



**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of
Bray held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday
9th May 2023 at 6.30 p.m.**

Present:

**Cathaoirleach Councillor Erika Doyle
Leas Cathaoirleach Councillor Melanie Corrigan
Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy
Councillor Joe Behan
Councillor Rory O'Connor
Councillor Dermot O'Brien
Councillor Grace McManus**

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 Anne Ferris

Item 1.

**Confirmation of minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of
Municipal District of Bray dated 9th May 2023**

Councillor Flynn Kennedy proposed the confirmation of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Municipal District of Bray held 9th May 2023. Leas Cathaoirleach Melanie Corrigan seconded the proposal and they were unanimously agreed by the Members.

Item 2. To update the Members on Discretionary Funding projects for 2022 & 2023

District Administrator, Linda Healy updated the members in relation to the Discretionary Funding Projects and the funding allocated to each project. She advised that there will be a quarterly update in regards to these projects. Members were advised that any questions could be directed to the relevant personnel.

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

- Insufficient funding for the creation of a Master Plan for people's park, members said it is important to get the views of the people living down in this area and asked for the matter to be reviewed.
- Concerns were raised regarding over budgeting of some of these projects.
- It was noted that some of these projects are also under budgeted and may run into next year's budget if not completed this year.
- The next update will be presented at the September meeting.

Item 3. To update the Members on the public consultation for the former Bray Heritage Building.

The District Administrator read out the following report to the elected members:

At the Bray MD meeting on 14th February a Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Rory O'Connor and seconded by Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy was discussed and agreed that a visit to this building would be arranged and also a public consultation carried out to gather the views of the public as to a future use for the building.

Submissions were invited from members of the public for their ideas on the future use of this building. The Closing date for receipt was Friday 21st April 2023.

A total of 149 submissions were received via the consultation hub, email and by letter.

An initial scan of the submissions suggests the following uses:-

Community Space, Cultural & Arts, Social Enterprise Hub, Youth Space, Bridge Club Centre, History Museum, Remote working Hub, Homeless Hub, Tourist Office, Restaurant, Exhibition space.

A more detailed analysis of the submissions needs to be undertaken.

Going forward the funding required to renovate this building will be in the form of an URDF application. Bray Municipal District Staff will work with the Town Regeneration

Officer in order to have a viable application prepared for when the funding call is announced later this year.

An URDF project should be shovel ready when making the application accordingly, this will require a design and costings to be prepared prior to submission of an application.

The Elected Members made the following comments.

- Members were happy with the news of the amount of submissions and they support the regeneration of the building.
- Positive news that there has been progress made and gained some type of concept for the ideas.
- Members thanked tidy towns for the hard work that was put in to keeping the building clean and presentable.
- Members agreed that public toilets are a huge need for Bray Main Street and updating the ones in the heritage centre and inputting a disability toilet would be ideal for the public.
- Concerns were raised regarding inviting people to share their submissions. It was noted that some people may be disappointed if their ideas are not considered.
- It was noted that it would be preferred to have a criteria on the submission process in the future.

Item 4. To consider the Housing Report

Cedar Court

Construction is ongoing with the units due for completion in Q2 of 2023.

Parnell Road (Central Garage site)

Stage 3 approval has now been received from the Department of Housing. Tuath Housing have arranged a meeting with their design team for mid-May to progress the scheme.

Kilbride Lodge and Sutton Villas.

All land registration issues have now been resolved. Respond are in the process of appointing a project manager.

Rehills Lands

The design stage of the scheme is ongoing.

Fassaroe.

The design team for the scheme have been appointed and will now progress the tender documents.

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. The remaining units should be ready for occupation in the next few weeks.

Members thanked Garvan and all the housing team for all the continued hard work and the effort that is going into working on these ongoing issues.

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

- Members thanked Bray M.D,staff for all their continuous hard work.
- Vacant properties update- Can a quarterly report be provided?
- Update on Southern Cross apartments-public getting frustrated.
- Concerns regarding number of staff and funding available to complete the work needed on vacant properties were raised.
- Issues were raised regarding the repair/maintenance of Dargan Hall and who the residents were supposed to be reporting these issues to.
- Concerns were raised regarding homelessness accommodation and the priority of this.
- How many notices to quit has been received?
- Queries were raised whether a place finder service is required in Bray.

Housing Administrative Officer, Mr Garvan Hickey, informed members that staff from the housing section including the homeless staff meet on a weekly basis to go through the database of people on notice to quit and are being proactive in providing people with alternative housing options and are available including the tenant in situ scheme, offering people tenancies. The Homeless section meets with the SEO at least twice weekly to update on progress. It is important that social housing applicants that are on a notice to quit register their notice to quit with the County Council. The HAP team are working closely with existing HAP tenants who are on a notice to quit to identify new HAP properties.

In response to query in respect of vacant properties, Mr Hickey advised that 30 properties will be due to have their relet works completed within the next few weeks, 5 of which applicants have been written out to already and hoped to have allocated in

the next 4-6 weeks. The remaining 25 properties will be allocated following Garda Checks.

Mr Hickey advised that there has been an unforeseen delay regarding the Southern Cross developments. However he got confirmation from Co-operative Housing that works will commence in the next few weeks in respect of allocations. Mr Hickey hopes that the first 80 apartments will be allocated by the beginning of June. He advised that snagging for phase 2 would be carried out in June and hopes that tenants will be moving in by August. He advised that staff from around the country by Co-operative Housing are being brought in to complete the allocations in a timely manner. My Hickey advised that he understood the frustration of people who had been nominated for the apartments in phase 1 that the allocations were taking longer than expected.

Mr Hickey stated that there is a limited amount of 3 bed units available and is working on engaging with tenants in relation to downsizing where possible in order to provide for the demand for 3 bed units.

Mr Hickey noted that there will be another update regarding vacant properties at the next meeting.

Mr Hickey advised that any structure related issues regarding Dargan Hall are to be reported to the management company; any tenant related issues are to be reported to Bray Municipal District. In relation to issues regarding internet connections, Mr Hickey advised members the issue had been flagged previously. He informed them that while the management company did not allow for the installation of satellite dishes onto the building, tenants were free to shop around to find alternative provider who can provide a service in which dishes didn't need to be attached to the building.

Item 5. To consider District Engineer’s report on Roads, Transport, Public Realm & Strategic Infrastructure projects within the BMD

Roads & Transport Report

Roads Programme

Funding has been allocated for the 2023 roads programme and works are progressing as described below.

Road No.	Road Location	Length m	Allocation	Status
L-10034	Bray Business Park	533	€80,000	Completed last year
L-1002	Boghall Cottages	125	€85,000	Completed surface inlay

L-5813	Hazelwood	332	€50,000	Road contract 2 sma works in progress
L-1962	Killarney Lane	247	€60,000	Road contract 2 starting w/b 08/05/23
L-55212	Berryfield Lane	645	€75,000	Road contract 2 surfacing in progress
R-760	Church Hill, Enniskerry	318	€91,000	Waiting on drainage works funding
L-5007	Ballyman Road	460	€120,000	Works specification under review
L-1957	Novara Avenue	150	€37,000	Road contract 2 sma surface complete
R-766-135	Putland Road	155	€50,000	Road contract 2 sma surface complete
L-1963	Kilbride Lane	338	€80,000	Road contract 2 starting w/b 08/05/23
R-117-0	Knocksink Road	96	€27,000	Works extent under review
L-1019	Glencormack	326	€110,000	Dependant on drainage works funding
L-1015	Deegan's Lane	724	€66,060	Road recycling & SD contract awarded

The proposed restoration maintenance work in 2023 is set out in table below. The budget allocation for the Bray MD is €49,530. Works proposed for late May/early June under contract.

Road No.	Road Location	Length m	Allocation	Status
L-10034	Balinagee Hill	611	€9,000	Surface dressing
R-755	Roundwood road	125	€10,530	Surface dressing
L-1015	Deegan's Lane	1028	€10,000	Surface dressing
L-1015	Onagh	1403	€20,000	Surface dressing

Drainage Works

Approximately €109,500 drainage grant has been allocated to the Bray district. The proposed works to be completed with grant aid are as set out in the table below. A business case for capital funding for R760 Church Hill, Enniskerry is waiting approval. A business case will also be made for capital funding for drainage works at L-5029 Quill Road and L-1019 Glencormack Phase 2 when fully costed.

Number of Locations	Estimated Cost €	Status
L-1020 Cookstown Road, Enniskerry flood relief	€17,000	Completed
L-1019 Glencormick Road, Kilmacanogue flood relief	€12,500	
L-19581 Loreto Avenue, Bray	€55,000	
L-97551 Calary Lane, Kilmacanogue	€15,000	Completed
L-1013 Waterfall Road, Ballyross, Enniskerry	€10,000	Completed

Safety Improvement Works

€70,000 funding has been approved for extending previous safety improvement works at the R755 Rocky Valley Road at Healy's Pottery. This will entail drainage works and

a footpath extension with associated lining and signing. €45,000 funding has also been approved for further safety improvement works on the R117 in the vicinity of the Cookstown Road junction.

Other Grant Funding

A contract has been awarded for the installation of a driver feedback sign and vehicle activated sign in the Bray district. The northbound approach to the Glenwood bend on the Herbert Road has been chosen for the VAS sign and the northbound approach to the Blind Lane junction on the Dargle Road has been chosen for the driver feedback sign.

Footpaths

No funding allocation for footpath repair is proposed for 2023. However, essential repairs at Kilmacanogue estates planned for last year will be carried out by direct labour from road maintenance when staff are available. In the meantime, footpath defects are being assessed and recorded for the time when funding becomes available.

Capital Works

On the Enniskerry Village Renewal Scheme an interim report on the Town Clock monument by the conservation engineer indicates possible movement and further monitoring is required before conclusions on required remedial work. Minor elements will be progressed in May and June with Urban & Village Renewal funding. Capital funding has been approved for the substantial works following withdrawal of NTA funding.

The Convent Avenue to Vevay Crescent Permeability Scheme has been returned to the Bray MD to implement following withdrawal of NTA funding. A business case for the funding to the amount of €450,000 over two years has been approved. Land owner agreement and Part 8 planning approval will be required to progress this scheme.

NTA Schemes

NTA project allocation for the Bray MD in 2023 are set out in table below.

Project Name	2023 Allocation	
Bray DART Interchange – Bus Terminus Improvement	€1,684,000	Tenders due for works in May
Bray Seafront Plaza	€60,000	Minor snagging near completion

Bus Priority in Little Bray	€50,000	At Concept and Options stage. Fee proposal awaited for inclusion of a rapid build option
River Dargle Cycleway	€50,000	Options Assessment report to be finalised
Killarney Road Active Travel Route	€60,000	Rapid Build Options report to be completed for the scheme. WCC are preparing tender documents
Bray Bridge Footbridges and tie ins	€150,000	At Preliminary design stage
Bray Main Street Bus Priority and Decongestion	€10,000	At Concepts and Options stage
Convent Avenue to Vevay Crescent Permeability Scheme	€10,000	Close out of 2022 costs incurred
SRTS Round 2 Kilmacanogue NS, Kilmacanogue	€20,000	Waiting on An Taisce Greenschools delivery plan

The NTA have recently been writing to owners/occupiers of properties that will be impacted by the Bus Connects Bray to City Centre Corridor concerning the likely CPO of relevant lands. Invitations have been sent to council road engineers to a scheme planning briefing meeting at the NTA offices in May.

Part VIII documentation is being prepared for a proposed Park & Ride car park on the Fassaroe lands beside junction 6 on the N11. A presentation to the Bray Municipal District is proposed prior to advertising the scheme.

It has been confirmed that contracts have been awarded for three bus shelters in the Bray District. These are at the Bogmeadow, Enniskerry, N11 northbound Kilmacanogue and the Giltspur-SCR Terminus. Works are scheduled to commence in early June.

E-Bike Sharing Scheme

About 35 sites around Bray have been selected at this stage for inclusion for the virtual mandatory parking locations (VMPL). This includes some business premises in the public domain where agreement has been provided. Most are at existing bicycle stands or where adequate paved space is available. 3 new cycle bays have been paved and approximately 18 new cycle bays have been created by the installation of Sheffield stands. 5 more bays are planned on both public and private land. Launch of the scheme is planned shortly.

Public Realm Report

ORIS Projects

Trail works at the Kilmacanogue Marsh that were to be completed last year are to resume in the next few weeks under direct labour. A ramped path with an entrance opposite the car park is to be constructed.

Funding has been allocated for trail development and conservation to the main Sugarloaf access at the Red Lane car park. Part 8 drawings have been prepared to provide car park improvements with coach parking and a turn-around facility. Consultation with local farmers with grazing rights on the commonage has been initiated. CCSD will be completing the preparation of the Part 8 documents.

Enniskerry Village Renewal

The interim report from the Conservation Engineer indicates some movement in the plinth structure and one of the tower planters.. It is not certain if this is of structural significance yet as some seasonal movement can occur. If not conclusive after three months monitoring, several more months of monitoring may be required. It is expected that detail design of paving materials and layout will be completed shortly and some of the work not impacting on the monument will be contracted in June.

Raheen Public Park

The Part 8 public consultation for the public park closed on the 27th April. Eight submissions have been made. They are generally positive but there is considerable content containing detailed information that requires time to analyse. A Chief executives report is anticipated for the June meeting of the Bray Municipal district for a decision. A draft Conservation Management Plan has been prepared

for Bray Head. A pathfinder visit took place in April, during which there was extensive engagement between the ecology consultant and various stakeholders. Officials had a follow up site meeting today to explore the possibility of acquiring ORIS funding to achieve the objectives of the management plan. Another public site meeting is to be planned to discuss proposals for a Neighbourwood scheme.

Bray Harbour Improvements

A presentation was made to the department responsible for URDF funding for the project, which outlined the outcome of the feasibility study. Feedback was favourable and approval is awaited to progress to tendering for consultants. It is planned to fence off an area identified in the feasibility report that could be used to facilitate the relocation of existing or accommodate additional marine uses in the harbour.

Bogmeadow Playground Enniskerry

Capital funding has been approved from the council's Development Contribution Scheme along with discretionary funding for developing the playground. Detailed design and preparation of specifications for both the site development works that deals with the site preparation, retaining walls and alterations to infrastructure and for the supply and installation of the play equipment is progressing.

Ballywaltrim Recreational Field Masterplan

A topographical survey drawing of the site has been received and a draft layout drawing of an astro turf pitch is under review at present. Options development for the final configuration of pitches, detailed design and costing have yet to be completed.

Seafront Toilets

Refurbishment of the lady's toilets at the aquarium building are complete and are open for use.

Skateboard Park

A tender has been received for the design and build of a skateboard park at Ballywaltrim.

Enniskerry EV Charger

The EV charger is scheduled for metering by the ESB.

Uncontrolled Crossing Albert Ave

A design and tender for works are being prepared

Briar Wood Flood Mitigation

Tenders have been received for the construction of a raised table and the installation of new drainage at the entrance to the estate. A business case for capital funding has been approved and a contract is expected to be awarded shortly. The work is further to previous mitigation works carried out under discretionary funding

Herbert Road Cul-de-Sac Wall

The new wall has been completed

Community Landscaping Grant

A draft scheme outline and application form for scheme approval has been prepared

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

- Concerns regarding update on hidden disability parking space were raised again.
- The street lighting at Victoria Avenue needs to be looked at.
- No bus shelter at Shop River.
- Ongoing accidents with cyclist on Enniskerry road.
- Update regarding Forge road drainage works.
- Safety on road at hills garage and Ballywaltrim lane.
- More signage at new pedestrian crossing on Sidmonton Avenue
- Completion of works on Herbert Road Scheme
 - replacement of the broken public light,
 - switching on the new public lights,
 - clearing the debris left behind in the green areas
 - Planting new trees to replace those which were removed during the works.

