

**Minutes of Municipal District of Piltown Meeting held Wednesday, 2nd
October, 2019 at 10.00am at the Ferrybank Area Office**

Present: Cllr. Eamon Aylward, Cathaoirleach
Cllrs. F. Doherty, P. Dunphy, T. Breathnach and G. Frisby

In attendance: S. McKeown, Director of Services, B. Tyrrell, Meetings Administrator, S. Cullen, Area Engineer, S. Kavanagh, Senior Engineer, Roads, S. Foley, Senior Exec. Engineer, Road Design and O. Bannon, Staff Officer

1. Confirmation of Minutes

MD Meeting 4th September – Proposed by Cllr. G. Frisby, seconded by Cllr. T. Breathnach and agreed.

Matters Arising

Meeting with Grace Rothwell, UHW – in answer to Cllr. Dunphy, B. Tyrrell advised that it had not been possible to agree a suitable date with Ms. Rothwell to coincide with the MD meetings. Following discussion, it was agreed to revert to Ms. Rothwell requesting that she propose a number of suitable dates, so that agreement can be reached and a meeting arranged. It was also agreed that an open invitation should be extended to the other Municipal District Members in the Region.

Speeding at Fiddown – it was noted that a speed survey had not yet been carried out.

Meeting with TII – Cllr. Frisby requested update, BT advised that Tim Butler had requested that a nominee from each MD be selected to attend a meeting in this regard before the next Council Meeting. It was agreed that the Cathaoirleach Eamon Aylward would attend from the Piltown MD. The purpose of this meeting was to set an agenda for the meeting with the TII and numbers attending the meeting can also be discussed at that stage.

Door to Door Campaign re Waste Disposal – Cllr. Aylward asked if this campaign had commenced and if a report would be available to members on its success and outcomes. S. McKeown advised that the inspections will commence in the coming weeks

Additional signage, speed limit off Motorway at Ballynooney – Cllr. Doherty asked for update, SC advised that this would be progressed shortly.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

(c) Presentation on N25 Waterford to Glenmore Scheme – Phases 1 to 4

Cllr. Aylward welcomed S. Kavanagh and S. Foley, KCC, Richard Neuling and Eileen O'Neill, Atkins and Milan Gajic from Tramore House Regional Design Office, who were in attendance for this item.

R. Neuling advised that Atkins had been appointed by KCC to progress this project through the planning and design process, stating that they would be carrying out a full re-evaluation of the project, which consists of approximately 9.5km of dual carriageway national primary route and would link the Waterford City By-pass and the New Ross By-pass. It was noted that route corridor options for this scheme had been assessed previously and a preferred route corridor was identified and included in the current Kilkenny County Development Plan. R. Neuling stated that due to changes to environmental legislation and design standards, new route corridor options will be developed and assessed by Atkins and a new preferred route corridor will be identified. It was noted that previous planning and design work completed on the scheme would be considered as part of this process. R. Neuling advised that a study area has been defined and is being looked at to identify all viable route options, taking account of known constraints. He outlined the project phases and timelines, stating that there would be opportunities for the public to participate in the process during each stage of the project. It was noted that a website for the project is now live – www.n25waterford2glenmore.ie – which outlined full details of the project and FAQs, the site would be updated as the project progresses. Any queries the public may have can also be directed via email to n25waterford2glenmore@kilkennycoco.ie, this was noted.

Discussion followed, all the members welcoming progress on the scheme. A number of queries were raised by the members, the following was noted:-

- A series of public consultations will take place as the project progresses.
- Bus stop and weighbridge – a feasibility report on Glenmore Hill pedestrian, public transport and weighbridge facilities is being prepared as part of phase 1.
- As raised by Cllr. Doherty, consideration to be given to providing a pedestrian bridge, having regard to demand and value for money.
- Regular updates to be provided via the website. Also monthly updates to be provided to members, similar to that for the N25 New Ross Bypass, as the project progresses further.
- The project is not currently on a list for construction prior to 2027, however all planning and legal requirements will be met during this planning and design process, so that the project is ready to progress as soon as funding becomes available.

(b) Update on N25 New Ross Bypass

A report was circulated to members. SK advised that although there were some minor delays experienced, finishing works are currently in progress and the plan to open the Bypass is still on track for the end of 2019. In answer to Cllr. Doherty's query, SK confirmed that all accommodation works and safety audits would be completed before the Bypass is open to live traffic.

(a) 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. It was noted that works on LP3402 Lacey's Cross to Dangan Cross would be deferred to 2020 as this road is currently subject to a road opening licence. Instead funding would be allocated to LP3401 and LS7437. The following items were discussed:-

Poulanassy Waterfall – Cllr. Aylward noted the update and asked that the project be progressed as soon as possible.

Dunkitt Flood Relief Scheme – it was noted legal advice was awaited prior to commencing works, both Cllr. Aylward and Cllr. Breathnach welcomed progress.

Town & Village Renewal Funding – it was noted a funding announcement was awaited which will inform TVR works for 2020, this was expected in November.

Storm Lorenzo – in answer to Cllr. Aylward's query, SC advised that a weather advisory and warnings were awaited but that resources will be deployed as necessary.

Hedge Cutting – SC advised that a number of notices had been issued to landowners for a number of locations where maintenance was required and these would be followed up in due course.

Ragwort – Cllr. Doherty enquired about policy and treatment of ragwort. SC advised that he had had discussions with Claire Goodwin on how best to deal with this issue along public roads, which would involve a huge resource requirement and a viable way of dealing with the issue will need to be looked at for next year.

(b) North Quays SDZ

An update report was circulated to the meeting and SMcK advised as follows:-

- Sustainable Transport Bridge – An Bord Pleanála approved with conditions the development of the River Suir Sustainable Transport Bridge, details of the decision are available on the website. Roughan & O'Donovan, Consultants will now progress the detailed design for the bridge.
- Transport Hub – WCCC Metropolitan District passed by resolution the Part 8 Planning application for a new transport hub in the North Quays. The CE Report is available on the website and detailed design on the new train station is due to commence.
- SDZ Access Infrastructure – Roughan & O'Donovan are well advanced with the detailed design for the SDZ Access and Public Road Infrastructure for the North Quays area. Tender documents for service diversions and demolition works are currently at draft stage and will be issued in the coming weeks.
- SDZ Development – the SDZ Developer, Falcon Real Estate Development Ireland propose to submit their application for the North Quays SDZ shortly.

Cllr. Dunphy asked if the public could be better informed around development of the roads infrastructure and timescales etc. SMcK advised that the website for the North Quays development contains information on the development.

(c) Kilkenny Greenway Update

SMcK advised that site investigation and clearance works would take place in the coming weeks and Wexford County Council would be making contact with landowners in this regard. It was noted that planning permission would be required for car parking and access points to the Greenway, with five locations being proposed along the route. Each location will require Part 8 Planning and this will be progressed early next year.

It was also noted that a pre-qualification process will likely be undertaken prior to the tendering and construction phase. In answer to Cllr. Breathnach's query, SC advised that the main purpose of a pre-qualification process is to narrow the field of contractors eligible to tender, to ensure they meet the necessary requirements to undertake the project.

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

BT reminded members that notices of motion must be submitted 7 days prior to the circulation of the Agenda, with a maximum of 2 per member permitted each month, as per the Standing Orders. It was noted that motions should be submitted via the Cathaoirleach for agreement.

6. Correspondence

BT advised that he had received communication from Chief Superintendent Padraig Dunne indicating his availability to attend today's meeting. However as Chief Superintendent Dominic Hayes was unavailable it was agreed to defer the meeting until a suitable date could be found for both to attend. Following discussion, it was agreed that suitable dates would be sought from both Chief Superintendents in order to arrange a meeting with members as soon as possible.

7. AOB

Cllr. Aylward reminded members that items should first be raised through reps and only raised under AOB if the matter is not resolved satisfactorily. This was noted.

Additional items raised by Members:-

Cllr. Doherty

Ferrybank Neighbourhood Park and Playground – Cllr. Doherty congratulated all involved on the sod turning for the new park in Ferrybank which was a great occasion and she wished the project well. Cllr. Aylward also wished the contractors all the best in progressing the project and was delighted to see works finally commencing. He said it was a very positive story for this area and well done to all involved in getting it this far.

Safety improvements at N25 junctions – SC to seek update from Road Design.

Tidy Towns Awards – Cllr. Doherty commended all the Tidy Towns Committees on their hard work and volunteering so much of their time and she congratulated Tullahought on winning the Pollinator Award in this year's competition.

Cllr. Frisby

Belview Port – with the onset of Brexit, Cllr. Frisby enquired if KCC are liaising with the Port with regard to the potential increase in traffic volumes and safety resulting from possible increased activity

in and around the Port following Brexit. SMcK advised that while no specific discussions were had with regard to Brexit, he confirmed that Frank Ronan, CEO, had recently made an offer for the elected members to visit the Port and be given a tour. In light of this discussion, it was agreed to take up this offer at which plans in terms of the future and Brexit could be discussed. SMcK agreed to arrange with Frank Ronan.

Cllr. Dunphy

Speeding – Cllr. Dunphy asked if speeding issues could be put on the Agenda for the Transportation SPC in order to address the widespread problem of speeding on rural roads.

Cllr. Breathnach

Joint Meetings – Cllr. Breathnach asked if joint meetings could be arranged with Waterford Metropolitan District and Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District. This was agreed.

Launch of Kilmacow Directory – it was noted that a launch of the Kilmacow Directory of Community Groups and Organisations will be held in the Community Centre, Kilmacow on Friday, 11th October at 7.00pm, all are welcome.

Cllr. Aylward

Engineering Areas – confirmation given by SC that the changes to the engineering areas will come into effect on 1st January, 2020 and areas now under the jurisdiction of the Callan Thomastown MD that were included for funding in the 2020 Roads Programme will be delivered by them.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____