

**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> October 2020 at 6.30 p.m.**

**Present:**

**Councillor Rory O'Connor  
Councillor Anne Ferris  
Councillor Grace McManus  
Councillor Dermot O'Brien  
Councillor Erika Doyle  
Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy  
Councillor Melanie Corrigan  
Councillor Joe Behan**

**Also present:**

**Ms Lorraine Gallagher, District Manager  
Mr. David Forde, District Administrator  
Mr. Triona Irving, Administrative Officer  
Mr. Liam Bourke, District Engineer**

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray dated 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 (copy attached)**

Councillor Rory O'Connor proposed the confirmation of the minutes of the Municipal Meeting held 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020, Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy seconded the proposal and they were unanimously agreed by the Members.

**2. To consider and discuss Covid-19 protocol, Bray MD meetings**

Bray Municipal District Manager Ms Lorraine Gallagher informed the meeting that adhering to health and safety guidelines is still the major priority during the pandemic and advised that Wicklow County Council are complying with all procedures and regulations to ensure the safety of the public and staff. She advised that standard operating guidelines are adhered to for meetings and she reiterated the importance of social distancing during all meetings.

Ms Gallagher advised that Wicklow County Council are still obliged to be in a physical space for statutory matters. She said the Department are looking at changing the law whereby meeting could be held by zoom.

A discussion took place regarding whether to schedule Municipal District meetings during the Covid crisis, some Members felt it was important to schedule meetings in order to discuss essential business and felt that the decision to hold meetings should lie with the Members rather than the Management team

### **3. To consider the Housing Report (copy attached)**

#### **Árd na Gréine**

The proposed housing scheme will comprise 21 no. 2 bed houses (2 storey) and 10 No. 3 bed houses (2-storey).

ABM Design and Build Ltd. Have commenced mobilisations works onsite with a planned completion date of October 2021.

#### **Jameson Heights**

The site consists of 20 houses. All houses now have their roofs installed, walls externally rendered and painted. All of the houses are skimmed internally and all houses have kitchens installed. M&E 2nd fix will be finished next week and final internal painting has commenced.

Due to the impact of Covid-19 and a delay in securing a date from Irish Water for the foul and watermain connections, the expected completion date is now December 2020. Work on the storm water connection is due to commence next week.

It is intended to have the pre-tenancy course for the new tenants this week.

#### **Kilbride Lane**

An ESB supply has been brought to the on-site substation and power has been brought to a number of individual units, along with a fresh water supply. This work has allowed the final finishing of the units to commence. The commissioning and testing of heating systems and the decoration of the units is ongoing.

Additional ground workers are present on site to assist in the delivery of footpaths, roads and green spaces.

The contractor has limited the number of trades on site due to social distancing as required by Covid-19 guidelines. Due to supply chain issues, temporary closures, and having to limit the numbers of personnel on-site due to COVID-19, the project completion date is now December 2020.

#### **Kilmantain Place**

Kitchens have been fitted, interior painting has commenced. External plastering is finished, scaffolding due to be removed this week. Completion due middle of November.

#### **Cedar Court**

Part 8 planning application submitted for 14 No. apartments are proposed in a 4-storey development, 8 no. 1-bed, 3 no. 2-bed and 3 no. 3-bed. Drawings were on display to the public in Bray offices until 17th September and closing date for submission was Friday 2nd October at 12 noon. There were no objections or observations and it is expected that the plans will be presented to members at the next meeting in November.

## **Members queries/observations**

The Members queried if the recent housing allocations in the District had a knock on effect on moving others further up the Housing list. Administrative Officer, Triona Irving, advised that she did not have the exact housing list numbers to hand but would provide an update at the next Municipal meeting.

The Members expressed their disappointment that delays to the Kilbride Lane and Jameson heights developments will result in houses not being ready until December 2020. They enquired if it was expected that they would be available to tenants before or after Christmas. The members were advised it is expected tenants to be in these houses before Christmas.

A discussion took place about the Councils proposed long term leasing of housing units at Station Road, Bray. The Members expressed their concerns about this proposal and questioned if long term leasing of these units is the best option for both the Council and the people on the housing list.

The Members were advised that the first meeting of the San Remo neighbourhood liaison committee had taken place and that it was planned to hold monthly meetings the last Tuesday of every month. Cllr Anne Ferris is the chairperson of the committee which is made up of representatives of a number of relevant groups including Gardaí and members of Simon Community.