- Update regarding Enniskerry e charger.
- Measures needed for speeding at Rockfield Park Kilmacanogue.
- Update on E Bike scheme.
- Movement on location of bus stop outside Herbert Park.
- Update on cliff walk.
- Row of lights in Fassaroe not working.
- Update on Vevay road works.
- Update on dishing out footpaths.
- Water collecting at crossing beside Simonton Park.
- No disability parking spaces reinstated at North beach car park
- Glenthorn open space to be cleared to facilitate use by residents as biodiversity patch.
- Curtlestown school needs more signage.
- Is there enough staff to carry out this workload?
- Raised concerns regarding issues being presented time and time again, is there a need for some type of system to keep track?
- Quinsborough Road resurfacing damage.

District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised that he will follow up regrading signage at Curtlestown and disability parking.

Bus stop at Shop River – District Engineer will follow up with NTA team on this issue.

In relation to Victoria Avenue lighting, Mr. Bourke said that it will be discussed with public lighting section. He said it will be funded if necessary. Liam will follow up regarding Simonton crossing but was satisfied with this previously.

In regards to Herbert Road, Liam stated he was unaware of the debree and tree stumps that were left on Herbert Road and will look into this. He is also going to enquire about the lighting here too, trees have been planted to replace ones removed during road works.

Mr Bourke advised that in relation to the EV charger, he was in discussion with ESB networks who have planned to meter these, he will continue engaging with them on this matter.

Liam said that he is keen to drive Raheen Park and the submissions gave for biodiversity landscape has been taken on board.

Liam ensured that surfacing at Quinsborough Road will be investigated.

In relation to the cliff walk, he noted that consultants have come back with designs and prices. He is now ready to invite tenders. He is engaging with consultants regularly in order to keep the project moving.

Liam has referred the matter in Fassaroe to the public lights section.

The District Engineer also stated he is going to look further into the situation with public lights in Seacrest and also the repositioning of the bus stop.

Regarding Rockfield Park, Liam said he hasn't had a chance to look into this issue yet but plans on doing so in time.

Liam ensured he will follow up with the parks engineer in relation to Glenthorn.

The District Engineer advised members on how schemes are prioritised, some schemes are easier to deliver than others, some have budgets already in place. If a scheme is dependent on other departments it can also delay things.

District Manager, Lorraine Gallagher advised that she will look into some type of system in order to keep track of the issues being raised. In relation to staffing she noted that recruitment and retention of engineering staff is a big problem at the moment. Lorraine noted that Bray has its full complement of staff but advised that the Chief Executive has asked the MD managers to look at what additional requirements they may have, but a budget will also be required for additional staff.

Item 6. Notice of Motions:

Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor O'Connor (22/03/23)

"That this Municipal District in collaboration with An Garda Síochána creates a solution to fix the illegal parking on the northbound lane in Kilmacanaogue by the Circle K."

- This Notice of Motion was seconded by Cllr Corrigan.

Response:

The only parking problem observed by Bray technical staff is in the N11 northbound entry slip at Circle K Rockfield. This is due to the inadequate parking capacity for the scale of business at Circle K Rockfield. The road is in the jurisdiction of the TII and this matter has been forwarded to the Roads Department who liaise with the TII.

Notice of motion in the name of Cllr Rory O'Connor (02/04/2023)

"That this Municipal District shall respond to the residents of Wolfe Tone Square North regarding their ideas for resolving the issue of excessive traffic in their local area. To accomplish this, a report will be issued with the idea best suited for the area to be considered by the members"

- This Notice of Motion was seconded by Cllr McManus.

Response:

A letter was received via an elected member of Municipal District of Bray in April concerning traffic in Wolfe Tone Square to which a response has already issued. Proposals have to be investigated and consultations undertaken before a more comprehensive response can issue. It should be noted that not all residents will be supportive of any of the alternative measures proposed and other less controversial measures should be considered also. There is an underlying assumption in the proposals that most of the traffic problems are a result of through traffic. It is not clear that this is the case and will have to be investigated further. There is a high density of car ownership in the estate with associated on street parking. Access routes to active open spaces have been closed in the past due to allegations of antisocial behaviour in laneways. Having regard to the extent of the estate, it is unlikely that sufficiently safe streets for play can be achieved for most of the estate. Another matter to be investigated is the patronage of the bus service that passes through the estate.

Following a discussion this Notice of Motion was withdrawn.

Item 7. Correspondence

(A) The TII issued a correspondence to Linda Healy which was in response to a notion of motion in the name of Cllr O'Connor at the April meeting.

"That this council creates a cycle lane southbound to Kilmacanaogue on the N11 to create a safer experience for cyclists."

The District Administrator read the following response:

Thank you for your email of 27 April 2023 regarding the above. The position in relation to your enquiry is as follows.

Due to the constrained space in the verge and the high-speed nature of the carriageway, TII do not consider that a cycle lane can be safely provided on the N11 southbound between Junction 7 (Bray South) and the diverge for Junction 8 (Kilmacanogue).

TII is currently supporting and providing funding to Wicklow County Council to progress the Kilmacanogue to Southern Cross Greenway Project. This will provide a safe offline pedestrian and cycle link between Bray South and Kilmacanogue, serving vulnerable road users in a safe and sustainable manner. Wicklow County Council are finalising the planning application for this scheme and hope to submit it before the Council for Part 8 approval shortly.

Cllr O'Connor asked for a copy of this response to be circulated to him.

Item 8. Any Other Business.

8.1 Councillor Flynn Kennedy proposed an idea for the building in Giltspur Heights to be utilised by Top end Boxing Club (formerly St Teresa's Boxing club). She stated that the building has been sat idle for quite some time and it would be great to make use of it. Councillor Flynn Kennedy recognises that the parking and roadways are tight and members of Top end Boxing club are also aware of this situation. She stated that residents from around the area were in favour of this idea.

Councillor Flynn Kennedy also informed the members that Top End boxing club have previously used this building before, the boxing ring fits in the building and as Top end Boxing club have no funds coming in it would be extremely useful for this group. Cllr Flynn Kennedy asked for this to be looked into and if it would be an option.

She further raised the issue of vacant council properties in the District that could be utilised by the many community clubs and organisations who are having difficulty finding a place to operate from. She said she was looking forward to the Town Team commencing who would look at such properties as part of their remit.

Cathaoirleach Erika Doyle seconds this proposal and thinks this group are deserving of a space.

Housing Officer, Garvan Hickey stated that the Director of Services is aware of this request which is under review at present.

The District Manager advised members that there was a need for a policy around vacant properties that could be used by the community and that perhaps an audit of such buildings could be carried out to determine how they would be best used.

In relation to the Boghall Road courthouse Ms Gallagher advised that Bray MD were moving forward with their plans to make sure the building would be ready when the time comes to apply for funding. An application for funding has been made under the Community Recognition Fund Scheme.

She also advised that the Town Regeneration Officer was meeting with a facilitator next week to discuss the process of developing a Town Team for Bray.

8.2 Councillor Dermot O'Brien proposed an idea to find suitable locations for a rainbow pedestrian crossing. Cllr Flynn Kennedy agreed with Cllr O'Brien and said it was an amazing idea and noted it was achieved in Arklow recently. She queried if it would have a road traffic issue.

Cllr Grace McManus fully supports this idea and thanks the members and the Council officials for their full support of the LGBTQ community.

Cllr Joe Behan said this was a good idea and suggested they should be put at Novara Road and Springfield Cemetery as pedestrian crossings are needed in this area.

District Engineer Liam Bourke is in full support of this proposal; however he said there is an issue with road traffic it is confusing for road users and also partially sighted people cannot utilise this safely. He is supportive of the cause and suggested using a location off the public roadway due to safety reasons.

Cllr O'Brien appreciated the feedback and stated he is hoping to move forward with the idea as soon as possible.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cllr. Melanie Corrigan
CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed: _____
Linda Healy
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dated: _____

