

*Minutes of Municipal District of Piltown Meeting held Wednesday, 6th
December, 2017 at 10.00am in the Ferrybank Area Office*

Present: Cllr. Fidelis Doherty, Cathaoirleach
Cllrs. G. Frisby, P. Dunphy, T. Breathnach, M. O'Neill and E. Aylward

In attendance: Sean McKeown, Director of Service, K. Hanley, Meetings Administrator, Denis Malone, Senior Planner, Ian Gardner, Area Engineer, O. Bannon, Staff Officer

1. Confirmation of Minutes

MDP Meeting 1st November – Proposed by Cllr. Aylward, seconded by Cllr. Frisby
Draft Budget Plan Meeting – Proposed by Cllr. Dunphy, seconded by Cllr. Breathnach

Ferrybank Local Area Plan Update

Denis Malone was in attendance for this item, he outlined process to-date. He advised that 9 submissions had been received on the proposed material alterations to the plan. The most significant of these was from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government, regarding Rural Housing Policy. It was noted that Report for consideration would be before the members at the December Council meeting, with final decision to be made on the Plan by 10th January, 2018.

Congratulations

Cllr. Doherty wished to congratulate the Ferrybank Library on the fifth anniversary of its opening last Monday and well done to all the staff.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) National Planning Framework Update

S McKeown advised that a comprehensive submission had been made by the CEO, along with separate submission from the Piltown MD. It was noted that clarification has been sought in relation to the Metropolitan Area Strategic Plans in terms of roles, functions and their intended structure.

S McKeown also advised that the process of preparing a Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy had commenced, with an issues paper having been advertised by the Southern Regional Assembly with deadline for submissions 26th January, 2018. Details of a workshop/consultation to be advised to members in early January, prior to lodging a submission – issues paper would be circulated in the meantime.

Cllr. Breathnach voiced his concern at the particularly short timeframe for such a hugely important strategy affecting the whole Southern Region and asked that a request be made to extend this timeframe – this was agreed. He also felt that as the South East has its own identity, that a coordinated submission should be made from the 5 Counties of the region. Cllr. Aylward agreed with Cllr. Breathnach that an economic strategy for the South East Region would carry more weight. Cllr. Doherty thanked all involved in making the very comprehensive submission under the NPF.

(b) Roadworks Update

Ian Gardner circulated report to members outlining works completed during the last month. It was noted that additional funding had been received for 3 further LIS's, works to commence on these shortly at Ballykillaboy, Ballynalinagh and Beatin. It was also noted that through savings made under restoration improvement works, a further scheme had been undertaken on the LS5075 at Aghaviller, macadam works only.

A number of queries were raised by members, Ian Gardner advised as follows:-

Cllr. Doherty

- Glenmore Bus Stop and Weighbridge – road marking contract has been awarded.
- Location of driver feedback sign, Mullenaharigle – erected at the only suitable locations.

Cllr. Aylward

- Salting routes, approach roads to Mullinavat – to cover P3 routes regularly would require a significant allocation
- Cleaning of drains/shores – difficult to maintain regularly this time of year, 50 drainage schemes undertaken last year have helped significantly
- Lay-by for Gardai at Tower Junction not in use – Cllr. O'Neill to raise matter at policing committee meeting

Cllr. Frisby

- Dangers at Hartley's Cross – area has been resurfaced and retextured, but speeding may be an issue. Traffic calming scheme to be considered under next roadworks programme.
- Dangers on N25 Waterford to New Ross route, no right hand turns – for discussion with TII, will bring the matter to Road Design to raise with TII also.

Cllr. O'Neill

- Piltown Bus Shelter – verbal agreement, awaiting transfer of land
- Waterford approach roads, funding welcomed – works to commence shortly, replace topsoil and sew 3000 hedging plants at Newrath, plant 20 trees and sew 100 hedging plants at Milepost.

Cllr. Dunphy

- Winter maintenance, severe weather conditions – out of hours emergency contact number to be circulated to members
- Tower Road junction, new layout and bollard causing confusion – extensive works carried out to improve safety, matter to be raised at TII meeting.

Cllr. Breathnach

- Smartscastle Bridge works – precast units ordered, expected delivery end of January, it was noted that works are weather dependent.

(c) Site Visit to New Ross Bypass – Update

K Hanley advised that site visit has been proposed for Friday morning, 2nd March, to be confirmed with the Contractor.

(d) Meeting with TII

K Hanley advised that meeting has been arranged for Monday, 11th December at 2pm in the TII offices Dublin. It was noted that 2-3 members from each district would attend, to be arranged

through Una Kealy, Roads Department – any further items for the agenda to be submitted by Thursday 7th December.

(e) Greenway Update

S McKeown outlined the current position. It was noted that Consultants had been retained to try to resolve issues raised by 2 landowners, draft report was expected to be finalised this week, with a meeting to be held with landowners early next week.

(f) South Kilkenny Recycling Centre – Site Visit

Cllr. Doherty welcomed the new facility for South Kilkenny and wished them well.

S McKeown advised that a visit would be arranged early 2018, stating that a proposal had been made to the operator to hold an official launch of the facility. It was noted that a brochure and information sheet on materials accepted at the facility were available online.

(g) SDZ update

S McKeown advised members that submission had been lodged, closing date for which was 30th November and wished Waterford City & County Council well with the development.

Cllr. Frisby asked if KCC would be kept informed in relation to developments affecting Abbey Road area. D Malone outlined the usual process that would be followed in relation to public consultation.

3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Order or Resolution of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meetings

4. Other Business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting

5. Notices of Motion

6. Correspondence

(a) Letter from Revenue Commissioners – 3rd November, 2017

(b) Letter from Mr. Eoghan Murphy TD, Minister for Housing, Planning and Local Government – 8th November, 2017

(c) Letter from Mr. Denis Naughten TD, Minister for Communications Climate Action & Environment – 10th November, 2017

(d) Email acknowledgement of MD of Piltown Submission to the NPF – 14th November, 2017
Correspondence was noted.

7. AOB

(a) Former Area Office

Cllr. Doherty asked about future use of the former Council Offices at Newrath, not to allow same to fall into disrepair. Cllr. Dunphy agreed and asked if progress had been made in addressing issues for the Newrath Residents group who had attended a recent meeting. I Gardner advised that the Council depot at Newrath would remain, with the offices being used on occasion and for storage. He had met with residents on site, some minor works had been undertaken with further works to be completed next year, but he had not received a response from residents in relation to the plan for the area which had been given to them following their attendance at the Piltown MD meeting earlier this year.

K Hanley advised that the Corporate Department were looking at use of the building and will revert to members.

(b) Ferrybank District Centre

Cllr. Doherty raised concern over the appearance of the building and responsibility for same. Cllr. O'Neill agreed noting recent investment in works to the car park areas and also failure to repair broken fencing to the rear of the building. Cllr. Frisby stated he had received complaints from local residents due to anti-social behaviour as a result of the damaged fencing and easy access to the area to the rear of the building.

D Malone noted recent maintenance works on the building and systems within, which was necessary on an operational building. It was noted that planning application was pending on the building in relation to change of use and compliance with planning, however there were ongoing legal issues between the developer and Dunnes Stores.

Cllr. O'Neill proposed that letter be sent to NAMA in relation to maintenance on the front of the building to improve its appearance.

Additional items raised as follows:-

Cllr. Dunphy

Life Buoys, Fiddown Bridge – I Gardner advised that life buoys had recently been provided, which would be erected by the Area Office as soon as resources allowed.

Joint Meetings – K Hanley advised that request had been received from Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District to hold a joint meeting. The joint meeting with New Ross also needed to be rearranged. It was agreed that arrangements would be made to hold these meetings following the January and February meetings of the Piltown MD.

Next Meeting

It was agreed that the January meeting be held on Tuesday, 9th January, 2018 at 10am. The February meeting would be held on Wednesday, 7th February at 10am.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____