



**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of  
Bray held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday  
14<sup>th</sup> February 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 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 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

Councillor Corrigan proposed the confirmation of the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Municipal District of Bray held 10<sup>th</sup> January 2023. Councillor O'Brien seconded the proposal and they were unanimously agreed by the Members.

**Item 2. To receive a presentation from Aisling Dunne Head of Public Policy, Bolt on the proposed e-bike scheme for Bray.**

Members received a presentation from Aisling Dunne, Head of Public Policy, Bolt, and John Buckley, Operations Manager, Bolt in relation to a proposed e-bike scheme for the Bray area.

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

Members thanked Ms Dunne & Mr Buckley for the presentation and welcomed the engagement with the Bray Municipal District.

- Can the operating zone be extended to include Kilmacanogue and Enniskerry
- Who will collect bikes if they are left outside of the designated parking bays
- How long are people locked out if they fail the cognitive test
- Need to be conscious of pedestrians with mobility issues
- Do the bikes make a sound
- What type of data can be collected from the bikes
- What is included in the monthly reports to the Council
- What does a successful pilot scheme look like
- Age demographic – Insurance for under 18's
- Can a stop at Kilruddery be considered
- Infrastructure needs
- Provision of taxi service as an alternative
- Where is the company situated

Ms Dunne informed members that other area such as Kilmacanogue and Enniskerry can certainly be added to the route. The pilot scheme is flexible. They will monitor the demand in the Bray area at first and also analyse feedback received via the app and modify routes as necessary. It is hoped to have up to 100 bikes available but these will be rolled out incrementally, initially starting with 50/60 bikes. It is proposed to launch the scheme by the end of March.

Enniskerry and Kilmacanogue could be added but the routes between them would be too remote as drop off points.

Parking will be in designated virtual parking bays only.

Parking is controlled via geofencing to ensure compliance.

45+ bays are to be selected with the Council, with consideration for housing, bus routes, local businesses, road conditions and safety of other road users.

All bike operations will be managed by a dedicated local bike contractor. Bolt are currently in discussion with a local provider in this regard. The contractor will be responsible for the day to day running of the operation, they will collect any bikes not returned to the designated parking bays, and they will also look after issues such as battery replacement and any other necessary repairs.

It will be the user's personal responsibility to accept the result of the cognitive test.

Ms Dunne advised members that Bolt work closely with the National Council for the Blind (NCBI). They have sought their input into the entire process to ensure the scheme can be implemented in a safe way. Further input is always welcome. She advised members that the bikes make the same sound as a regular bike and have a bell attached. Bikes are not permitted to be ridden on footpaths; they are for use on cycle lanes and the road.

Mr Buckley advised members in relation to the type of data that can be collected via the app and relayed back to the Council in their monthly report. Information such as how many users each day, how many trips taken, average length of journey, start & finish points.

He advised members that they can liaise with the council and include whatever type of data the Council would like in the reports. These reports can also help inform future planning.

They can also include the results of various surveys that run on the app, for example, what was the transport mode before using the bikes; did it replace a car or bus journey?

A successful pilot scheme would be for Bolt to be at a Council meeting in a year's time rolling out a permanent scheme for the Bray area. The 12 month trial provides the Council with insight into whether an efficient and convenient ebike scheme will help deliver modal shift.

Members were informed that Bolt runs all of its shared mobility schemes at zero running cost to local authorities and provide insurance for cyclists and others in event of accident with the council being indemnified.

Ms Dunne advised members that a parking bay at Kilruddery is being considered. They are in talks with several private property owners in relation to the provision of virtual parking bays.

Bray has a reasonably good amount of cycle lanes to support the scheme. Slow speed zones and prohibited zones can be set as advised by the local authority.

The option of taxi provision is only offered during the evening hours to anyone who fails the cognitive test, as a safe alternative to get home.

Bolt's aim is to be part of a sustainable travel system.

There will be an inaugural cycle in March to launch the scheme.

**Item 3. 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)**

We are awaiting revised CALF application from Tuath.

**Kilbride Lodge and Sutton Villas.**

We are still awaiting registration of the land so the developments can proceed. There is one dealing pending on Kilbride Lodge. Sutton Villas has now been registered. The Law Department are following up with the PRA to try and expedite matters.

**Rehills Lands**

The Department and NDFA have appointed consultants for the scheme, and design work should be commencing shortly.

