

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 5th March 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
Councillor John Ryan**

Also present:

**Mr. Thomas Murphy, District Manager
Mr. Liam Bourke, District Engineer
Mr. David Forde, District Administrator
Ms. Triona Irving, Administrative Officer**

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting dated 4th February 2019

Councillor Behan proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray dated 5th February 2019, Councillor Fox seconded the proposal and they were unanimously agreed by the Members.

2. To consider report in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended; Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations, 2001 as amended: Proposed Bray Transport Interchange Scheme

A report was presented to the Members by Ms Margaret Hartnett, Senior Executive Engineer, Wicklow County Council and Mr. Martin Deegan, Technical Director, Atkins Project Management Consultant in the above regard.

Following the report a lengthy discussion took place on the proposed development. Some Members raised concerns regarding safety issues that may arise for pedestrians if the proposed development is to go ahead. Also concerns were raised that the new layout will not alleviate the traffic congestion problem in the area but in fact may add to the congestion particularly on the road in front of the entrance to the station.

Members did feel the proposed development would be a huge improvement to the area and pointed out that this proposal should be seen as the first stage in upgrading the area. They pointed out that for many people visiting the area, this is the first stop off on their visit to the town and that it should leave a positive and lasting impression on them.

Councillor Behan proposed that the Bray Transport Interchange scheme be accepted, Councillor Matthews seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed to by the Members to accept the proposal.

3. To Receive a presentation from National Learning Network Bray

Mr. Shay Hiney and Ms. Deborah Coughlan from the National Learning Programme circulated a report and gave a presentation on their work in Bray.

The Members thanked Mr. Hiney and Ms. Coughlan for their presentation and commended them for their work. They felt the National Learning Programme is a huge addition to the people of the town.

4. To adopt the remaining Public Realm Expenditure for 2019

District Engineer Liam Bourke attached a drawing showing the existing provision of street trees on Florence Road, Eglinton Road, Wyndham Park, Quinsborough Road, Eglinton Road and Galtrim Road. The drawing shows where the initial infill planting is proposed in 2019. Mr. Bourke advised that the choice of trees and planting details for each street has yet to be prepared but will be ready for ordering to ensure planting takes place in November.

A Member expressed concerns that some of his proposals for expenditure of public realm were not brought before the Members at the previous meeting. District Manager Thomas Murphy said that the Public Realm expenditure 2019 was adopted at the previous meeting and that what was being discussed now was the adoption of the remaining public Realm expenditure for 2019.

A vote took place on the adoption of the remaining public Realm expenditure for 2019 as proposed by the District Engineer.

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Councillor Joe Behan</i>		√
<i>Councillor Christopher Fox</i>	√	
<i>Councillor Steven Matthews</i>	√	
<i>Councillor Oliver O'Brien</i>		√
<i>Councillor Dermot O'Brien</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	
<i>Councillor Brendan Thornhill</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	
<i>Councillor Pat Vance</i>	√	
Total	3	2

5. To receive an Housing Report

Kilbride Lane

Construction of the 42 No. social housing units at Kilbride Lane in Bray is progressing well. The boundary treatment works are almost complete with an anticipated finish date for boundary works of 1st March. Foundations for 10 out of the 12 block units have been poured and blockwork is progressing for the rising walls of the blocks with foundations. Installation of DPM, Radon Barrier and tanking have also commenced. Through the ER, Wicklow County Council have been pursuing the contractor to ensure the roads bordering the site are maintained in a clean condition. To this effect, a tarmac hard-standing has been installed at the site entrance along with a wheel wash station to mitigate against debris from the site getting onto the surrounding roads. A gatesman is now permanently employed by the contractor to restrict access to the site and monitor road conditions.

Ard na Greine

Wicklow County Council have published the part 8 Planning Notice in respect of a 31 unit housing development at lands north of Ard na Greine. The proposed housing scheme will comprise the following 21 no. 2 bed houses (two storey) and 10 no. 3 bed houses (two storey). Plans are on display in the Municipal District offices and County Buildings. Closing date for receipt of written submissions is 12 noon on the 12th April 2019.

Kilmantan Place

The contractor, Burns Construction Limited, appointed to the Kilmantan Place 4 unit development informed Wicklow County Council on 10th January that they were not in a position to continue the construction works at this site. Wicklow County Council have since issued a termination notice to the contractor and are currently in the process of retendering the works.

Oldcourt Energy Efficiency Works

Works are ongoing in the final tranche of dwellings.

Failte Park

Replacement of windows and doors within this estate has been completed.

The Members raised the following issues/queries:-

They welcomed the response from the Department of Housing regarding the query on tenants being forced on to the HAP scheme but in some cases landlords are not accepting HAP tenants. They questioned whether Wicklow County Council or the Department of Social Welfare enforce this issue. Ms Triona Irving, Administrative Officer, Housing advised that she would clarify this matter with Wicklow County Council, Director of Services for Housing Mr. Joe Lane and revert back to the Members with an answer to the query.

The Members welcomed the news that work on the houses in Oldcourt is almost complete. They asked the District Engineer if the speed ramps in the estate could be replaced or repairs be carried out to the existing ones as they are in very bad repair. The District Engineer, Mr. Bourke, advised that he would look at carrying out repair work on the ramps.

The Members queried what stage the tender process is at in respect of the proposed Housing Development at Carrigoona, Kilmacanogue and asked for an estimated start date.

The Members asked for an update on the numbers of people in emergency accommodation. Administrative Officer, Ms Triona Irving advised that she would get this information and revert back to the Members with same.

Administrative Officer, Ms Triona Irving advised the Members that there is currently a rent review taking place in Wicklow County Council. Tenants in Bray Municipal have been advised to return the rent review forms to Bray Municipal District in a self addressed envelope.

6. To receive a Report on Roads and Transport

An increase in the roads grant was recently announced for 2019. The works planned for 2019 has been revised to include works at Vevay Road and at Herbert Road near Ardmore. It is proposed that funding for Vevay Road will supplement reinstatement funds for the planned water mains upgrade to achieve full width resurfacing. The revised programme is set out in the table below.

Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Type	Total Area of work (sq.m)	Estimated Cost of work (EURO)
R117	Enniskerry Village	RI	1230	€ 55,000
L-1011-0	Glencree Road	RI	15100	€ 320,800
L-19597	Glenlucan	RI	800	€ 17,000
L-19592	Churchlands	RI	620	€ 17,000
L5029	Quill Road	RI	2650	€ 50,000
R117	Bray Road, Enniskerry	RI	2800	€ 120,000
R761	Vevay Road, Bray	RI	2600	€56,225
R115	Military Road, Fetherbeds	RM	16000	€58,547
L-1011	Glencree Road-Oldboleys	RM	6000	€27,800
L-1013	Waterfall Road-Aurora	RM	9000	€24,215
L-1965	Herbert Road-Ardmore	RM	2000	€52,068

Outstanding footpath works from 2018 at Elgin Wood, Glenthorn and Ballywaltrim are near completion. There is a total allocation of €200,000 for footpath repair and renewal. A full programme of footpath works is yet to be prepared but will focus primarily on trip hazards in estates continuing eastwards from the Killarney Road area, with most work east of the Vevay Road in areas such as Newcourt, Seacrest etc.

The grant for road drainage works has been increased to €60,000. In addition to installing a drain at Loretto Avenue to service Kingsmill Lane, drainage work on the Waterfall Road at Bahana is also now planned.

Roads Capital Works

Following the Part 8 approval for The Seafront Pavilion scheme, a meeting took place with the consultants at which they were briefed on the required amendments. They are currently proceeding with the detailed design and preparation of tender documents. It is intended that a contractor shall be in place to commence work in late August.

Following concerns raised by stakeholders during the Part 8 public consultation for the Bray Transport Interchange at the Dart Station, a review of the layout was undertaken. An agreement was reached between the NTA, Irish Rail and the two principal bus operators on an amendment to the layout. The Chief Executive's report supports the amended scheme.

A brief for the appointment of consultants for the detailed design and preparation of tender documents for the construction of the new public transport bridge over the River Dargle is underway. It is intended that the ground investigation and much of the accommodation works and ancillary service diversion works will be completed this year.

The Members raised the following issues with the District Engineer Liam Bourke:-

The Members enquired if there was any update on the progress of the upgrade works at Ballyman Road. Mr. Bourke advised that this matter is in hand.

The Members queried as to when the car park at Kilmacanogue will be open. Mr. Bourke advised that this matter would be dealt with as a matter of urgency.

The Members raised concerns regarding the enforcement of parking charges in Bray. They felt that there was not enough leniency given to people in the current setup. The District Administrator advised that there is a 15 minute grace period at the beginning of parking to allow people purchase a ticket as per the bye laws. He also advised that there is an appeal system in which each appeal is looked at as an individual case.

Mr. Bourke advised that part of the Herbert road is due to be resurfaced, from Killarney Lane junction southwards for approximately for 300 meters

7. To receive an update on the Florentine Centre

A report from Oakmount on the Florentine Centre was circulated to the Members prior to the meeting.

District Manager, Mr. Thomas Murphy, advised that developers Oakmount have secured one anchor tenant and a section of the shopping centre has been reserved for this tenant. He also confirmed that a five screen 'Stella' cinema and an Elephant and Castle restaurant will be included in the plans.

The Members queried what design changes have been made to the centre and also why the name of the centre has been changed from Florentine Centre to Town Centre.

Mr. Murphy read out the list of changes and explained that the Oakmount marketing people suggested the name change.

The Members welcomed the ongoing progress of the development and said they looked forward to the completion of the development.

8. Notice of Motions

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (05/02/2019)

That this council pay attention to the bottom of Seacrest (Cul de Sac) at Westfield Park sign and repair a substantial pot hole.

Response:- *There are currently no pothole defects in the roadway at the end of Seacrest near Westfield. A patch repair was carried out here some time ago.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (05/02/2019)

That this council pay attention to the road outside Henry & Rose re a pothole and where the road is subsiding again.

