

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillor Joe Behan,  
Councillor Christopher Fox  
Councillor Steven Matthews  
Councillor Oliver O'Brien  
Cllr Michael O'Connor  
Councillor John Ryan  
Councillor Brendan Thornhill  
Councillor Pat Vance

**Also present:** Mr. Des O'Brien, Director of Services  
Mr. David Forde, District Administrator  
Mr. Liam Bourke, District Engineer

**Absent**

**Apologies:** Ms. Triona Irving, Administrative Officer

A Vote of Sympathy was extended to the family of Emma Hannigan who recently passed away. A minute's silence was observed, as a mark of respect.

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Fox paid tribute to the staff stating that they did a magnificent job and spectacular work the previous week during the snow storm.

Councillor Thornhill wanted it noted that the minutes in relation to the discussion regarding the Chinese New Year did not reflect what was discussed.

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Chris Fox stated that it was not required to note what was fully discussed; the minutes are only required to note decision made/taken.

It was proposed to take item 2 and 10 of the agenda together. It was then decided to take Item 10 on the Agenda after item 2. For ease of reading, these minutes follow the layout of the Agenda as circulated.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting dated 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018**

Councillor Ryan proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray dated 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018 and Councillor Matthews seconded the proposal.

**2. To Receive a Deputation on the Proposed Part 8 for St. Paul's Lodge/Herbert Road Car Park**

Colum Kenny, Una Whelan and Caoimhín Ó Briain made a presentation to the members. We wish to put constructive ideas to the members stating that they had a broad range of experience. We believe in sustainable progress and building on our towns existing strengths and want to see progress that maximizes the town's assets. This proposal will not even add 50 spaces to the Herbert Road car park. We wish to have a collaborative approach. Why is there so little supporting documentation, we need to analysis to see if this is a good proposal. Would An Bord Pleanala consider this from a private investor?

We are asking you to use the powers you have constructively. We want to see the town preserved and progress at any cost. It would be shameful to demolish St Paul's Lodge and we should be preserving our green spaces.

There is no easy solution to the traffic problem; this development will not solve the problem. The new entrance will reduce on street parking, reducing the net increase. We should sell St Paul's immediately and the two sites beside St Paul's Lodge for architectural high quality homes; we would have €2 million to play with and could add 3 homes to our housing stock. Over 90% are opposed to this development. Our three preferred options would be

to use the Civic Centre underground car park, the employees could use park and ride facilities. The Civic Centre roadway and entrance or a low two storey car park at the Herbert Road car park. This could be a turning point for Bray. The Florentine Centre is not dependent on the St Paul's being demolished. Let's build on our strengths not destroy them.

The members raised the following points;

- Thank you for your presentation, I have a difficulty in 40 spaces costing between €20,000 and €30,000 per space. Another level would provide more parking, the cost is utter nonsense. I could think of a million better uses for this property. It could be used to house homeless women and children, it would be perfect. Also JIGSAW are looking for a home.
- This is an important historical site which adds to Bray, the presentation covered everything. Another fine structure to be demolished as was the Turkish Baths; the Town Hall is a food outlet. Bray is one of the best located towns in Ireland.
- We could look at placing hardcore on the Golf Club Lands, the Cash and Carry Centre, the car park under the bowling alley, the Civic Centre car park, the Carlisle Grounds, BIFE, these are all alternatives.
- I am impressed by the presentation; voluntary people are the heart of the country. This matter will go to Wicklow County Council and our decision could be overturned. I support you, this shows democracy.
- This is public money being used it should be open and transparent. I propose that we should be allowed to view the property to see the condition of the property and what damage has been done. Will it end up like the houses on Elginton Road?

Mr. Kenny asked if any other adjacent properties were about to be purchased.

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Fox stated that we are only dealing with St Paul's Lodge. A comprehensive report will be presented to the members in Wicklow County Council on the 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018. The official report will be based on the public submissions and will be available to the Councillors this week.

