

**Minutes of the Piltown Municipal District Meeting held on Wednesday,
5th April, 2023 at 10.00am in the Meeting Room, Ferrybank Library**

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

In attendance: S. Cullen, Area Engineer, M. Phelan, Meetings Administrator O. Bannon, Staff Officer

Apologies: D. Malone, A/Director of Services, Cllr E. Aylward

1. **Minutes of Ordinary Statutory Meeting held 1st March, 2023** – proposed by Cllr Frisby, seconded by Cllr Dunphy and agreed.

Matters Arising

Plaque, N24 Tower Road Scheme – S. Cullen confirmed to Cllr Dunphy that proposals for the erection of a memorial plaque by KCC is under consideration and any arrangements for same will be made towards the end of the project.

Irish Water – Cllr Dunphy asked for update regarding proposed meeting with Irish Water officials. M. Phelan confirmed that a letter has issued to James O’Toole, Irish Water in this regard and response is awaited.

Ferrybank Shopping Centre – in response to Cllr Frisby, S. Cullen confirmed that a contact person with whom KCC can liaise with has been identified and a letter will issue shortly.

Greenway Links to Slieverue & Glenmore – S. Cullen informed to Cllr Frisby that the report will be available to members in advance of the planning process, which is expected to commence in the coming months.

Primary Care Centre – S. Cullen advised Cllr Breathnach that an update on the proposed visit will be provided at the next meeting.

Hedgecutting – Cllr Doherty noted the end of the season for hedgecutting had passed and appealed to landowners to observe same.

North Quays – Cllr Doherty noted the ground breaking ceremony which took place on 6th March and looked forward to the project coming to fruition.

2. **Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

- (a) **Update N24 Waterford to Cahir Scheme**

S. Cullen provided update to members as follows:-

- Thomas Brennan, the Project Liaison Officer, is continuing to work with landowners to agree access to facilitate the completion of the preliminary ground investigation works. These works are ongoing and scheduled to be completed in this month. Kilkenny and Tipperary County Councils appreciate the cooperation being shown by landowners in allowing access to their lands for these works.
- The findings of these investigations will inform elements of the Stage 2 assessment using a multi-criteria analysis in line with the Department of Transport, Common Appraisal Framework. Stage 3 of the assessment process will then determine the best performing Alternative or Option or combination of Alternatives(s) and/or Options to be taken forward as the Preferred Transport Solution.
- The Preferred Transport Solution was scheduled to be put on public display at the end of Q2 of 2023, however this is now scheduled to take place in Q4 of 2023.
- The project team and PLO continue to be available to answer any questions from the public and can be contacted via the Contact Us page of the project website at <http://n24waterford2cahir.ie/contact-us> or alternatively the PLO may be contacted directly.

In response to Cllr Dunphy, S. Cullen confirmed that given the complexities of the assessments that need to be carried out, it was unlikely that information on the Preferred Transport Solution would be available prior to the statutory process and proposed public display in Q4 of 2023.

(b) Monthly Roadworks Update

S. Cullen circulated a report outlining works being progressed and completed over the period since the last meeting under pavement works, discretionary maintenance and other works. Updates with regard to the N24 Tower Road, N24 Carrick Road and Belmont Link Road were also noted.

Cllr Doherty thanked S. Cullen and crew for the great work being done, in particular at Sommers Cross, which is much appreciated by local residents and also at Rahora.

The following items were raised and discussed:-

Active Travel Funding – with regard to locations being identified, S. Cullen confirmed to Cllr Doherty that it is intended to address shortcomings at Fiddown, following approval by the NTA of the Mobility Management Plan.

177 AE Application – S. Cullen clarified for Cllr Dunphy that this planning process is used where projects, as a result of their impacts on the environment, are brought through a more thorough process than a Part VIII process normally required in relation to local authority developments which are decided by the Elected Members at Plenary meetings of the Council. Section 177AE applications require a greater level of detail and reports and are submitted directly to An Bord Pleanála for approval.

Blocked Drain at Owing – S. Cullen advised that this matter will be followed up directly with Eir.

