

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Bray Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 14th 2006 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillor Anne Egan, Cathaoirleach
Councillor John Byrne
Councillor Caroline Burrell
Councillor Déirdre de Burca
Councillor David Grant
Councillor John McManus
Councillor Ciaran O'Brien
Councillor Pat Vance
Councillor John Brady

Also present: Mr. Des O'Brien, Director of Services
Mr. David Forde, acting Town Clerk
Mr. Sean O'Neill, Town Engineer

Apologies: Councillor Joe Behan
Councillor Anne Ferris
Councillor Brid Collins

Before the meeting the Cathaoirleach informed the meeting that she would like to wish Councillor Anne Ferris all the best for her operation on Friday. The members also expressed their best wishes.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting dated 10th October 2006

The minutes of the Monthly meeting dated 10th October 2006 was proposed by Councillor John Byrne and seconded by Councillor Ciaran O'Brien.

2. Reports and Recommendations

Cedar Court Snag List

In the Housing Report, the statement "snag list is ongoing" is slightly misleading as it does not properly describe the situation.

The position is as follows.

Before houses are handed over to BTC and new occupants, they are inspected by the Architect & Clerk of Works and a snag list of outstanding items/issues is created and these are attended to by the contractor before the tenants move in (or possibly immediately thereafter). After the initial handover there is then a maintenance period of one year. During this period problems which may emerge or come to light and which are notified to BTC are referred to the contractor who normally responds reasonably promptly especially if they are of an urgent nature. In the case of Cedar

Court the contractor has been responding to problems as they arise. Recently a problem in relation water/dampness leaking from a balcony above into the room below has come to light and the contractor has been on site and carried out repairs. In addition the Clerk of Works has arranged to meet with the contractor on site within the next number of days to review the work, which has been done and assess any additional measures, which may be required.

At the end of the maintenance year (March '07 in this case) the houses are again inspected and a final snag list of any outstanding issues, which are deemed to be the responsibility of the contractor, is issued, and this final snag list is normally completed promptly thereafter so that the contractor can obtain his final (retention) monies. (Unless the contractor has gone into receivership in the meantime, which has happened, and which can delay and complicate matters greatly).

The members raised the following points –

- Some residents are concerned about dampness in walls. This should be inspected.
- One resident said she had contacted the council on a lot of occasions about dampness in her house on numerous occasions.

1.78 Acres site

The Town manager stated that Bray Town Council need to put a disposal notice to Wicklow County Council and Bray Town Council

The members raised the following points –

- Unclear what we are voting for here. Are we being asked to vote in favour of Superquinn?
- Can we object as part of the planning process?
- What Superquinn are proposing is what the site is worth. If we start to 'unpick' this now we aren't going to get anywhere.
- We need to move on this fast. There are a vast majority of residents in that area that would welcome this proposal. It is within the terms of the development plan. We need to proceed with this.
- Any suggestion to delay the building on the Southern Cross Road would not be looked favourably on by the residents.
- Hope the €14 million will be coming to Bray.
- Will this require an Environmental Impact Statement?

The Town Manager informed the members of the following -

- This is the bid I have recommended. This will be a vote to accept the tender.
- This whole application will be subject to the normal planning application.

- The Town Clerk is trying to establish a paper trail to confirm who owns this land.
- Motor Showrooms were explicitly stated as acceptable in the development plan.
- This will not have a major affect on the main street.
- Will check out if this needs an E.I.S.

The members then voted on this item, which was proposed by Councillor John Byrne and seconded by Councillor David Grant.

‘The acceptance of the Superquinn Tender and all monies to come to Bray Town Council’		
	FOR	AGAINST
Councillor Joe Behan	Absent	Absent
Councillor John Brady	✓	
Councillor Caroline Burrell	✓	
Councillor John Byrne	✓	
Councillor Bríd Collins	Absent	Absent
Councillor Déirdre De Búrca	✓	
Councillor Anne Egan	✓	
Councillor Anne Ferris	Absent	Absent
Councillor David Grant	✓	
Councillor John McManus	✓	
Councillor Ciaran O’Brien	✓	
Councillor Pat Vance	✓	
Total	9	0

With 9 votes for and 0 against this proposal was carried.

Miscellaneous

The members raised the following –

- Old Municipal Dump – can we get a report on this?
- Beach Replenishment Report – we are still waiting on this report.

The Town Engineer informed the members of the following –

- I had written to the Department of the Marine twice and am still waiting on a response.
- Old Municipal Dump – Dun Laoghaire – Rathdown County Council have been looking after this and have been dealing with the owners of the land.

3. To fix a date for the statutory Annual Budget Meeting of Bray Town Council for 2007.

The acting Town Clerk suggested that the first available Tuesday in January 2007 at 7.30pm should be set aside to consider the annual budget meeting of Bray Town Council.

The members all agreed to this.

4. To consider the Town Rejuvenation Committee's document.

The members raised the following points –

- Would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the work done by Councillor Ciaran O'Brien and the committee.
- Hope we can see fit to adopt these recommendations.
- Disagree that this committee has done good work. This document has taken the chamber of commerce report and claimed it as their own.
- We should not exaggerate the problem. We know what needs to be done. It needs to be decided who is going to chair these though.
- We need to stop thinking that people want to leave the town. Thousands of people would love to live in this town. The main problem in the town is the Florentine Centre. We need to find out what Ballymore Homes position is in writing.
- Traffic Management - Parking in the town is critical at this stage.
- Can we put a one-way system on Vevay Road because the parking is bad.
- Maintenance and cleanliness of town – we need to look at other towns like Westport and Aughrim.
- It is totally inappropriate to see staff of Bray Town Council using old sweeping brushes on the streets. We should have machines for them to use like in all major towns.
- I would be in favour of 2-3 hour parking on the main street and would also welcome the shuttle bus around the town.
- Waste Collection – it is ridiculous that the collection is done in the middle of the morning in Bray. Other countries do their collections at night to avoid rush-hour traffic.
- It is very difficult to do a traffic management plan. We should steer clear of this as it would only create problems for ourselves. We should look a public transport plan though.

The Town Engineer informed the members of the following –

- 2-3 hour parking – the committee was informed at a late stage that Herbert Road was 3 hour parking. Main Street is 2 hour parking.
- This rejuvenation committee was established to help identify the deficit of retail in Bray main street. The document given out is a fairly compromised file.

Councillor Ciaran O'Brien then proposed that the council make a recommendation on the establishment of this committee. Councillor Pat Vance seconded this proposal.

5. To discuss Business Investment Districts.

The members raised the following points –

- This is meant to be bi-communication. A B.I.D. in Bray is a very good idea.
- In other countries the survey on this has not received good support.

The Town Manager stated the following –

- This is levied by businesses and collected by Local Authorities.

6. Notices of Motion

151. Notice of motion in the name of Councillor John Brady (01/03/05)

“That this Council also welcomes the SDLP’s United Ireland Strategy- A Better Way, a Better Ireland.”

REPORT:

This Notice of Motion is a matter for the Members and will remain on the agenda.

Councillor John Brady stated that he would like to welcome the fact they have done this.

The members raised the following points –

- We have moved on from here. We are a different Ireland now and as a Local Authority we have no role in this.
 - This Notice of Motion is just a publicity stunt.
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152. Notice of motion in the name of Councillor John Brady (01/03/05)

“That this Council recognises the need for adequate preparation in advance of re-unification.”

REPORT:

This Notice of Motion is a matter for the Members and will remain on the agenda.

Councillor John Brady disagreed that this is not a matter for the members.

153. Notice of motion in the name of Councillor John Brady (01/03/05)

“That this Council endorses the call for the Dublin Government to lead and immediate and extensive consultation process with all sections of society – including unionism – on a green paper for the re-unification of Ireland.”

REPORT:

This Notice of Motion is a matter for the Members and will remain on the agenda.

Councillor John Brady stated that the Government have failed to bring forward a green paper on unionism.

The members raised the following points –

- This resolution is insulting. As far as I know there is no ‘Dublin Government’. Ask councillor John Brady does he not know the sovereign government of Ireland and not Dublin. I would ask him to amend this motion.
- This Bray Town Council and not international affairs. The Government is dealing with these issues and should not be discussed at a local level in Bray Town Council.

8. Any other business.

Boundary Wall

Councillor John Byrne stated that there is a small boundary wall in front of the tennis grounds in Glendale Drive. He asked if the council could remove the stones on the footpath. Councillor John Byrne then proposed this and this was seconded by Councillor Caroline Burrell.

Ballywaltrim Playground

Councillor John Brady stated that there was extensive damage caused by a fire in the Ballywaltrim playground. He added that CCTV and extra lighting are needed here. Can we get a full report on this at the next meeting?

Quinsboro Road Car Park

Councillor John McManus asked if this can be cleaned as it is in an awful state? He also stated that there is an enclosure beside this car park that its privately owned where a lot of dumping has occurred. He asked if Bray Town Council could write to the company?

Closure of Public Road

Councillor John McManus asked why the public road near the La Vallee apartments was closed and why the members were not given any notice? He then asked what is the status of this road?

Car - Park

Councillor Caroline Burrell asked if the car park behind the Civic Offices will be open to the public at the weekends?

Fitzwilliam Terrace

Councillor Pat Vance asked if the Town Engineer could take a look at Fitzwilliam Terrace to see if Bray Town Council can put in a disabled parking bay.

The Town Engineer responded as follows –

- Boundary Wall – we will inspect this.
- Ballywaltrim Playground – not sure of this but will inspect and get back to you.
- Quinsboro Road Car park – this is part of the land that we have ownership rights on. The enclosure belongs to Ballymore Homes.
- Status of road at La Vallee – we will check this with Wicklow County Council.
- Fitzwilliam Road – This will be investigated.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed:

CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed:

TOWN CLERK

Dated:
