

**Minutes of the Piltown Municipal District Meeting held on Wednesday,
8th January, 2020 at 10.00am at the Ferrybank Area Office.**

Present: Cllr. Eamon Aylward, Cathaoirleach
Cllrs. P. Dunphy, T. Breathnach, F. Doherty and G. Frisby

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

1. Confirmation of Minutes

MD Meeting 6th November – Proposed by Cllr. P. Dunphy, seconded by Cllr. G. Frisby and agreed.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Update on Monthly Roadworks Programme

SC circulated a report to the meeting and outlined details in relation to pavement works, discretionary maintenance and other works carried out in the area since the last meeting. It was noted that pavement works were now complete and any outstanding surface dressing would be carried out early 2020 as and when weather permitted.

The following items were noted and discussed: -

Poulanassy Waterfall – SC advised that Part 8 is expected to be published in the next few weeks, with the public consultation period to run until mid-March and it is intended that the scheme would come before the Members for approval at the April Meeting of the County Council. BT advised that there was no further update with regard to funding under the ORIS.

Tower Road – Cllr. Aylward praised works completed on the Tower Road, noting that although it was not an easy project to complete, it was a very welcome improvement to safety for local residents. All the members agreed.

Road at Killandrew – Cllr. Aylward asked when improvement works might be completed, SC advised that the route would be included under Priority 3 for salting if required, pending completion of improvement works.

Faugheen Junction – Cllr. Dunphy asked for an update with regard to proposed safety improvements. SC advised that it was not possible to reach agreement with the landowner to complete proposed safety improvements, however alternative measures will be looked at to improve safety at this junction.

Town & Village Renewal Kilmacow – Cllr. Breathnach noted feedback from the Dept. with regard to the unsuccessful application for funding to complete the next phase of works in Kilmacow and hoped it would be possible to complete some of the proposed works under the Roads Programme.

N25 Junction Improvements – Cllr. Frisby requested update, SC advised that the tender had been published and that he was not aware of any delays in progress.

Bus Stop Fiddown – Cllr. Aylward asked if progress had been made with regard to relocation of bus stop. SC advised that while there are some constraints, the matter will be progressed following further communication with the NTA.

GSS areas – SC advised that a draft of the new GSS areas for the Piltown Engineering area was currently being developed by the Road Design office and same will be finalised shortly.

(b) Update on N25 New Ross Bypass

Report as circulated with Agenda was noted.

Cllr. Doherty raised items concerning signage, lighting and safety approaching the roundabout from Glenmore Hill. SC advised that a Road Safety Audit will be carried out prior to the scheme being opened, however he agreed to highlight the issues raised and bring to the attention of the Project Liaison Officer for the scheme.

Cllr. Doherty also asked about access to the new bridge for locals prior to its official opening and an update with regard to a planned event to allow access, as it would be a one-time only opportunity. All the members were in support of this. Following discussion and contributions from all the members, it was agreed to bring the matters raised to the attention of the Contractor

and TII, including safety concerns, finishing of earthworks and landscaping in order to maximise the tourism potential of the area and to avoid similar issues which arose following the completion of the Waterford Bypass.

(c) Poulanassey Waterfall – Part 8 timeframe

SC advised that Part 8 is expected to be published in the next few weeks, with public consultation running until mid-March, following which the scheme would come before the Members for approval at the April Meeting of the Council. Cllr. Aylward asked when the project might be completed, SC advised that as works are weather dependent it was not possible to give a definite timeframe, but that 6-8 weeks should be sufficient to construct the project.

(d) North Quays SDZ Update

SMcK circulated report and outlined progress as follows:-

- Falcon Real Estate Development Ireland have submitted their planning application for the North Quays and Michael Street development to WCCC on 17th December last.
- Falcon estimate investment of €500m in the mixed-use development and that over 2,800 full time jobs will be created by 2023.
- The main components of the project include 15,000sq.m of prime office and retail space, five residential blocks providing 300 riverside apartments, 4 star hotel and conference centre and mixed use commercial building comprising tourism and leisure uses.
- Waterford City & County Council are progressing work on the public realm aspects of the project, which include
 - A new sustainable transport bridge from the North Quays to the Clock Tower
 - A new transport hub
 - Access infrastructure to the North Quays
 - Flood defence works along the North Quays

It was noted that the latest press releases and details of the current status of the SDZ development are available on the website – www.waterfordnorthquays.ie

Cllr. Breathnach asked that a joint meeting be arranged with Waterford Members, this was agreed. Following discussion it was also agreed to arrange joint meetings with Carrick-on-Suir and New Ross Districts.

(e) Kilkenny Greenway Update

SMcK advised that site investigations, topographical works and discussions with land owners were nearing completion, following which the detailed design documents will be finalised later this month. He also advised that Malachy Walsh & Partners will make a presentation to members after the February meeting of the Piltown MD.

It was noted that a meeting had been held with CIE to progress the abandonment order, however there was no indication of when that process, including the public consultation, will be finalised. Cllr. Dunphy expressed his disappointment at the delay in progress. SMcK advised that CIE were positively disposed to the abandonment of the old railway line, however if any issues arose with this process then a licencing agreement will be entered into as originally agreed and construction works will commence as planned with no delays.

Cllr. Breathnach felt that the development of the greenway and tourism potential of the South East Region was another reason to hold joint meetings with New Ross and other Districts. BT advised that he also attends regular meetings with his colleagues in the other local authorities of the Region, who are actively working together to develop a number of pillars of activities in the region.

Cllr. Frisby enquired about the access links in the Ferrybank area and if same would be funded and in place when the Greenway was complete. SMcK advised that €6m in funding had been granted to WCCC under the URDF and the projects incorporated in their application include the upgrade of the N29, upgrade of the Abbey Road, the link between Abbey Road and Belmont Road and access points for the Greenway.

(f) Piltown Local Policing Committee – update on launch

Cllr. Aylward stated that the launch of the Piltown Local Policing Committee had taken place on 10th December and was well attended. He advised that it was proposed to hold the first meeting of the Committee on 29th January, with meetings being held twice annually. BT advised that members will be kept informed of progress and an update will be given at the February MD meeting.

3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Order or Resolution of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meetings

None

4. Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting

None

5. Notice of Motion

None

6. Correspondence

It was noted that a letter had been issued to Grace Rothwell, UHW, seeking a potential meeting date in May, this was noted.

7. AOB

Additional items raised by Members:-

Cllr. Dunphy

Rathkieran Junction – Cllr. Dunphy again raised concerns about safety at this junction and asked that something be done to address this issue.

Carrick Road, Mooncoin – Cllr. Dunphy noted recent accidents which had occurred on the Carrick Road and hoped the proposed Carrick Road Improvement Scheme would progress to prevent any further occurrences. SC agreed to follow this up with Road Design Section and revert to Cllr. Dunphy. Cllr. Breathnach asked if it would be possible to strengthen the signage at this location in the interim, to make drivers more aware of the dangers and perhaps a reduction in the speed limit from 80kph to 60kph should be considered. SC agreed to bring forward these suggestions.

Cllr. Doherty

Ferrybank Shopping Centre – Cllr. Doherty requested an update at the next meeting.

Speed Limit Review – SC to confirm when the next Speed Limit Review will be undertaken.

Glenmore Bus Stop and Weighbridge – SC advised that ongoing issues would be addressed under the proposed Waterford to Glenmore Scheme.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____