- I would like to welcome you here tonight and congratulate you on the quality of the submissions and what we have heard here tonight. I welcome the engagement of the community and their public spirit. I am deeply unhappy to find out that the Council were engaging to purchase an adjacent property. This was never discussed at this table. We represent the people and should not be kept in the dark. One submission has raised concerns and it is difficult to come to the conclusion that this is legally sound and could be challenged. This could lead to further delays. The Florentine Centre will close very soon and we are in the need of emergency car parking spaces. I would not be comfortable with the idea of a multi storey car park on this site. There are alternatives on privately owned land; we have an opportunity to create alternatives. Traders are paying a fortune in rates, when the Florentine car park closes it will be a body blow to the traders.
- The decision is next Monday when will we have the report?

Councillor Behan stated that he would like to make an amendment along the line that we preserve as much of the brick content and as much of the building as possible, put this in storage open the temporary spaces on the cartilage of the site and later construct 2-4 family homes using the brick taken from the building. The red brick frontage is the most striking part of this building.

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Fox stated that if the Part 8 is rejected then we will discuss the alternative next Monday.

The District Manager informed the members that the Chief Executive got the report and it could be released tomorrow.

### **3. To Adopt the Municipal Schedule of Works**

The following report was circulated to the members.

The District Administrator informed the members that they can adopt this as is or amend or sent to Wicklow County Council for adoption.

	<b>Bray MD PY Budget 2018</b>	<b>Bray MD Other Budget 2018</b>	<b>Bray MD Total Budget 2018</b>
<b>MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS EXPENDITURE</b>			
<b>DIVISION A HOUSING AND BUILDING</b>			
A01			
Maintenance/Improvement of LA Housing Units	317,000	387,901	704,901
<b>DIVISION B ROAD TRANSPORT &amp; SAFETY</b>			
B03			
Regional Road – Improvement and Maintenance	149,947	1,040,611	1,190,558
B04			
Local Road - Maintenance and Improvement	194,457	905,872	1,100,329
B08			
Road Safety Promotion/Education	72,397	20,829	93,226
B09			
Herbert Road Running Costs	-	105,000	105,000
B09			
Florence Road Running Costs	-	62,000	62,000
B09			
North Beach Car Park	-	30,000	30,000
B09			
Restricted Parking	114,578	134,562	249,140
B09			
Parking Enforcement	-	10,000	10,000
<b>DIVISION C WATER SERVICES</b>			
C04			
Public Conveniences	42,461	43,539	86,000
C08			
Local Authority Water and Sanitary Services	-	28,000	28,000
<b>DIVISION D DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT</b>			
D09			
Economic Development and Promotion	-	37,500	37,500
<b>DIVISION E ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</b>			
E05			
Removal of Rubbish Housing Estates	-	8,750	8,750
E06			
Street Cleaning	410,508	84,492	495,000
E09			
Maintenance and Upkeep of Burial Grounds	13,636	17,000	30,636

<b>DIVISION F RECREATION &amp; AMENITY</b>			
	Bray Head SAAO		
F03	Exceptional Tree Removal	-	7,000
F03	Operation Parks & Open Spaces	-	15,000
F03	Peoples Park Improvements	275,478	92,362
F03	Recreational Grounds	-	6,200
F03	Esplanade Maintenance	-	15,100
F03	Grass Cutting Housing Estates	94,348	46,465
F03	Maintenance of Playgrounds	-	61,050
F03	Blue Flag Upkeep	11,391	28,609
F03	Operation of Arts Programme	10,444	12,000
F05		-	50,500
<b>DIVISION G AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION, HEALTH &amp; WELFARE</b>			
	Educational Support Services		
G05		9,530	35,889
<b>DIVISION H MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES</b>			
	Public Realm Expenditure		
H09		-	225,000
<b>DIVISION J CENTRAL MANAGEMENT CHARGES</b>			
	Area Office Costs		
J08		725,194	282,765
<b>MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WORKS EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>		<b>2,441,369</b>	<b>3,793,996</b>
<b>CENTRALLY ADMINISTERED EXPENDITURE</b>			
<b>DIVISION A HOUSING AND BUILDING</b>			
	Housing Assessment, Allocation and Transfer		
A02	Housing Rent and Tenant Purchase Administration	60,494	375
A03	Housing Community Development Support	52,000	80,540
A04	Administration of Homeless Service	55,804	40,043
A05		20,251	1,300
<b>DIVISION B ROAD TRANSPORT &amp; SAFETY</b>			
B02	National Secondary Road – Maintenance and Improvement	-	-

B06	Traffic Management Improvement	-	15,000	15,000
B07	Road Safety Engineering Improvements	-	-	-
B11	Agency & Recoupable Services	-	9,412	9,412
<b>DIVISION D DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT</b>				
D05	Bray Enterprise Centre	-	13,398	13,398
D05	Tourism Promotion	-	35,500	35,500
D0903	Twinning Committee Expenses	-	-	10,000
<b>DIVISION E ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</b>				
E01	Landfill Operation and Aftercare	-	-	-
E02	Recovery & Recycling Facilities Operations	192,992	181,616	374,608
E11	Operation of Fire Service	579,275	119,630	698,905
<b>DIVISION F RECREATION &amp; AMENITY</b>				
F01	Leisure Facilities Operations	-	-	-
F02	Operation of Library and Archival Service	394,677	90,750	485,427
F03	Operation of Arts Programme	-	334,500	334,500
<b>DIVISION G AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION, HEALTH &amp; WELFARE</b>				
G02	Operation and Maintenance of Piers and Harbours	-	30,000	30,000
G03	Coastal Protection	10,379	46,000	56,379
<b>DIVISION H MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES</b>				
H10	Motor Taxation	43,009	-	43,009
H11	Agency & Recoupable Services	-	-	-
<b>DIVISION J CENTRAL MANAGEMENT CHARGES</b>				
J01	Corporate Building Costs	-	-	-
<b>CENTRALLY ADMINSTRATED MD EXPENDITURE TOTAL</b>		<b>1,408,881</b>	<b>998,064</b>	<b>2,416,945</b>
<b>COMBINED MUNICIPAL DISTRICT EXPENDITURE</b>		<b>3,850,250</b>	<b>4,792,060</b>	<b>8,656,310</b>

This was adopted unanimously by the members

#### 4. To Adopt the Public Realm Expenditure

The District Administrator informed the members that these were suggested projects.

<b>Seafront Bandstand Refurbishment</b>	<b>€60,000</b>
<b>Bin Replacement Programme (Compactor/Smart)</b>	<b>€35,000</b>
Bray Harbour Sidmonton Park Killarney Lane Enniskerry Village Kilmacanogue Bus Stop 2 Locations near Southern Cross Road	
<b>Fassaroe Community Centre Roof</b>	<b>€30,500</b>
<b>Streetscape 5 year Tree Replacement Programme</b>	<b>€20,000</b>
<b>Mature Tree Planting Project</b>	<b>€15,000</b>
<b>Briarwood Roundabout Landscaping</b>	<b>€15,000</b>
<b>Bog Meadow Public Lighting</b>	<b>€12,000</b>
<b>Millfield Estate Enniskerry fencing</b>	<b>€10,000</b>
<b>Removal of Old Public Toilets at Heritage Centre</b>	<b>€10,000</b>
<b>Surfacing of Seafront Exercise Equipment</b>	<b>€10,000</b>
<b>Culture/Art Space Project (Murals on Public Space)</b>	<b>€ 7,500</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>€225,000</b>

Please note the delivery of these will be subject to the tendering process

The members raised the following points;

- The Tidy Towns Committees have very little funding, these are amenity type projects we should allocate funding to them and I propose a generous sum. We should consult with them and do what we can to support them.
- We have two Tidy Towns Committees one in Bray and another in Enniskerry.
- We should invite the two Tidy Towns Committees to a meeting.
- We could invite them in for 9pm and have an in-committee meeting.
- €15,000 for the roundabout we could contact Tidy Towns to assist and any money left over they could use.
- The Fassaroe Community Centre Roof needs to be addressed urgently; they have €45,000 coming from the LEADER programme.
- I am delighted that the Southern Cross are getting two bins, it could do with three.
- The murals are a great initiative.
- Public realm money should be spent on public realm projects. Tidy Towns are getting money out of tourism promotion.
- Where did these projects come from, the discretionary spend is not finalised yet.
- The ESB pole at the junction of the Main Street and the Herbert Road detracts from the area.
- Tidy Towns provide a voluntary service that needs to be encouraged and helped. We should specify what projects we want them to tackle, such as the roundabouts coming into the town. What we think would be of the most benefit.

- Can we look at the trees in Seacest and replace them where needed?
- There has been a problem with vandalism of trees and we should do this over a period of time.
- I propose that we direct €10,000 towards the Fassaroe Community Centre to cover the shortfall.
- Can we get more information on the murals?

The District Administrator informed the members that there was RAPID money coming for the centre and this should be sufficient to cover the shortfall.

The District Engineer informed the members that the removal of the old public toilets at the Heritage Centre would tie in with the pedestrian footbridge works to form a plaza.

There are a lot of mature trees in the Town Centre that are in decay, we are drawing up plans for a new planting scheme and will bring these plans to you. Then we will gradually move out to other areas, it is a long term plan

The Cathaoirleach Councillor Fox stated that this money should be spent on public property; can we agreed on some items and agree to put some on hold?

It was agreed by the members to put the following on hold.

<b>Streetscape 5 year Tree Replacement Programme</b>	<b>€20,000</b>
<b>Mature Tree Planting Project</b>	<b>€15,000</b>
<b>Briarwood Roundabout Landscaping</b>	<b>€15,000</b>
<b>Culture/Art Space Project (Murals on Public Space)</b>	<b>€ 7,500</b>

It was agreed to proceed with the rest of the projects.

## 5. To Agree a Programme of Expenditure on Suggested Capital Works

The following suggestions were circulated to the members

<b>Functional Category</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Capital Scheme.</b>
<b>Amenity and Recreation.</b>		
<b>Bray Harbour Improvements</b>	Bray Harbour	Harbour Enhancement scheme adopted in 2008 widen some narrow sections of walkway, Public lighting, safety, access to water and slipways, Pontoons, Creation of public Plaza area.
<b>Seafront Enhancement Scheme</b>	North of aquarium to North Beach car park	Seafront enhancement scheme adopted by Council 2003, continue seating, Victorian Shelters, railings refurbishment, Esplanade green refurbishment and landscape proposals, improved connectivity from Quinsborough road to Prom and beach.
<b>Blue Flag Swimming Improvements</b>	Bray Promenade	Safe access and egress to beach, Pontoon for swimming out into Sea, shelter for beach users. Disability access.

