



**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of
Bray held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday
4th October 2022 at 6.30 p.m.**

Present:

**Councillor Erika Doyle
Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy
Councillor Melanie Corrigan
Councillor Joe Behan
Councillor Rory O'Connor
Councillor Dermot O'Brien
Councillor Anne Ferris**

Also in Attendance:

**Ms. Lorraine Gallagher, District Manager
Ms Linda Healy, District Administrator
Mr. Liam Bourke, District Engineer
Mr. Garvan Hickey, Administrative Officer
Housing
Ms. Audrey Bowen, Minute Taker**

Apologies:

Councillor Grace McManus

Item 1

**Confirmation of minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of
Municipal District of Bray dated 6th September 2022**

Councillor Flynn Kennedy proposed the confirmation of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Municipal District of Bray held 6th September 2022. Councillor O'Connor seconded the proposal and they were unanimously agreed by the Members

Item 2

**Confirmation of minutes of the Special Meeting of
Municipal District of Bray dated 14th September 2022**

Councillor O'Brien proposed the confirmation of the minutes of the special meeting of the Municipal District of Bray held 14th September 2022. Councillor Behan seconded the proposal and they were unanimously agreed by the Members

Item 3 To inform the Members on the details, including preplanning consultations and An Bord Pleanála's advice notice issued with respect to, Strategic housing development, Lands at former Bray Golf Club Lands, Off Ravenswell Road and Dublin Road, Bray, Co. Dublin and Co. Wicklow.

Senior Engineer, Mr Fergal Keogh, gave the elected members a presentation on the proposed development at the former Golf Club Lands. Documents in relation to same had been previously circulated. Further information can also be found at www.coastalquartershd2.com

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

- Very concerned in relation to the failure to provide a 2Ha Park, which is clearly required in the Bray Municipal District Local Area Plan.
- Considered the Open Space provision to be sub-standard, having regard to the quantum being provided, the location of part of it in a Flood Zone and the indicated location of a future landmark building in part of the Open Space.
- Welcome the end of the SHD Process
- Queried if the proposed roads would link to the proposed Public Transport Bridge and would the proposed development be dependent on the proposed Public Transport Bridge.
- Highlighted concerns in relation to the proposed Public Transport Bridge and that the approval process was currently being judicially reviewed. Would be concerned if the proposed development supported the provision of the proposed Public Transport Bridge.
- Sought clarification on the inclusion of lands outside of the applicant's ownership near the old dog track.
- Queried the Build to Rent element of the proposed development, particularly given the Minister's recent indication that the Build To Rent Scheme was to be ended.
- Have the Build To Rent Apartments been pre-sold to a Vulture fund.
- Is the housing need taken into account when the Board makes its decision on the application, as it is an important consideration.
- The existence of a flood plain in the immediate area needs to be carefully considered to ensure no new flood impacts would arise.

- Concerns were raised in relation to the traffic impact of the proposed development given the potential traffic generation of the proposed development and the existing congestion on the Dublin Road.
- Concerns were raised in relation to lack of school places in the Bray area and questioned the accuracy of the submitted school needs assessment.
- Concerns were raised in relation to the height of the buildings, particularly the 12 storey element in the south east corner of the site.
- Queried the provision of community facilities to serve the new residents, given the likely demand created by the proposed development and the need for such facilities.
- Concerns were raised in relation to fire access and fire risk.
- Considered there was a need for 2 lifts in each Apartment Block.
- Access through the railway underpass and into Dun Laoghaire lands was important in terms of permeability and the promotion of walking and cycling.
- Queried the operation of the wayleaves.
- Need to ensure buildings are designed to allow for the drying of clothes by future residents, given normal rules applied by Management Companies in the regard.
- All external parking areas should be permeable.
- Need to keep as much as possible of the existing mature trees on the site.
- The newly adopted Wicklow County Development Plan includes a new objective prohibiting the sale of apartment developments to private institutional investment funds. The Members of Bray MD asked that, if permission is granted for this SHD, that this policy is reflected in the conditions attached to any possible planning permission granted by An Bord Pleanála..
- Which local authority would be taking the road in charge
- Would there be any extra DART stations in the area to service the development.

Mr Keogh informed members that it was the Councils preference for a 2Ha park, in accordance with the Bray Municipal District Local Area Plan (LAP) however the plan does allow for the developer to interpret how the 2Ha green open space would be utilised.

The developer is required to provide a statement of material contravention highlighting anything that may be deemed to be a material contravention of the plan, which they

have done in respect of the 2ha park. The remainder of the 2Ha requirement will be delivered in the final phase of the development.

Mr Keogh informed members that he was not ofay with the judicial review of the proposed sustainable transport bridge, but that there has been a plan for a bridge in this location for a long time.

Members were advised that roads being built are to develop the site and provide access to the carpark. A traffic impact assessment had been included.

It is anticipated that the main access road will be taken in charge.

The development won't block any potential road infrastructure improvements and does not rely on the transport bridge to progress

The cycle track at the underpass will be maintained.

Build to rent units will be in the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown area.

Wicklow County Council's County Development Plan has precluded investors from purchasing these units, this is contravening national guidelines.

The Bord must have regard to the current development plan. Bord must have regards to ministerial guidelines. The Chief Executive report will mention this.

Mr Keogh advised that the developer had looked at the housing need in the area and these units will meet a significant housing need in the Bray MD area.

The development will be managed by a management company.

The provision of schools is a matter for the Department of Education.

2 community facilities indicated – The Orchard in the south/west corner and a mugga pitch/games area. There will also be a meeting room for residents

All apartment blocks have lifts, it will be a matter for building regulators to consider if 2 lifts are needed.

The developer sought permission for lands outside their ownership to be included in the application, permission was granted in order to facilitate connection of services.

There will be an access point into Dun Laoghaire/Rathdown area, via Corke Abbey

There are proposals for a new DART station at Woodbrook which is relatively close to the development.

Naming of new estate in Kilmacanogue

Members discussed the naming of a new 9 unit development in Kilmacanogue, Geata na Gaoithe was suggested.

Item 4 To consider the Housing Report

Cedar Court

Construction is ongoing with the units due for completion in Q1 of 2023.

Parnell Road (Central Garage site)

Initially Tuath Approved Housing Body had concerns due to the costs of the project and applied for both CALF and CAS funding to ascertain which model would best support the rapidly rising costs. There were difficulties over the last 18 months securing reliable costings due to the considerable uncertainties in the market with some costs changing weekly. Tuath are now in the process of submitting a revised CALF and hope to secure funding in the next 4-6 weeks which will allow them to proceed to tender.

Kilbride Lodge and Sutton Villas

Respond Approved Housing body were successful in applying to advance this project. Part 8 is in place on both sites. There were a number of issues with the registration of the lands and the current position is as follows:

- Kilbride Lodge: The main body of the site is registered to WCC and transfer orders have been secured from the 2 registered owners of most of the remaining areas. Registration should be completed shortly. There is a small outstanding area that cannot be registered to WCC, but this area is outside the building line.
- Sutton Villas: the registration of this site is almost complete following the CPO process.

Respond AHB are reluctant to proceed to tender until all land registration issues are resolved.

They are concerned that they may not be able to secure HFA funding to advance the project.

Rehills Lands

The Department and NDFA are proceeding with the appointment of consultants for the scheme.

Fassaroe.

We hope to lodge the part 8 within the next month or so.

Southern Cross Road.

A development of 208 houses and apartments, including 20 Part V units, is in the process of being purchased for social housing as a turnkey by Cooperative Housing Ireland. The first units have been delivered and all units should be complete by Q4 of 2022.

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

Housing need assessment – can HAP information be included on the forms/advertising

Are HAP applicants being removed from housing list

Lack of emergency accommodation despite vouchers being given to individuals, due to most accommodation being utilised by Ukrainian refugees

Vouchers being rejected

We are facing a winter of emergency homelessness

Is there a homeless outreach worker

Is there a cold weather initiative this winter

Update sought on - Glenthorn site, Central Garage site, Kilbride Lodge site and Rehills lands

Concerns around bonfires

House in Millfield – has this been allocated yet

Update on Loreto convent being used as a centre for Ukrainian refugees

Spar sign at Strand View apartments

Housing administrative officer, Mr Hickey informed members that the Housing Needs Assessment (HNA) had commenced and asked members to share this on their respective social media platforms.

HAP tenants are not included in the Housing Needs Assessment as it is taken by being HAP tenants that they have a housing need and are included automatically in the Social Housing Needs figures.

HAP & RAS are being included for allocation, in line with scheme of letting priorities, people are not being disadvantaged

Extra effort is being taken to contact and include all applicants who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness including applicants that are couch surfing. This is being undertaken with other agencies and stakeholders across the county. Members are asked to encourage everyone that receives a HNA to return it to the housing section.

Mr Hickey will contact the IT section to see if the information in relation to HAP is displayed prominently enough on the website

A homeless outreach appointment will be made in the coming weeks

There will be a cold weather initiative this winter

Acknowledged an issue with the voucher for B&Bs. There will be an update on this at the November meeting

The house in Millfield has been allocated

Glenthorn Site – Title issue expected to be resolved shortly.

Central Garage site – This is still with the Department.

Rehills Site - The Department and NDFA are proceeding with the appointment of consultants for the scheme. WCC need to work in partnership with the Department to progress this development. Site will remain for social and affordable housing

Bray MD and Wicklow County Council Waste Management section work closely with An Garda Síochána in relation to bonfires and the storage of materials in the run up to Halloween. Mr Hickey advised members that Wicklow County Council was in the process of reminding business owners to secure combustible materials and of the legal requirement to only hand over waste materials to licenced contractors. He suggested that if members of the public see any build up of bonfire materials they should get in touch with the council as soon as possible so it can be removed.

No update on Loreto Convent being used for Ukrainian refugees

The shop sign at Strand View apartments is a matter for the planning enforcement section of WCC

District Manager, Ms Lorraine Gallagher, advised members that the Homeless Action Team (HAT) which comprises a number of agencies, has responsibility for dealing with individuals at risk of homelessness.

Item 5 To receive a report on Roads and Transport

Roads Programme

Road Location	Length (m)	Area (m ²)	Proposed Works
Restoration Improvement			
Herbert Road, Bray (Western End)	796	4800	30% HRA. Works scheduled to be completed with footpath installation in October/ November.
Herbert Road, Bray (Eastern End Inlay)	333	2430	10mm SMA surf inlay completed.
Herbert Road, Bray (Eastern End Patchwork)	333	300	Patchwork repairs have been completed
15-26 Boghall Cottages, Bray	149	907	Contract awarded and still awaiting start date from contractor.
Avondale Park, Bray	281	1405	10mm SMA surf inlay work completed in April.
Killarney Lane, Bray	230	1500	10mm SMA surf inlay to be tendered.
Woodbrook Lawn, Bray	597	4180	10mm SMA surf inlay work completed in April
Sidmonton Road (1-8) Bray	80	200	Inlay 100mm binder & surf course. Contract in progress.
Greenpark Road, Bray	333	2200	10mm SMA surf inlay completed. Patchwork repairs completed.
James Everett Park	110	700	10mm SMA surf inlay work completed in April.
Killegar Lane (stables)	250	1000	Localised road reconstruction completed in June.
Killegar Lane (Dublin boundary)	100	350	Localised road reconstruction completed in June.
Kilgarron Hill from R117	70	440	Local repairs and surface inlay completed in May.
Loreto Lane	25	110	Localised road construction awaiting drainage works.
Quinsborough Road	190	980	Contract awarded for localised road reconstruction and awaiting start date from contractor.
Hazelwood, Fassaroe Estate	340	2480	Addition to the programme. Tender awarded and awaiting start date.
Bray IDA Business Park	582	4835	Addition to the programme. Tender issued.
Restoration Maintenance			
Killegar Road	2500	8500	Surface dressing following local structural repairs completed
Kilgarron Hill, Enniskerry	487	2750	Surface dressing completed
Old Long Hill	3200	16000	Surface dressing following local structural repairs completed.

Outstanding repairs and resurfacing of Convent Avenue between Sidmonton Road and Meath Road from 2021 were completed in May. Surface Dressing was completed early in July.

Footpaths

Following tendering in April, a contractor was pointed to carry out a schedule of concrete footpath repairs. To date, approximately 80% of the footpath programme has been completed. Recording of additional defects is on-going and priorities may be amended. Own labour charged to road maintenance will be used to supplement the budget to complete as much of the required repairs as possible this year.

Drainage Works

Essential drainage repairs and improvements are on-going. Substantial drainage works were recently completed at Killough Lower and works planned at Ballybawn last year were also recently completed.

Location	Amount	Works
L-19585-0 Loreto Avenue	€47,000	New 60m storm sewer in concrete road
R-755-273 Calary Upper	€10,000	New drainage crossing
R-761-0 Dublin Road, Bray	€8,000	Install manhole on culvert & repair. Investigation works commenced. More funding is required.
R-760-34 Killough Lower	€10,000	Install new drainage and repair flood damage has been completed
L-5008-0 Killegar Road	€12,000	Drainage repairs completed
L-1011-26 Glencree Road, Cloon	€13,000	Repair and re-slab two culvert crossings

NTA Schemes

WCC NTA PROJECT OFFICE

Project	Update
Seafront Plaza	Quotations were sought and contractor appointed for the installation of additional bollards and relocation of planters to stop illegal parking. Exact location and date of installation are to be agreed
Bray Transport Interchange	Detailed design is being finalised. Ongoing consultation for the 3 land owner agreements is taking place. Following agreement with IR to include drainage works for the project in September they have now postponed the works until December.
Killarney Road Cycle Scheme	Aecom have updated the Preliminary Design drawings and are preparing documentation for Phase 3 Gateway Approval. The Boghall Road-Killarney Lane layout and bus journey delays not yet resolved to the satisfaction of the Bray MD

Vevay Road Cycle Scheme	Aecom have updated the Preliminary Design drawings and are preparing documentation for Phase 3 Gateway Approval. Contact to be made with local businesses on Vevay Rd to discuss proposed changes
Fran O'Toole Bridge Footbridges	Preferred design has been updated to reflect Bray MD and Bus Connects comments. Revised layout to be agreed with NTA/Bus Connects.
Swan River Greenway	Revised proposal for a reduced scope to be discussed with NTA and DBFL to prepare presentation to Councillors on proposed route.
Bus Priority in Little Bray	DBFL are preparing the revised parking arrangement for the Rathmore area as well as developing a proposed layout drawing for the Upper Dargle Road / Dublin Road junction. DBFL are talking to the NTA on this and looking to liaise with the Bus Connects team
Bray Public Transport Bridge Connection Phase 2	Phase 2 on hold until Part 8 process for Bridge complete
Southern Cross Road VRU Improvements	Ongoing review of Preferred Design. Barry Transportation are preparing documentation for the Phase 3 Gateway Report.
Bray Main St. Bus Priority & Decongestion	Aecom have completed a review of the traffic survey data and the Baseline VISUM model has been completed.
Convent Avenue to Vevay Crescent Permeability Scheme	WCC have reviewed the initial design options prepared by DBFL and have provided feedback. DBFL are preparing alternative design options
Putland Road Cycle Scheme (between Meath Rd and the Railway bridge)	Part 8 documentation has been progressed with a draft Options Assessment Report, draft Part 8 Report and proposed General Arrangement Drawings prepared and under review by WCC. Parking Survey results have been received and Aecom are preparing a report on the findings.
River Dargle Cycleway	DBFL have issued a draft options assessment report for WCC stakeholder review. WCC have provided feedback to DBFL and a meeting with DBFL has been arranged to discuss feedback and reissue draft report
Kilmacanogue to Bray Retail Park (Southern Cross Road)	Tree-Climbing Bat surveys have been completed by RPS, with follow up re-emergence surveys to be completed in August. Ongoing preparation of Preliminary Design and Part 8 planning documentation. Feedback received from landowner consultation has been provided to RPS for consideration in the preliminary design.
Bray Harbour North to Woodbrook/Shanganagh	PGAF approved by NTA.

ACTIVE TRAVEL IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

Project	Update
Peoples Park Lighting	No Update
Sidmonton Square	Section 38 notice has been published and no objections or submissions received by due date. This scheme is out for tender.
Herbert Road Ashton Wood to Pedestrian Bridge	Works to take place under Road Closure from October 12 th to November 23 rd .
Enniskerry Pedestrian Improvement Scheme	Bray MD finding it difficult to get conservation engineer to assess works around Clock Tower which is a protected structure. Tender is to issue shortly for periphery footpath works
Powerscourt National School, Cookstown Road	Section 38 notice has been published and no objections or submissions received by due date. This scheme is out for tender.
Deerpark Cycleway	Section 38 notice has been published and no objections or submissions received by due date. Tender documents to be prepared shortly
Vevay Rd/Sidmonton Rd Junction Improvement	Specification and tender documents are being prepared for a traffic signal installation with pedestrian phases.

Other Works

Funding has been provided for the expansion of the Boghall depot into the old APC site. The site is already in use to store material from the Cedar Court Phase II site and as a temporary depot for the construction of Cedar Court Phase II. Contracts have been awarded for new fencing and boundary construction. Tree felling works were carried out in September.

Works are ongoing at the Enniskerry depot to provide a new chlorination facility for Irish Water and to complete the partitioning of the site for council and Irish water functions.

The council is currently waiting on a power supply connection for Bogmeadow EV chargers. A meeting was held with ESB on site to progress the connection.

A contract has been awarded for public lighting on the Herbert Road from Ashton Wood to the pedestrian bridge.

Third Party Works

Planned works by Irish Rail to close the level crossing at Quinsborough Road over the weekend commencing 2nd September has been deferred till December. Drainage works under the railway for the Transport Interchange was planned during the road closure.

The Ballymore Group are planning to erect temporary fencing north of rail underpass URB 138 and parallel to the railway line to secure the site for planned drainage works next week. This will restrict access by Corke Abbey and Woodbrook Glen residents for about two weeks. They also plan to close the link road on their lands leading to the

railway underpass from about the end of September for about a year. This is to facilitate works by Irish Water and their own site development works. There will be a significant detour for school pupils who normally use the rail underpass during this time. The schools have been notified.

District Engineer, Mr Liam Bourke, informed members that the closure of the Herbert Road was proceeding, to facilitate works on a new footpath and road resurfacing.

Bray Business Park was going to be resurfaced starting next week.

The Local Improvement Scheme started this week.

The proposed level crossing closure has been postponed, it's proposed to carry out these works over the holiday period after Christmas

Drainage works at Calary Upper had commenced.

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

Sidmonton Square – any update on tender

Metal platform at the Dargle Riverside Park – when will this be removed

Bridge Road, Enniskerry – flooding – drains need attention

Killegar/back of Kilgarron hedges need cutting back

Entrance to church car park in Enniskerry needs works

Kilcrouney Lane – speeding

Enniskerry Village – works at Parochial Hall, no dipped paving, disabled space, no parking for bus

Closure of Herbert Road be advised in good time

Can lights at Killarney/Kilbride Lane be looked at when road closes to ensure sequencing is adequate

Rathmore Terrace parking – any update

Main Street bus priority

Herbert Road resurfacing – can yellow lines between Parnell Road and King Edward Road be re-instated

Poor visibility at entrance to Herbert Road carpark

Aravon Court laneway works – cobbles removed and replaced with concrete, now a surface water issue at this location

The District Engineer advised that there was no date yet for the Sidmonton Square tender.

Bray MD will arrange removal of the metal platform from the River Dargle

The overseer for Enniskerry will deal with the drains on Bridge Road

Cutting of the hedges at Killegar & Kilgarron will be looked at, as much as possible will be done, subject to resources available

Entrance to church in Enniskerry will be looked at

Speed survey at Kilcrouney will be re-done, with a changed position

Works at the Parochial Hall – will try and do at the earliest opportunity

Variable message signs will be in place in good time ahead of the Herbert Road closure

Additional traffic volumes at Boghall are expected, this will be monitored and if necessary traffic light sequence will be adjusted as needed

No further information has been received in relation to parking at Rathmore Terrace, any proposals received will be brought to the elected members.

Main Street bus priority – there are no plans available yet.

Yellow lining at Parnell Road to King Edward Road will be followed up

The entrance to the Herbert Road carpark will be examined, with possible addition of bollards & lining.

The OPW carried out the works at Aravon Court laneway, it was not practical to re-instate the cobbles. The District Engineer will follow up on this with the OPW

Item 6. To receive an update on public realm projects:

Bogmeadow EV Charger

The 22kVA AC electric vehicle charger has been installed.

Power supply connection is still awaited. A meeting was held with ESB on site to progress the connection.

Seafront Toilets

The public gents toilets refurbishment at the back of Sealife was completed and opened in July, It is intended to tender for the refurbishment of the ladies toilets this autumn with the intention of commencing works by November.

Raheen Park

An ecologist has been engaged for the preparation of a Conservation Management Plan for Bray Head. The ecologist is also being engaged to prepare an appropriate assessment screening report for the trail proposals at Raheen Park. Drawings outlining the trail proposals were presented to the SAAO committee.

A separate consultant has been engaged to prepare a NeighbourWood Scheme Plan for Bray Head with a view to apply for additional funding. A draft NeighbourWood Scheme Plan has been prepared.

A meeting was held between Wicklow County Council, the ecologist preparing the Conservation Management Plan and the consultant preparing the NeighbourWood Scheme Plan to coordinate and progress plans. It was agreed the draft NeighbourWood Scheme plan will be updated once the Conservation Management Plan is prepared.

Seafront Seatbacks

Documents are being prepared for tendering for painting section south of the aquarium.

Enniskerry Village Renewal

Works started at the Fair Green commenced in January were temporarily suspended and have recently resumed in order to facilitate planting this Autumn.

Bray Sláintecare Healthy Communities

The council's share of available funding for the project has been cut. It is likely that installation of caisthentic facilities at Ballywaltrim will proceed. It is also proposed to refurbish the tennis court at Giltspur Heights as a futsal court.

Outdoor Performance Space

In consultation with the arts officer, a preference has moved towards the use of temporary seasonal stretched tent structures to cover the performance space. A meeting has been organised with providers to explore the options in greater detail.

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

Fassaroe playground zip line broken – are playgrounds checked weekly?

Raheen Park - will this be a consultation process?

Change of use of tennis courts in Giltspur Heights – have residents been consulted?

Bogmeadow EV charger – any update on connection

The District Engineer advised that playgrounds are checked on a weekly basis. The equipment at the playground in Fassaroe will be addressed. Availability of replacement parts can be an issue currently.

A conservation report is being awaited in relation to Raheen Park. – NeighbourWood Scheme will be subject to consultation.

The District Engineer advised members that the tennis courts in Giltspur had not been used in many years due in part to an issue of subsidence. He was not sure how much consultation had occurred with residents but would investigate this further. It was suggested that perhaps the Estate Management Officer could help in this regard.

Connection of the EV charger in the Bogmeadow car park was proving problematic. ESB Networks have informed the council that there is insufficient capacity in the electricity network in Enniskerry to provide power to the EV chargers at the Bogmeadow. An electricity network upgrade is required but we have been informed that it is unlikely to happen before 2023.

Item 7. To receive an update on strategic infrastructure projects

Bray Central

District Administrator, Ms Linda Healy, read out the following report:

WCC is continuing to work with Solicitors for Oakmount in order to complete the transfer. Following same Oakmount will be in a position to open 2 restaurants, the mall area and car park in a matter of days.

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

Will legal transfer go smoothly
Who are the anchor tenants
Car park opening will be very welcome
Is there an issue with Irish Water

Ms Gallagher, informed members that Wicklow County Council's legal department were very much up to speed on the title transfer. The developer needs title before they can initiate a lease. There has been a significant amount of investment by the developer in this project and are very eager to open. Irish Water was consulted throughout this project and there are no delays in this regard.

Bray Harbour Improvement Scheme

The requirement for additional environmental assessments was identified in the draft Feasibility Report. RPS was requested to carry out an EIA Scoping Exercise as an add-on to their current engagement. A draft EIA has been received and this is being reviewed at present. This identifies all of the potential environmental impacts that needs to be addressed in the EIAR. A Stage 1 Screening for an Appropriate Assessment report has yet to be provided after which it is proposed to organise further public consultation that includes a 3D visualisation of the proposed scheme

Outdoor performance space Bray Seafront

District Administrator, Ms Linda Healy, read out the following report:

By way of background and as the members are aware, Wicklow County Council is pursuing the development of a versatile high quality outdoor performance space on the northern Esplanade at Bray seafront. The process has entailed broad consultation between the design team and the various stakeholder groups in order that the needs & concerns of each can be made known. In turn this has informed us of the competing requirements and in turn helped refine the project brief.

As you know throughout the summer months meetings were held between the Council and consultants at which different design approaches were explored. The project initially envisaged a permanent structure most likely of structural steel, supporting a fabric canopy over a staging area. The information provided by the arts community was that this, in and of itself, was not likely to be sufficient. In order to maximise the usability of the space they required that it incorporate curtain walling to provide shelter from the elements.

It is worth noting that elsewhere in the county the Arts Department facilitate events through the erection of temporary shelters in the form of stretch tents. In order to better understand the requirements of these structures, their advantages, and whether or not they represent a viable alternative to a permanent structure a decision was taken to contact experts in the industry. These discussions have been informative and are continuing. It may well prove a more practicable solution to design the performance space so that it can accept a structure along these lines.

Notwithstanding the above the Council is conscious of the need that any proposed solution needs to respect the amenity of the area and the role it plays as the primary leisure and tourist centre of the town. In this regard every effort will be made to deliver a solution that is both functional and that meets the aesthetic requirements demanded by the location.

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

Concerns over changes to the design

Very different to initial proposals – now becoming an indoor space

Already have a covered area in the Bandstand

Happy to see what the stakeholders involved feel about it

Let constituents see the proposals before any decision is taken

Users need to be protected from the elements.

Need for people to be included in the process and discussions around it

Elected members to be kept updated.

Ms Healy advised members that a meeting would take place the following week with the consultants and the matter would be discussed.

The District Manager advised the elected members that the space was always going to be tented canopy, the wind at this location is an issue for both the performers and people viewing the events.

She stated that the project team is conscious of the views of both the elected members and residents in the area. The aim is to make sure the proposal is usable, functional and sensitive to the area and something people can be proud of.

Item 8 Correspondence

None

Item 9 Any Other Business.

The Members expressed their concerns regarding the condition of the drinking water supply to the North Bray area and the impact the quality of same is having on its residents. They also requested that Wicklow County Council's Water Services Department and the HSE be written to requesting that immediate testing of the water be undertaken. Ms Healy agreed to write to Irish Water and the HSE.

Cllr Aoife Flynn Kennedy requested that the issue of Town Teams be put on the Agenda for the November meeting.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed:

**Cllr. Erika Doyle
CATHAOIRLEACH**

Signed:

**Linda Healy
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

Dated:
