

**Minutes of Municipal District of Piltown Meeting held Wednesday, 3rd
April, 2019 at 10.00am at the Ferrybank Area Office**

- Present:** Cllr. Ger Frisby, Cathaoirleach
Cllrs. P. Dunphy, F. Doherty, M. O'Neill, T. Breathnach and E. Aylward
- In attendance:** B. Tyrrell, Meetings Administrator, I. Gardner, Area Engineer and O. Bannon, Staff Officer
- Apologies:** S. McKeown, Director of Services

4. Other Business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting

(a) Deputation from Piltown National School

Cllr. Frisby welcomed Mark Connolly, Principal and Lisa Mullin, parent of children attending Piltown NS, to the meeting. M. Connolly circulated a report to the meeting and outlined their concerns with regard to road safety in the vicinity of the school, particularly for student pedestrians. He acknowledged the works carried out by Kilkenny County Council in recent years which had all been a success, including provision of lighting, ramps, footpath on the Kildalton College approach and also road resurfacing works. However, he requested that consideration be given to further improvements such as additional ramps, roadside signage and road markings to indicate school ahead. He also highlighted the fact that the 30kph flashing lights on the approaches to the school only worked on some occasions and were ineffective.

Lisa Mullen spoke of her experience walking her young children to school on the very narrow footpath from the Anthony's Inn side of the school and the dangers caused by poor visibility and speeding traffic along by the school. She asked that consideration be given to widening of the footpath and also provision of a speed indicator sign on the Anthony's Inn side.

All the members thanked the deputation for their very comprehensive report and assured them of their support in trying to further improve safety at Piltown NS. Cllr. Aylward stated that an audit was being carried out on all safety measures in the vicinity of schools in the County and this audit would pick up on any deficits and issues such as existing lights not in working order. I. Gardner agreed to have the flashing lights checked and would look at improving road markings and signage in the short-term.

Cllr. Frisby thanked the deputation for their attendance and they withdrew from the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

MDP Meeting 6th March – Proposed by Cllr. P. Dunphy, seconded by Cllr. F. Doherty and agreed.

Matters Arising

Ferrybank Neighbourhood Park – Cllr. O'Neill asked that it be noted that the original contract was to have all foundations removed from the site.

The Sweep junction – I. Gardner advised that a Stop ahead sign would be erected shortly and would be supplemented with additional road markings once surface dressing was completed later in the year.

Footpath, Mill Road – Cllr. Aylward asked for update and likely start date. I. Gardner advised that the first phase of works would go to tender next month. It was noted there was no update yet from the Consultants with regard to the bridge design. It was hoped works would commence in the next couple of months.

Meeting with TII – B. Tyrrell advised that this matter was ongoing and that Tim Butler was currently following up on arrangements.

Correspondence – in relation to Cllr. Aylwards request to contact the Department regarding their decision preventing transfer of part of the RI budget to the discretionary grant, B. Tyrrell advised that this matter was being taken up at County level and was being dealt with by Tim Butler.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(a) Taking in Charge

Cllr. Frisby welcomed Annette Fitzpatrick, A.O., Planning Dept, who attended for this item and circulated report to the meeting. She set out the relevant legislation covering the taking in charge process and the full procedure involved in same, including who was involved in the process, the

relevant documentation required, preparing schedule of works and negotiations with developers or bond holders as appropriate. The current countywide position was outlined and it was noted that there were currently 8 taking in charge applications on hand in the Piltown MD, which were ongoing.

Cllr. O'Neill asked if assistance could be provided to deal with outstanding issues within estates which have not yet been taken in charge, for example lack of public lighting. It was noted that where developers were still in charge, then the matter should be referred to them.

Cllr. Aylward felt that there should be some sanctions with regard to developers who had left behind unfinished developments and subsequently applied for planning permission for developments under a new company name.

Cllr. Dunphy had concerns over the length of time being given to developers to sort outstanding issues, it was unfair to residents groups who were trying hard to have their estates taken in charge and he asked if outstanding works could be prioritised to help speed up the process. He proposed that a motion be put forward for the full Council meeting in this regard. Cllr. Doherty supported this motion. Cllr. Breathnach referred to a previous motion he proposed with regard to giving the local authority power to initiate the taking in charge process and stated that appropriate wording was critical to avoid any adverse implications.

All the members conveyed their appreciation for the huge efforts made by Annette and other staff in the planning department in relation to unfinished developments. Cllr. Frisby thanked Annette for her comprehensive overview and she withdrew from the meeting.

(b) Monthly Roadworks Update

A report was circulated outlining details in relation to pavement works, discretionary maintenance and other works carried out over the past month. Details were noted.

Cllr. Dunphy asked about grass cutting contracts, I. Gardner advised that contractors were engaged for cutting on national and regional roads only, using the supplygov.ie website on which contractors must register in order to quote for works.

Cllr. Dunphy asked about progress on the Tower Road footpath, I. Gardner advised that removal of ESB pole was awaited before setting back the last boundary, but other works could proceed in the meantime.

Cllr. Dunphy asked when the next consultation would take place in relation to the Piltown Traffic Management Scheme, I. Gardner advised that Part 8 documentation was being prepared and that following this an appropriate assessment would have to be carried out. The Part 8 process could then commence.

Cllr. O'Neill raised a matter concerning a KCC owned rented property at Mullinavat which was the subject of flooding. I. Gardner advised that all reps made are investigated and the investigation will determine whether this is a matter for the Roads or Housing Department.

Cllr. O'Neill asked for details of works carried out in the Belfield Estate, it was noted that drainage and other minor works were carried out along with removal of a bin bay.

Cllr. O'Neill complained of trees being felled by individuals on public property in the Ferrybank area. She was advised to report the locations concerned so the matter could be investigated.

Cllr. Breathnach enquired if a submission could be made by Piltown NS in relation to the Piltown Traffic Management Plan. I. Gardner advised that the road to the school was outside the scope of the plan, however he said that some works could be carried out to remove the slip lane and realign the junction at Anthony's Inn in order to slow traffic at the start of this road.

Cllr. Aylward raised the issue of bollards being constantly damaged at the Ink Bottle junction caused by illegal manoeuvres, it was noted that this junction was being closed as part of the planned improvements for the Tower Road junction, which will stop these manoeuvres.

Cllr. Doherty asked if the heavy duty bollards left behind following works at Ballinlammy could be removed.

(c) Update on N25 New Ross Bypass (including agreed signage scheme)

The progress report was circulated and noted. B. Tyrrell advised that correspondence had been sent to Sean Dobbs on behalf of the members conveying their thanks for the regular updates on the project.

Cllr. O'Neill proposed that an invitation be sent to the New Ross Municipal District requesting an open invitation be extended to the Kennedy family to attend the official opening of the new Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy Bridge. It was agreed to check the position regarding the formal adoption of the name by Wexford County Council .

Cllr. Doherty referred to the newly erected signage on the road under the new bridge, in the direction of Aylwardstown, being partially blocked by foliage and asked if same could be addressed.

Cllr. Breathnach asked if details of the agreed signage scheme were available, I. Gardner circulated a copy of the final design of the signage plan to each of the members.

(d) North Quays SDZ Update

B. Tyrrell stated that one meeting of the Steering Group had been held since the last Piltown MD meeting and that these meetings will now take place monthly rather than bi-weekly. He advised that the website was now live, which will be used as a communication tool for the regeneration of the North Quays and will provide regular updates as the development progresses. An update report was circulated, the contents of which was noted.

(e) Kilkenny Greenway – Update

B. Tyrrell advised that the project assessment board will visit on 25th April, which will include representatives from Failte Ireland, Trails Ireland and the Department. A presentation will be made to the board, on the technical aspects of the greenway, tourism and business opportunities and unlocking the potential of the South East. It was noted that the presentation would be made jointly by Kilkenny, Wexford and Waterford County Councils and a number of meetings will be held in preparation for that.

3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Order or Resolution of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meetings

None

5. Notices of Motion

None

6. Correspondence

None

7. AOB

Additional items raised by Members:-

Cllr. Doherty

Waterford to Glenmore Scheme – update on this Scheme requested for the next meeting.

Cllr. Aylward

Clonassy Waterfall – I. Gardner advised that agreement had been reached with landowners regarding compensation and Part 8 documentation was being prepared.

Cllr. Dunphy

Rathkieran Junction – Cllr. Dunphy again raised concerns over incidents at this junction and asked for the matter to be looked at urgently.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 1st May at 10.00am.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

Cathaoirleach