**Fassaroe.**

We hope to bring the report on the Part 8 for this scheme to the members in the next few weeks.

**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 month or so.

### The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

- Change in threshold amount for qualifying for social housing
- Available data on vacant properties (Voids)
- Can this data be included on the monthly housing report
- When is the choice based letting scheme starting
- Strand Road apartments – Part V allocation
- Details of €150m fund directed at vacancy

Housing administrative officer, Mr Garvan Hickey, informed members that new qualifying thresholds came into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2023.

The housing section have written out to housing applicants who had applications closed / refused on income grounds between 18/11/2021 and 31/12/22 (but might qualify under new regulations) and inviting them to re-apply for social housing support with updated income information. These include applicants who were closed during the HNA. We will not require re-submission of all other documentation. If applicants re-apply before 30<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and are deemed eligible based on the revised thresholds, they may have their time on the housing list reinstated.

He advised members that there are currently 56 vacant properties. 14 units are out to tender and due back this week. A further 16 are gone to tender and due back in March. In 2022 Bray MD housing section received 208 applications for social housing support. To date in 2023, 13 applications have been received.

Mr Hickey advised he did not have a start date in relation to the Choice Based Letting scheme but would seek more information and revert to the members.

Strand Road Apartments Part V – Mr Hickey advised members that negotiations were ongoing. It has been agreed that the developer can sell the units in the Strand Road complex but will not be compliant with planning if negotiations are not concluded for Part V with Wicklow County Council.

€150m fund for vacancy – Mr Hickey advised members he would seek further information in relation to this fund and revert to members.

He advised members that there was a separate budget for refurbishment of properties purchased under Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO). 3 vacant units have been purchased under CPO in Bray MD.

District Manager, Ms Lorraine Gallagher, informed members that the newly appointed Town Regeneration Officer will work closely with the Vacant Home Officer on this issue. A presentation to the members can be arranged for a future meeting.

**Item 4.**

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

**Roads Programme**

No grant allocation has been confirmed yet for 2023. The table below outlines the road sections proposed for restoration improvement in 2023 in the 2022-2024 programme. The Boghall Road Cottages, deferred from last year, is commencing work beginning Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February. Tender documents have been prepared for reconstruction works on Church Hill Enniskerry, which has become badly damaged over the last year. Following a review of the cost estimates on all proposals listed, other projects may have to be deferred to 2024.

<b>Road No.</b>	<b>Road Location</b>	<b>Length m</b>
R-766	Meath Road	140
L-55212	Berryfield Lane	550
R-760	Church Hill Lower, Enniskerry	124
L-5007	Ballyman Road	460
R-766-10	Eglinton Road	54
L-19663	Wolfe Tone Square	374
L-1957	Novara Avenue	233
R-766-135	Putland Road	155
L-1963	Kilbride Lane	338
L-1968	Woodbrook Drive	102
R-760-0	Church Hill Upper, Enniskerry	326
R-117-0	Knocksink Road	96

**Drainage Works**

No drainage funding has been allocated yet. Drainage improvement at Monastery Road-R117 are complete. The first phase of addressing the damaged drainage at Glencormac-Kilcrouney lane junction following works by Irish Water last year is completed. New drainage has been installed on private property to address the ponding on Cookstown Road near Powerscourt National School. A topographical survey of lands through which a new drainage pipe is proposed to drain Quill Road has been carried out. A drainage design will be carried out shortly and the relevant land owners consulted. A business case for funding has to be made.

## **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.

## **NTA Schemes**

The council has been notified of NTA project allocation for 2023. No implementation project funding has been received and unspent funds allocated last year have been withdrawn. The Bray Municipal District Allocations are as follows:

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>2023 Allocation</b>
Bray DART Interchange – Bus Terminus Improvement	€1,684,000
Bray Seafront Plaza	€60,000
Bus Priority in Little Bray	€50,000
River Dargle Cycleway	€50,000
Killarney Road Active Travel Route	€60,000
Bray Bridge Footbridges and tie ins (re-draft tender)	€150,000
Bray Main Street Bus Priority and Decongestion	€10,000
Convent Avenue to Vevay Crescent Permeability Scheme	€10,000
SRTS Round 2 Kilmacanogue NS, Kilmacanogue	€20,000

There is also a scheme for cycle parking provisions in Wicklow, for which Bray may receive about €7,000. Schemes dropped from the list for Bray include Vevay Road Cycle Route, Killarney Road Cycle Route, Kilmacanogue to Bray Retail Park Greenway, Swan River Greenway, Bray Public Transport Bridge Phase 2, Southern Cross Road VRU Improvements and Scalp Improvement Scheme. €2,950,000 was allocated towards Bray MD schemes in 2022. This year it is €2,101,000, the majority of which is intended for the Bray DART Interchange.

## ACTIVE TRAVEL IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

The status of last year's schemes are as follows

Project	Update
Sidmonton Square	Works are complete.
Herbert Road Ashton Wood to Pedestrian Bridge	Works are substantially complete except for switch on of lighting and soft landscaping, including infill tree planting. A contractor has been appointed to replace a damaged public lighting pole
Enniskerry Pedestrian Improvement Scheme	A conservation engineer has been appointed to assess works around Clock Tower which is a protected structure. NTA funding unspent last year has been withdrawn and no allocation has been provided for 2023. A business case will be made for development levy funding.
Powerscourt National School, Cookstown Road	Works are complete. Lighting is still required.
Deerpark Cycleway	Tender documents have been prepared. NTA funding unspent last year has been withdrawn and no allocation has been provided for 2023.
Vevay Rd/Sidmonton Rd Junction Improvement	Specification and tender documents are being prepared for a traffic signal installation with pedestrian phases. NTA funding unspent last year has been withdrawn and no allocation has been provided for 2023.

### **E-Bike Scheme**

The Bray MD in conjunction with Environment had invited proposals from eBike providers to provide a service to Bray. A preferred supplier has been selected with proposals to launch in March. A Presentation of proposals will be made separately.

In line with promoting sustainable transport and improving cycle safety, the placement of flexible bollards is planned along the Main Street cycle lane, where vehicle encroachment has reached intolerable levels. There is no funding to extend measure to other cycle lanes.

### **Third Party Works**

The contractor for Irish Water on the Old Connaught Woodbrook contract is planning to close the Thornhill Road during the second and third quarter this year. The closure of Ferndale Road, during this contract has resulted in additional traffic loading on the old Connaught Road at its junction with the Dublin Road.

Ground investigation work is planned early this year adjacent to the railway in Bray for the DART + Coastal south project. The Irish Rail consultants that a preferred option will emerge shortly and that public consultation is likely to take place this Spring.

## **Public Realm Report**

### **Seafront Toilets**

A contractor has been appointed for the refurbishment of the ladies toilets at the Aquarium building. Works have commenced.

### **Raheen Park**

An ecologist engaged to prepare a Conservation Management Plan for Bray Head has produced an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report on the proposed development of Raheen Park (Par 3) Trails. Having appraised the likely significant effects on relevant European sites, the report concludes that there will be no likely significant adverse impacts on the features of conservation interest. The project is therefore screened out for Appropriate Assessment. A Part 8 Planning application will be prepared for the trails project for public consultation by end of February and will include available relevant information of the proposed adjacent Neighbourhood scheme. The SAO Committee will also be briefed.

### **Bray Harbour Improvements**

A public consultation/information day took place at the Town Hall on the 6<sup>th</sup> December, which was followed by a presentation by RPS on the feasibility study to the elected members. Information boards with visual images remained on public display at the Civic offices for the rest of the week. The submissions following the public engagements have been assembled for inclusion with the tender documents for the appointment of consultants for the detailed design, planning and construction stage of the project.

### **Bogmeadow Playground Enniskerry**

Capital funding has been approved from the council's Development Contribution Scheme for developing the playground. Detailed design and preparation of specifications for tender are progressing for phase one that deals with the site preparation, retaining walls and alterations to infrastructure.

The Elected Members raised the following concerns and observations

- Withdrawal of NTA funding for several projects
- Quill Road flooding business case update
- Removal of yellow lines outside the schoolhouse in Enniskerry
- EV charger in Enniskerry
- Grass verges on Southern Cross Road
- Bogmeadow playground update
- Bike racks at the Royal Hotel
- Southern Cross Road – Right hand turn
- Bus lane lining on Southern Cross Road
- Cut back hedging at Deepdales
- Greenpark Road speeding
- Closing of level crossing at Quinsborough Road
- Lowering of the road at Seapoint Road
- Removal of disabled bay on Quinsborough Road
- Staffing issue – staff numbers
- Provision of hidden disability parking space
- Traffic issues at Giltspur
- Ballywaltrim Lane traffic issues
- Bray Head carpark bollards removed
- Albert Ave crossing update
- 4 toilets on seafront out of order
- Red light at Civic Centre not working correctly

Withdrawal of NTA funding for several projects - The District Engineer informed members that the NTA had cut funding for schemes this year due to a reduction in its own funding. The council's NTA team and the NTA decided which schemes would progress this year. The roads section in Wicklow County Council will keep files open should future funding become available.

