

**Minutes of the Piltown Municipal District Meeting held on Wednesday,
5th February, 2025 at 2:00pm at Ferrybank Library Meeting Room**

Present: Cllrs G. Frisby, P. Dunphy, J. Catt Slattery, F. Doherty and T. Breathnach
In attendance: I. Gardner, A/Director of Services, J. Tennyson, District Engineer, M. Phelan, Meetings Administrator and O. Bannon, Staff Officer

1. **Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting held 8th January, 2025** – proposed by Cllr Doherty, seconded by Cllr Catt Slattery and agreed.

Matters Arising

Notice of Motion, LIS – Cllr Breathnach advised that the notice of motion being submitted for the plenary meeting was deferred until the February meeting. This was noted.

Bus Eireann – M. Phelan confirmed that a request has been sent to Bus Eireann inviting a representative to attend a Piltown MD meeting and a response is awaited.

Bus Stop, Glenmore – J. Tennyson advised that he had received confirmation that the stop referred to by Cllr Doherty was an official stop and reminder would be sent to local management to confirm this.

Meetings – Cllr Breathnach asked that consideration be given to meeting with other relevant agencies and contacts to discuss issues of concern in the Piltown MD.

2. **Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

- (a) **Monthly Roadworks Update**

J. Tennyson circulated report outlining details of discretionary maintenance and other works progressed and completed over the period since the last meeting, including updates on N24 Waterford to Cahir, N24 Carrick Road, North-South Link Road, Abbey Road/Belmont Road upgrades, N29 Port Road upgrade, Piltown RRDF, Rural local roads Speed Limits, N25 Speed Camera and storm Eowyn.

In relation to Active Travel, Mill Road footpath design, J. Tennyson advised that surveys are complete and it is hoped to proceed to planning stage by end Q2.

The following was raised and discussed:-

Piltown RRDF – Cllr Dunphy asked if there would be any further opportunity for public consultation in relation to proposed works under the Piltown RRDF. J. Tennyson confirmed that the Scheme has gone through the process and has been adopted, but he agreed to raise the matter with David O'Brien.

Rural Speed Limit Sign – details of the rural speed limit sign and what it will look like was circulated to members. It was noted that these signs will only be erected on some local secondary roads which are very narrow and on local tertiary roads, the 60km/h sign will be up on all other local roads. It was also noted that speed limit signs will be erected at all interface points between 60km/h roads and higher speed roads in both directions, in order to alert drivers where they are transitioning from one speed limit to another.

J. Tennyson agreed to circulate the Department of Transport circular to members in relation to the implementation of the speed limit review and rural local road signage.

It was agreed that a review would be carried out over the next month on how the new rural speed limit implementation was working and update provided at the March meeting.

N25 Speed Camera – J. Tennyson circulated further response from the Garda National Roads Policing Bureau regarding selection criteria for the new static speed camera between Luffany and Glenmore, at Ballinclare junction. He agreed to circulate details on the location of the camera to members.

Rhu Glenn, Luffany – J. Tennyson confirmed that an advisory no right turn sign will be erected at the exit from the Rhu Glenn Hotel car park onto the N25 at Luffany, as an interim safety measure and he will follow up with Road Design and TII regarding a more permanent solution on the roadway.

It was noted that a meeting with TII has been requested by Mary Mulholland.

EIR contact – J. Tennyson agreed to circulate contact details to report damaged infrastructure to EIR.

Cllr Breathnach took the opportunity to thank Council staff and any members of the public who were involved in clearing trees and debris from roads during the recent storm Eowyn.

(b) Greenway Update

An update report was circulated to members, I. Gardner advised as follows:-

In November 2023, Glas Civil Engineering commenced works on Lot 5A, a 5.5km section from Ferrybank to Curraghmore. Lot 5A contract includes Lot 2 screen fencing and public lighting works at Ferrybank and Lot 3 permanent car park at Glenmore and public lighting works from Rosbercon to Raheen.

- Substantial completion certificate was issued to the contractor in December 2024 – this does not mean that the scheme is complete but it is an important milestone in terms of the contract
- The drainage edge stone has now been completed
- Minor fencing works along the scheme continue
- Works nearing completion at all level and segregated agricultural crossings
- Works associated with public lighting have been completed with connection applications submitted to ESB – probably delayed due to recent outages
- Accommodation works to improve visibility at level crossing 1 at Rathpatrick have commenced and are well progressed
- The Stage 3 Road Safety Audit was completed in January. The recommendations arising from the report were assessed and actioned. Other minor finishing out works will be completed to facilitate the opening of this section of the greenway towards the end of Q1, 2025.
- Boundary fencing requirements for opening are being assessed with a temporary trailhead design progressing.

Remaining Lots

Engagement continues with landowners adjoining the greenway with regard to boundary treatments and crossing points. The parameters for these discussions are set out within the Charter for South East Greenway Accommodation Works.

The Consulting engineers, Fehily Timoney & Co. Ltd. continue to advance the design of the remaining sections of the greenway

Related Schemes

South North Access Road, Ferrybank

Following the approval of the Part 8 Planning Application in December the project has proceeded to detail design.

Greenway Link to Glenmore

- A Tender was advertised on the 20th January to engage the services of a Multi-disciplinary Engineer led design team to advance the project through detail design, tender award and construction. The closing date for receipt of tenders is the 14th February.

Greenway Link to Slieverue

- A Part 8 planning application for the Southern Connectivity Route via Kilmurray was approved by elected members in January.

Woodstock to South East Greenway Link

- Currently at Phase 1 – Concept & Feasibility Stage
- The project website (<https://www.woodstocktosegreenway.ie>) is currently live and will be updated with relevant information prior to the first public consultation event in February.
- Public Consultation 1 will commence in early February. Notices will be advertised in local newspapers, a letter drop via An Post will also be undertaken within the project study area along with posters erected at public buildings etc.
- There will be 2 open public consultation events held on Tuesday 25th February 2025 in Rosbercon Community Centre and Thursday 27th February 2025 in Cois Abhann, Inistioge.

Cllr Doherty asked about temporary railings still in place at Ballyverneen car park, I. Gardner agreed to raise this matter with Parks Section.

(c) North Quays Update

An update report was circulated to members, I. Gardner advised as follows:-

North Quays

The main river substructure works are complete and installation of upstream pier protection system is ongoing. The bridge superstructure is anticipated to leave the factory in from Ghent, Belgium in late April

2025 for arrival in Waterford in May. This is subject to final surveys, inspections and certification before the bridge leaves the factory.

The South Plaza ground level has been built up to match the final grade and the sheet piles along the river are being capped, all in preparation for the plaza paving works and public realm facilities. The plant room that will operate the bridge from the South Plaza is substantially complete.

Works to the train station building is progressing. The structural steelwork and the metal roof decking are nearing completion and the external cladding is continuing. Installation of blockwork for the internal layout is ongoing, including the first fix for mechanical and electrical works. The first floor will house the main ticketing office, conveniences and public waiting areas. The platforms are also progressing towards completion and the construction of the western footbridge at the western end of the platforms has commenced.

A part 8 planning application has commenced for a southern entrance / access to the new train station , plans and particulars are available to view at <https://consult.waterfordcouncil.ie/en/consultation/part-8-development-transport-hub-southern-entrance>

Public submissions/ observations in respect of the proposed development can be made on or before the 3rd March 2025.

The roadworks along Dock Road and Fountain Street continue to progress under traffic management for the construction and installation of new footpaths, drainage, surfacing, services, junctions, lighting, signage and road markings. The final surface to the outbound lane on Dock Road was laid at end of January and traffic will now switch to this outbound lane in early February to facilitate the completion of the inbound lane. The drainage and footpath work along the northern side of Fountain Street are now complete, but a further phase of works is required at the junction of Rockshire Road and Fountain Street.

Roadworks and traffic management are continuing on Abbey Road. The set down area for the National School is substantially complete, links to the new Greenway are well advanced and works are progressing to complete the permanent access roads onto the new Abbey Road for schools and other private properties.

Works have commenced on the railway flood defence scheme with the sheet pile wall being installed to the west of the transport hub. Sheet piling works to the west of Rice Bridge are anticipated to commence in March. Subsequent phases of the flood defence system will include trackside drainage, flood defence barriers at Plunkett Station, pumping stations and outfalls.

Harcourt Developments submitted a planning application for Phase 1 of the North Quays SDZ development in June 2024 and are currently preparing a response to the request for further information which is due for submission in early February.

(d) Ferrybank Shopping Centre

I Gardner advised that a meeting is due to take place between Planning and Dunnes Stores next week to discuss the draft Masterplan for Ferrybank/Belview, including proposals for the Ferrybank Shopping Centre and further update will be provided at the March 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

M. Phelan confirmed that the next joint meeting with Waterford Metro will take place on Tuesday 18th February at 10am, which will be followed by a site visit to North Quays in the afternoon.

It was noted the main items for discussion were the Joint Retail Strategy and the Ferrybank/Belview Local Area Plan, the members were advised to submit additional items they wished to include on the agenda. In response to Cllr Breathnach, M. Phelan also confirmed that a request has been made to arrange a separate workshop on strategy alignment between Waterford and KCC.

M. Phelan also advised of suggested dates for the next joint meeting with Carrick-on-Suir MD. It was agreed that the next joint meeting take place on Thursday, 22nd May at the Carrick MD offices, start time to be confirmed.

7. AOB:

Cllr Doherty took the opportunity to encourage walkers to wear hi vis gear in the interests of safety for both themselves and other road users. She also reminded landowners of their responsibility regarding hedge cutting and noted the end of the season approaching.

Cllr Dunphy raised safety concerns at the lack of continuity of public lighting in some villages, including Owing and Templeorum. J. Tennyson noted lack of funding for additional public lighting. Following discussion, it was agreed to look at the possibility of using the local MD discretionary fund for this purpose. Cllr Breathnach also suggested putting forward a motion for the plenary meeting to seek additional funding for the installation of public lighting from the Department. This was agreed.

Next Meeting

The next Piltown MD meeting will take place on Wednesday, 5th March, 2025 at 2:00pm.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____

05/03/25