

Minutes of June Meeting of the Municipal District of Piltown

Venue: Meeting Room, Ferrybank Area Office

Meeting Date: 1st June, 2016 at 10am

Cathaoirleach: Cllr. Pat Dunphy

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

In Attendance: Marie Melia, Director of Services, Sean Dobbs, Project Liaison Officer, New Ross Bypass, Kevin Hanley, Meetings Administrator, Ian Gardner, Area Engineer and Laura Murphy, A/Staff Officer

Welcome: Cllr. Dunphy welcomed Sean Dobbs and all to the meeting.

Confirmation of Minutes

Minutes of meeting held 4th May 2016, proposed by Cllr. Frisby, seconded by Cllr. O'Neill and agreed.

Minutes of special meeting held 27th April 2016 (Speed Limit Review), proposed by Cllr. Doherty, seconded by Cllr. Aylward and agreed.

Matters Arising

New Ross Municipal District – Cllr. Doherty asked if meeting with New Ross Municipal District has been scheduled. K Hanley to confirm.

Litter on National Routes - Cllr. Doherty asked if a policy has been put in place to deal with litter on national routes.

Waterford Boundary Review – Cllr. O'Neill requested an update. K Hanley advised that a definite date for the Boundary Committee to report to the Minister has not been set. He told the Members the Committee wished to convey their apologies for the delay however due to a lack of support services they have not been in a position to finalise their report. Following discussion the Members agreed that a letter should be written to the Committee and the Minister to outline the public's concerns regarding the prolonged period in reaching a conclusion to this issue and to request that the necessary resources be made available.

Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) – Cllr. Frisby asked if there is any update on negotiations with the TII regarding footpath at Slieverue Roundabout and signage on the motorway. K Hanley replied no update as yet.

Ferrybank Playground – Cllr. O'Neill requested update. M Melia told Members that work is on-going and the MDP will be kept informed of progress. Cllr. Frisby highlighted concerns regarding encampments at the entrance road to the proposed playground. I Gardner advised that the Area Office would consider putting posts at this location when resources allow. M Melia confirmed that the Council is looking for a resolution to this issue.

Taking in Charge of Housing Developments – Cllr. Breathnach informed Members that he has put forward a notice of motion for the June meeting of the full Council that the Council have to right to initiate the taking in charge process of a housing development.

N24 – Cllr. Breathnach informed Members that he has sought advice from Simon Walton, A/Director of Services regarding the N24 Carrick Road, Mooncoin. SW is to revert to Cllr. Breathnach who will then put forward a notice of motion to the full Council on this matter.

Watermains at Carrigeen – Cllr. Aylward requested an update. I Gardner said that the contractor has applied for a Road Opening Licence to carry out investigation works; the outcome of which will determine the design of rehabilitation works. Cllr. O'Neill asked if the same contractor will be carrying out the implementation works. IG advised that this contract was a matter for Irish Water but as far as he was aware it has not been awarded as yet. Cllr. O'Neill expressed concern that this may delay progress.

Abbey Road – Cllr. Doherty informed the meeting that Abbey College has made a change its timetable from September which will result in an extra traffic exiting the schools on the Abbey Road at the same time on Monday and Tuesday afternoons. She expressed concern regarding safety and traffic management. I Gardner said this is a matter for a joint meeting with Tramore and Waterford City West Area.

Kilkenny Alerts – K Hanley told Members that the new system currently sends out water alerts but that it is intended to roll it out to other services in due course e.g. road closures. The Councillors were encouraged to register for text alerts and to get constituents to register also.

New Ross Bypass

I Gardner welcomed and introduced Sean Dobbs, Project Liaison Officer, New Ross Bypass to the meeting. A report detailing current progress was circulated to Members and S Dobbs briefed the meeting on same – see

attached. It was noted that project newsletter will be circulated next week and a dedicated website will be operational shortly. Members asked to be included on the newsletter circulation list. A 24 hour telephone hotline will also come on stream soon to deal with any queries/complaints from the public. Members raised a number of queries including local's concerns that entry to the area is maintained and that access to water be sustained. S Dobbs assured members that while it is necessary to close the Pink Rock Road to facilitate bridge construction, these matters will continue to be discussed with residents and landowners and access will be provided. Further concerns were raised regarding the height of the bridge and how wind may affect it. S Dobbs replied there is a requirement to carry out a detailed wind analysis. Members thanked S Dobbs for attending the meeting, wished the project well and looked forward to further updates.

Lane at Clonconey

I Gardner advised Members that a request has been made by the residents of Clonconey Lane, Piltown to have the lane dedicated as a public roadway. This was proposed by Cllr. Dunphy, seconded by Cllr. O'Neill and agreed.

Speed Limit Review

I Gardner circulated the minutes from the Speed Limit Review Meeting and the following was revisited:-

- R704 Mullinavat – following discussion with the Gardaí, it was agreed to reduce the speed limit to 60km/h and extend this limit to 1800m from Junction 11 off the M9 heading east towards New Ross.
- N24 Carrick Road – TII will not change the speed limit however they have agreed to investigate a re-alignment of the road between Mooncoin Village and Piltown/Fiddown Bypass at Clonmore. Members expressed concern regarding on-going safety issues along this route and the time-frame involved to carry out an investigation. The Gardaí's position regarding this road was also queried. M Melia suggested that if KCC have a Road Safety Committee that this could be a forum to discuss Member's concerns.
- N24 Waterford side of Mooncoin – The 50km/h speed limit will remain as existing, with a new 80km/h speed limit introduced out past the junction at Filbuckstown.
- R711 at Milepost – It is agreed to introduce a new 60km/h from the 50km/h gateway to just past the junction for O'Connor's Lane.
- Shanty Pub, Smartscastle – this route was examined by Declan Murphy, Road Engineer and I Gardner. It was noted that the 50km/h speed limit here is outside the guidelines recommendations and accordingly it is not feasible to extend this speed limit further.
- Skeard, Kilmacow – this route was also examined by DM and IG – in accordance with the guidelines, no justification was found to reduce the speed limit here.

Recycling Facility at Newrath

K Hanley informed Members that planning permission has been granted to CHL to develop a waste facility and civic amenity site at the former Shamrock Aluminium Site in Newrath, to include all waste streams for recycling and a pay by weight system for residual waste. He further reported that CHL are interested in running the proposed civic amenity site in co-operation with KCC. They have also applied for a waste facility permit which is being processed. KH advised that KCC proposes to tender for the provision of recycling/civic amenity services in the Southern Area – it is intended to commence the tender process before the end of June. KCC are consulting with other counties to find the best process for Kilkenny's needs. It is intended to have the services confirmed / in place by the third quarter this year.

Roadworks Update

I Gardner circulated an information sheet detailing progress on the Roadworks Programme to date and briefed Members on same. It was noted that KCC received €300k in additional funding under Flood Remedial Works for non-national roads. This funding has not been apportioned to the Area Offices as yet. IG advised Members a further request for additional funding has been made to the TII.

IG handed out two lists detailing applications and estimated costs for Community Involvement in Roadworks Scheme and Local Improvement Scheme. Members were told that funding of €105k was allocated for CIR schemes for 2016 and that offers have been made to the first 3 applicants on the CIR list. One of the offers has been deferred to 2017; the other 2 offers have been accepted. Members agreement was sought to make an

additional offer to the next applicant on the CIR list. This was proposed by Cllr. Dunphy and seconded by Cllr. Aylward.

IG advised that there is no specific funding for LISs and suggested that Members consider schemes which are of benefit to communities. IG will prepare a report for the next meeting.

Public Lighting

I Gardner circulated a hand-out to Members on public lighting, detailing schemes approved from 2014 to 2016 and schemes for consideration going forward. Costs of approved schemes and estimated costs of future schemes were provided. It was noted that an amount of €5,000.00 for the current year, 2016 has yet to be allocated. Cllr. Frisby proposed that the remaining €5k be allocated to providing 2 lights between school and roundabout in Slieverue. This was seconded by Cllr. Doherty and Cllr. O'Neill and agreed. Cllr. Breathnach acknowledged the work of IG in preparing the Public Lighting Report. He queried if Members should explore other areas requiring funding and put forward that Members should debate the use of the Local Fund Allocation. M Melia suggested that a policy could be developed for this, to include identifying definite criteria required for allocating funds and that criteria be weighted to assist members in prioritising fund allocation. M Melia also recommended that alternative funding should be looked at in conjunction with KCC's policy. It was agreed to have a separate meeting / work shop to discuss ideas before forming a policy.

Notice of Motion

Cllr. Dunphy put forward the motion asking Kilkenny Council take in charge the monument and amenity area at Sinnott's Cross in Mooncoin. This was seconded by Cllr. O'Neill and Cllr. Doherty and agreed. I Gardner will prepare a report for the next meeting.

Correspondence

K Hanley informed Members that a reply was received from Waterways Ireland regarding request made to extend its area of responsibility to include the management of boat based tourism for rivers Suir, Nore and Barrow. Waterways Ireland advised that this is a matter for the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. KH to send on copy correspondence to Members.

Any Other Business

Traffic Survey at Kilmoganny School – Cllr. Aylward highlighted that there is a safety issue at Kilmoganny School due to traffic coming off the motorway. I Gardner advised that a traffic survey is due to be carried out once they receive a piece of computer hardware that they are waiting on.

Three Sisters Bid – Cllr. Doherty wished the Three Sisters Bid team well; all members agreed. Cllr. Breathnach acknowledged the work done and the value and potential of the information gathered. Cllr. Dunphy concurred and noted the good promotion of the region by the Bid team.

Active Travel Plan Update – I Gardner said that drawings are almost complete and a presentation will be made to Members shortly. Cllr. Dunphy asked if funding was available for the scheme. IG replied that some funding is in place but the Council will need to take a look at securing additional funding for this project.

Bus Stop at Ard Daire – Cllr. Doherty highlighted the need for a bus stop at Ard Daire and asked if the provision of a bus stop could be considered? IG said that the provision of bus stop facilities is dealt with centrally by the Road Design Section – he will pass on this query.

Sallypark Enhancement – Cllr. Doherty asked if the approach from Sallypark could be enhanced. IG told members considerable tidying up works were carried out and the next step would be to complete some planting – this will be discussed with Parks Section. Cllr. Breathnach asked should Municipal Districts have their own fund for carrying out works of this nature. M Melia will refer this query to Management.

Former Area Office in Newrath – Cllr. Doherty asked what is the former area office being used for and if there are any plans for this site going forward. IG replied that the offices are used occasionally for meetings with outdoor staff. M Melia will refer this matter to the Council's Property Section.

Ferrybank Shopping Centre – It was noted that the exterior of the Ferrybank Shopping Centre is in need of attention. IG will refer this issue to the building's caretakers.

Meeting with Gardaí – Cllr. O'Neill asked if a meeting has been scheduled with the Gardaí. K Hanley will confirm date for meeting when members from both Ferrybank and Mooncoin Garda Stations are available to attend.

Cllr. Doherty paid compliments to Cllr. Dunphy on his term as Cathaoirleach and wished the in-coming Cathaoirleach all the best. All the Members joined in congratulating Cllr. Dunphy on his role as Cathaoirleach.

Maria Melia on her own behalf and on behalf of the Executive of Kilkenny County Council extended congratulations to Cllr. Dunphy and wished the incoming Cathaoirleach and Leas Cathaoirleach well.

Cllr. Dunphy expressed his thanks to all present and thanked everyone for their co-operation and support, noting that all are working for the good of the area. He thanked Maria Melia, Kevin Hanley, Ian Gardner and staff in the area for all their support. Cllr. Dunphy also wished the incoming Cathaoirleach all the best.

Next Meeting

The next monthly meeting will be held on Wednesday, 6th July, 2016 at 10:00am.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th June, 2016 at 10am.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____