Quill Road flooding - A topographical survey is required in relation to the Quill Road. Engagement with landowners and costing of works are also required. Once this is complete a business case will be made in relation to funding for drainage works.

Reinstatement of yellow lines at the Schoolhouse in Enniskerry will be followed up with the contractor.

EV charger in Enniskerry – ESB has connected the mini pillar; will follow up with supplier to power up the unit.

Grass verges on Southern Cross Road – This will be checked with the contractor

Bogmeadow playground update – The District Engineer advised that the tender for the civil works and playground equipment would be done together soon.

Bike racks at the Royal Hotel - District Engineer will see if any funding is available

Southern Cross Road – Right hand turn – District Engineer advised it was our intention under the Southern Cross Road VRU scheme to enlarge the right hand turn boxes. This scheme is not progressing at present

Bus lane lining on Southern Cross Road – District Engineer advised this lining could be modified.

Greenpark Road speeding – The District Engineer will investigate, a speed survey may be required.

Closing of level crossing at Quinsborough Road & Lowering of the road at Seapoint Road – Irish Rail are doing ground investigations for proposed works. We have had no decision on this yet.

Removal of disabled bay on Quinsborough Road – District Engineer advised that when the road was resurfaced the spaces that were previously there did not comply with standards, so one was removed.

Provision of hidden disability parking space – District Engineer will investigate

Staffing issue – District Engineer advised that there is a workforce plan in place re staffing. There is currently only one vacancy.

Traffic issues at Giltspur – District Engineer advised that we had received some information from a traffic survey but it was only in relation to queue lengths but not delays. He will investigate further.

Ballywaltrim Lane traffic issues – District Engineer will put forward a business case for funding for a footpath.

Bray Head carpark bollards removed – District Engineer advised that as a lot of these were broken they would be replaced with something more appropriate.

Albert Ave crossing update – This is on the list of public realm works. We should be in a position to contract out the scheme shortly.

4 toilets on seafront out of order – This matter will be investigated.

Red light at Civic Centre not working correctly – District Engineer advised he would investigate and remedy as necessary.

## **Item 5. Notice of Motions**

### **(a) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Joe Behan (04/10/2022)**

That this Municipal District plants a dividing hedge along the boundary wall between the Herbert Road and the Herbert Road car park.

**Reply: Box hedge has been planted**

### **(b) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Rory O'Connor (15/12/2022)**

This municipal district maximizes the use of the building known as the "design centre" for the public by doing the following actions:

- a. Organise a council visit to the building with the members to see the inside and evaluate the building.

**Yes, this can be arranged.**

- b. Do an online public consultation of what should be done to maximise this amenity for the public.

**An online public consultation process can be conducted via the public consultation hub on [www.wicklow.ie](http://www.wicklow.ie)**

- c. Have an online meeting to discuss the findings of this public consultation and follow up with actions.

**Following the closing of a public consultation process all submissions can be compiled and presented to the Members. Perhaps the findings and follow up actions could form part of the Town Team brief when established.**

### **(c) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Joe Behan (04/10/2022)**

That this Municipal District widens the vehicular entrance to the Herbert Road car park and improves the sightlines there to improve the safety of pedestrians and motorists alike.

**Reply: The entrance is 10.5m wide at the back of the public footpath. There are plans to install bollards and lining to confine motorists to a width of 5.5m. A road safety audit has been carried out on plans that included realigning of the roadway and widening of the footpath to the east of the entrance on Herbert Road and changing the surface treatment of the path at the entrance. The audit did not raise concerns about visibility or pedestrian safety on the public footpath but the issue of pedestrians using the vehicular entrance was raised and requires further consideration before seeking funding for works.**

**(d) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Joe Behan (04/10/2022)**

That this Municipal District delivers on its commitment to provide electric charging points in the Herbert Road car park.

**Reply: No funding has been allocated for the installation EV charging points at Herbert Road Car Park. However, there is an EV installer interested in installing and operating both fast DC and AV chargers in the car park.**

**(e) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Joe Behan (04/10/2022)**

That this Municipal District complies with the Part VIII commitment to place two on-street car park spaces on Herbert Road south side adjacent to Herbert Road car park.

**Reply: As the Herbert Road car park has ample space, there is no need to provide additional on-street parking outside the car park at this time. As the road is narrow on-street parking would interrupt the movement of traffic and may be an unjustified increased risk to traffic safety.**

**(f) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Joe Behan (04/10/2022)**

That this Municipal District receives a full report on any and all likely public liability risks arising from the use of the Herbert Road car park.

**Reply: A Stage 1 Road Safety Audit has been carried out on proposals for improving the vehicular entrance. A stage 3 audit is premature while other works are planned in the car park. As public liability risks extend beyond road safety, clarification on the risks that are requested for assessment is required.**

## **Item 6. Correspondence**

District Administrator, Ms Linda Healy, informed members that correspondence had been received in relation to the recent invitation extended to Mr. Paddy McKillen Jnr. to attend a meeting of Bray MD and give elected members a presentation on his plans for the Bray Central shopping centre.

Ms Healy informed members that this invitation had been declined as Mr McKillen's schedule doesn't permit attendance at the meeting but advised that representatives of Navybrook Ltd. would be more than happy to meet members of Bray Municipal District at any stage at the development to provide an update on tenancies etc.

She also provided members with the following update from Oakmount:

*We are hoping that a formal announcement can be made in the media in respect of the anchors in the coming weeks. At present we are working towards a handover date to Anchor 1 at the end of March and to Anchor 2 in May, 2023.*

*In addition, several of already signed tenants including Butlers, Sally's Ice cream and Umi Falafel will be commencing their fitouts in the coming weeks.*

Bray Rowing Club - The District Administrator delivered the following update to members:

*The District Manager, District Engineer and myself met with members of Bray Rowing Club on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February to discuss the current situation with the use of the leased building due to health and safety concerns by both Bray Municipal District and the Rowing Club. The meeting was very productive and positive.*

*Committee members gave a background to the club and also outlined their strategic vision for the future of the Rowing Club in Bray. They advised that Architects are currently working on a detailed design for the construction of a new building on the current site which will be submitted for planning. Bray Municipal District has agreed to review their existing lease with a view to recommending to the elected members the extension of same for a long term period that will allow the club to apply for funding.*

*In the short term the committee acknowledged the current health and safety concerns with the building and it was agreed that the location is a key factor in any solution. Following a number of proposals the committee suggested that the roof on the existing building be demolished which would allow for the erection of a marquee type structure within the external walls. This would provide cover from the elements for their valuable equipment.*

*The District Engineer will now engage with a structural engineer to explore and design a spec for the demolition of the roof of this building.*

Ms Gallagher briefed members on the Community Recognition Fund. She advised that this new Community initiative is designed to specifically support communities across the country that have welcomed and are hosting families and citizens from Ukraine and other countries.

The overall fund for the Country is €50 million, with Wicklow County Council receiving a sum of €1,680,887. Each MD is being asked to consider proposals/projects for their area.

Proposals/projects that will be supported under the scheme include:

- The refurbishment of local sports clubs and facilities
- The upgrade of community facilities such as play areas, walkways, parks and community gardens
- The purchase of equipment to benefit local clubs, festivals, music and arts organisations
- The enhancement of school or parish facilities that are open to the wider community after hours or on weekends
- Transport infrastructure such as community vehicles and bus shelters

Bray MD will submit the Bray Courthouse as a potential project, however if the members have any other projects in mind they are asked to be submitted.

Public consultation will be sought for projects by way of an online public survey. Details of this online survey will be circulated when they becomes available.

The Cathaoirleach spoke to members in relation to a proposal to hold a small ceremony to mark the one year anniversary of the war in Ukraine. This was agreed by the members.

## **Item 7. Any Other Business.**

Cllr. O'Brien raised the issue of sustainable campaigning during elections and how best to achieve this.

Ms Gallagher advised that there are regulations in place around election campaigning.

The elected members agreed to discuss further at a future/next meeting.

Cllr. Behan requested an update on the subsidence issue at the Maltings.

The District Engineer advised he would revert on this matter.

**This concluded the meeting.**

**Signed:**

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**Cllr. Erika Doyle  
CATHAOIRLEACH**

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Linda Healy  
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

**Dated:**

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