

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Bray Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 15th November 2005 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Councillor Déirdre De Búrca, Cathaoirleach
Councillor Joe Behan
Councillor John Byrne
Councillor Caroline Burrell
Councillor Brid Collins
Councillor Anne Egan
Councillor Anne Ferris
Councillor David Grant
Councillor John McManus
Councillor Ciaran O'Brien
Councillor Pat Vance

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

Apologies: Councillor John Brady

Councillor Caroline Burrell requested a suspension of the Standing Orders to discuss the seawall at Bray Seafront. The Members agreed to suspend the Standing Orders at 9.00 p.m. to discuss this issue.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Monthly Meeting dated 11th October 2005 and of the Special Meeting dated 18th October 2005.

It was proposed by Councillor Bríd Collins and seconded by Councillor John Byrne and unanimously agreed to confirm and adopt the minutes of the Monthly Meeting dated 11th October 2005.

It was proposed by Councillor Anne Ferris and seconded by Councillor Anne Egan and unanimously agreed to confirm and adopt the minutes of the Special Meeting dated 18th October 2005.

2. Reports and Recommendations.

The Acting Town Clerk informed the Members that there are no reports or recommendations.

3. Disposal of Fee Simple Interest in 7 James Everett Park, Bray, in accordance with Statutory Notice.

It was proposed by Councillor Pat Vance and seconded by Councillor Anne Egan to dispose of the Fee Simple Interest in No.7 James Everett Park, Bray.

4. To discuss the Draft Case to Counsel for the Rent Scheme.

A copy of the Draft Case to Counsel for the Rent Scheme was previously circulated to the Members.

The Members discussed this matter and the following points were raised:

- The question to put to Senior Counsel is “under Section 130 of the Local Government Act 2001, do the Members of Bray Town Council have the power to set the minimum and maximum rent?”
- Concerned about the length of time this is taking.
- The six policies outlined in the draft case to Counsel should be laid out clearly.

The Town Manager then confirmed that the Members requested a second legal opinion and that he supports their decision.

It was then proposed by Councillor John McManus and seconded by Councillor Joe Behan to send the Draft Case to the first Senior Counsel on the Law Agents list.

5. To further discuss the Recycling Centre for Bray.

The Acting Town Clerk informed the Members that the closing date for receipt of submissions for the Recycling Centre is Friday, 9th December. To date, Bray Town Council have received no submissions. Wicklow County Council have requested that this item be formally put before the Members of Bray Town Council at the Monthly Meeting dated 13th December 2005.

The Members discussed the matter and raised the following points:

- Access issues, parking facilities, CCTV, signage and road markings need to be looked at.
- Concern over staffing for the centre.
- Needs to be well advertised in the town and surrounding areas.
- Commend Councillor Pat Vance, Councillor Joe Behan, the Town Manager and the Director of Environmental Services in Wicklow County Council for all their work.
- 18% of householders in County Wicklow do not have a car so it is essential that a mobile recycling facility is in place.

The Acting Town Clerk confirmed that the Council will be carrying out a survey in the near future regarding a mobile recycling facility.

The Members requested that an official from Wicklow County Council attend the Council Meeting in December to answer any queries they may have.

6. An overview of the Land Use Transportation Study (LUTS).

The Acting Town Clerk read the following report:

LAND USE TRANSPORTATION STUDY (LUTS)

The preparation of the Land Use & Transportation Study (LUTS) for the Bray Environs was commissioned jointly by Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, Wicklow County Council and Bray Town Council in January 2005. The area of the study is defined as a boundary encompassing Woodbrook, Rathmichael, Old Connaught, Fassaroe and North Bray, as well as the N11 as far as the junction with the Bray Southern Cross. The objectives of the commission were to ensure that the study area can cater for expected future levels of development as proposed throughout the Town and County Development Plans, by investigating a range of policies, infrastructural measures, and Land Use strategies.

The study involved data collection on the existing situation and modelling the future scenario with various (and possible) developments in place.

The Final Report will present an overview of the development of a comprehensive Land Use & Transportation Strategy for the area.

Recommendations in relation to possible infrastructural improvements will be included in the final report. These will span road network improvements, light rail improvements / extension, dedicated public service transportation corridors (bus ways), pedestrian and cycle way requirements.

It is envisaged that the report will be finalised in January 2006 and that presentation to the Members of the various local authorities will take place in February 2006.

*Sean O'Neill
Town Engineer*

Date: 15th November 2005

The Member then raised the following points:

- This needs to be carried out as soon as possible especially with the Transport 21 plan of extending the LUAS into Bray.
- Disappointed with Transport 21.
- Would like to see more people being brought into Bray rather than just taking them out of the town.
- Need to integrate the LUAS with the DART service.
- Should not have the LUAS going to the DART station. The LUAS should serve both the West of the town and the town centre.
- When preparing the Bray Development Plan 2005-2011, the Green Party proposed to save land at Bray Golf Club for the LUAS and the other Members voted against this.

- Who are the members of the LUTS committee?
- Is the final report binding to the Local Authorities or do the Members have any input?

The Town Engineer confirmed that the LUTS steering group consists of officials from the Planning and Roads sections in Wicklow County Council and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, the Town Engineer and the Town Manager from Bray Town Council, members of the Rail Procurement Agency, C.I.E., the Dublin Transportation Office and the National Roads Authority. He stated that the LUAS, DART and buses travelling in different directions is not integrated. He also confirmed that he is not prejudging the final recommendations of the consultants.

The Town Manager then advised the Members that the Rail Procurement Agency will have the ultimate decision regarding the LUAS in Bray.

7. Progress report on the Swimming Pool.

The Town Manager informed the Members that the Part VIII process for the swimming pool will commence in January.

It was proposed by Councillor David Grant and seconded by Councillor Pat Vance to re-establish the committee to monitor the progress of the swimming pool.

Councillor Joe Behan requested that an all-weather pitch and access for emergency vehicles be included in the Part VIII. He would also like to see a management plan in place.

It was agreed that Councillor David Grant, Councillor Anne Ferris, Councillor Caroline Burrell, the Town Engineer and the Town Manager would be members of the committee.

8. Update on the transfer of ownership on the lower section of the Dargle River.

The Acting Town Clerk advised the Members that the Law Agent wrote a lengthy letter to John Richardson, Lord Meath's Solicitor and he spoke directly with him on Monday, 14th November. Mr Richardson confirmed that he hopes to have a reply drafted to the Law Agent in the very near future. Once Mr Richardson's reply has been received the Law Agent hopes to have a report done for the Council meeting in December.

The Members expressed concern at the delay.

9. Update on the Bray Wheelers Clubhouse.

The Acting Town Clerk confirmed that all Members had received a Disposal Notice for the Bray Wheelers Clubhouse.

The Members raised the following points:

- Wish the Bray Wheelers Club every success.
- The carpark needs to be cleaned-up.
- Bottle banks need to be emptied every Friday before the goods collection on Saturday.

At this point the Cathaoirleach asked the Members if they would suspend the Standing Orders to discuss the seawall. The Members unanimously agreed to this.

Councillor Caroline Burrell read out an email from the residents of Fontenoy Terrace regarding erosion and the state of the seawall.

The Town Engineer advised the Members that the wall was inspected at a number of locations by the consulting engineer. He confirmed that he was unhappy that the report did not include any work at the steps and he believes the steps should be replaced. The Council are raising the wall from the end of the railings to the south end of the beach and putting gravel over the wall at the south end of the beach. There is no funding available for the amenity works mentioned in the report.

The Members raised the following points:

- The Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources need to inspect the area and issue a report.
- Need to put funding aside in the Budget for the works.
- Is there a specific Emergency Plan for flooding at the Dargle River or Bray Seafront?

The Town Manager stated that Bray Town Council would write to the Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources and request that they examine the area. He confirmed that Wicklow County Council have an Emergency Plan which covers Bray.

Councillor Brid Collins proposed that the Community, Cultural, Social and Environmental Municipal Policy Committee draft a specific plan for flooding in Bray.

10. Notices of Motion.

126. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre deBurca and Ciaran O'Brien (01/02/05)

“That Bray Town Council would add all built heritage relating to Bray listed in the book “An Introduction to the Architectural Heritage of County Wicklow” to the Protected Structures List (if not previously listed) in the Bray Development Plan.”

Report:

All buildings listed in this book were considered during the preparation of the Development Plan. Following consideration of the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage issued from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and

Local Government a further nine (9) structures have been added to the Record of Protected Structures listed in the Bray Development Plan. At the present time, the Planning Authority does not intend to add further structures to the RPS.

Councillor Caroline Burrell stated that all structures should be listed in this book.

Councillor Joe Behan stated that this would be a major imposition and expense on residents as they own and maintain their homes to the best of their ability.

Councillor Ciaran O'Brien confirmed that the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government issued the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.

Councillor John McManus stated that no-one should have the authority on these matters and Bray Town Council were correct in taking a vote for each structure.

127. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre deBurca and Ciaran O'Brien (01/02/05)

"That Bray Town Council would consider doing a Neighbourhood Scheme for Bray Head to replace trees etc, that were destroyed by fire last year."

Report:

This Notice of Motion was withdrawn on 8th November 2005.

128. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre deBurca and Ciaran O'Brien (01/02/05)

"That Bray Town Council would endeavour to ensure that all its stationery is on recycled paper."

Report:

Bray Town Council previously used recycled paper and this caused paper jams in both the printers and photocopiers. However when equipment is being replaced, this matter will be given consideration.

129. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre deBurca and Ciaran O'Brien (01/03/05)

"That the Town Hall building be given a full external facelift with appropriate materials and thereafter be properly and regularly maintained as it is current in a very poor state regarding the paintwork which is peeling, the gutters are full and leaking etc."

Report:

Bray Town Council received a letter from Bathstone Ltd on the 30th September 2005 confirming that this work is scheduled to begin in November 2005. Bathstone Ltd stated that they will begin work before the end of November but could not give an exact start date because they are waiting on approval from McDonald's to use one contractor for the whole building. They stated that this should be sorted before the end of November 2005.

130. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre deBurca and Ciaran O'Brien (01/03/05)

"That the parking and other related problems experienced by residents of Vevay Crescent should be immediately addressed and resolved as expeditiously as possible."

Report:

This Notice of Motion was withdrawn on 8th November 2005.

131. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre deBurca and Ciaran O'Brien (01/03/05)

"That a yellow junction box be placed on Church Rd. outside the Marino Clinic entrance to facilitate vehicles trying to access the Clinic, which are presently unable to do so due to vehicles being queued up at the lights."

Report:

This Notice of Motion was withdrawn on 8th November 2005.

132. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre deBurca and Ciaran O'Brien (01/03/05)

"That all faded or partially erased yellow junction boxes be repainted as soon as possible."

Report:

It is general policy to repaint all markings periodically.

Councillor Burrell confirmed that the yellow boxes at Castle Street and the exit from Superquinn urgently require attention.

133. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre deBurca and Ciaran O'Brien (01/03/05)

"That Bray Town Council would consider affiliating to the Nuclear Free Local Authorities network."

The Green Party requested that this Notice is taken together with Notices of Motion numbers 179 and 182.

179. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre de Búrca and Ciaran O'Brien (12/04/05)

"That Bray Town Council would consider association with the UK Nuclear Free Local Authorities network and assist in the development of an All Ireland Nuclear Free Local Authorities Forum/Local Authorities Standing Conference on Nuclear Hazards."

182. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Caroline Burrell, Déirdre de Búrca and Ciaran O'Brien (12/04/05)

“That Bray Town Council (in conjunction with Wicklow County Council) participates in the current consultations on radioactive waste management policy in the UK (Committee on Radioactive Waste Management) and the justification for operating reprocessing facilities at Sellafield (Nuclear Decommissioning Authority)”.

Report:

These Notices of Motion are a matter for the Members to discuss.

The Members had a brief discussion regarding these Notices and it was agreed that the matter would be referred to the Community, Cultural, Social and Environmental Municipal Policy Committee.

134. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Joe Behan, Pat Vance and David Grant (01/03/05)

“That this Council install public lights and CCTV Cameras at the Ballywaltrim Playground.”

Report:

Discussions were held between Bray Town Council, the Gardai and the Department of Justice in relation to the installation of CCTV at this location. This matter was discussed at the recent Garda meeting on 24th October 2005 and the Gardai are currently investigating this matter.

Councillor Behan confirmed that RAPID will not fund CCTV in this area as it is not a RAPID area. Bray Town Council must fund the cameras.

135. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Joe Behan, Pat Vance and David Grant (01/03/05)

“That the Council re-paint the Yellow Box at the entrance/exit of St Fergal’s Church, Boghall Road”

Report:

The re-painting of this yellow box has been completed.

136. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Joe Behan, Pat Vance and David Grant (01/03/05)

“That the yellow box at Fatima Terrace, Main Street be re-installed.”

Report:

There is no requirement for a ‘Box Junction’ marking at the entrance to Fatima Terrace because of the proximity of the traffic lights at the Florence Road/Main Street junction which allows sufficient gaps for all movement into and out of Fatima Terrace.

The Members unanimously agreed that a yellow box was needed at this location.

137. Notice of motion in the name of Councillors Joe Behan, Pat Vance and David Grant (01/03/05)

“That the Council repair the surface of the cycle lane in front of Centra Shopping Centre at Boghall Road and erect bollards to prevent parking on the cycle lane/footpath at this location.”

Report:

Work has been carried out on the cycle lanes at this location and the bollards will be erected when finance becomes available.

Councillor Behan queried what work had been done? He stated that large lorries are parking in the cycle lanes outside Centra. Bollards are needed and the cycle lanes need resurfacing.

The Members requested that cycle lanes be included on the agenda for December.

At this stage Councillor Behan confirmed that he was unhappy with the responses to Notices of Motion numbers 134, 136 and 137. If all Members are in favour of the Motion then some form of commitment is needed.

The Town Engineer responded by confirming that he will write to the Gardai regarding getting community CCTV linked to Ballywaltrim Playground and that he will investigate lighting in Ballywaltrim Playground.

The Town Engineer then stated that as the Boghall Road is a regional road Bray Town Council rely on funding from Wicklow County Council. He agreed that bollards are needed at the cycle lanes and he will seek money for them. He also confirmed that he will write to the Gardai regarding parking in the cycle lanes.

11. Corresepondence.

The Acting Town Clerk informed the Members that there is no correspondence.

12. Any other Business.

Councillor Anne Egan raised the following issues:

- Lighting in the Town Hall is very poor.
- Dark coloured paper in the Agenda is too difficult to read from.
- When will the Council be receiving a replacement for Clodagh Holmes, Senior Executive Engineer?

The Town Manager confirmed that Clodagh Holmes had given Bray Town Council very good notice and in turn Bray gave Wicklow County Council good notice. However, it is proving difficult to recruit someone willing to come to Bray. The Town Engineer is currently reviewing this matter.

Councillor Brid Collins raised the issue of road markings, no pedestrian crossings and signs on the Southern Cross Road.

The Town Engineer confirmed that he will relay the concerns to Wicklow County Council.

Councillor John McManus expressed concern at the amount of graffiti sprayed on the seafront over the weekend and requested that it be dealt with as soon as possible. He also stated that the wall at the Cliff Walk was broken by vandals and should be dealt with also.

Councillor Pat Vance then raised the following matters:

- Footpaths on the bridge were replaced however no dishing for wheelchairs was included.
- Traffic lights at James Everett Park and Casement Park are not working.
- Wicklow County Council passed a motion to abolish planning permission levies for persons with a disability. Bray Town Council should also do this.

This concluded the meeting.

Signed:

CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed:

TOWN CLERK

Dated:
