

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray held
in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday
8th December 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
District Administrator, David Forde

Apologies: Mr. Triona Irving, Housing Officer

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Municipal District of Bray dated 3rd November 2020

Councillor Joe Behan proposed the confirmation of the minutes of the Municipal Meeting held 3rd November 2020, Councillor Melanie Corrigan seconded the proposal and they were unanimously agreed by the Members.

2. To consider report in accordance with Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2006 (as amended) In respect of the proposed development of Bogmeadow Car Park (report to follow)

Councillor Melanie Corrigan proposed the acceptance of the Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001-2006 (as amended) In respect of the proposed development of Bogmeadow Car Park, Councillor Rory O'Connor seconded the proposal and it was unanimously agreed by the Members.

The Members were advised that the works will include a bus turn around and bus terminals with a shelter as well as associated footpaths, kerbing surfacing and landscaping. Fifty two parking spaces will be marked out including two disabled access parking spaces. There will be a new bus entrance on the Monastery Road necessitating the removal of a mature tree and cutting back of vegetation to meet sightline requirements.

Public lighting will be installed in the car park, the lighting will be at an angle and will be switched on from dusk to midnight which will make the lighting bat friendly. The project will also include the creation of a raised speed table with a pedestrian crossing on the Monastery Road.

District Engineer Liam Bourke advised that investigations will be carried out to see if the ground suitable to support a coach parking area.

Mr. Bourke advised that the project will commence in early January

3. To receive a presentation from Paul Kelly, RWE Renewables Ireland on Dublin Array Offshore Wind Farm

Mr Paul Kelly from RWE Renewables Ireland addressed the meeting to give a presentation to the Members via zoom on the proposed wind farm off the coast of Bray. Mr Kelly advised that Dublin Array offshore windfarm is a joint venture between RWE Renewables Ireland and Saorgus Energy.

The Members heard that the planned wind farm would consist of 61 turbines of up to 250 meters tall located on the kish and Bray banks, 10 km from off the coast. The site will be 2440 hectares in size and extends from Booterstown to Greystones. The area is located on the naturally occurring sandbanks, which the east coast commercial shipping routes avoid due to the shallowness of the water.

Work on the project is expected to start in 2024 with an expected two year contraction period. This will depend on the various permissions being granted. Mr Kelly informed the Members that as part of agreement of the project going ahead RWE renewables will give millions to the community in community grants and other forums.

The Members thanked Mr Kelly for his presentation but expressed their concerns at the location of the proposed wind farm, they felt 10 km from the coast was too close and would have negative visual impact from the coast line of Bray

4. To consider the Housing Report

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. are in the process of installing ground floor slabs and site drainage. The erection of steel frame kits and roof trusses is due to commence in early 2021. The project has a planned completion date of October 2021.

Kilbride Lane

Work is continuing with the finishing out of the site. The site is preparing for completion and the snagging of the development is ongoing.

Painters, Landscapers and cleaners are present to the site in order to assist in the final finishes.

The contractor has limited the number of personnel 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 workers on-site due to COVID-19, the project completion date is now expected to be in January 2020.

Jameson Heights

The site consists of 20 houses. Irish Water has finished the water and foul connections to the site. Snagging and commissioning of the estate has started. The final coat of macadam is programmed to be completed for the 17 of December. Snagging and commissioning is expected to be finished between the 11th and 18th of December.

Kilmantain Place

Internal works are almost complete, due to finish at the end of the week. External works have commenced also and are due to finish at the end of the week also.

Cedar Court

Part 8 planning application was considered and passed unanimously at the last meeting. Work is underway on the tender documents; the review is due to be complete by January 2021 with the documents being issued to the Design & Build Framework by January 2021. Tender returns are expected in early March 2021. The project is expected on site in June 2021 with an expected completion date of March 2022.

Members Observations/Queries

A Member enquired if would be possible for a representative from the Bray Homeless Forum be invited to make a presentation at an upcoming Municipal District meeting.

San Remo – Cllr Flynn Kennedy gave an update from the recent San Remo monthly meeting. She advised that services in the centre are going well and that there is a lot of positivity that the services are having on many peoples lives.

5. To receive a Report on Roads and Transport

Roads Programme – Restoration Improvement

The majority of the Roads Restoration Improvement works have been completed for the year except for Rynville Manor, half the width of the Vevay Road between Charnwood and Church Road and reconstruction of defective concrete roadway at Convent Avenue. Tenders were awarded for these works a considerable time ago. However, due the workload of many civil engineering contractors since the summer

they have been unable to deliver on many of the smaller projects. Consequently these works will not be completed this year and will have to be reviewed in the context of the available funding in 2021

Roads Programme – Restoration Maintenance

Surface dressing in the Bray District was completed on 12th August, except for the R760 at Tinnahinch, which had been excluded due to the closure of the Little Newtown Road for bridge repairs. An overlay of the failed surface dressing on Monastery Road has been completed. Asphalt preservation treatment of roads at Earlscroft, Swanbrook, Hollybrook, Belmont and Old Connaught View completed.

Other Road Works

Essential pavement and road drainage repairs have continued. New drainage works planned for the Glenree Road and Loreto Ave have been postponed and will be subject to available funding in the new year. Drainage work at the Scalp is committed before the end of the year.

Safety improvement Works funding was used for vehicle restraint barriers on the 21 Bends early this year. Contract has been awarded for antiskid surfacing at R755 Killough Upper and the 21 Bends but has also been delayed due to unavailability of contractor and low temperatures for this type of work.

Footpath construction along the R760 Ballyorney Road and Pinewood Close is progressing.

NTA Active Travel Stimulus Measures

Six projects were approved in Bray and a time extension has been granted for projects commenced. 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 was substituted for Arvon Court Laneway. The car park layout and most of the drainage has been completed and is waiting on the outcome of the Part 8 for a new bus terminus and entrance before work resumes. Work is progressing on the Strand Road North & Marine Terrace and the Greystones Road, Windgates Cycle Track Schemes.

The contractor has failed to commit to a start date so this work has been deferred until the new year. The Sans Souci Wood Accessibility Scheme has also been deferred. It is still waiting on land owner agreement before the scheme design is finalised. The NTA have committed to future funding of both of these projects.

NTA Projects

A contract was awarded in August for the Seafront Plaza Scheme. The contractor has applied for a road opening licence and is anticipated to commence works on the 4th January 2021.

The ground investigation report has been completed for the Bray Transport Interchange. Utility design details and construction tender documents progressed will resume based on information gathered.

The Bus Connects Bray to City Centre Core Bus Corridor final public consultation webinar took place on the 1st December. The scheme proposes major works along the Dublin Road and Castle Street to facilitate improved bus transit time along the route. The final date for submissions on all of the Dublin Core Bus Corridor proposals is 16th December.

Other Agency Works

Gas Networks Ireland are progressing emergency pipe laying work through Harbour Road and Seapoint Road. This is to replace an aging main attached to the River Dargle Railway crossing.

DLRCOCO has awarded a contract for the Bray Woodbrook Landfill Reclamation Project. The project is delayed pending completion of a condition survey of Quinsborough Road and completion of GNI works at Bray Harbour and Active Travel Scheme works on Strand Road. The project may last up to 6 months. The proposed haulage route is through Bray during which about 15,000 tonnes of rock will be hauled to the site.

Members Observations/Queries

Herbert Road – A query was raised regarding signage on the Herbert Road. District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised the signage has been ordered.

Parnell Road & Davitt Road – A Member raised concerns regarding motorists speeding on Parnell Road & Davitt Road. District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised he was aware of the residents concerns and would monitor the situation.

Church Road. - A Member raised concerns regarding the recently erected bollards on Church Road. As a result of the bollards being erected on the road the road markings are off centre resulting in one side of the road being very narrow.

Remedial works at the Harbour - A Member raised concerns regarding remedial works to be carried out at the Harbour, as a result of these works it is expected that 15,000 tonnes of rock will be transported via the Quinsborough road.

Schools Road – A Member asked who was responsible for the maintenance of Schools Road. District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised that this road has not yet been taken in charge by the Council and as result will not be carrying out maintenance works on the road.

Bus Connects – A Member requested an update on the proposed bus connects works on Castle Street and enquired about the lease agreement in place for the car park on the Golf Club lands. District Engineer, Liam Bourke advised that a meeting is scheduled with bus connects to discuss the plan and that he will have more information on this matter following the meeting.