Response:- *Longitudinal subsidence has reoccurred on this road. It is suspected to be due a water leak or damaged sewer which is causing wash out of the road base. Irish Water have been requested to investigate. It is essential that any damaged water service is repaired before road reconstruction takes place as proposed as part of the Bray Transport Interchange Scheme.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (05/02/2019)

That this council pay attention and examine the road area opposite Healy Potteries in relation to cars skidding and going off course.

Response:- *The road has been examined on a number of occasions over the last few years and no defects with the road surface were found. However, it has been noted that no accidents have been reported since bollards were installed last year.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (05/02/2019)

That this council pay attention to steps which lead onto Herbert road from car park. In times of torrential rain water has been seen cascading down these steps.

Response:- *This issue was addressed when a drain was cleared several months ago.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (05/02/2019)

That this council pay attention to areas where electric points are available to electric/hybrid cars and that a grid box (in yellow) is provided so as they are fully visible to people, the purpose of these electric points.

Response:- *These electric charging points are owned by the ESB, who in addition to markings prescribed by law have in a number of places provided a green line on the roadway side of the EV charging bay. For consistency of information to the motoring public it is not intended to provide any other markings at these bays.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Steven Matthews (07/02/2019)

Request that the members of Bray Municipal District would endorse a request from Bray Tidy Towns in relation to the placement of and to limiting the number of election posters for Local and European elections 2019 and referenda that may also take place in May 2019.

BTT request that:

- All candidates and referenda campaigners would voluntarily agree to keep Bray Main Street poster free between southern end of Bray Bridge and to just beyond the junction of Bray Main Street with Killarney Road and Vevay Road. (Please see attached map indicating limit of site)
- That all local election candidates would limit to 50 the number of posters they erect in the Bray District area.
- That all Local election candidates, post elections would ensure the removal any remaining cable ties from poles while removing their posters.

This request is made in the interest of public and traffic safety, visual amenity, protection of Main Street lighting installations and in an attempt to limit the use of plastic posters and cable ties. Tidy Towns judging often highlights the issue of old cable ties and this would assist us in improving our chances of obtaining a favourable result in the national Tidy Towns competition.

Response:- *Restricting the number or placement of election posters may be achieved by way of a voluntary agreement of the candidates. The council executive can only address election posters placed in a manner deemed to be unsafe.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Steven Matthews (07/02/2019)

Request that Bray Municipal District places a Tree Preservation Order on the following trees:

At Rockbrae House lands, A Wellingtonia (*Sequoiadendron Giganteum*), of 22m height (approx.) The tree is in good health in a prominent visual area and most likely an original planted tree for Rockbrae House.

At former Ravenswell School entrance. A large pine (Possibly a Stone Pine, *Pinus Pinea*) which is unusual and rare in this area.

Reason: In the interest of protecting biodiversity, natural heritage and visual amenity. These lands are zoned for development which may negatively impact on these trees and especially the root structure as they are located at the entrance to both of these sites. (Attachment included with street view of both sites for ease of identification)

Response:- *Tree Preservation Orders are a matter for the Planning Department and this request as been forwarded to Planning for their attention.*

9. Reports and Recommendations

Ballywaltrim playing fields

A report on the funding allocation for Ballywaltrim was circulated to the Members. A lengthy discussion took place regarding this report. The Members felt that the user groups need to meet before the next Municipal meeting to discuss what works need be prioritised. It was agreed to discuss this matter again at the next Municipal meeting.

The Members agreed that no dogs allowed signs should be erected.

The Members suggested that Bray sporting facilities be an item on the agenda for the next meeting.

Bray in Business

A report on Business in Bray was circulated to the Members. This report included information on the workings of Bray Town Team.

Heritage Centre

District Administrator, David Forde agreed to forward a report on the Bray Heritage Centre to the Members by email.

10. Correspondence

Bray Sailing Club contacted the District office asking to make a presentation to the Members at the next Municipal meeting to highlight their achievements and contribution to the local community.

A letter was received from the Department of Housing in response to a query on why tenants are being force off direct rent allowance payments and onto HAP. This matter was discussed earlier in the meeting.

11.A.O.B

The Members noted the excellent work being done by the St. Patricks Day festival committee in preparation for the upcoming St Patricks Day activities. The Members also welcomed introduction of the Bray Celtic Camino Costal route and felt it would promote the town as a tourism destination.

The Members asked for an update on a wall in Herbert Park which is in danger of falling. District Engineer Liam Bourke advised that he has made contact with the owner of the wall and has given him a deadline to resolve the issue.

The Cathaoirleach requested that a letter be written to Minister of Health requesting that a full time Drugs Task Force Officer be appointed to Bray.

The Members requested that a letter be written to An Garda Siochana to highlight an ongoing problem anti social behavior at Riverdale apartments.

The Members enquired about the possibility of the Bray Boxing Club facility being used as a premises for Bray Rowing Club. The Cathaoirleach felt this matter should be dealt with at committee level.

The Members asked that Bray Municipal District write to the ESB to ask that road markings for the Electric car charging bays be much clearer as it is causing confusion for motorists when looking for car parking spaces.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed:

CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed:

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dated:
