

Minutes of December Meeting of the Municipal District of Piltown

Venue: Area Offices, Ferrybank

Meeting Date: 2nd December, 2015 at 9.30am

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Pat Dunphy

Present: Cllrs. Ger Frisby, Eamon Aylward, Fidelis Doherty and Tomas Breathnach

In Attendance: Maria Melia, Director of Services, Ian Gardner, Area Engineer, Kevin Hanley, Meetings Administrator, Stephen O'Connor, Aisling Hayes, Lindsay Butler and Oonagh Bannon, SO

Apologies: Cllr. Melissa O'Neill

Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting held 4th November, proposed by Cllr. Aylward, seconded by Cllr. Frisby and agreed.

Matters Arising

Public lighting, Mill Road, Mullinavat – Cllr. Aylward requested update. I Gardner advised there had been some confusion between ESB and Airtricity, but all engineering works had been completed and lighting should be operational shortly.

NRA communication – K. Hanley advised correspondence had been received from the Minister, Simon Walton was in the process of collecting all previous correspondence with the NRA, all outstanding issues to be addressed. Cllr. Frisby welcomed this and hoped outstanding matters would be resolved, particularly pedestrian crossing at Slieverue roundabout, signage and other issues.

Ferrybank Shopping Centre – Cllr. Frisby asked for update regarding IDA site visit. S. O'Connor advised that the IDA had agreed a programme of works with the Developer, which would need to be carried out before promoting and marketing the site. The Developer was liaising with IDA experts on how best to complete works. However, it was noted that ongoing legal argument would delay marketing of the site.

Recycling facility – Cllr. Aylward welcomed the reopening of the recycling service at the new site in Piltown, however he hoped progress would be made to relocate to the Newrath area. Cllr. Frisby agreed, noting a lower uptake on the service at Piltown. Cllr. Doherty also welcomed the reopening and hoped it would return to the long established vicinity of Newrath.

Local Economic and Community Plan

Stephen O'Connor and Aisling Hayes, Economic Development Officers and Lindsey Butler, Community Development Officer, were in attendance to make presentation in relation to the Draft Actions of the LECP.

S. O'Connor stated that the preparation and adoption of the LECP was a statutory process. The LECP is the strategy setting out local economic and community development programmes in the County over the next six years. The Draft Plan has recently gone through the public consultation process and based on feedback from the public, business groups and representative bodies, the final Draft had now been prepared for adoption by the Council. It was noted that the LECP was integrated with both the national and South East Action Plan for Jobs.

S. O'Connor and Aisling Hayes outlined details in relation to the economic elements of the plan. Some key actions most relevant to the Piltown District were outlined in more detail, relating to various initiatives and supports for local enterprise, promotion of tourism, development of the rural economy, improved transport and communications infrastructure, leadership and local capacity.

L. Butler gave a brief overview of the community elements of the plan, outlining the actions and objectives to tackle issues such as poverty, disadvantage and social exclusion and also to enhance community facilities and participation and to improve health and well-being. Cllr. Dunphy thanked Stephen, Aisling and Lindsey for their presentation and complimented all involved in preparing the LECP.

A detailed discussion followed the presentation, with contributions and questions from all members.

It was proposed by Cllr. Breathnach and agreed to invite a representative from Eir to the next meeting.

On the proposal of Cllr. Breathnach, seconded by Cllr. Doherty, the Draft Economic and Community Actions were adopted.

Roadworks Update

Ian Gardner circulated report to the members, progress since the last meeting was noted.

The following was discussed and noted:-

- Additional works on N29 at Gorteens Junction to commence in the next few weeks.

- Signage audit complete on regional roads, 200 signs and 150 poles needing replacement, works to be completed over the next few months.
- Signs for housing estates now delivered, works to erect same would hopefully be completed by end January. In response to Cllr. Frisby, I. Gardner advised that 1 sign would be erected per estate taken in charge.
- Winter maintenance – Cllr. Aylward noted budget expended, I. Gardner advised maintenance would continue with funding to be drawn down in 2016.
- Bus Stop and Weighbridge Glenmore – Cllr. Doherty requested update, works likely to re-commence early 2016.
- Speed limit signs – Cllr. Breathnach noted some signs/poles now redundant, I. Gardner asked that he be notified of such issues and advised repeater signs only used in urban areas. Cllr. Aylward noted no speed limit signage heading from Dunkitt on towards Cloone Road.
- Patching – it was noted that due to additional restoration works and works at Mooncoin, patching works had not been attended to as normal, however this would be a priority before the Christmas period.

Multi Annual Restoration Improvement Programme

I Gardner advised that the next Multi Annual RI Programme 2016-2018 would be prepared for agreement early next year and invited members to submit schemes for consideration. He stated that he would then prepare a prioritised list, with a view to finalising and agreeing same mid February.

Waterford Boundary Committee Update

K. Hanley advised that the submission period was now open to the public, the closing date for which would be 16th January, 2016. He advised that a second meeting would take place between KCC Steering Committee and the Boundary Committee before a recommendation was made to the Minister in March. The success of the recent public meeting at the Rhu Glenn was noted, Cllr. Dunphy thanked all involved noting the positive nature of the meeting and stating the general consensus was that there was no necessity for boundary change, whatever was required could be achieved through co-operation. Cllr. Frisby concurred, complimenting all those involved for the huge work put into the process so far. Cllr. Aylward complimented Cllrs. Dunphy and Breathnach for their presentation at the public meeting and agreed that the emphasis should be on co-operation. Cllr. Doherty agreed, noting the large number of people and the area affected. Cllr. Breathnach stated that all involved were of one mind and focus and great value should be placed on a regional approach and on identity.

Any Other Business

ECOC – Cllr. Dunphy took the opportunity to congratulate the team for the European Capital of Culture bid, on their recent success at being shortlisted for the 2020 title. Cllr. Doherty also extended congratulations, acknowledging the huge achievement and extent of work put in to-date and wished the team well for the next stage. All the members agreed and extended their good wishes.

Mooncoin works – Cllr. Dunphy thanked the Council for works at Mooncoin village. He praised the speed signs on both approaches to the village on the N24, however he asked if speed survey could be carried out, as speeding appeared to still be an issue in the centre of the village. I Gardner advised that it was normal to allow a bedding in period, but if no improvement he could arrange early 2016 and in the meantime, issues regarding speed should be reported to An Garda Siochana. It was proposed by Cllr. Dunphy and agreed to invite Gardai to next meeting.

Unfinished estates – Cllr. Aylward asked for this item to be placed on agenda for next meeting. M. Melia advised that a comprehensive report on Housing matters in general had been circulated to the SPC, which could also be given to members.

Next Meeting

It was agreed to hold the next meeting on Wednesday, 13th January, 2016 at 10am.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____