

*Minutes of Municipal District of Piltown Meeting held Wednesday, 6th
March, 2019 at 10.00am at the Ferrybank Area Office*

Present: Cllr. Ger Frisby, Cathaoirleach
Cllrs. P. Dunphy, F. Doherty, M. O'Neill, T. Breathnach and E. Aylward

In attendance: S. McKeown, Director of Services, B. Tyrrell, Meetings Administrator, I. Gardner, Area Engineer and O. Bannon, Staff Officer

1. Confirmation of Minutes

MDP Meeting 16th January – Proposed by Cllr. F. Doherty, seconded by Cllr. P. Dunphy and agreed.

Matters Arising

Dumping of Plastics, River Barrow – Cllr. Doherty referred again to the issue of plastic waste washing up by the Pink Rock area and noted that an application for funding made by the Glenmore Tidy Towns group had been unsuccessful. However, she stated that this project be considered under the Anti-Litter initiative grant scheme and she thanked Ann Phelan for her assistance.

North Quays SDZ – Cllr. Dunphy requested that information and updates be communicated promptly regarding developments.

Public lighting, estates not taken in charge – Cllr. O'Neill requested if assistance could be given where there are issues with public lighting in estates not yet taken in charge.

Marine Protection, pilot project – Cllr. O'Neill referred to support secured for a pilot project that will address the issue of dumping along the River Barrow.

Deputation from Piltown N.S. – Cllr. Breathnach sought confirmation of time at April meeting at which the deputation would be received. The meeting would commence at 10.30am.

Taking in Charge (TIC), Housing Estates – S. McKeown advised that as agreed at the February Council Meeting a full update on TIC will be given to each Municipal District by A. Fitzpatrick and/or B. Sheehan of the Planning Department. It was agreed to place this as an item for discussion at the April meeting.

Correspondence – Cllr. Aylward asked if any response had been received from the Department in relation to reversing their decision preventing the transfer of part of the restoration improvement budget to the discretionary grant. None had been received.

Stop sign at The Sweep Junction – Cllr. Aylward asked if I. Gardner had had an opportunity to look at this matter. I. Gardner advised that 2 junction ahead warning signs were located on the Mullenbeg approach to the junction with one of these signs including text advising drivers to prepare to stop. It is proposed to replace the smaller of these signs with an advance STOP sign and distance plate. He also advised that additional road markings would be provided at this junction when surface dressing works are carried out on the R698 later this year.

Glenmore Bus Stop and Weighbridge – Cllr. Doherty asked for clarity in relation to the current position. I. Gardner advised that TII had requested the appointment of a Consultant to undertake a review of the bus stop and advise as to what measures would permit it to be opened for use. The appointment of the Consultants is being looked after by the Road Design Section.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Monthly Roadworks Update

A report was circulated outlining details in relation to pavement works, discretionary maintenance and other works carried out since the last meeting. Details were noted.

Cllr. Dunphy queried delays on the Tower Road footpath works, while awaiting ESB to complete works which had been paid for in advance. I. Gardner advised that a 2-3 month

waiting period was normal and that KCC had to first complete negotiations with landowners before matters could be finalised with ESB.

Cllr. Aylward asked for an update regarding Mill Road footpath. I. Gardner advised that works would be completed in 2 phases so there would be no delays and setting out information was currently being prepared.

Cllr. O'Neill enquired about the nature of works carried out at Belfield Estate. It was noted that drainage and minor works were carried out, along with the removal of a bin bay.

Cllr. O'Neill raised concern about works being carried out on the Abbey Road and disruption to traffic as a result. I. Gardner advised that a gas main was being laid from Glanbia in to the Abbey Road. It was noted that part of the road opening licence process involved reinstatement inspections, with the contractor responsible for reinstatement for a 2 year period following completion of works.

Cllr. Frisby welcomed works at Hartley's Cross, which have made a huge improvement.

(b) Roadworks Programme 2019 – for Adoption

A discussion was held in committee prior to the Municipal District Meeting, at which the members discussed the content of the Draft Roadworks Scheme for 2019. It was noted that offers had been made to 7 applicants under the CIR Scheme and all had been accepted. LIS funding for the current year had also been announced, however there was no breakdown as yet. Cllr. Dunphy raised a query with regard to tendering, it was noted that in order for Contractors to express interest and tender for KCC contract works, they must register on supplygov.ie and have the relevant health and safety documentation and insurances in order.

Cllr. Frisby thanked I. Gardner and staff involved in preparing the programme, which contained a huge body of work and was well balanced across the district. It was agreed that a copy of the map showing location of all works would be circulated to members.

The Draft Roadworks Scheme 2019 was proposed by Cllr. Frisby, seconded by Cllr. Doherty and adopted as presented.

(c) Update on N25 New Ross Bypass (including agreed signage scheme)

The progress report was circulated and noted.

Cllr. Doherty raised concern about visibility in the New Ross direction, at the Forrestalstown junction. I. Gardner agreed to bring her concerns to the attention of the Project Liaison Engineer.

Cllr. Aylward asked about future maintenance of the old N25, its impact on local budgets and asked if there was any plan for this. I. Gardner advised that discussions would take place between the Road Design Office and TII with a view to putting a plan in place.

Cllr. Breathnach asked if the signage plan and the rationale behind the agreed scheme could be made available. There would be further discussion on this at the April meeting.

(d) Ferrybank Neighbourhood Park – Report

Claire Goodwin, Parks Department was in attendance for this item. A report in answer to queries raised at the last meeting was circulated to members, along with photos and details outlining works carried out on the site for the new Ferrybank Park. It was noted that the value of the original contract to make good the site would not have provided for the removal of the very deep foundations and construction/demolition waste that has subsequently been uncovered. The additional costs incurred by KCC to fully remediate the site will be a total of circa €17k. With regard to the timescale for completion of the park, it was noted that civil works are expected to be completed by end of August, 2019 with planting to follow in November. Cllr. Frisby thanked S. McKeown and C. Goodwin for their comprehensive report dealing with this matter. There followed a discussion, following which the report as presented was accepted by all of the elected members excepting Cllr. O'Neill who wished to have her dissatisfaction with the report and the lack of supervision of works carried out under the original contract noted.

(e) North Quays SDZ Update

S. McKeown circulated an update report to the meeting. It was noted that one meeting of the Steering Group had been held since the last Piltown MD meeting and that these meetings will now take place monthly rather than bi-weekly. The following information was noted:-

- The CPO of the additional small section of land to the South East of Frank Cassin Wharf on the North Quays is in progress. Closing date for submissions is 8th March.
- Consultants Roughan & O'Donovan have commenced detailed design for the SDZ Access and Public Road Infrastructure for the North Quays area.
- De-vegetation works have commenced along the cliff face owned by Irish Rail in advance of Rock Face Stabilisation and Railway Protection Works.
- An Bord Pleanála received 7 submissions by the 12th February deadline in relation to the planning application for the Sustainable Transport Bridge, which are currently being reviewed. Given that the bridge is a strategic infrastructure, it is likely that ABP will arrange an oral hearing on the application.
- Roughan & O'Donovan and Sean Harrington Architects are advancing preliminary designs for the Transport Hub in preparation of a planning application to be submitted by the end of June.

S. McKeown advised that no Part 8 planning application had yet progressed in relation to the upgrade of the Abbey Road to the Christendom junction. He also advised that the proposed link road from the Abbeygate junction to the Belmont Road was included in the submission for funding under the URDF, being made by Waterford City & County Council (WCCC).

(f) Kilkenny Greenway – Update

S. McKeown gave the background on the project to-date, stating that following a Section 85 agreement, that Wexford County Council had made an application on behalf of KCC and WCCC for funding under the National Greenway Fund. The estimated cost to deliver the project is in the region of €13.3m, with funding of €10m being sought under the national fund. It was noted that a total of 22 applications were lodged nationally, however priority would be given to projects which had planning in place. S. McKeown advised that as part of the adjudication process, a project assessment board was expected to visit stretches of the project in April and to assess the application in terms of economic dividend and international tourism. In this regard, he said that the fact that there is no village located along the proposed route of the greenway may present a challenge, however a number of pre-planning queries have been received with regard to the setting up of businesses in the vicinity of the greenway. It was noted that Walsh & Partners had been engaged to undertake the detailed design and were currently surveying the route, following which they would engage with each individual landowner along the route.

(e) Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Order or Resolution of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meetings

None

(f) Other Business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting

None

(g) Notices of Motion

None

(h) Correspondence

None

(i) AOB

Additional items raised by Members:-

Cllr. O'Neill

Posters for upcoming Local Elections – Cllr. O’Neill sought agreement from other members that no more than 100 posters would be erected per candidate running in the upcoming elections in May. A discussion followed and while the members agreed with this in principal, it was felt that in the absence of a national directive, this decision was up to each individual.

Bigwood Playground Group – Cllr. O’Neill advised that a meeting had taken place with the group and that a piece of ground had been offered to them for the proposed playground. They had also raised €10k so far to fund the project and Cllr. O’Neill congratulated them on their efforts.

Cllr. Doherty

TII meeting – B. Tyrrell agreed to follow up on this matter.

Cllr. Dunphy

Flooding issues – Cllr. Dunphy raised concerns over continuing issues and flooding of properties in the Portnascully and Dungooly areas. I. Gardner advised that he had been in contact with the landowner in Dungooly advising him on how to resolve the issue, that it was not a Council matter. He also advised that when representations were submitted on such matters, these were always investigated. It was noted that 20 drainage/flood remedial schemes were included in the current programme of works for the Piltown MD.

Next Meeting

The next meeting to take place on Wednesday, 3rd April – meeting in committee with An Garda Siochana at 9.30am, followed by the Piltown MD meeting at 10.30am.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____