

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 30th April 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. Stephen Fox, Executive Engineer
Mr. David Forde, District Administrator**

A Vote of Sympathy was passed to the family of Denis Collins, brother of Triona Irving, Housing Officer, Bray Municipal District, who recently passed away.

There was an amendment to the minutes of the meeting for the 2nd April 2019. The minutes should have read seconded by Cllr. Ryan and not Cllr. Oliver O'Brien.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting dated 2nd April 2019

Councillor Stephen Matthews proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray dated 2nd April 2019 and Councillor John Ryan seconded the proposal.

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 construction of 31 housing units at lands north of Ard Na Greine

The Cathaoirleach explained that the part 8 planning application re the proposed construction of 31 housing units at lands north of Ard Na Greine had to be withdrawn due to an error on the application. It was agreed to defer this matter to the next Municipal District meeting.

3. To Adopt the Municipal Schedule of Works

A report on the Municipal Schedule of Works was circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

Councillor John Ryan proposed the adoption of the Bray Municipal District Schedule of Works, Councillor Christopher Fox seconded the proposal and this was unanimously agreed by the Members.

4. To consider Housing Report

Kilbride Lane

The construction of 42 no. social housing units at Kilbride Lane is progressing. The project is currently 4 weeks behind schedule due to a shortage of skilled ground workers. Additional crews have been appointed by the main contractor and the delay to the programme is due to be made up by the end of June. There is no change to the planned completion date of March 2020. Work to complete the DPCs and radon barriers to blocks 1 & 11 (blocks adjacent to Kilbride Lane and Herberton) is being finalised. Brick for the front facades of the units along Kilbride Lane has been delivered and construction above DPC level is due to commence in the coming days. Through the Employer's Representative, Wicklow County Council has been pursuing the Contractor to ensure safe egress from the site. Plans to improve visibility splays through the adjustment of the site hoarding, are to be implemented once the scaffolding for the external walls has been erected. A permanent gateman remains on the site during working hours to assist vehicles entering and existing, and to provide continual monitoring of road conditions.

Ard na Greine

Wicklow County Council will be bringing forth a Part 8 Planning Application in respect of a 31 unit housing development at lands north of Ard na Greine for consideration by the Councillors at the next scheduled meeting of Bray Municipal District (30.04.19). The proposed housing scheme will comprise 21 no. 2 bed houses (two storey) and 10 no. 3 bed houses (two storey).

Kilmantan Place

The contractor, Burns Construction Limited, appointed to the Kilmantan Place 4 unit development informed WCC on 10th January that they were not in a position to continue the construction works at this site. WCC 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.

The Members raised the following queries in relation to the housing report.

A Member expressed concerns at the slowdown on the works being carried out at the development at Kilbride Lane.

A Member asked if the energy efficiency works being carried out in Oldcourt could be extended to include energy upgrade works on the houses that have been purchased by former tenants from the Council.

A Member raised concerns regarding the proposed development at Kilgarron, Enniskerry and the impact that it will have on the residents at Parc na Sillogue. Concerns were raised regarding the density and the location of the development. The plans show that when the development is complete it will surround the Parc na Sillogue estate. Also the plans show a proposed pedestrian access through Parc na Sillogue which the residents have grave concerns over. It was felt that Wicklow County Council, as landlords, have a duty of care to look after their tenants interests.

The Members agreed that these issues should be raised with Mr. Fergal Keogh, Senior Engineer, Planning Section and should be done so before the closing date for submissions by Members.

5. To receive a Report on Roads and Transport

Roads Programme

R117 Enniskerry Village Upgrade and repairs to storm culverts near the monument, which will be funded by development, have to be carried out before road reconstruction in this area will be carried out.

L-1011 Glencree Road was retendered for reconstruction over a 1.7km length, shorter than originally planned due to high cost from first tender. A satisfactory tender was received and a contract has been awarded. Works are expected to commence around the end of May.

L-19597 Glenlucan Court tenders have been received for a new bitumen macadam surface. The contract has been awarded and we are awaiting confirmation of a start date

L-19592 Churchlands tenders have been received for a new bitumen macadam surface. The contract has been awarded and we are awaiting confirmation of a start date

L-5029 Quill Road preparation works have commenced. Tenders have been received for a surface overlay. The contract has been awarded and we are awaiting confirmation of a start date

R117 Bray Road Enniskerry survey work has been organised for the purpose of preparing design drawings for a revised vertical alignment where there is an adverse camber before tendering for new surface overlay.

R761 Vevay Road tenders have been received a for new bitumen macadam surface between Charnwood and Vevay Villas. It is proposed to jointly fund with Irish Water following planned water main upgrade works this summer. Surfacing expected in September.

