

Minutes of September Meeting of the Municipal District of Piltown

Venue: Meeting Room, Ferrybank Area Office

Meeting Date: 14th September, 2016 at 10am

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Ger Frisby

Present: Cllrs. Fidelis Doherty, Pat Dunphy, Eamonn Aylward, Melissa O'Neill and Tomas Breathnach

In Attendance: Anne Maria Walsh, A/Director of Services, Kevin Hanley, Meetings Administrator, Ian Gardner, Area Engineer, Katherine Peacock, Kilkenny Public Participation Network Development Officer and Laura Murphy, A/Staff Officer.

Outset:

Cllr. Frisby advised the meeting that a petition regarding the naming of the New Ross Bypass Bridge was handed in before the meeting by Marian Furlong and that he accepted the petition on behalf of the Members of the Municipal District of Piltown.

Cllr. Frisby proposed a vote of sympathy to the O'Keeffe family on the recent death of Michael O'Keeffe, father of Liam O'Keeffe, Ferrybank Area Office. Seconded by M O'Neill and agreed by all.

Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting held 6th July 2016, proposed by Cllr. O'Neill, seconded by Cllr. Doherty and agreed.

Matters Arising

Rathkiernan Burial Ground – I Gardner confirmed he spoke to the Heritage Officer who is to contact the local community regarding same. Cllr. Dunphy asked that the Council support locals with their work to maintain the graveyard. IG replied that the Council will provide assistance where they can once works is carried out in line with proper guidelines. M O'Neill asked if a meeting could be arranged between the local community and Environment Section. K Hanley will pass on this request to Environment.

Waterford Boundary Review – AM Walsh advised that the Boundary Committee are working on the review however there is no update at present. AMW will pass on any new information once available.

Recycling Facility at Newrath – K Hanley advised that this project is going to tender shortly.

Three Sisters 2020 Bid – Cllr. Doherty expressed thanks to the Three Sisters team for their work and hoped that the Council will build on the their achievements.

Ferrybank Shopping Centre – K Hanley told the meeting he has not been informed of any new developments. He will seek an update for the next meeting.

Public Participation Network (PPN)

Katherine Peacock, Kilkenny PPN Development Officer gave a presentation to Members on the Public Participation Network outlining its structure, the role and functions of the PPN, its aim and its present position. KP informed the meeting that her role is to provide support and training to groups and individuals involved in the PPN and also to promote good working relationships, communication and sharing of information between groups. KP asked Members to promote involvement in the PPN to all constituency groups. She also requested that the PPN be made aware of any events in the locality that they could attend to promote the PPN. KP further advised that a PPN website is being developed. Members thanked KP for her presentation and raised a number of queries, including clarification on how to get involved, the process of becoming nominated and elected to an SPC, term of SPC and involvement with other committees.

Roadworks Update

I Gardner circulated an information sheet detailing progress on the Roadworks Programme since last meeting and updated Members on same. Members requested clarification on a number of the listed works and raised the following queries:-

- Are works proposed for road from Ballyfasy Cross to Daly's Cross – Not included on Multi Annual Restoration Improvement Plan.

- Improvements to visibility at Ballyreddy Cross – Co-operation from local landowners required.
- Warning signs at Templeorum National School – 2 warning signs to be erected shortly.
- Public Lighting at Inchacarron – Lighting to be connected within weeks.
- Public Lighting, Fiddown & Piltown – 4 connections are required; ESB to connect. IG to follow up.
- Footpath, Tower Road, Piltown – Enabling works to be carried out.
- Flooding at AGLISH – Blockages in drainage pipe to be cleared. Inspection chambers to be installed. May need to look at realigning drain where it discharges into stream.
- Flooding at Dunkitt – Cllr. Doherty requested an update for next meeting.

IG further informed the meeting that 3 Gateway staff have been appointed on temporary contracts until permanent appointments can be made. IG also told Members that there was a break-in at the Newrath Depot and a number of items were stolen. The Council are looking at different systems to improve security at the depot.

Declaration of a Road to be a Public Road - O'Connor's Lane, Milepost, Slieverue - Members were asked for their agreement to declare road at O'Connor's Lane, Milepost, Slieverue to be a public road. This was proposed by Cllr. Frisby, seconded by Cllrs. O'Neill and Doherty and agreed by all. The declaration of O'Connor's Lane to be a public lane will now go before the full Council Meeting.

Notices of Motion

2016(3) – Cllr. Fidelis Doherty – 12th June 2016

“That Kilkenny County Council make provision for funding for a Streetscape Paint Scheme for the Piltown Municipal District at the earliest opportunity.”

AM Walsh advised the Members that funding for Streetscape Paint Schemes currently comes out of a Municipal District's budget allocation, however schemes of this nature may be incorporated into the new Town & Village Renewal Scheme announced this year. AMW said the Council expects to receive an allocation under the new scheme and suggested that a Streetscape Paint Scheme could be considered then. Cllr. Doherty proposed that the motion be brought forward to the full Council meeting, seconded by Cllr. O'Neill.

Cllr. O'Neill informed the meeting that she has put forward a notice of motion to the full Council meeting that 15% of funds allocated to Kilkenny under Parks and Open Spaces Maintenance be re-directed to Municipal District of Piltown. Members were asked to support the motion.

2016(4) – Cllr. Fidelis Doherty – 10th August 2016

“That the naming of the New Ross bypass bridge structure which comes into Ballyverneen, Glenmore and that the roundabout that comes into Jamestown, Glenmore be considered by the elected members of the Piltown Municipal District and brought forward to the full council of Kilkenny County Council.”

Cllr. Doherty informed the meeting that the local community have submitted a number of suggestions for naming the New Ross Bypass Bridge and listed out proposals received to date. She asked that the naming of the bridge be discussed and considered. AM Walsh said that Chief Executives of Kilkenny and Wexford County Councils have discussed this matter and recommended that a protocol for naming structures be developed and a sub-committee set up to consider submissions. Members were in agreement that a protocol for naming public structures be put in place. Cllr. Breathnach suggested that a motion on this subject be brought before the full Council to help to expedite matters. This was agreed.

Any Other Business

- a) Air Pollution** – Cllr. Doherty raised the issue of strong stench coming from meat plant in Christendom and asked if this can be addressed. Cllr. O'Neill said that she too has raised this matter with the Environment Section and expects that a report will be available shortly. She further informed the meeting that the matter was brought to the attention of the EPA who carried out a site inspection. Cllr. O'Neill said that this issue is due to be discussed at a meeting once report from Environment Section is available.
- b) Newmarket Village** – Cllr. Dunphy told the meeting that locals in Newmarket are concerned that they are not getting adequate consideration for works required as their area is split between electoral divisions.

I Gardner told the meeting with reference to the area within the PMD, a new section of footpath near the school will be completed and public lighting will be extended on the Hugginstown Road this year. It is likely that resurfacing of the main road through the village and some traffic calming measures on the Hugginstown approach will be provided next year. Cllr. Aylward expressed concern regarding the main junction in the village. IG replied that this junction is not in PMDs area however he understands that Kilkenny East Area Engineer is examining this.

- c) **Ragwort** – Cllr. Doherty asked if there is something that the Council can do regarding the control of ragwort. IG replied the Council may consider getting a contractor to deal with it and asked that Members inform the Area Office of locations of ragwort.
- d) **New Ross Bypass & Link Road** – A report detailing current progress was circulated to Members. Cllr. Doherty asked if there is a possibility of advancing works on the link road to the N25. IG replied that programme of works are at the discretion of the contractor, however he has passed on this request to Sean Dobbs, Project Liaison Officer, New Ross Bypass.
- e) **Over Road Bridges on N25 and M9 - Cllr.** Doherty asked if the Council can address or assist with incidents at over-road bridges. IG replied that Milltown bridge (over N25) has been inspected on a number of occasions by both the Council and Gardaí however no issues were found. CCTV was also employed for a period however no anti-social behaviour was recorded. IG further advised that the Gardaí have received no reports or complaints of incidents at this location; any incidents should be reported to the Gardaí.
- f) **Provision of No Parking signs/Double yellow road markings** – Cllr. Dunphy asked if the Council could assist persons who have difficulty accessing their properties due to inconsiderate parking. IG replied that these issues are not a Council matter.
- g) **Water scheme for the Newrath Road** – Cllr. Dunphy requested clarification regarding the provision of a water scheme for Newrath Road as there are conflicting reports regarding the scheme. K Hanley will seek an update on this matter and inform Members at next meeting.
- h) **Signage** – Cllr. Doherty asked if signage can be cleaned and damaged signage replaced, where necessary. IG replied that locations of these signs should be reported to the Area Office where they will be included on a list of works to be carried out. Cllr. Breathnach asked what is the position regarding over-growth where hedges have not been cut back around signage. IG said to report these locations to the Area Office also.
- i) **TII Update** – AM Walsh told Members that at a meeting with the TII is scheduled for 21st September next in Dublin. Cllr. Doherty is to attend in place Cllr. Breathnach who is unable to be present that day.
- j) **Kncokroe/Ahenny** - It was noted that an appeal was lodged to An Bord Pleanála in relation to planning permission application for the construction of wind turbines. Members discussed making further/additional submissions in this matter. AM Walsh noted that An Bord Pleanála will consider all submissions already on the planning file however if Members wished to re-submit their concerns, they will need to do so within the timeline prescribed by An Bord Pleanála. Cllr. O’Neill told the meeting that Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional and Rural Affairs, Heather Humphries is scheduled to visit Knockroe Passage Tomb tomorrow evening and asked that Members attend to voice their concerns.
- k) **Sightlines** – Cllr. Dunphy asked if the Council can improve sightlines at Faheen junction. IG will examine this location.

Cllr. O’Neill expressed her displeasure that the land adjacent to the Boys National School in Ferrybank is due to be disposed by Kilkenny County Council to the HSE as she deemed that portion of this site should be used to provide car parking facilities for the national school. AM Walsh said that disposal of this land is on the agenda for the full Council on Monday next, 19th September.

Cllr. Dunphy highlighted that waste bag collections will be discontinued from 31st December 2016 and asked how waste will be managed going forward. AM Walsh replied that the Environment Section are due to attend the next meeting to discuss this matter.

Cllr. Dunphy asked if a reply has been received from the OPW in response to submissions made following flooding earlier this year. IG replied that he has received no reply to the submissions as yet. Cllr. Dunphy proposed that the Council should set the initiative and request a meeting with the OPW to discuss issues in the MDP area, seconded by Cllr. Aylward.

Next Meeting

The next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, 5th October at 10:00am.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathairleach

Dated: _____