

***Minutes of the Piltown Municipal District Meeting held on Wednesday,  
6<sup>th</sup> December, 2023 at 10:00am at Ferrybank Library Meeting Room.***

- Present:** Cllr G. Frisby, Cathaoirleach  
Cllrs F. Doherty, P. Dunphy, E. Aylward and T. Breathnach
- In attendance:** S. McKeown, Director of Services, M. Phelan, Meetings Administrator and O. Bannon, Staff Officer
- Apologies:** S. Cullen, Area Engineer, M. Whelan, Environmental Awareness Officer

At the outset, Cllr Doherty took the opportunity to extend condolences on behalf of the Piltown MD Members to Stan Cullen on the recent passing of his father-in-law.

1. **Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting held 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2023 and Budget Meeting held 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2023** – proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Aylward and agreed.

Matters Arising

**Ferrybank-Belview Local Area Plan** – S. McKeown advised that the tender for review of the Ferrybank-Belview Local Area Plan will issue this week and it is hoped that a Consultant will be appointed early in the new year to commence the review process. This was noted.

2. **Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

**(a) Litter Management Plan**

It was noted that apologies had been received from Ms. M. Whelan, Environmental Awareness Officer, who was unable to attend the meeting and that she will liaise with members in the coming days with regard to the Litter Management Plan 2024-2026.

**(b) Monthly Roadworks Update**

Apologies from S. Cullen, Area Engineer, were noted. A report was circulated outlining works being progressed and completed over the period since the last meeting under pavement works, discretionary maintenance and other works. Updates on major schemes, N24 Waterford to Cahir, N24 Tower Road Improvements, N24 Carrick Road, Belmont Link Road and Greenway Connectivity were also noted.

Cllr Frisby advised members to contact S. Cullen directly with any queries they may have on any items contained in the report.

Cllr Dunphy noted that the likely official opening of the N24 Tower Road Scheme will take place in January 2024 and asked that the proposed memorial plaque to be installed by KCC be undertaken to coincide with the official opening.

With regard to the N24 Waterford to Cahir Scheme, S. McKeown advised that the Peer Review process is ongoing and that the public display of the Preferred Transport Solution is likely to take place mid-January, 2024.

**(c) Greenway Update**

S. McKeown circulated report and provided the following update to members.

Mainline Works

- Glas Civil Engineering Ltd. were recently awarded contract for Lot 5A (c5.5km section from Ferrybank to Curraghmore.) Works commenced on 13<sup>th</sup> November, with the focus on the permanent carpark at Glenmore. The contractor is also readying their hardstanding compound at Rathpatrick. The anticipated contract duration of Lot 5A is 12 months and ROD, Consulting Engineers, have been appointed as technical consultants to supervise this contract.
- Wexford County Council, as lead authority, are continuing to prepare a Technical Services Tender for a multi-disciplinary engineering consultancy team to complete all remaining phases of the Greenway. The existing TII tender frameworks will be used for this competition.

Interpretation, Wayfinding & Orientation Plan

- Fáilte Ireland engaged The Paul Hogarth Company (TPHC) to conduct an Interpretation, Wayfinding and Orientation Plan for the Greenway. TPHC held a public consultation event in the Rhu Glenn and Brandon House Hotel on 22<sup>nd</sup> November. The objective of this collaborative work, which was well attended, was to obtain information on the places, stories, people and communities

along the route of the South East Greenway. The information gathered is currently being assessed and will be used to inform the future animation of the Greenway.

### **Related Schemes**

- **Greenway Link to Glenmore:** Part 8 Planning for the SEG Link to Glenmore village, was approved at the November Council meeting. The focus will now switch to identifying potential funding streams to advance the project to detail design, land acquisition and construction.
- **Greenway Link to Slieverue:** The Feasibility and Route Selection Report are completed. Consultation is ongoing with the TII Structures Section and it is likely that further additional design works with respect to the proposed N29 over bridge will be required prior to commencing the planning process.
- **Woodstock (Inistioge) to South East Greenway Link.** In July, utilising TII's Technical Services Framework Agreement, tenders were sought for a multi-disciplinary engineering team to advance this proposal. Following receipt of a tender clarification, the tender assessment process is now nearing completion and it is anticipated that a tender assessment report will be issued to TII for approval in mid- December for Phases 0-4 of the (TII) Project Managers Manual (PMM) for Greenway Projects. The estimated duration to complete this element of the project is 49 months.

In relation to the public consultation event held at the Rhu Glenn by The Paul Hogarth Company (TPHC) on 22<sup>nd</sup> November, Cllr Frisby complimented all involved on what was a very successful and worthwhile event, with great attendance and engagement with the public. Cllr Breathnach agreed, stating that it was important to the people who attended that there was emphasis on the heritage aspect of the Greenway and he wished to acknowledge and thank all those involved for their attendance and input.

S. McKeown advised members that he will propose a joint meeting for the four MDs of New Ross, Piltown, Callan-Thomastown and the Waterford Metropolitan District be held with the consultants prior to their final report being published.

Cllr Doherty noted the lack of information gathered in relation to Townlands along the Greenway and she asked that this would be looked at in more detail. Cllr. Dunphy thanked all involved with the public consultation event and agreed with Cllr Doherty on the importance of gathering information in relation to townlands.

Cllr Doherty also welcomed works commencing in relation to the permanent car park at Glenmore and also the approval of the Part 8 for the Greenway Link to Glenmore. She also noted progress in relation to the Community Shop and Café for Glenmore and ongoing work preparing a funding application under Town & Village Renewal and thanked all involved in the process.

In response to Cllr Doherty, S. McKeown advised that the Consultant will commence work to look at options for the link to Woodstock, which will involve consultation with a number of landowners as the vast majority of the 12km route will be on private lands.

Cllr Breathnach asked that the heritage of the railways be preserved and captured as part of the plan. Cllr Dunphy asked that all the points made this morning be relayed to TPHC for consideration.

### ***(d) North Quays SDZ Update***

S. McKeown circulated report and provided the following update to members, as provided by the North Quays Project Team, WCCC.

- The North Quays main contract works are progressing well. For the Sustainable Transport Bridge the concrete infill stage for the first cofferdam (gridline E) is complete and the process for dewatering the second cofferdams (gridline D) is progressing.
- Sheet piling at the Quay wall will form the southern landing point for the Sustainable Transport bridge and cofferdams within the river will support the bridge.
- The foundations for the new train station and platforms, and the reinforced concrete walls for the station building are underway and visible.
- Sheet piling works complete for the retaining walls to the rear of the Bus Eireann site (S25) in anticipation of the new road layout at the Abbey Road / Fountain Street junction. Car parking area within Our Lady of Good Council National School completed. The bridge abutments for the western access bridge (S19) are also well advanced.
- The pump station works are currently under construction by David Walsh Civil Engineering. Works are over 80% complete.

- Traffic management measures are in place along the Dock Road to install sewer and surface water network services. Works and associated traffic management is advancing westwards in December, necessitating minor amendments to the traffic management. These works will relocate to the Abbey Road / Fountain Street junction in the new year.

Cllr Frisby noted improvements in relation to movement of traffic and additional signages which has helped to relieve congestion.

Cllr Aylward asked if there was information available in relation to road realignment and timeliness, S. McKeown agreed to discuss this with Stan Cullen and to seek the information from Waterford for circulation to members.

In response to Cllr Breathnach, S. McKeown advised that CGI images of the finished design for all aspects of the development, including the new Transport Hub are available on the project website.

**(e) Ferrybank Shopping Centre**

S. Mc. McKeown advised that Denis Malone had again written to the Property Manager for Dunnes Stores to seek information on plans for the building, but as yet no response has been received. He also confirmed that the Library and Area Offices are in the ownership of Kilkenny County Council.

Following discussion and input from all members, it was proposed by Cllr Dunphy, seconded by Cllr Aylward and agreed that an invitation would be extended to Dunnes Stores to attend a meeting with the Municipal District members to discuss the matter.

S. McKeown agreed with Cllr Breathnach that Dunnes Stores are an important stakeholder in the review process for the Ferrybank-Belview Local Area Plan and the Joint Retail Strategy. It was agreed that the proposed meeting with Dunnes should be undertaken in the context of engaging with them to update them on both these matters.

**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**

None.

**7. AOB:**

In response to Cllr Doherty, M. Phelan agreed to follow up on the proposed visit to Ferrybank Primary Care Centre and revert to members at the next meeting.

Cllr Doherty asked if there was any update regarding the proposed Rosslare to Waterford Greenway. S. McKeown agreed to seek an update and revert to members at the next meeting.

Cllr Breathnach asked that the proposed meeting discussed at the last MD meeting be arranged for members to discuss flooding issues in the Piltown MD and locations that were flooded during recent weather events in order to put measures in place to prevent future flooding. This was agreed.

**Next Meeting**

Cllr Frisby requested, with the agreement of all members, that the January meeting of the Piltown MD be postponed to Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> January at 10:00am. This was agreed.

Cllr Frisby thanked all for their attendance and wished everyone a happy and peaceful Christmas. S. McKeown on his own behalf and on behalf of staff, thanked the members for their cooperation throughout the year and wished all a happy Christmas.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Dated:

10/01/2024

