Estate in Ferns. Ms Godkin is very hopeful that the houses will be released before Christmas.

2.4 Municipal District Report

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

Audit of Streetscape, Signs and Poles

An audit has been carried out on Slaney Street, Castle Street, Court Street, Rafter Street and Market Square. A Programme of Works has been completed. The works will be carried out to improve the overall streetscape within Enniscorthy. These works will be dependent on funding available.

Playful Spaces Project

The musical equipment will be installed in the Orchard Peace Park in the coming weeks. An event will be held in the park to showcase the new equipment. Details of event to be confirmed.

Shopfront Painting & Flower Grant Scheme 2024

We had a fantastic response to the scheme this year. The total number of applications completed this year.

21 applications for the Painting/Awning Grant Scheme -	€5,632.79
26 applications for the Flower Grant Scheme.	€3,266.21

Vinegar Hill

New seating is being installed this week. The illustration for the Heritage Interpretative panels has been completed. Content for the panels is being drafted. Parking and access improvements to Vinegar Hill are being investigated.

St Johns Community Activity Garden

Site has been fenced off and works will commence shortly. Sod Turning event details to be confirmed.

All-Weather Astro Pitch, Ross Road, Enniscorthy

Works are almost complete on site. Details of official opening to be confirmed.

Festival Programme 2024

Blackstairs Blues Festival 13th - 15th September

Enniscorthy Municipal District are delighted to support this festival. This year the festival celebrates its 30th anniversary with another great programme of events

The Members raised the following queries:

- Rafter Street – Power wash cleaning and Pedestrianisation
- St Johns Community Garden – when will it be completed.
- Musical Instruments in The Orchard Peace Park – when will works be completed.
- Astro Pitch – finish date, details of how to book it and was this facility for all local clubs.
- Sports Hub running track surface – is there a grant to replace this fully?
- Sports Hub Equipment – when will it be installed?
- Street Signs in Bunclody. “The Mall”, “Main Street”, Chapel Road VS Convent Road?
- Update on trails and Promenade River Walk – will there be signs.
- Request for a Brooklyn Information Sign at the Brooklyn Bench as the book is on Leaving Certificate course in France and a number of tours are expected in 2025.
- Request to make Vinegar Hill more accessible by pedestrianisation of the main lane and provide access for buses with signage along the lane.
- Request for Bus Shelters in Bunclody.

District Manager Ms Claire Lawless responded to the members queries:

Ms Lawless advised that Mr Rory O’Mahony Senior Executive Engineer is currently at design and Planning stage to extend the trail network on the on-going ORIS Scheme Enniscorthy Trail Hub link to Ringwood and Borodale.

Director of Services Ms Godkin noted that an offer had been made for the position of Heritage Officer and awaiting confirmation of acceptance.

Cathaoirleach Browne at this juncture called for a break in the meeting to allow for tea 10.21am.

Meeting resumed at 10.38am.

2.5 Roads Report.

2.5.1 Implementation of the new Default 60km/h Rural Local roads Speed Limit.

A discussion took place around clarity of requirements and the roll out of the scheme and Members raised the following concerns:

- Update on replacement of Traffic Warden at St. Aidan's and if the retirement age limit could be raised to 75.
- Request for reassessment for the need of Traffic Warden if diversions are implemented.
- What was the criteria for reducing the speed limit from 80km/h to 60km/h?

Road Safety Officer Mr David Codd answered all queries.

The **Roads Report** circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

The Members raised the following queries:

- Currently 1 or 1.5 car park space per household in estates – can we look at larger estates in relation taking green areas to alleviate the parking issue, particularly in Daphny View for their workers/clients and Wheelchair bound/visually impaired. It was felt that money was being spent on replacing footpaths where cars had been parking.
- Issue with Storm Drains and Water flow in Hempfield area coming down from Mr Price which is flooding houses.
- Members to put forward the names of roads which need attention.
- Drain at the Community Centre not piped to anywhere, kids are getting splashed.
- Boreen Hill at the bottom – parking at junction Arnolds Cross dangerous, might a mirror be erected.
- Pedestrian lights at Gimont.
- Numerous issues were raised in relation to parking and paving in the Bunclody area.
- Gimont – ramps and wheelchair drop point required.
- Large amount of chlorine visible in water at houses in Hospital Lane when water has been turned off and then turned back on again.
- Turning off of water affecting businesses -timeline to be considered.
- Can a campaign be commenced requesting private landowners to cut roadside hedges.

Mr. Neil Dempsey Executive Engineer for roads replied to the Members queries and committed to looking at issues raised.

Mr Neville Shaw, Senior Executive Engineer will be notified of water issues raised.

2.6 Flood Defence Report.

The Flood Defence report circulated prior to the meeting was noted. There were no queries raised.

2.7 Special Projects.

The Special Projects report circulated prior to the meeting. It was confirmed that a representative from Special Projects attend the meeting quarterly.

There were no queries raised other than a request for support from Management with regard to progressing the Sports Hub project.

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

4. Correspondence.

A reminder has been sent to the Minister regarding meeting with the Members on the Flood Defence Scheme.

5. Any Other Business.

Cllr Kehoe asked that the draft plan for parking at Murphy Floods site be shown to the Members before any decisions are taken.

Cllr O'Rourke mentioned a tree in The Orchard Peace Park that is blocking the view of the monuments from Vinegar Hill. Mr Neil Dempsey undertook to investigate this.

Cllr Browne congratulated the organisers of the Flower Festival at St Mary's Church.

Cllr O'Rourke welcomed the relic of St Bernadette from Lourdes to St. Aidan's Cathedral, Enniscorthy on 23rd and 24th September 2024.

This concluded the business of the Meeting at 11.17am.

Cllr Aidan Browne
CATHAOIRLEACH

22nd October 2024
DATE