Old Court Park – A Member raised concerns regarding an issue in Oldcourt Park where raw sewage is overflowing from a manhole onto the paths. District engineer advised he will investigate this matter.

Speed/Traffic limit review – A Member enquired if a review of the speed limits in the town can be carried out. District Engineer Liam Bourke advised he would follow up on this matter with Wicklow County Council.

6. To receive an update on the Bray Central

An update report on the Bray Central was circulated to the Members prior to the meeting. The District Manager Ms Lorraine Gallagher advised the Members that it was hoped that there would positive news in early January regarding the announcement of anchor tenants,

District Administrator, David Forde advised the Members that the expected practical completion date for the centre is January 2021. Delays to the project has been caused due to issues in sourcing steel which has had a knock on effect causing delays on dismantling the crane.

Mr Forde also advised the Members that following their requests at previous meetings a request has been made to the Developers to open the carpark in the centre as soon as possible.

7. Bray Head Special Area Amenity Order Management Plan 2017-2021 (attached)

It was proposed to schedule a meeting, to take place the second week in January to discuss the Bray Head Special Area Amenity Order Management Plan 2017-2021

8. Notices of Motion

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Melanie Corrigan (03/11/2020)

That this Municipal District while it is doing new drainage works planned for The Scalp, Enniskerry looks at providing a pathway through the Scalp, to link up with the existing pathway at the Co. Dublin side of the Scalp. This will open up the possibility for a safer walking route linking up Walks from Co. Dublin to Enniskerry.

Available funding in the municipal district is limited to attempting repairs to existing drainage. The provision of a footpath and improved traffic safety as far as the county boundary would entail land acquisition, the construction of retaining structures and have associated significant environmental impacts. As a Specific Improvement Grant is required for this scale of work, the request has been referred to the Roads Section for their attention.

Notice of Motion in the Name of Councillor Melanie Corrigan (09/11/2020)

That this Municipal district looks at extending the Footpath from the Footbridge at the Herbert Road to the Footpath at Aston Wood, or improves the passage way through the wooded area linking these footpaths .

There is presently no footpath at this particularly dangerous stretch of Road, and the walkway is not suitable as the pathway is flooded and worn. There has been a huge amount of footfall on this Road connecting Bray and Enniskerry, and it needs to be encouraged and improved for safety reasons and to promote outdoor recreation.

The wooded area is not public land. The perimeter was acquired from the Kingdom of Denmark by Bray Town Council and funding was set aside for the construction of a footway along the public road. However, additional funding of the order of about €50,000 is required to provide public lighting and complete the provision of a safe footpath along the route along the route.

9. Reports and Recommendations

No reports

10. Any Other Business

Public Toilets

A Member enquired if was possible to extend the opening hours of the public toilets on the seafront. District Engineer said the opening hour have never been extended in the winter months but advised he would review the request

Bray Rowing club

A Member requested that a representative from Bray Rowing Club be allowed to make a presentation to the Members at an upcoming municipal District meeting.

Wreath Laying in memory of Doctor Christopher Thompson

Following a proposal by Councillor Joe Behan it was agreed that the Cathaoirleach of Bray Municipal District would lay a wreath to commemorate the passing of Doctor Christopher Thompson.

Christopher Thompson worked as doctor in Bray in the 1870's and lived in Duncairn Terrace on Sidmonton Square. During an outbreak of cholera in the 1870's, Doctor Thomson volunteered his services to help deal with the pandemic, unfortunately as a result of his efforts he contracted cholera himself and sadly died from the disease in 1876.

To commemorate Doctor Thompsons legacy the Cathaoirleach agreed to lay a wreath at the site of a monument which was erected in honour of Dr. Thompson. The monument is located outside the old courthouse on the Boghall Road

Presentations at Municipal Meetings

A Member requested that contact be made with organisations who wish to make presentations at municipal District meetings, to the Members, to enquire if they would be willing to make their presentations by zoom

Town Team Structure

A request was made from a Member to look at the structures of the Town Team in the new year in order strengthen the process and avail of all possible funding streams

The Cathaoirleach wished a happy Christmas to all the Members, officials, members of the press and sound technician Mick Glynn. She thanked all present for their hard work during the year and wished them all the best for 2021

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This concluded the meeting.

Signed:

CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed:

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR

Dated:
