

***Minutes of the Piltown Municipal District Meeting held on Wednesday,
5th July, 2023 at 10:00am in the Meeting Room, Ferrybank Library***

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

In attendance: D. Malone, A/Director of Services, S. Cullen, Area Engineer, M. Phelan, Meetings Administrator. O. Bannon, Staff Officer

Welcome

Cllr Frisby welcomed all to the meeting and took the opportunity to congratulate Cllr Michael Doyle on his election as Cathaoirleach of Kilkenny County Council, a great honour for him and his family and he wished him well for the year ahead.

Cllr Frisby also wished to extend sympathy on behalf of the members to the family of Billy Rockett who passed away following a tragic accident. He also extended sympathy to the families of the two teenagers who died recently in tragic circumstances in Greece.

1. **Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting held 3rd May, 2023** – proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Aylward and agreed.

Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting held 7th June, 2023 – proposed by Cllr Dunphy, seconded by Cllr Breathnach and agreed.

Matters Arising

Ferrybank Shopping Centre – D. Malone confirmed to Cllr Frisby that he will engage with the owners again to seek an update with regard to the opening of the centre. **Action DM**

Irish Water – M. Phelan advised Cllr Dunphy that further contact has been made with Irish Water and their response remains the same with regard to existing structures in place for communication with local authorities. D. Malone confirmed that Mooncoin WS is included on the Leakage Reduction Programme and is on the Mains Replacement Priority List for 2023, with a planned upgrade of 2.4km of the network. It was noted that the scheme is currently at detailed design stage, with a potential start date for upgrade works in Q1 of 2024, subject to funding.

Cllr Breathnach referred to discussion at the last meeting with regard to his contact with the Hauliers Association, who have since confirmed their interest in putting a platform in place to highlight where difficulties may arise on the road network for HGVs, i.e. location of bridges, hairpins, narrow junctions etc and they propose to include this matter for discussion at their next AGM. Cllr Breathnach also confirmed that this matter will be discussed at a future SPC meeting. This was noted.

2. **Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

- (a) Monthly Roadworks Update***

S. Cullen circulated a report 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 and Belmont Link Road were also noted.

Cllr Frisby thanked S. Cullen, staff and road crews for their hard work in completing the programme of works.

The following items were also raised and discussed:-

Dournane Ramps – S. Cullen confirmed to Cllr Dunphy that installation of ramps has been delayed due to public lighting issues, which has now been resolved.

Belmont Link Road – D. Malone confirmed to Cllr Breathnach that once the Planning Application and CPO have been lodged with An Bord Pleanála, a decision will be expected within 18 weeks.

Visibility at Junctions – S. Cullen advised Cllr Doherty that works are ongoing to cut back growth at junctions as resources allow, with priority given to national and regional roads, he reminded motorists of their responsibility to drive with care and according to road conditions.

Ragwort – S. Cullen confirmed that the treatment programme for ragwort is continuing and the District Office should be notified of locations to be included on the programme.

Ramps at Mullinavat – S. Cullen confirmed to Cllr Doherty that advance warning signage was in place in advance of the ramps at the Church in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual.

Linear Park, Slieverue – Cllr Doherty welcomed the recent official opening of the Linear Park at Slieverue which took place on 14th June.

Ravens Rock Rally – Cllr Doherty said she had been made aware that some residents had not been given much notice of road closures for the Ravens Rock Rally, which took place on Sunday, 2nd July. S. Cullen confirmed that the event organisers had undertaken extensive consultation with the Gardai, Kilkenny County Council and the local residents affected well in advance of the date of the event. Contact numbers for Stage Commanders and emergency contact numbers were provided by way of a letter drop to residents along each stage route. It was noted that the statutory process for a temporary road closure to facilitate the event was also undertaken, with no submissions or objections received. Cllr Frisby and Aylward took the opportunity to thank S. Cullen for the engagement with the event organisers which went very smoothly and noted that such an event is of great financial benefit to local businesses in the area.

(b) South East Greenway Update

D. Malone provided update to members as follows:-

- Minister Chambers has confirmed attendance at the opening of Phase 1 of the Greenway on 25th July at 11am and preparations are underway for this event.
- Lot 5a is the 5 km stretch from Ferrybank to Curraghmore just north of the Rhu Glenn. It is hoped to commence construction in August and the contract duration is expected to be 12 months. Recommendation from tender assessment is awaited.
- No further update on Part 8 for the links to Glenmore and Slieverue. The Part 8 documentation will be completed over the coming weeks with a formal consultation taking place during the process.
- The Belmont Link Road project will incorporate the car park and access to the Greenway at Ferrybank. Design and planning is ongoing, with construction expected to commence late 2024. It is anticipated to take 12 to 18 months to complete construction.
- It was noted Fáilte Ireland will be working on the heritage aspects and working on an interpretation plan. An initiation meeting will take place on the 10th July in this regard.

D Malone responded to queries from members.

(c) North Quays SDZ Update

D. Malone provided the following update to members:-

Ferrybank Pump Station Works:

Works progressing to a revised programme. Handover date now the 4th January 2024 versus the 24th Nov 2023. This delay caused by necessity to align electrical work fit out with completion of the building.

Main Works

Pre-construction condition surveys (WCCC scope) completed for 38 properties. No permanent works started to date.

Temporary traffic management (TTM) implemented on Dock Road from 26th June last. TTM in one form or another to remain on Dock Road/ Fountain Street until 2024. Meeting also held with elected members to inform them of the TTM measures.

Construction of satellite compound at the South Plaza is now substantially completed.

Site clearance (circa 25% completed) and site fencing/ hoarding erection ongoing.

The construction of the temporary piling platform at the Transport Hub has commenced.

Works are planned over the next 3 months are:

- Transport Hub - piling (sheet and bored piles).
- South Plaza –Sheet Pile quay wall.
- Sustainable Transport Bridge - Marine plant including barges to arrive and commence pier cofferdams.
- Access Infrastructure - Roadworks on Abbey Road to commence. Roadworks (including drainage, ducting, kerbs, pavement, etc) to commence on Dock Road

D. Malone noted that the next joint meeting with Waterford City MD has been scheduled for Tuesday, 26th September and agreed to request a presentation to members on the North Quays project at that meeting. **Action DM/MP**

A discussion took place around the use of the toll bridge during construction works and disruption on the Dock Road/Fountain Street and possible reduction of toll costs, however it was noted that a contractual arrangement existed, which is not possible to alter. S. Cullen advised that the best route for traffic to access Waterford and avoid Dock Road/Fountain Street is via Grannagh Interchange and Sally Park, reducing the need to use the toll bridge and easing congestion on Dock Road.

Cllr Dunphy asked if a report from the meeting could be made available, as he was unable to attend due to a clash with an SPC meeting. D. Malone agreed to request same from WCCC. **Action DM**

Cllr Breathnach asked if all meetings, including the joint meeting with Waterford could be added to the members calendar to avoid future meeting clashes. This was agreed. **Action MP/OB**

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

M. Phelan advised members that the next joint meeting with Waterford City MD has been agreed for Tuesday, 26th September at 10am and will revert to members regarding Agenda items.

7. AOB:

September Meeting Location

Cllr Frisby advised members that he had been in contact recently with David Sinnott, CEO at Port of Waterford, who has invited members to attend Marine Point for a presentation on his new role, vision and future plans for the Port. In order to facilitate this request, Cllr Frisby proposed that the September meeting of the Piltown MD be held at Marine Point. This was agreed by members.

Clover Meats Social Club

D. Malone referred to the former Clover Meats company, who had an active recreation and social club located on lands at Christendom, Ferrybank, but due to the demise of the company and dwindling membership, the facility has fallen into disuse in recent years with no activity on site. He advised the meeting that trustees of the Clover Meats Social Club had approached officials of Kilkenny County Council some time ago with an offer to transfer the assets of the Social Club to the Council for ongoing recreational use for the wider community and that Kilkenny County

Council agreed in principle to take possession of the facility, subject to all necessary legal documentation and transfer being completed.

D. Malone informed members that at the EGM of the Clover Meats Social Club held on the 28th June, it was agreed by the membership of the club to transfer the assets of the club to Kilkenny County Council. It was noted that the legal paper work to facilitate the transfer will be completed over the coming months, following which the Council intend to engage extensively with the local community and stakeholders to prepare a plan for the future use of the facilities.

A discussion followed with contributions from all the members. They welcomed the decision and thanked all involved in the process to-date and looked forward to this wonderful facility being brought back into use for all the community to benefit.

Cllr Breathnach took the opportunity to thank the Library staff, James, Helen, Rob and Kate for their help and assistance in facilitating the Clover Meats Social Club EGM at Ferrybank Library.

Cllr Frisby thanked all for their attendance. This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: 
Cathaoirleach

Dated: 6/9/2023.