R115, Military Road; L1011 Glencree Road; L1013 Waterfall Road Surface Dressing anticipated for June. Stone chipping have been ordered and are currently being delivered.

L-1965 Herbert Road-Ardmore temporary patching work has been carried out. Tenders were recently received for reconstruction patchwork and road surfacing between Killarney Lane and Killarney Heights. The contract has been awarded and we are awaiting confirmation of a start date.

Footpaths / Drainage

There is a total allocation of €200,000 for footpath repair and renewal. A programme of footpath works, which will be focused on the removal of trip hazards, has been prepared for Bray between the Vevay Road and the seafront. A contractor has been appointed and works are due to commence in May.

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

A Revised Options Assessment for the Putland Road Cycle Scheme has been submitted by the consultants. This deals with the treatment of the contraflow cycle scheme at the Meath Road junction. Details of the preferred option are still being discussed. Consultation is to take place with the residents east of Meath Road about the preferred option.

Tender documents for the appointment of consultants for the new public transport bridge over the River Dargle have been published. The council are now preparing the documents for the appointment of consultants designing and preparing CPO for completion of the transport link to the Dart Station.

An amended Bray Transport Interchange Scheme at the Dart Station received approval in March. The scheme will be 100% funded by the NTA. A strategy for progressing the scheme has yet to be determined with CIE. A liaison meeting with the developers of the former Value Centre site has taken place. This development will start this year before the transport interchange.

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. Advanced work for the relocation of the electric vehicle charging points is being organised.

The R755 road realignment tie-ins to the existing roadway at Calary Upper and Glasnamullen are scheduled to commence week beginning 29th April. Subject to no contract delays, traffic is expected to be using the new road section by the end of the week. There will still be some drainage, fencing and landscape works to be completed following opening of the new carriageway.

BusConnects

Bray > City Centre Corridor is one of the last of a series of sixteen radial core bus corridors for which public consultation is currently taking place. Closing date for submissions on the preferred proposals is 31st May 2019 after which the preferred route will be confirmed. The consultation document sets out the emerging preferred route and below is an extract of the document that describes the final section that finishes at the River Dargle.

From the M11 junction to the Dargle River Crossing, it is proposed to continue with a bus lane, general traffic lane and a segregated cycle track in each direction. It is proposed to replace the M11 access roundabout with a signalised priority junction. The junction with Corke Abbey Avenue is intended to be upgraded to improve bus priority and pedestrian facilities. It is proposed to remove the existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossings and refuge islands between Chapel Lane and Upper Dargle Road. It is intended to upgrade the junction with the Upper Dargle Road to provide bus priority and pedestrian facilities. Again land take may be

required on both sides of the road. The indicative extents of this land take are shown on the drawings included in the Appendix of this brochure.

By widening the Dargle River Crossing it proposed to maintain a southbound bus lane and two general traffic lanes plus add a segregated cycle track in each direction in addition to facilitating better pedestrian footpaths. Bus priority for the northbound bus movement would be maintained by providing a queue relocation signal on the southside of the crossing.

No formal submission on the proposal has yet been made by Wicklow County Council. The scheme addresses a pressing need to upgrade bus lanes and cycle facilities on Castle Street and the Dublin Road but will restrict road capacity for general traffic and thus will be unable to cater for development proposals, particularly at the north side of the town. The removal of a substantial number of parking spaces at the Castle Street Shopping Centre and Dargle Centre car parks are also proposed.

The Members raised the following queries in relation to the housing report.

A Member enquired about the water main replacement works on the Vevay Road and asked if there will be any footpath gain when the works are completed. District Engineer Liam Bourke advised these works are being carried out separate to work being done by the Council.

A Member also enquired when the resurfacing works at Vevay Hill would be carried out. District Engineer Mr. Liam Bourke advised that the resurfacing work would be carried out in September. The Members felt that if possible, the works should be carried out before the schools re-open.

A Member highlighted that the footpaths in Glenthorn estate were dug up recently but resurfacing works have not been carried out.

A Member reported that there is a large pothole outside number 60 in Kilgarron Park, Enniskerry.

A Member highlighted a problem with people walking through Briarwood estate to get to the Bray Head walk, he asked if signage could be erected directing people directly to the walk.

A Member asked if signage could be erected in Ledwidge Crescent Estate. District Engineer Mr. Liam Bourke advised that the signs have been ordered and he is currently waiting on delivery.

A Member raised a problem regarding a drop in the footpath at Fran O'Toole bridge close to the corner of Seapoint road. This is causing major problems for wheelchair users.

A Member asked the District Engineer, if the tender process for work on Glencree Road has been completed. District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised that the tender process is complete and it is proposed to resurface 1.7km of road from Cloon Wood rather than the original proposal of 3km of road.

A Member enquired if there is a proposed start date for the works on Quill Road. District Engineer Mr. Liam Bourke advised that contract has been awarded but there is no definite start date as of yet.

A Member asked for an update on the works being carried out on the Roundwood to Kilmacanogue road. District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised that a new stretch of road at this location is due to be opened in the coming weeks.

A Member enquired about the construction of a footpath on the edge of the N11 from Bray to Kilmacanogue, as part of the proposed N11 upgrade works. Mr. Bourke advised the edge of the N11 would not be a suitable location for a footpath. He felt that the development of greenway walk from Kilmacanogue to Bray may be a better option. Concerns were raised that the walkway may be dangerous and unsafe for commuters as parts of the walk will be through a wooded area.

6. 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. Tom Murphy advised that Savills estate agents have given responsibility for securing anchor tenants, he advised that one anchor tenant has been secured to date. He also advised that they are actively looking for tenants for the other available units, there has been a very positive response regarding this matter.

7. Notice of Motions

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (02/04/2019)

That this Municipal Council brings in a by-law in relation to buskers using the Quinsborough Road when at times buskers can cause a lot of noise as a result of high amplification in the area.

Response:- *The Municipal Districts are not resourced to monitor noise and this aspect of busking would best be addressed with the Environment Section before consideration is given to drafting bye-laws. As busking can add to the attraction and vibrancy of a town, any other issues of concern about busking would also first need be clearly described and demonstrated before introducing restrictions.*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (02/04/2019)

That a pothole in the (Dunnes Stores lane) vicinity of the library is getting bigger and is liable to an accident happening in the future. That this Municipal Council pays attention to this situation.

Response:- *Repairs will be scheduled this summer. It should be noted that a closure of Stable Lane to traffic is required to execute the repairs and the cooperation of adjacent premise owners will be required*

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (02/04/2019)

That this Council provides a national flag for display on a public building.

Response:- *There are flag staffs affixed to the Townhall but access to raise and lower the National Flag would require a raised platform. The National Flag is normally displayed in the open from sunset to sunrise. However the National Flag maybe be flown at night as well as by day as long as it is properly illuminated at all times. There is no facility to place a flag staff on Bray Civic Offices.*

8. Reports and Recommendations

None

9. Correspondence

None

10.A.O.B

A Member raised his frustrations at what he perceived to be lack of works being carried out at the Ballywaltrim playing fields. He outlined the amount of work that he and other users of the area have undertaken in developing the area. He pointed out that despite raising the issues at numerous Municipal meetings, no progress on the matters are being made.

The main issues of concern that were raised were as follows.

- No electricity connection

Executive Engineer, Stephen Fox advised that an application for an electricity connection has been submitted

- No water and sewage connection

Executive Engineer, Stephen Fox advised this would be dependent on funding allocation

- Dangerous ball barriers

Executive Engineer, Stephen Fox advised this would be dependent on funding allocation

- No public seating

Executive Engineer, Stephen Fox advised anti social behavior would have to be taken into account if seats are to be installed

- Problems with dog fouling on pitches

Executive Engineer, Stephen Fox advised banning people from walking dogs in Ballywaltrim would require a change in the current byelaws.

The Members were supportive of a change in the byelaws if it helped tackle the ongoing issue of dog fouling on the pitches. They also felt the user groups should apply for sports capital

grants. The Members were supportive of continued funding to provide the cost of maintenance of the Ballywaltrim park.

Harbour

A Member asked for an update on the proposed improvement works at Bray Harbour. District Engineer Mr. Liam Bourke advised that proposed upgrade works will be ready to go out to tender within the coming weeks.

The Members raised the following queries and issues

- Problem with anti social behaviour at Rivervale housing estate
- Children at play signs not yet erected in Deepdales estate
- Members raised concerns that the proposed new bus corridor in Bray will result in an excessive amount of parking spaces being removed from the car park at SuperValu
- Concerns that the junction on Old Soldiers road is dangerous

Outgoing Cathaoireleah Pat Vance addressed the meeting for the last time. He wished those running in the upcoming elections the best of luck. He also wished the two outgoing Councillors Christopher Fox and John Ryan well on their retirement from the Council. He thanked all the Members for their support during the term of the Council. He also thanked the staff of Bray Municipal District for their hard work and continued support to the Members.

The Cathaoirleach highlighted the many projects and initiatives that have been progressed since his time as an elected member, all of which have improved the infrastructure of the town and the standard of living for the residents in Bray and surrounding areas.

All of the Members paid glowing tributes the Cathaoirleach and the two retiring Members. They commended them for their hard work, diligence and professionalism in their role as councillors. They said their retirement will leave a huge void in Wicklow county Council and Bray Municipal District.

Signed:

CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed:

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dated: