

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 8th January 2019 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cathaoirleach Pat Vance
Councillor Joe Behan
Councillor Oliver O'Brien
Councillor Christopher Fox
Councillor Dermot O'Brien
Councillor Steven Matthews
Councillor Brendan Thornhill

Also present: Mr. Thomas Murphy, Director of Services
Mr. Stephen Fox, District Engineer
Mr. David Forde, District Administrator
Ms. Triona Irving, Administrative Officer

Apologies: Councillor John Ryan

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting dated 4th December 2018

Councillor Fox proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray dated 4th December 2018, Councillor Behan seconded the proposal and they were unanimously agreed by the Members.

2. To Receive the Housing Report

Kilbride Lane

Following a number of consultations with Wicklow County Council and others and a number of separate appearances before the High Court, MDY Construction Limited exited the Examinership process with effect from 15th November 2018 when the High Court approved the Scheme of Arrangements proposed by the appointed Examiner. This occurrence has facilitated Wicklow County Council in withdrawing the termination notice previously issued to MDY, which in turn allows MDY to complete the works at the Kilbride Lane 42 Unit Social Housing Development in Bray. Work commenced on site with the boundary walls before Christmas and will continue to be the priority item for the month of January when it is anticipated that this work will be completed.

87A O'Byrne Rd

Work is completed on this house which is in the process of being allocated.

Kilmantin Place

Works are ongoing with the 4 units on this site.

Failte Park

Replacement of windows and doors within this estate has commenced and is due to be completed by the beginning of March.

Central Garage Site, Parnell Road.

Tuath Housing have confirmed that they have now appointed an Architect led Design Team for this scheme. They are also in the process of procuring a company to carry out site investigations.

Members comments/observations

The Members welcomed the recommencement of work on the Kilbride Lane development but felt that progress was very slow. They said that they would like to see the site back fully operational as soon as possible.

The Members highlighted ongoing problems with a number of balconies leaking in the Cedar Court housing estate.

The Members enquired as to how the new Housing Liaison Officer was getting on in her new role. Triona Irving, Administrative Officer, Housing, advised that the Housing Liaison Officer has settled into her job very well and has met with a number of residents associations in order to deal with the many issues that arise.

The Members raised the issue of an illegally parked caravan in the Deerpark housing estate.

The Members welcomed the news that work had commenced on the replacement and upgrade works on windows and doors in Failte Park. They also requested a progress report on the works. Triona Irving advised that works were ongoing and the expected completion date was the end of February 2019.

The Members requested details on the Cold Weather Initiative Scheme which is currently operational. Triona Irving advised the scheme was being operated centrally by Wicklow County Council. She said that she would request an update on the scheme and revert back to the Members with the same.

3. To Receive a Report on Roads and Transport

Roads Programme

A new three year roads programme for road restoration improvement work has been submitted to the Department for the period 2019 to 2021 as set out in the table below.

Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Length of work (m)	Total Area of work (sq.m)	Width of Works (m)	Estimated Cost of work (EURO)
2019					
R117	Enniskerry Village	85	1230	14.5	€ 55,000.00
L-1011-0	Glencree Road	3020	15100	5.0	€ 320,800.00
L-19597	Glenlucan		800		€ 17,000.00
L-19592	Churchlands		620		€ 17,000.00
L5029	Quill Road	750	2650	3.5	€ 50,000.00
R117	Bray Road, Enniskerry	440	2800	6.5	€ 120,000.00
2020					
L1013-27	Waterfall Road, Crone	1650	3600	4.0	€ 100,000.00
L1011	Glencree Road-Kilmolin	1100	6050	5.5	€ 90,000.00
R760	Ballybawn Road	2100	12500	6.0	€ 140,000.00
L-19654	Charnwood, Bray	190	1235	6.5	€ 24,800.00
L-19587	Sidmonton Court	150	950	6.0	€ 16,000.00
R766	Meath Rd		800		€ 99,200.00
R761	Vevay Road	440	4180	9.5	€ 109,800.00
2021					
L1007	Monastery Road	1400	6650	5.0	€ 100,000.00
L-1962	Killarney Lane	180	1100	6.0	€ 18,200.00
R768	Bray Southern Cross Road	1180	13000	11.0	€ 310,000.00
L1031	Red Lane	1500	6750	4.5	€ 105,000.00
L1956-15	Herbert Road-Ardmore	370	2220	6.0	€ 46,600.00

The programme is based on the same grant allocation of €579,800 as received in 2018. Minor reviews may be possible each year subject to meeting department criteria. Works not completed in the 2016-2018 programme

Bray Southern Cross, Herbert Road-Ardmore and Waterfall Road-Crne have been resubmitted in this programme.

Separately there will be a grant allocation of approximately €100,000 for restoration maintenance in 2019. This will be used for the R115, Military Road–Fetherbeds; L1011, Glencree Road and Waterfall Road-Aurora.

A programme of footpath works will be prepared when budget allocation is available.

R755 Emergency Works

The collapsed culvert and retaining wall at the severe bend at Killough Upper was repaired before Christmas. The traffic signals that were in place have been removed. A temporary barrier is still in place until a permanent safety barrier, which has been ordered, is installed. Restoration work on the adjoining land owner's property will be completed later in the season when ground conditions are suitable.

ESB Pole at Main Street-Herbert Road Junction

The existing ESB network pole is at the kerb edge and inhibits left turning movements from Herbert Road onto the Main Street. The corner radius is approximately 1.5m. If the pole is removed, the corner radius could be increased to a maximum of 3m and provide a modest increase in space for turning traffic of about 0.45m at the apex. As there are busy pedestrian crossing points on both sides of the apex, no further space can be provided to traffic without compromising pedestrian safety and bollards may be required to prevent over running of the footpath at the corner. The removal of the pole and revised kerb radius is estimated to accommodate about extra left turn vehicle per signal cycle.

The removing of the pole will entail considerable works. There is no alternative space in the path for the pole due to the intensity of underground services, the requirement to accommodate two pedestrian crossings and the requirement for public lighting for both the Main Street and Herbert Road at the corner. The only alternatives for a public lighting are to have a combined traffic signal-public lighting pole at Herbert Road or mount on the adjacent building. The ESB network would have to be undergrounded on Herbert Road and northwards on Main Street. Existing ESB underground network to the pole would have to be extended to a new mini-pillar located at the back of the footpath.

The estimated cost of these works is of the order of €50,000 and would require a budget allocation. As an alternative it is intended to realign the kerb line at the north corner of Quinsborough Road and Main Street. This would facilitate moving the centre line at Main Street eastwards by about 0.5m and benefit left turners from Herbert Road. These works would cost less than €5,000 and can be covered by the regional road maintenance.

Traffic Calming

Outstanding traffic calming works, approved under Section 38, that have yet to be carried out are at Adelaide Road-Galtrim; Adelaide Road-Florence Road; Adelaide Road-Quinsborough Road; Briar Wood entrance and Strand Road-Martello. It is aimed to complete these in 2019 subject to adequate funding. Ramps at Meath Road and at Raheen Park car park junction were completed in 2018. There were significant objections to proposals for further ramps at Raheen Park and at Deepdales and these have not got Section 38 approval. Alternative lining was provided at Deepdales and additional bollards and signing is planned.

Members comments/observations

The Members enquired if there is a separate allocation for funding of footpath works for 2019. District Engineer Liam Bourke advised that a programme of footpath works will be prepared when budget allocation is available.

The Members requested a progress update on landscaping at the Hebert Road car park. District Engineer, Liam Bourke, advised that extra hedging is currently being planted and the landscaping work would be complete in the coming weeks. He also advised that six parking places that were removed from the car park will be replaced at an alternate location.

The Members raised their concerns with driver site lines when exiting the Herbert Road car park. Mr. Bourke felt that there was no issue with the site lines when exiting from the car park but he would look at putting extra signage at the junction.

The Members requested an update at the proposed repairs of ramps at the entrance to St. Fergals Church on the Boghall Road. Mr. Bourke advised that there are proposals to carry out these works.

The Members enquired if there was any update on the progress of the upgrade works at Ballyman Road. Mr. Bourke said that he would discuss this matter with the Wicklow County Council Senior Engineer and revert back to the Members with an update.

The Members queried as to when the car park at Kilmacanogue will be open. Mr. Bourke advised that he is currently acquiring prices for installing a barrier at the car park.

The Members asked for an update on when works are due to start on the proposed pedestrian crossing at Kilmacanogue village. Mr. Bourke said that he would follow up on this matter.

4. To receive an update on the Florentine Centre

An updated report on the Florentine Centre was circulated to the Members prior to the meeting.

Bray District Manager, Thomas Murphy advised that following negotiations with Oakmount, the developers are considering two alternative options to provide a pedestrian access to the Florentine Centre via the Florence Road. Mr. Murphy advised that Wicklow County Council have not yet received a report back from Oakmount regarding this issue. The Members were disappointed that there was no response back from Oakmount and hoped a solution to this matter could be found without significant delays to the project.

The Members raised their concerns regarding the impact on traffic in the area when the Florentine centre is built. The District Engineer said he did not envisage any major problems with traffic flow but he would monitor the situation regularly.

The Members enquired about the following:

Interest from anchor tenants

Mr. Murphy advised the Members that there was interest from a number of companies in becoming the anchor tenant.

Cinema

Mr. Murphy advised the Members that cinema is being styled on a similar model to the cinema at the Swan shopping centre at Rathmines which is based on a Scandinavian model.

Leisure box

Mr. Murphy advised the leisure box would be a high end product with the possibility of electronic golf being installed.

5. Notice of Motions

Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillor Steven Matthews (20/11/2018)

That this Council carry out improvements to the east side footpath on Vevay Road between Vevay Crescent and the junction at Church Road. These works may include cutting back the vegetation and widening the footpath by removing the bedrock along this route and relocating the metal bollards to the path edge. This footpath frequently has heavy pedestrian traffic comprising mainly of school children and parents with buggies/prams and has insufficient width to cater for these users in a safe manner. It is requested that improvement works be included in the schedule of works for 2019.

Response:- *It is planned to cut back the vegetation in January. The bedrock cannot be interfered with without serious risk of damage to private property. The bollards are necessary to prevent parking on the footpath and cannot be placed closer than 450mm from the edge of the footpath.*

To construct a new footpath on the west side of the Vevay Road on land gained from the Carrigbrae House/Marino site development, this would facilitate a realignment of the Vevay Road, the provision of cycle lanes and minor widening of the east footpath. The estimated cost of path works, including drainage and relocation of traffic signal poles and detectors is about €90,000. This can be examined within existing Bray MD budgets to determine if there is the required funding.

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (04/11/2018)

That this Council passes a bye law prohibiting bonfires in the Bray Municipal District.

Response:- *Uncontrolled burning is illegal. This matter will be referred to the Environment Department for a further response.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (04/11/2018)

That this Council passes a bye law prohibiting the erection of election posters in the Bray Municipal District during the forthcoming local election.

Response:- *There is national legislation in place governing the erection of election posters so byelaws cannot be implemented prohibiting their erection. However, candidates could agree not to put up posters.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (04/11/2018)

That this Council pays attention to the gullies and shores in Sugarloaf Crescent and Camaderry Road.

Response:- *The Bray Municipal District attends to all road gullies within the district as the need arises. Due to stretched resources gullies in flood risk areas are prioritised. To combat complaints that some gullies are never cleaned, a programme commenced last year to clear all road gullies in a different section of the town each year. The Herbert Road-Killarney Road areas were tackled in 2018.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (04/11/2018)

That this Council pays attention to the hedge opposite Novara Avenue by cutting and maintaining same.

Response:- *It is not clear what hedge is referred to.*

6. Reports and Recommendations

A report on the Herbert Road and The Maltings Bank was circulated to the Members.

A discussion took place in which the Members were informed that Wicklow County Council Chief Executive, Bray Municipal District Manager, District Engineer and District Administrator visited the site in order to assess the scale of the problem. Following on from this visit it was agreed that consideration should be given to the council appointing geotechnical consultants to carry out an assessment of the unsupported bank and to present options and costings of viable measures to address the bank stability to the property owners.

The Members welcomed this news and thanked the officials for progressing this matter.

7. A.O.B

The Members raised the issue of the recent fires which have occurred in the town. They commended the work of Wicklow Fire Service in tackling the fires in such an efficient and professional manner. The Members asked that when a report on the recent fires is available that it be circulated to Bray Municipal District Members.

The District Manager said that he spoken to Chief Fire Officer regarding the fires and he has confirmed that there was no connection with the three fires, they were all separate instances that occurred.

A discussion took place about the proposals for Bray Municipal District becoming a Burrough. District Manager, Mr. Thomas Murphy, advised that following correspondence with the Department, becoming a Burrough will not result in any extra powers or functions reverting back to the District.

The Members expressed their concerns at the planned relocation of the post office at Kilbride Lane to the Centra shop on the Boghall Road. The Members are worried that the new location in Centra, includes an Off Licence which they felt would be inappropriate place to have a post office.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed:

CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed:

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dated:
