

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Bray Town Council held in the Council Chamber,
Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 8th July at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Councillor Ciaran O'Brien, Cathaoirleach
Councillor John Byrne
Councillor Brid Collins
Councillor Anne Egan
Councillor Anne Ferris
Councillor Michael Lawlor
Councillor John McManus
Councillor Steve Matthews
Councillor Pat Vance

Also present: Mr. Des O'Brien, Director of Services
Ms. Christine Flood, Town Clerk
Mr. Sean O'Neill, Town Engineer

Apologies: Councillor Caroline Burrell

Not In Attendance: Councillor John Brady
Councillor David Grant

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the Meeting dated 17th June, 2008

Councillor Bríd Collins proposed confirmation of the minutes of 17th June 2008 and Councillor Michael Lawlor seconded the proposal.

2. Disposal of Fee Simple Interest of 43 Beech Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

It was proposed by Councillor Anne Egan and seconded by Councillor Anne Ferris to proceed with the disposal of Fee Simple Interest in 43 Beech Road, Bray, in accordance with Statutory Notice.

3. Disposal of Fee Simple Interest of 53 Beech Road, Bray, Co. Wicklow

It was proposed by Councillor Anne Egan and seconded by Councillor Bríd Collins to proceed with the disposal of Fee Simple Interest in 53 Beech Road, Bray, in accordance with Statutory Notice.

4. To Receive A Recommendation on the Draft Parking Bye-Laws 2008 Public Consultation

A recommendation on the Draft Parking Bye-Laws had been circulated to the members prior to the meeting.

The Town Engineer, Mr. Sean O'Neill informed the members of the following:

- Towards the end of April we gave the members a report outlining the rationale to consider making changes.
- Since the Bye Laws came into effect in 1997, more cars are on the roads.
- We want to encourage commuters to use public transport, not just from the DART station, but to it also.
- This was on display from 21st May to 20th June, with submissions being accepted up to 4pm on 4th July. We received 10 submissions.
- A report was circulated to the members yesterday. The recommendation is that we consider some amendments, which are reasonable.

The members remarked on the tense meeting in 1997 when the introduction of paid parking in Bray was voted on and raised the following points:

- This is to do with managed parking along the seafront. I consider that it favours business, amenity and residents of the area.
- An Garda Siochana will implement some of these changes and they don't seem to have any problems. I've read the submissions and have no problems with the recommendations.
- [Councillor John Byrne] I propose these recommendations as amended.
- It is easy for the Councillors who are not representing the area to propose €70 for an extra Residential Disk. I am opposed to this fee.
- Some houses are listed and can't provide their own spaces. There are problems on the Sidmonton Road with parking at the moment. This will only get worse.
- I recommend that the car park on the seafront be free to commuters.
- There is no recommendation that CIE be contacted to provide a better bus service. We should have a delegation from CIE at the September meeting in relation to this.
- There should be adequate spaces for people with disabilities on the Main Street.
- I am opposed to a charge of €30 per disk. €20 per disk and each subsequent disk is appropriate.
- €20 per disk is sufficient; it will cover any administration costs. I will support €20 per disk.
- This was very well advertised and we only got 10 submissions – 5 of which were in relation to parking at the DART station. This is the responsibility of Iarnrod Eireann.
- I agree with this in principle, but there is nothing about weekend parking.
- I don't think this scheme as proposed will work. People parking on Seymour Road will go elsewhere. I do sympathise with people who park all day and have to travel to Dublin and elsewhere to work.
- I am disappointed that there are no permits for businesses.
- I would prefer that the Main Street be €1 per hour.
- I agree with €20 per permit, per household, per annum. Small goods vehicles should get Residential Disks.
- I would like to see electric cars exempt from parking fees. We have a sustainable travel policy on this council and they have lower emissions.
- I don't agree with giving free parking to electric cars – they would still be taking up valuable parking spaces.
- What about fire-fighters, nurses and people who work in the medical or emergency services?
- [Councillor Pat Vance] Can you take on board that the car park should be free on the seafront? It is a gesture towards the commuters. There will be 90 free car park spaces and these would be on a first come first served basis.
- [Councillor Anne Ferris] I second that proposal.
- How many car parking spaces are on the seafront?
- This will push commuters to park in residential areas – residents can opt into the scheme if they wish.
- How long will it take for residents to come into the opt in zone?

The Town Engineer informed the members of the following:

- Granting exemptions to electric cars wouldn't compromise the strategy. If they become more numerous, we will have to revisit this issue.
- There are circa 450 car parking spaces on the seafront, with a further 90 in the North Beach car park.
- The scheme doesn't exclude residents requesting an opt in after the changes come into effect. It will possibly take two months to process applications by residents to opt in, the councillors will have the option to make the decision.
- The proposed change on Seymour Road from a 10 hour to a 3 hour parking zone is to give people the opportunity to park in close proximity to the town centre for a longer period of time.

The Town Clerk, Ms. Christine Flood added that there are exemptions for drivers with disabilities and that Special Permits are issued to elderly/infirm persons who do not have cars, but rely on friends and family to drive them to appointments etc.

To Adopt The Recommendations of the Report in Relation to the Draft (On Street) Parking Control Bye-Laws 2008, to Come into Effect on 1st October 2008 with the following amendments:

- Residents affected by these changes can opt in to the scheme after October 1st 2008.
- Residential Disks will be charged at a fee of €20 per car, per annum, to a maximum of 4 per household, subject to road space criteria.
- Seymour Road will remain a 10 hour parking zone, with a fee of €1 per hour charged to persons parking.
- North Beach car park to continue to remain free of charge and operate on a first come first served basis.
- Signage to be displayed to inform the general public that these changes will come into effect on 1st October 2008.

The Town Clerk called for a vote and the members voted in the following manner:

	For	Against
Councillor John Brady	Absent	Absent
Councillor Caroline Burrell	Absent	Absent
Councillor John Byrne	✓	
Cathaoirleach Brid Collins	✓	
Councillor Anne Egan	✓	
Councillor Anne Ferris	✓	
Councillor David Grant	Absent	Absent
Councillor Michael Lawlor	✓	
Councillor John McManus	✓	
Councillor Steve Matthews	✓	
Councillor Ciaran O'Brien	✓	
Councillor Pat Vance	✓	
Total	9	0

The Proposed Draft (On Street) Parking Bye Laws with the above amendments were then deemed to be carried unanimously.

5. To Consider The Annual Financial Statement 2007

Programme Group 1 – Housing & Building

Programme Group 1 was proposed by Councillor Anne Egan and seconded by Councillor Bríd Collins.

Programme Group 2 – Roads Transportation & Safety

Programme Group 2 was proposed by Councillor John Byrne and seconded by Councillor Anne Ferris.

Programme Group 3 – Water Supply & Sewerage

Programme Group 3 was proposed by Councillor Bríd Collins and seconded by Councillor Anne Egan.

Programme Group 4 – Development Incentives & Control

Programme Group 4 was proposed by Councillor Anne Ferris and seconded by Councillor Anne Egan.

Programme Group 5 – Environmental Protection

Programme Group 5 was proposed by Councillor Anne Egan and seconded by Councillor John Byrne.

Programme Group 6 – Recreation & Amenities

Programme Group 6 was proposed by Councillor Anne Egan and seconded by Councillor John Byrne.

Programme Group 7 – Agriculture, Education, Health & Welfare

Programme Group 7 was proposed by Councillor Anne Ferris and seconded by Councillor Anne Egan.

Programme Group 8 – Miscellaneous Services

Programme Group 8 was proposed by Councillor Anne Egan and seconded by Councillor John Byrne.

6. Reports and Recommendations

Self Help Scheme 2008

The Town Clerk gave the following report from Ms. Joan Kavanagh, A/Administrative Officer Planning & Housing to the members:

“The issue of the criteria for this year’s Self Help Scheme was discussed at the recent MPC meeting on 12th June last.

It was suggested at that meeting that this year’s Scheme should be for a grant to tenants of Bray Town Council towards the provision of insulation. A sum of €10,000 is available in the budget for this Scheme for the whole Town.

This matter is now coming before the Council for approval by the Members.”

Councillor John McManus, as Chair of the MPC added that it was felt that the Self Help Scheme is a good way to distribute the money allocated.

The Self Help Scheme 2008 was proposed by Councillor John McManus and seconded by Councillor Anne Ferris.

Memo Regarding Public Consultation on Ramps

The members had been circulated with a memo from the Senior Executive Engineer, Liam Bourke regarding requests for ramps in various locations in Bray. The memo listed the areas under consideration and stated that these will go to public consultation over the next few weeks.

The members raised the following points:

- I welcome this report. However, Wolfe Tone Square and O’Byrne Road residents have been waiting on ramps for a number of years. These areas should take priority.
- When will this happen? There should be a timeframe on the provision of these ramps. There is no point in getting people’s hopes up.
- Raheen Park needs two ramps – speeding doesn’t just happen at this junction. If only one ramp will be provided, it should be placed elsewhere.
- The residents of St. Peter’s Road and Old Conna View want these as soon as possible.
- After going to public consultation there should be a timeframe for completion of these ramps.

The Town Engineer stated that by the time the public consultation process is completed it will be towards the end of the year, so there may not be many installations by year end.

Councillor Anne Egan proposed that the provision of ramps in the areas listed go to public consultation. Councillor Bríd Collins seconded the proposal.

7. Correspondence

There was no correspondence arising at the meeting.

8. Any Other Business

No other business arose.

* * * *

This concluded the meeting.

Signed: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

Signed: _____
TOWN CLERK

Dated: _____