Temporary Road Closure R704 – S. Cullen confirmed to Cllr Breathnach that it is likely that the temporary road closure in place on the R704 will need to be extended over the Easter weekend in order to complete emergency bridge works.

CLÁR Scheme, Kilmogue Dolmen – in response to Cllr Breathnach, S. Cullen advised that KCC are engaging with the OPW and the National Monuments Service with regard to additional funding required to complete this scheme in accordance with the Ministerial Consent.

Mill Road Footpath – S. Cullen advised that the revised options report is being finalised by Kilgallen & Partners and will shortly be resubmitted to the NTA.

Belmont Road – S. Cullen confirmed that public consultation will commence once the planning application has been lodged with An Bord Pleanála.

Slieverue Roundabout – Cllr Doherty asked if the damaged section of roadway at the Luffany approach to the Slieverue Roundabout could be looked at. S. Cullen advised that this matter has been notified to TII.

(d) South East Greenway Update

S. Cullen provided update to members as follows:-

- Works are progressing well to ready the section of the Greenway between New Ross and Glenmore for opening to the public this summer. These works include public light duct installation, fencing, preparation of the temporary carparks at Rosbercon and Glenmore, installation of 2 no. controlled crossings, signage installation and the completion of final snagging items. The scheduled opening date for the above is now set for early June and a definitive date will be announced in the coming weeks.
- The works tender for Lot 5A, a 5km section from Ferrybank to Luffany, was advertised on the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) last month. The closing date for tender submissions is the 21st April and it is anticipated, subject to the necessary TII approvals, that the successful contractor will be appointed during the summer with works commencing in July. The construction period for this section of the Greenway will depend on the appointed Contractor's programme. Included under this contract is the installation of the public lighting within Lot 3 and the construction of the permanent carparks at Rosbercon and Glenmore.
- The focus of the Design Team has now switched to the preparation of the detail design for Lot 4 - Red Bridge and Mountelloitt Tunnel and Lot 5b Curraghmore to Aylwardstown and it is anticipated that Lot 4 will be the next tender to be advertised.
- The Road Design Office recently completed the Greenway land transfer mapping to facilitate the transfer of same from CIE to the respective local authorities. This mapping has been issued to CIE who are currently reviewing same.

- The links to Glenmore and Slieverue will be progressed through planning in the coming months.

S. Cullen responded to queries from members. Cllr Frisby stated the importance of finalising and agreeing plans for links to Slieverue and Glenmore in order to secure funding to deliver same alongside the Greenway project.

(e) North Quays SDZ Update

S. Cullen provided the following update to members:-

- BAM Civil Ltd has commenced work on the North Quays Public Infrastructure Project, initially carrying out site clearance works, and compound set up. A ground breaking ceremony was held on 6th March 2023; Taoiseach Leo Varadkar TD, Minister Eamon Ryan TD and Minister Darragh O'Brien TD were in attendance.
- Pre-planning meetings with the Planning section of Waterford City and County Council are being held with the private developer, Harcourt Developments, regarding development of the North Quays SDZ site.
- Planning permission has been granted by An Bord Pleanála for the Flood Defence West application, which comprises 1.1 km of flood protection measures to the west of Plunkett Station along the northern bank and within the foreshore of the River Suir. A tender process has commenced for the appointment of flood defence design consultants.
- David Walsh Civil Engineering contractor is progressing works on Ferrybank Pump Station and the Pump Station enabling works contract.
- Cumnor Construction Ltd is finalising rock stabilization works and commencing demobilization from the cliff face to the North of Plunkett Station in the coming weeks.
- Mallwood Construction is also close to completion of footpath widening works at Abbey Road.

Cllr Frisby asked about completion of the access from Abbey Road to the Greenway, S. Cullen advised that a design issue arose causing some delays and the matter is being addressed by Wexford and Waterford County Councils.

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

None

6. Correspondence

None

7. AOB:

M. Phelan advised that the joint meeting with Waterford Metropolitan District is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, 25th April at 10am at City Hall. Agenda to issue in due course.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 3rd May at 10.00am.

Cllr Doherty thanked all for their attendance. This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: Fidelis Doherty
Cathaoirleach

Dated: 3/5/23

