

Minutes of the Budget Meeting of Bray Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 8th January, 2008 at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

- Councillor Brid Collins, Cathaoirleach**
- Councillor John Brady**
- Councillor Caroline Burrell**
- Councillor John Byrne**
- Councillor Anne Egan**
- Councillor Anne Ferris**
- Councillor David Grant**
- Councillor Michael Lawlor**
- Councillor John McManus**
- Councillor Steve Matthews**
- Councillor Ciaran O'Brien**
- Councillor Pat Vance**

Also present:

- Mr. Des O'Brien, Director of Services**
- Ms. Christine Flood, Town Clerk**
- Mr. Sean O'Neill, Town Engineer**
- Mr. David Forde, Administrative Officer**
- Ms. Triona Irving, Administrative Officer**

The Cathaoirleach Bríd Collins opened the meeting by wishing all present a Happy New Year. She extended her congratulations to the workers of Bray Town Council and the Town Clerk on Bray being placed 10th in the Irish Business Against Litter (IBAL) awards nationally and remarked that Bray was the first place holder in Wicklow County.

She requested the members' co-operation in dealing with Items 3 & 4 on the Agenda first. The members agreed to this.

The Town Clerk Christine Flood wished all present a Happy New Year and stated that Bray is litter free to European norms. She remarked that this award does not mean that Bray Town Council can rest on their laurels and stated that this was a good incentive to keep Bray litter free. She paid tribute to the Litter Warden, the Town Foreman and the cleaning crews. She stated that the Rejuvenation Committee helped incentivise Bray Town Council in keeping Bray town clean and that Dr. Tom Kavanagh of IBAL mentioned that businesses can be part of the problem as well as part of the solution to littering (e.g. takeaways).

Ms. Flood added that a number of takeaways in the towns would now be focussed on and that the Council would use its' powers of enforcement, if necessary, in order to keep Bray as clean as possible.

1. To consider the Local Authority Budget for the Financial Year Ending 31st December 2008

The Town Manager, Mr. Des O'Brien opened the discussions by stating that Bray Town Council continues to take a positive developmental view. He added that it has always been a joy to work with Bray Town Council and that while funds are constrained, a number of positive projects for the town have been secured.

He stated that work on the Shanganagh Waste Water Treatment Plant is due to start this year and that he is confident that work will commence on the Florentine Centre early this year. He added that the Rejuvenation Scheme is great for the Main Street and that the Swimming Pool is another major project.

Mr. O'Brien remarked that while Bray Town Council have a small budget they are a very forward thinking Council. He added that the rate of inflation is 4.8 – 5% and that the increase in funding from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government was 4.9%.

He paid tribute to the staff of Bray Town Council and remarked that this was a good budget and that a lot of work had gone into it by David Forde AO and his staff.

He stated that an increase of 5.5% in rates was needed and that the aim of the Budget is to put money into improved services. He finished by recommending the Budget to the members and remarked that Bray was fortunate as we did not have to make hard cuts or compromise service.

The Cathaoirleach Bríd Collins stated that Programme Groups 1 & 2 would be considered together.

The members praised the presentation of the Budget, remarking that it was very well laid out, presented in an easy to read format and delivered in plenty of time for consideration. Tribute was paid by the members to Mr. David Forde, AO Finance and his staff for the work that had gone into preparing the Budget. It was also noted that the Finance Department were very good at collecting monies owed.

The members raised the following points:

- I'm bitterly disappointed with the increase in the County Demand and the Local Government funding. This (LGF) is barely in line with inflation. The increase in the County Demand is €338,922. This is extortionate and is shameful on the sitting members of Wicklow County Council to let this go through. It puts this Council under pressure.
- We were levied 15% on the County Demand last year – Wicklow County Council were looking for 11% and Pat Vance got it down to 7%. We did well to get it down to 7%, it could have been worse.
- We have significantly reduced the Demand requested by Wicklow County Council. This was done with the assistance of Councillors from Wicklow Town and Arklow Town Councils.
- Seven members of Wicklow County Council represent the Bray area. Six of these members voted for a reduction – this is the first time this has ever been done. We need the co-operation of members of other urban areas.
- In the last 6 years the County Demand has increased by 68%. The Local Government Fund has only increased by 44%. We are now dipping into other funds in order to meet the County Demand.
- We are getting a declining level of services from Wicklow. We need to demand more than we are getting for the money we are paying.
- Our Wicklow County Council councillors have not done a good enough job – money is going from services here to Wicklow and it's about time it stopped.
- I'm delighted with the County Demand this year – well done to Pat Vance and Anne Ferris.
- The increase in the Local Government Fund last year was 5.5% not 9%.
- There is no increase under a number of headings due to the County Demand.
- The only people paying more are rate payers.
- We have no say how money is spent in this town – Wicklow do, due to the County Demand.

Programme Group 1 – Housing & Building

The members were advised of the following estimated expenditure and income under this programme group.

Estimated Expenditure	€2,108,675	Estimated Income	€3,084,070
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The members raised the following points:

- I welcome the purchase of land on Church Road – we need to continue to acquire a landbank to meet the housing requirements of the town. We need to purchase as much land as possible.
- There are sites lying there for years e.g. Carrigoona, Bray Wheelers. When we acquire sites we need to get them to development stage. We need to tackle the housing crisis in this town.
- Is there anything put by in the estimates to fund the cost of bring the houses in Oldcourt up to standard (re: Fire Safety Audit)?

- People are getting small wage increases – can rents be frozen or there be a minimal increase?
- We need to make a big effort to finish the Wolfe Tone Square Improvement Scheme, this has been ongoing since 2002. We need to put in traffic calming.
- The Wolfe Tone Square Improvement Scheme contract was due to be signed over a year ago – this is delaying the implementation of the scheme.
- What impact will the regional roads funding have?
- I'm disturbed at the speed that we are delivering on Part V Affordable Housing – there are people in La Vallee who have been assigned apartments but haven't moved in yet. There are problems in the Legal Department – if we need to get our own legal people we should and forget about Wicklow.
- When can we expect to make an allocation on Richmond Hill – it was due for completion last March. It is nine months behind schedule.
- There are a number of people who have been allocated homes in Riversdale and have not been able to move in. They have ordered furniture and gotten mortgages. This needs to be investigated and sorted out.
- There needs to be a basic standard in relation to the condition of relets. The MPC needs to have a look at this.
- The Replacement Windows and Doors programme needs to be built upon and expanded – needs a separate heading. I propose that we dramatically increase this.
- There is no point in having Central Heating Programme if the heat is going out the windows.
- Why is there a dramatic increase to €40,000 in Miscellaneous Expenses? €19,000 was used last year.
- There is a flowerbed in Deerpark that was neglected and is now used as a dumping ground. The residents have requested that it be taken away.
- Thanks must go to the Estate Development Officer. He has made a real difference to the estates he manages. He goes beyond the call of duty.
- I'm glad to see provision of €140,000 for Homeless Persons – we need the Outreach Officer.
- Can the flowerbed in Fassaroe that was dug up due to a leak be reinstated? It was placed there for the Pride of Place.
- Applicants for housing are being told to apply to Dun Laoghaire Rathdown and Wicklow County Councils by Bray Town Council staff – is this a policy?
- Is the Management Fee of €45,000 for paying management companies of apartments?
- Can we fund the repairs to the roof of the Fassaroe Community Centre, perhaps under the RAPID scheme?
- We are hoping that the Fassaroe Community Centre will be majorly re-developed in line with the rest of the estate. Money is put by every year – how much is in the fund?
- [AO David Forde] There is €24,000, which includes the €8,000 from this year.

Programme Group 2 – Road Transportation & Safety

The members were advised of the following estimated expenditure and income under this programme group.

Estimated Expenditure	€2,203,575	Estimated Income	€1,163,000
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The members raised the following points:

- The service we are getting from the ESB in relation to public lighting is scandalous. It can take 5-6 weeks before a complaint is answered by the ESB. The officials need to sit down with them.
- I agree – there has been a light out of order in Ashbrook estate for the past two months and a light in Seapoint Court has been out of order for a few weeks. I will get the pole numbers.
- A number of lights along the beach are out of order. I request the Town Clerk gets someone to have a look at them.
- Donegal County Council have a pilot scheme in place whereby public lighting is solar powered. This Council should investigate this.
- There is a problem with crossing the road at the junction of Novara Avenue and the Main Street. Can the Engineer have a look at.

- Newcourt and Sidminton Roads are in a bad state and need a job done on them. Can the Engineer have a look at them?
- We need to look at the Restricted Parking Scheme – houses with two or more cars are only getting one disc. This is a big problem in the East Ward.
- Why is there an increase in the Footpath Repairs budget? There is an expected grant of €356,000 and the figure for 2007 was €35,000. It is €70,000 this year.
- There is construction traffic parking on the footpath on the Parnell Road from Myrtle's to War on Want. Bollards had been in place but have now been removed, this is disgraceful.
- [Cathaoirleach Brid Collins] The bollards are being replaced tomorrow – we got word late this evening.
- Are any funding applications being made to the DTO re: schools? It would help relieve traffic on the Main Street.
- Cycle lanes are not kept clean. They need to be repainted and people encouraged to use them.
- If we are to have more cycle lanes in the town, we need to have consultation with cyclists (e.g. Bray Wheelers). Can we have somewhere to lock bikes on the Main Street?
- Something needs to be done about the vehicular access to O'Byrne Lane from the Vevay Road.
- We need to do something about the all day parking on the Seafront.
- Are Wicklow paying less this year on regional roads – are the estimates accurate?
- I welcome the increase in funding for footpaths, it will save us money in the long term.
- Can we contact Dublin Bus about the double decker buses using St. Peter's Road?
- [Councillor Ciaran O'Brien] I propose that we reduce the Road Improvement figure by €10,000 and use this to fund a safe way to school route.

Ms. Triona Irving informed the members:

- Bray Town Council staff have been surveying Oldcourt. Smoke alarms will be installed in houses that don't have them. Bray Town Council will use funding provided for under Planned Maintenance, which will then be reclaimed when the estimates for the work are received.
- A list of tenants for Richmond Hill is being drawn up.
- The Central Heating Scheme will continue into 2008.
- The Management Fees of €45,000 are for Part V apartments.
- Programme Group 6 will fund the Fassaroe Community Centre.
- Miscellaneous fee includes Anti Social Behaviour Conference and activities.
- Wicklow County Council Law Department deal with the sale of affordable homes.
- We are applying to the Department to use internal Capital Receipts for funding of the Windows & Doors Replacement Scheme. We are confident it will be approved.

Programme Group 3 – Water Supply & Sewerage

The members were advised of the following estimated expenditure and income under this programme group.

Estimated Expenditure	€1,719,694	Estimated Income	€1,639,394
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The members raised the following points:

- [Councillor Pat Vance] The charging of schools for water is not due to come in until 2010. I propose that we give a waiver to schools until the charge comes in under European law. This has happened in other Local Authorities.
- [Councillor Anne Egan] I agree with the waiver for schools. They can't afford to pay for water. I support Councillor Vance in his proposal.
- I'm critical of this issue. Community groups, sporting groups, churches and organisations that don't make any money should be exempt.
- I agree with the waiver, based on a certain amount of litres per student per day.
- We should have a schools and voluntary body waiver system in place.
- The Government propose charging €3.50 per student – schools are under funded. We should challenge these charges at European level.
- There is a 20% increase on commercial users of water and they are spending more money on rates. I'm totally opposed to this.

- The objective of the directive from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government is to conserve water. This was agreed to in 1999. Ireland are the only country not to pay domestic water charges.
- We can't operate a waiver scheme – Wicklow County Council are the ones charging. We could operate a subvention with them.
- We should work in partnership with the schools in relation to water conservation, perhaps provide funding.
- I request that we have a report back from the Manager relating to the water waiver.
- We have lost the one and only public convenience on the Main Street – this is disgraceful and needs to be looked at.
- The figure for the Bulk Supply is the same as last year (€15,900). There had been talk that Dublin Corporation would charge the full fee. Has an agreement been reached with Dublin Corporation?
- Who uses the services of the pumping station?
- Leak detection is very important we appear to be losing 25% of our water through leaks, at €200,000 a year this is very expensive.
- Does the €404,600 figure include the Shanganagh scheme? I welcome this – I hope we get our Blue Flag back.

Programme Group 4 – Development Incentives & Control

The members were advised of the following estimated expenditure and income under this programme group.

Estimated Expenditure	€440,205	Estimated Income	€119,000
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The members raised the following points:

- I'm disappointed that the Bray Volunteer Bureau didn't get any funding – can we see what we can do?
- [Councillor John Brady] It was proposed last year that the funding to the Bray Volunteer Bureau be cut. It is again proposed this year. I'm totally opposed to this – they do great work. I propose that they receive €3,000.
- [Councillor Pat Vance] I propose that we give the Bray Volunteer Bureau €2,500.
- The Junior Council do great work and don't get enough recognition. The funding figure of €2,600 has never changed. It needs to be increased to at least €3,000.
- [Councillor Anne Ferris] The Junior Council was discussed at an MPC meeting – we are proposing changing it and having Transition Year students on the Junior Council.
- [Councillor Anne Ferris] It is proposed to give the Bray Summerfest and St. Patrick's Day Festival €5,000 less than they are requesting. I propose that we give them the full amount they are looking for.
- [Councillor Pat Vance] I propose that we give the Summerfest €2,500 and the St. Patrick's Day Festival €2,500.
- Summerfest is great for all ages and puts Bray on the map.
- I'd like to complement Bray Summerfest and the St. Patrick's Festival committees and I'd like to give them the money they are looking for.
- [Councillor Steve Matthews] Why don't we put public space up for tender? €25,000 was donated by Birds Carnival to the Chamber of Commerce.
- [Cathaoirleach Bríd Collins] I wish to clarify – Councillor John McManus is the Chair of the MPC. The Chamber did not get this money, the Summerfest did. Bray Town Council doesn't have an official to organise events like these. Birds pay a subsidy to help run the festival. Birds could pay the Council and then Bray Town Council would give it to the Chamber. A lot of retailers also give to the Summerfest. There is a very hardworking committee running the Summerfest and St. Patrick's Day Festival. We give them very little.
- We could have a public tender, however the system in place works.
- [Councillor Ciaran O'Brien] I agree with Councillor Matthews – businesses who operate on public land should go to tender in the interests of transparency and clarity.
- [Cathaoirleach Bríd Collins] Your comments have been taken on board and will go to the MPC.
- [Councillor John McManus] The figures provided by the Summerfest should have been circulated to all members. Most of the money for Summerfest comes from businesses in

the area. We've put in a levy of €10,000 to the fairground operator for cleaning of the seafront.

- We should have one sum for festivals and people apply for it on the basis of criteria laid down by the Council, instead of lobbying.
- It is dangerous to suggest going to public tender – there are costs that are incurred by the operator that we are not aware of. The return we get would be minimal. What we have works and shouldn't change. Let's support the committees.
- Tourism Promotion €15,000 – who is that going to? Wicklow Tourism has recommended that one agency be in place.
- I totally oppose Wicklow Tourism taking over Bray Tourism. There are a number of directors on Bray Tourism and it works very well. It should not be subsumed by Wicklow Tourism and lose its identity.
- I am glad to see an allocation for Twinning/Begles. The committee do great work.
- [Councillor Anne Egan] Can I clarify that €3,000 of the Twinning Budget will go to Begles?
- [AO David Forde] Confirmed.
- Can we spend some money in the area of the Barrington Run?

Councillor Pat Vance proposed suspending Standing Orders, so that the members could finalise the discussion on the Draft Budget in one sitting. Councillor David Grant seconded the proposal.

Programme Group 5 – Environmental Protection

The members were advised of the following estimated expenditure and income under this programme group.

Estimated Expenditure	€1,677,076	Estimated Income	€370,000
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The members raised the following points:

- I welcome that we've become more eco friendly and energy efficient.
- Councillors should be able to sign the forms relating to the Waiver Scheme for the bin bags.
- The Heavy Duty Goods Collection needs more advertising and the members need to be informed in plenty of time.
- There are not enough bins in Bray, particularly in the Main Street. We need to look at the location and quantity of bins.
- Every bus stop should have a bin.
- I welcome the report from IBAL – we need to concentrate on enforcement.
- We had a good result with IBAL. We need more bins along the Vevay and Killarney roads.
- We need to look at the opening hours of the recycling centre.
- [Cathaoirleach Bríd Collins] The MPC will discuss this and revert to Wicklow County Council.
- I regret that the Pilot Recycling Scheme has been discontinued due to lack of uptake.
- How many more years have we got the lease on the Recycling Centre for? What plans are in place for a new centre?
- I'd like to see a shredding facility in the Recycling Centre.
- I don't agree with the €80 surcharge for weekend burials.
- Is that €80 per burial?
- I request that the €80 for weekend burials be removed.
- [Councillor Pat Vance] I propose we remove the €80 burial fee.
- [Councillor Anne Ferris] I second that.
- We were told that Wicklow County Council will be running the mobile recycling at St. Peter's School in the future – I'd hate to see it disappear. It's very popular. The current staff call to the homes of the older residents and collect their recycling.
- Can a rail be put around the bottle banks at the centre in Fassaroe, so that it can be locked when no-one is there in order to prevent vandalism.
- I'm opposed to increasing the funding to the Recycling Centre – Wicklow County Council are the Waste Authority – they should pay this €100,000. This should be abolished.
- Wicklow County Council pays a huge rent on the Recycling Centre. €100,000 is good value for money for a town the size of Bray, I'm happy with this figure.

- We should raise the figure for the waiver scheme and be offering half size wheelie bins, particularly for older people.
- The van for the Litter Warden is a great idea. He needs a uniform to be recognisable in the town.
- We need a coherent waste management policy – can the MPC have a look at this?

The Town Manager, Mr. Des O'Brien informed the members:

- We will need to take advice from the Department on the School's Waiver. Since meters have been installed the water usage is huge.
- We will take your comments on board about the Heavy Duty Goods Collection.
- Wicklow County Council are the Water Authority. There has been an adjustment by Dublin Corporation on the supply to County Wicklow. The increase in cost to County Wicklow has been added to the base cost of the Local Government Fund. Water is being sold to us at the old rate. We have to charge the cost of the water, it is a scarce resource.
- We have to renew the bins we have in place first and will look at adding to the number of bins we have.
- We will look at the Pumping Station.
- We will be advised by the councillors on the Summerfest. Dun Laoghaire Rathdown have a person at Town Clerk level who organises events like these. Bray Town Council have a small staff. This is very time consuming. Dun Laoghaire Rathdown have a huge staff. We will look at this under the instructions of the councillors.
- An alternative premises for the Recycling Centre is being actively looked at.
- It is very difficult to enforce litter fines unless we actively catch someone littering. The Litter Wardens do not have the power to ask people's names, as An Garda Siochana do. We will enforce the shops.
- There is an increased cost to Bray Town Council on burials which we are trying to spread.

Programme Group 6 – Recreation & Amenity

The members were advised of the following estimated expenditure and income under this programme group.

Estimated Expenditure	€2,071,697	Estimated Income	€518,000
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The members raised the following points:

- I welcome the funding for playground maintenance. We need more facilities in the town for children. I hope this is in the Budget every year.
- Playground maintenance is badly needed. Ballywaltrim playground was vandalised, but the CCTV should help.
- We need to upgrade Ballywaltrim playground.
- I'm delighted that there will be a decent playground in the People's Park in 2008.
- I'd like to see a boules terrain and flower beds in the People's Park.
- We should look at other areas in the town to provide playgrounds for.
- What other costs are being incurred by the Heritage Centre apart from staff?
- [AO David Forde] €45,000 is Heritage Centre payroll, €7,000 is for other expenses e.g. running the office, €15,000 is for Bray Tourism and €20,000 is for loan repayment.
- It's great that people have had Civic Receptions over the years. We need to look at ways so people don't get more than one.
- The swimming pool is coming on great. I can't wait until it opens.
- The Boxing Club are looking for a toilet facility – I'd like to ask for provision of this in the Budget.
- [Town Manager Des O'Brien] To put a toilet in a sewer would have to be laid and the roads dug up. This will be huge cost that we can't estimate.
- I welcome the new fence for Glen na Smol.
- We need a parks plan.
- The staff on the esplanade do a great job of maintaining. What happened to the Seafront Enhancement Scheme?
- I suggest a small seat funding for replacement of the railings on the strand. It shouldn't cost too much money.

- I request that we put €5,000 aside for rails and seat backs. We could take this from ring fencing.
- [Councillor Caroline Burrell] The Heritage Forum have a four year plan that is due to finish up this year. Each year the Town Councils put in €5,000. I ask the members to support this €5,000.
- [Councillor Steve Matthews] I support Councillor Burrell's proposal for the Heritage Forum.
- [AO David Forde] Funding for the Heritage Forum is included in the County Demand.
- [Town Manager, Des O'Brien] My understanding is that this is under the County Demand.
- If there is anything left over from the €50,000 for the playing pitches in Fassaroe, can palisade fencing be erected at the centre? Could we also provide basic facilities at the pitches?
- We need to improve access to the beach for people with walking difficulties. We should request that the Department of the Marine provide funding for a boardwalk.
- There is no mention of a skate board park. Playgrounds are mainly for younger children. We need to identify a site and funding for this for teenagers.
- Can we divert the €10,000 for the Golf Course Fund to seat backs on the Esplanade?
- [Des O'Brien] This figure is being used to pay back a loan.

Councillor Ciaran O'Brien proposed that the valuations be changed for seat funding. The Cathaoirleach Bríd Collins responded that she will meet with Councillor O'Brien to discuss this and Councillor O'Brien agreed to this. The Cathaoirleach then suggested that Councillor O'Brien put forward a Notice of Motion.

Programme Group 7 – Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare

The members were advised of the following estimated expenditure and income under this programme group.

Estimated Expenditure	€252,000	Estimated Income	€206,000
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The members raised the following points:

- It is proposed that €55,000 be spent on School Meals. This should be examined. I would question if it is needed in some schools.
- The School Meals programme needs imaginative thinking e.g. breakfast clubs. Unfortunately there are children in the community who don't get breakfasts.
- There are people employed to provide children with meals. I'd hate to see them lose their jobs.

Programme Group 8 – Miscellaneous Services & Central Management Charges

The members were advised of the following estimated expenditure and income under this programme group.

Estimated Expenditure	€1,608,095	Estimated Income	€224,000
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The members raised the following points:

- It is proposed to provide €27,000 for conferences. This equates to over €100,000 over four years. There are no benefits to members attending conferences. The Local Government Act requires that members attending conferences give a report – they haven't been. This is a legal issue and we are non-compliant with legislation.
- [Cathaoirleach Bríd Collins] I'm not a legal person. I'll ask the Town Clerk to ask the Law Agent and give you a response at the Protocol meeting.
- I'd like to see alternative heating provided in the Town Hall.
- There is an information board outside the Town Hall, can we either take it down or put the times of the meetings in it?
- Why does the Joint Policing Committee need funding of €3,000?
- [AO David Forde] It is for general expenses such as advertising, the public meeting etc.

2. By Resolution, To Adopt Such Local Authority Budget, With Or Without Amendment, And To Determine, In Accordance With Such Budget, As Adopted, The General Annual Rate On Valuation To Be Levied For The Several Purposes Specified In Such Budget

A vote was called to adopt the Draft Budget, with the following amendments:

- A reduction of 0.5% in the proposed commercial rate.
- A sum of €2,500 each to be made available to St. Patrick's Festival Committee; Bray Summerfest and the Bray Volunteer Bureau.
- Removal of the proposed €80 weekend burial surcharge.
- A report to be issued to the members by the Town Manager relating to the provision of a waiver to schools on water charges.

The members voted on the above in the following way:

	For	Against
Councillor John Brady	✓	
Councillor Caroline Burrell	✓	
Councillor John Byrne	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Absent*</i>
Cathaoirleach Brid Collins	✓	
Councillor Anne Egan	✓	
Councillor Anne Ferris	✓	
Councillor David Grant	✓	
Councillor Michael Lawlor	✓	
Councillor John McManus	<i>Absent</i>	<i>Absent*</i>
Councillor Steve Matthews	✓	
Councillor Ciaran O'Brien	✓	
Councillor Pat Vance	✓	
Total		

* Councillors Byrne and McManus had left the meeting before the vote was called for.

3. To consider entering into a Section 85 Agreement (Local Government Act, 2001) with Wicklow County Council in relation to the performance by Bray Town Council of the Wicklow County Council Sanitary Function within the town boundary of Bray for the year 2008

The Town Clerk informed that members that their approval was required in order to enter into a Section 85 Agreement of the Local Government Act, 2001 with Wicklow County Council. This Section 85 Agreement will enable Bray Town Council to carry out the water function on behalf of Wicklow County Council. The necessary documentation was circulated to the members.

Councillor John Byrne proposed and Councillor Anne Ferris seconded the proposal to enter into a Section 85 Agreement of the Local Government Act, 2001 to enable Bray Town Council to carry out the water function on behalf of Wicklow County Council for the calendar year 2008.

4. Correspondence

Political Donations

The Town Clerk informed the members of an email received from Thomas Murphy, Director of Services Corporate Affairs stating that the Annual Declarations forms have been issued and added that the members are requested to return them by 31st January 2008.

Review of Traveller Accommodation Plan 2005 - 2008

The Town Clerk informed the members of a letter sent to each member of Wicklow County Council relating to the Review of Traveller Accommodation Plan 2005 – 2008. She reminded the members that any submissions must be made in writing to Ms. Theresa O'Brien, Administrative Officer by noon on Wednesday 9th January, 2008 and suggested that an email to Ms. O'Brien would enable them to meet the deadline.

St. Patrick's Day Festival Committee

The Town Clerk informed the members of a letter received from Sharon Woodcock of the St. Patrick's Day Festival Committee requesting permission for the use of the town for the St. Patrick's Day Parade 2008 and funding of €20,000 to enable improvements to the Parade. The letter also stated that further details relating to the intended route, health and safety issues and insurance details will be sent to Bray Town Council.

Councillor Anne Egan proposed the use of the seafront for the St. Patrick's Day Festival and Councillor John Byrne seconded the proposal. It was stated that the request for funding was a separate issue.

The members raised the following points:

- This letter only requests the use of the town, it doesn't state where exactly. It's a bit premature to propose the use of the town.
- [Cathaoirleach Bríd Collins] We're just dealing with the parade route.

5. Notices of Motion

Notices of Motion were not addressed at the meeting.

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This concluded the meeting.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed: _____
TOWN CLERK

Dated: _____