<b>Old par 3 Golf course</b>	Bray Head	Develop into 17 acre Public park with new planting and walkway with disability access, possible additional car park and investigate feasibility of interpretive centre for visitors to the Cliff Walk and Bray Head.
<b>Signage and Wayfinding Project</b>	Bray District	improve vehicular , pedestrian and tourist directional and information and promotional signage
<b>Peoples Park Improvements Project</b>	Little Bray	Develop and refurbish park new paths seating, planting, and Landscaping, and lighting.
<b>Analysis of Sporting Facilities in Bray District and to examine feasibility of new facilities</b>	Bray District	Ascertain what sporting facilities exist in the district and determine what additional facilities etc are required. Examine locations and obtain feasibility report of all weather facility and to enable application for Sports Capital Funding
<b>Public Lighting Enhancements. Quinsborough Road</b>	Town Centre improvements	Install new public lighting along the South side of Quinsborough road between Eglinton road and Dart station. Replace light between Eglinton road and Main street. Up lighting to the Boulevards trees and period lighting to Duncairn Terrace
<b>Vevay Road</b>	Newtown Vevay shops area.	Install new public lighting on west side in front of shops.
<b>Public Realm Quinsborough Road Scheme</b>	Goldsmiths Terrace area.	develop landscape proposals for this area between Eglinton road and Wyndham park
<b>Albert Avenue Scheme</b>	Albert Walk and Dart area.	Develop landscape proposal for the street to tie into the proposed improvements to the Aquarium and gateway to seafront area. Support the regeneration of the street and area.
<b>Albert Walk Improvements.</b>	Linkage from Dart to seafront.	Take in charge Albert Walk and enhance paving, planting and lighting on the pedestrian walk linkage to seafront. Supporting development of this coffee tourist area.

## Walks

<b>Dargle River Walk</b>	Between Peoples park and Rehills Land.	Following completion of the Flood scheme, improve to amenity and access to a continuous walk in the river basin to the Slang, and on to silver bridge, to the N11 over bridge and the lovers leap walk to Enniskerry and the Dargle valley.
<b>Swan river</b>	Between the river Dargle and Little sugar loaf. via the swan river Valley	Objective since 1989 in development plans. Develop a neighbourhood walk linear park and greenway along the valley with local linkage where desired, linking little sugar loaf to Kilruddery, to Boghall road, to Wheatfield to Old court castle to Killarney Road, to Herbert Road, to the Dargle River.
<b>North Wicklow Walkways</b>		To develop possible walkways
<b>Clock Tower Enniskerry</b>		To

The members raised the following points:

- We can't vote on this tonight.
- These are just suggested projects put forward by the officials; it is just a document in its infancy.
- We are just starting the process tonight.
- We should invite submissions from the public for use of some part of this money. Not one of the estates on the Southern Cross Road is included.
- The last time with the Public Realm Expenditure it was diluted, we need to get the net benefit from this.
- The Community Grants Scheme is perfect for residential projects.
- I would like to see the removal of the ESB pole, previously discussed. A civic area for the Seafront Enhancement Scheme that was proposed a while ago. Lights at the steps on the promenade. I would like to see a running track on the par 3 golf course with cross country poles indicating distance.
- The walkway opposite LIDL attracts graffiti, planning would deter this.
- People forget how hard we fought for this money. We have never spent any money on the harbour area. There are at least 1,000 using this area in the summer. I disagree the par 3 course should be left alone.
- We need to provide top class sporting facilities; we have over 50,000 people in the district.
- Quinsboro Road receives more attention than the Florence Road.
- The River Walk is a major project.
- The harbour area will make a huge difference; we should concentrate on the seafront area.
- A dog park on a site at Bray Head.
- I like the way these projects are formatted, we should see what matching funding we can get.
- We need to reflect on the proposals.

Councillor Behan proposed that we should let the public know that there is a fund available and invite applications, the members voted as follows.

	<i>For</i>	<i>Against</i>
<i>Councillor John Behan</i>	√	
<i>Councillor Christopher Fox</i>		√
<i>Councillor Steven Matthews</i>		√
<i>Councillor Oliver O'Brien</i>	√	
<i>Councillor Michael O'Connor</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	
<i>Councillor John Ryan</i>		√
<i>Councillor Brendan Thornhill</i>	√	
<i>Councillor Pat Vance</i>		√
<b>Total</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

It was agreed to put this item on next month's agenda.

#### **6. To Discuss Suggested Tourism Projects.**

The District Administrator informed that this was funded by CCSD and the District Engineer was looking at Wayfinding for the Enniskerry area.

The District Engineer stated that we were already looking at wayfinding in Bray.

The members raised the following point;

- The sign at the harbour is covered with graffiti and has been for years can we look at this?

The members agreed to the wayfinding project.

#### **7. To Discuss the Taking in Charge of Albert Walk**

The District Engineer informed the members that C.I.E. has requested that we take Albert Walk in charge. It would be of benefit to do so and generally improve the area.

Councillor Vance proposed that we take in charge Albert Walk and this proposal was seconded by Councillor Ryan.

The District Engineer stated that he would start the process of taking in charge of this area.

#### **8. To Receive the Housing Report**

##### Kilbride Lane

The members raised the following point;

- I note the trees on the site have been knocked down, when will the work begin?

The members were informed that this development was at stage 4 approval with the Department and hopefully work will begin soon.

##### Winter Initiative

- Are there any plans in place now the Winter Initiative is coming to an end on the 26<sup>th</sup> March?

The members paid tribute to Richard Sheridan who recently retired from his position as Estate Development Officer

#### **9. To Receive a Report on Roads and Traffic**

The members raised the following points;

- Can you clarify what part of Old Connaught Avenue is included in the surface restoration?

- The traffic lights at Old Connaught junction are in the Dun Laoghaire Rathdown area.
- There is a problem with trip hazards in Bray, we have been taking down trees where we have identified a problem; we should remedy/fix these as soon as possible.
- Is there any update regarding the ramps on the Meath Road?
- The pedestrian crossing at the Fire Station on Schools Road, the luminous covering on the centre bollard is missing and a car was damaged.
- There is a similar situation at Chadwicks/Aldi area; the bollard can't be seen in the dark.

The District Engineer stated that the area on Old Connaught Avenue was as far as the funeral home. Dun Laoghaire Rathdown has had issues with what we do in this area as it affects the traffic. We will remedy the issue with the bollards as quickly as possible.

## **10. To Receive an Update on the Florentine Centre**

The District Manager informed the members that work on the contracts is ongoing and we hope to conclude with this as soon as possible with the lawyers. We are coming to the end and hopefully will have white smoke shortly.

The members raised the following point;

- After the last meeting when I asked a question I was not pointing a finger or impugning anyone. What are the penalties included in the contract? Navybrook is tied up with McKillian's.

The District Manager stated that Wicklow County Council won't own the building in the end it will be a fully private development. The site will not transfer until the building is complete. Navybrook is part of McKillian's our accountant checked to see what the liabilities and assets were and it is a viable company.

## **11. Notices of Motion**

### **Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (06/02/2018)**

That this Council inspects and removes a dangerous tree at 28 Glenthorn with a view to the safety of this tree

#### **Response**

A mature tree that was leaning towards the property of 28 Glenthorn was removed today.

### **Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (06/02/2018)**

That this Council repairs a wall at Wheatfield which has been in disrepair for years.

#### **Response**

As no matching bricks to the damaged section of wall can be obtained, the council a few years ago proposed to the Wheatfield Residents Association to remove the return on the wall into Wheatfield to provide the brick required to repair the damaged section on the Boghall Road. This was rejected by the residents. If the members agree, an alternative brick can be used for the repair but it will not look well.

### **Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillor Brendan Thornhill (06/02/2018)**

That this Council gets the road markings at Wyndham Park updated and painted.

#### **Response**

Some of the parking bay markings at the southern end of Wyndham Park and shark's teeth markings on the speed table at the Florence Road junction require renewal. It is planned to renew markings in this general area including Wyndham at the earliest opportunity. However there are no plans to update or change the markings.

## **12. Correspondence**

The District Administrator informed the members that we received correspondence from two groups, the Bray Harbour Action Group and the Sidminton Court Residents Group, both seeking to address the members.

It was agreed by the members that the Bray Harbour Action Group would be invited to the April meeting and the Sidmonton Court Residents Group be invited to the May meeting.

**13. Any Other Business**

Mulvey Way

Councillor Thornhill requested an update on when the sign for Mulvey Way would be in situ.

\* \* \* \*

This concluded the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**Signed:**

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**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

**Dated:**

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