### **4. To receive a Report on Roads and Transport (report to follow)**

#### **Roads Programme – Restoration Improvement**

Road Number	Road Name and/or Townland Name	Length of work (m)	Comment
<b>2020</b>	<b>Restoration Improvement</b>		
L-1011-57	Glencree Road	145 0	Reconstruction completed
L-5014	Lackandarragh-Hostel Road	300 0	Reconstruction completed
R-117-37	Bray Road, Enniskerry (21 bends)	304	Road & path surfacing & safety work completed
R-761-13	Vevay Road Putland-Church Rds	560	Surfacing completed
R-766-155	Meath Road, Bray	110	Reconstruction completed
L-1970-2	Convent Ave, Bray	80	Reconstruction deferred due to Covid-19. Works planned on a reduced area in late October
L-19641-0	Raheen Park	160	Reconstruction completed
L-19562	Richmond Park	323	Surfacing completed 11/06/20
L-19654-	Charnwood	187	Completed on reduced area

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L-19630	Glenthorn	162	Surfacing completed 10/06/20
L-19651-0	Sugarloaf Crescent	110	Surfacing completed
L-1013-57	Waterfall Road Bahana	820	Reconstruction completed
L-1031-0	Red Lane	265	Surfacing completed 10/06/20
L-5035-0	Killough Lower	112	Surfacing completed 09/06/20
L-19639-0	Ryneville Manor	85	To be tendered

### **Roads Programme – Restoration Maintenance**

Surface dressing in the Bray District was completed on 12<sup>th</sup> August and included Monastery Road, R760 Ballybawn, Quill Road, Glencap Road and Old Long Hill. There was also a failure of the surface dressing carried out at Monastery Road resulting in the road been only available for local access. A contractor has been appointed to carry out an asphalt overlay.

Asphalt preservation treatment of roads at Earlscroft, Swanbrook, Hollybrook and Old Connaught View. An area of Belmont estate was also added in place of Hazelwood as the road condition in Hazelwood was not deemed suitable for rejuvenation.

### **Other Road Works**

Essential pavement and road drainage repairs have continued. New drainage works planned for the Glenree Road, The Scalp and Loreto Ave have yet to commence.

Safety improvement Works funding was used for vehicle restraint barriers on the 21 Bends early this year. Tenders have been received for antiskid surfacing at R755 Killough Upper and the 21 Bends and will be carried out shortly.

Further footpath repairs are planned including the access ramp at Rathmore Terrace.

### **Outstanding Covid 19 Interim Mobility Measures**

Location	Measure	Status
Aravon Court, Bray Laneway	Remove boundary wall (36m) to open space to facilitate pedestrians passing on narrow path	Withdrawn following consultation with residents
Cookstown Road, Enniskerry	Close to eastbound traffic between Enniskerry Demesne and the R117 and provide lining & signing to facilitate pedestrian and cycle safety on the narrow road	Due to objections raised and resumption of traffic, proposed lane closure was withdrawn. Vulnerable pedestrian warning signs are being erected.
Quill Road, Kilmacanogue	Close to northbound traffic between Lawlor's Lane and the Glencormac UFC to facilitate pedestrian and cycle safety on	Due to objections raised and resumption of traffic, proposed lane closure was withdrawn. Vulnerable

	the narrow road	pedestrian warning signs are being erected.
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### **NTA Interim Mobility Measures**

A total fund of €623,000 was approved for six projects in Bray as set out in the table below. Works have to be completed by November. The Strand Road Aquarium work is already completed and has created a safe route for cyclists until the Seafront Plaza Scheme commences. The Bogmeadow Car Park and Bus Terminus Scheme has been substituted for Aravon Court Laneway.

<b>Location of Proposed Scheme</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Status</b>
Strand Road, Aquarium Temporary Road Reallocation	Install line of stop kerbs, bollards, barriers and double yellow lining.	Completed
Strand Road North & Marine Terrace	Complete link between the strand Road Cycle scheme and the Bray Harbour Schools Access Scheme & widen path at Marine Terrace.	Tendered
Greystones Road, Windagates (partly in Greystones district)	Relocate bus bays, kerbing and new footpath and provide pedestrian crossing, signing and lining and cycle track southbound.	Due to tender shortly
Aravon Court Laneway	Widen, drain, resurface and provide lighting on a pedestrian ROW and clean up adjacent open space.	Withdrawn apart from some minor essential repairs of path and assisting residents with biodiversity plan for the park
Convent Hill, Vevay Road	Construct realigned footpath and roadway on acquired land.	Due to tender shortly
Sans Souci Wood, Bray	Create new pathway from Sidminton Gardens to Vevay Crescent & restore existing paths & provide lighting.	Consulting with Loreto Convent
Bogmeadow, Enniskerry	Provide a bus turn around and terminus	Awaiting NTA approval for substitution from Aravon Court

### **Car Parks**

The lease of the Church owned section of the Herbert Road Car Park concluded in September. The management of this section of the car park has reverted to the Church. An agreement has been reached to extend the lease for the temporary car park on the old Bray Golf Club lands.

## **Members queries/observations**

Convent Hill - A query was raised from a Member regarding making the path wider on Convent Hill. Also it was pointed out that there is a metal railing sticking out of the ground close to the footpath on Convent Hill which it was felt was quite dangerous. District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised that works for Convent Hill are due to go out to tender in the near future. He also advised that he would investigate the dangerous railing and arrange for appropriate works to be carried out to rectify any potential hazard.

Aravon Court – A query was raised about the funding for Aravon Court, with the project not going ahead, is this funding now available for other projects. District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised that he was looking into getting funding reallocated to Bog Meadow.

Cycle Lanes – A Member enquired if funding could be provided for the provision of extra cycle lanes and the upgrading of existing ones throughout the town. District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised that there is a Bray Cycle Network plan in existence which addresses the issue of the provision of cycle lanes in the town.

Footpaths at Southern Cross – A Member raised an issue with the footpaths being uneven and inaccessible on the Southern Cross road. It was highlighted that there are a number of Sunbeam services clients who use the paths on a daily basis. The District Engineer said he would walk the area and investigate this matter.

Resurfacing of estates on Southern Cross - A Member raised concerns about the recent resurfacing job carried out in a number of estates on the Southern Cross Road. The concerns were around the material used, the colouring of the finished surface and also large patches that were missed due to parked cars in the area at the time the work was being carried out. The District Engineer explained the system used was known as Ecoflex system and he felt that it was done to a satisfactory standard.

Wall at Richmond Park – A Member raised an issue regarding a wall that was damaged in Richmond Park. The wall was damaged by a contractor who was carrying out work behalf of the Council. District Engineer, Liam Bourke said he was aware of an issue.

Promenade -The Members raised an issue about the wear and tear of the Covid 19 road markings on the promenade. The signage and arrows that direct people where to walk on the promenade are starting to peel away from the pavements. They requested that markings be replaced with new clearer markings.

A Member requested an update on the report relating to the subsidence at the bank at Herbert Road. District Manager, Lorraine Gallagher advised that this matter is private matter and should not be discussed under the District Engineers Road report.

Bog Meadow- District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised that the proposed works at the carpark at Bog Meadow are due to go out to public consultation under Part 8.

## **5. To receive an update on the Bray Town Centre (copy attached)**

An update report on the Bray Town Centre was circulated to the Members prior to the meeting. The Members enquired if there was any update on confirmed tenants for the units in the centre. They were advised by the District Administrator that there are no updates on confirmed tenants but interest in the units remains high.

The Members queried if there was any update on when the carpark at the development would be open to the public. They emphasised the need for extra carpark spaces in the town and asked if the urgency of this matter be articulated to the developers. The Members were advised by the District Administrator that it is expected that the carpark would be open as soon as the practical completion of the centre was completed.

A Member raised the issue of the changes that have been made to the development and highlighted the fact that these changes were not part of the original plans for the centre. The Member wanted to know if the changes that have been made were approved by An Board Pleanala.

## **6. To nominate one representative to the Wicklow County Council Access and Inclusion Committee**

There were three nominations for Bray Municipal District Members to be appointed to the Wicklow County Council Access and Inclusion committee. District Manager, Ms. Lorraine Gallagher suggested that rather than taking a vote to select representatives, she would enquire from the appropriate Directorate if it is possible for all three Members from Bray Municipal District to be elected on to the committee. Ms. Gallagher said she understood how important the issue of access and social inclusion was to all three nominated Members. Ms. Gallagher advised she would revert back with an answer to her proposal at the next Municipal District meeting.

The three nominated Members were Cllr. Grace McManus, Cllr. Melanie Corrigan and Cllr. Aoife Flynn Kennedy.

## **7. To receive an update on the Bray Town Reopening Committee**

District Administrator, Mr David Forde gave an update on the Bray Town Reopening Committee. He informed the Members that the committee have taken a collaborative approach and a shared vision with regard to restarting the economy in Bray both during and post Covid19. Mr Forde gave updates on the following.

Visitor monitoring report  
Online performance statistics of Bray.ie

## **8. Notices of Motion (copy attached)**

**Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Aoife Flynn Kennedy (10/09/2020)**

That Bray Municipal District put in place a programme of maintenance work to ensure that the flood defence traps are maintained on a regular basis and that this is planned and carried out in a consistent and regular manner. In addition, that Bray Municipal District arranges for appropriate storage of the platforms located in this area to ensure that they are no longer used inappropriately, which has been the cause of significant disturbances to residents.

**Response:-** The traps can only be accessed during low water. Removal of debris which had been planned last Friday had to be abandoned due to rising water levels. It is not expected to be feasible to clear the traps more than once a year. Following desilting of the settlement pond last week, it has been determined that platforms intended to facilitate crossing the river while minimising impacts on fisheries is not feasible. This was the first year since the completion of the River Dargle Flood Defence Scheme to test the facility provided. As a consequence of this, it has been decided to remove the platforms from the river bank.

**9. Reports and Recommendations**

N/A

**10. Any Other Business**

Bonfires – The Members raised their concerns about the stockpiling of items for bonfires including household rubbish, pallets and tyres etc. They asked if letters could be circulated to the Members so they could circulate to households.

Public Realm projects – The Members asked for an update on the 2020 Public Realm projects.

Bray Homeless forum- A Member requested that consideration be given to a request from Bray Homeless forum to make a presentation at a Municipal District meeting.

Noise from DARTs/trains- A Member asked if Bray Municipal District could write to Irish Rail regarding a constant humming noise from works being carried out on trains and Darts at the station. This humming noise can be heard constantly by residents of Aravon Court.

**This concluded the meeting.**

**Signed:**

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**Signed:**

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**DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR**

**Dated:**

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