

**Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Bray Town Council held in the Council Chamber,  
Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2009 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Councillor John Ryan, Cathaoirleach  
Councillor John Brady  
Councillor John Byrne  
Councillor Eugene Finnegan  
Councillor Mick Glynn  
Councillor David Grant  
Councillor Ronan McManus  
Councillor Rossa Murray  
Councillor Tracy O'Brien  
Councillor Pat Vance  
Councillor Sarah Wray

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

**Apologies:** Councillor Ciaran O'Brien

Before the meeting started, Councillor John Byrne extended a Vote of Sympathy to the families of Mr. Peter Doyle and Mr. Danny O'Rourke, both former outdoor employees of Bray Town Council, who had recently passed away. A minute's silence was observed, as a mark of respect.

1. **Confirmation of Minutes of the Special Meeting of Bray Town Council dated 28th July 2009**  
Councillor Ronan McManus proposed confirmation of the minutes of 28<sup>th</sup> July 2009 and Councillor Mick Glynn seconded the proposal.
2. **Disposal of Fee Simple Interest in 76 James Everett Park, Bray, in accordance with Statutory Notice**  
It was proposed by Councillor Pat Vance and seconded by Councillor Tracy O'Brien to proceed with the disposal of Fee Simple Interest in 76 James Everett Park, Bray, in accordance with Statutory Notice.
3. **Reports and Recommendations**  
The Town Clerk informed the members that there were no reports or recommendations arising.
4. **Notices of Motion**  
The Cathaoirleach John Ryan informed the members that Notices of Motion were discussed at the Protocol Meeting, which preceded the Monthly Meeting. It was agreed to restrict Notices of Motion to strategic issues for an oral reply and other issues (such as road markings/footpath repairs) will be responded to via letter. In this way, it is hoped that meetings do not become clogged up with Notices of Motion and that meetings will flow and decisions will be made more easily. It was also agreed that any Notices of Motion relating to economic issues be addressed at a meeting which will focus on economic development.

The members raised the following points:

- Have the Protocol Committee looked at restricting our meetings to one a month, perhaps from 7pm-10pm? There are no items of great importance on tonight's agenda. I ask that the Protocol Committee investigate the possibility of this, Wicklow County Council is investigating this and the Local Area meetings are dealing with local issues.

- I disagree with reducing the meetings to one a month. What goes on the agenda needs to be addressed. We need to look at job creation and economic development. There is a need for two meetings a month and I am opposed to scaling back. We need to be more productive with what we put on the agenda.
- I agree, we need to look to alternatives for the Council to discuss. We should liaise with universities, talk to companies in Bray and find out why they are here and how we can attract business to the town. If we can't find something to talk about, we are doing something wrong.
- We need to look at how we do our business and the decisions we make. We need to look at the Notices of Motion [system]. Most won't be acted upon due to lack of funds. There is a limited staff and time and effort goes into producing reports for Notices of Motion. There should be some sort of communication with Councillors and officials regarding these matters.
- I don't see anything productive about putting these NOMs down, policy NOMs are fine. I suggest that if anyone is submitting a NOM in future that they state if they require a written or oral report.
- I don't mind attending two meetings a month, but if we are going to have two meetings, they have to be productive. We have two Municipal Policy Committees who are supposed to feed into the full Council.
- We should be careful to correlate the meetings and work. Wicklow County Council are having one main meeting and one strategic meeting and this seems to work better. We could ask outside interests to come in and talk about tourism. There are a lot of issues out there. We need to take strategic views to move forward. We will go back to the Protocol Committee and come back to you.
- I suggest that Protocol have one meeting to discuss this matter fully. They could also talk with the Manager and Town Clerk and find out what way they feel it should work and come back to the members.
- I suggest that we have a workshop to discuss this matter [regarding the meetings].

**386. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council would secure a major tourist attraction for Bray Seafront.*

Report

The idea is worth considering and suggestions worthy of investigation would be welcomed from members.

The members raised the following points:

- We have to attract people to the town. The Sealife Centre attracts a lot of people but the Council should be proactive in attracting another day attraction. We have to ensure that we can attract people to visit for the day, stay for lunch and possibly overnight.
- We have an opportunity with the proposed development at the Dawson's Amusements site. We could request that a tourist attraction be part of the planning permission.
- Tourists will come to the seafront because of its natural beauty. We need to widen our view and attract tourists to all areas of the town, not just the seafront.
- The seafront is the best amenity the town has. We never got it to the level we want. We need to do this in conjunction with the review of the Town Development Plan.

Notice of Motion 387 was held off for discussion at the strategic meeting, which is to be convened at a future date, yet to be decided.

**388. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council replaces the traffic bollards at the shops in Killarney Park, which were just off the Killarney Lane before they were damaged.*

Report

These were replaced during June 2009.

**389. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council honour the commitment previously given to remove the excess foliage from the plantation at the entrance to Killarney Heights, or alternatively make arrangements for its removal as it is causing a nuisance to local residents.*

Report

The Council cut back excessive growth from the planting scheme every year. A delay to this work this year did cause obstruction on the path but the excessive growth has now been cut back.

The members raised the following points:

- This is one of the major problems in the town. A visually impaired person came to me about this. The amount of overgrowth from gardens is huge. Years ago it was the responsibility of the residents. Some people have to walk on the roads, the foliage is so overgrown. The Council needs to take a more active role. I ask that the Town Clerk send out a standard letter to residents asking them to cut back their foliage.

The Town Clerk informed the members that at this time every year, tree and hedge cutting notices are issued. It is expected to issue these in the next week or so, as the restrictions under the Wildlife Act do not apply between 31<sup>st</sup> August and 1<sup>st</sup> March.

**390. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council prunes the trees in Fairyhill that are adjacent to the Killarney Road.*

Report

Tree pruning in estates are generally carried out on a three year cycle unless a particular problem is identified. An assessment will be carried out shortly of pruning requirements to be carried out this autumn when this work is permitted under the Wildlife Act.

The members raised the following points:

- I am glad that the Town Clerk mentioned a three year cycle. The residents thought they were due to be pruned last year. I ask that they be included this year.
- I have also been approached regarding tree pruning. It is important that we have a policy. If there is a three year cycle, it is important that it is done fairly.
- It is necessary to have areas around the town centre done on a yearly basis.
- Could we have a system in place where we connect with the Residents Associations to discuss this and other issues?
- That is a good idea if there is a Residents Association in each estate – there is not.
- There is only a certain amount that the Council can do each year. There are a lot of trees in the town and some can't be trimmed as it is too dangerous for the staff to attempt to do so, due to access issues etc.

**391. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council considers the possibility of allowing residents in housing estates to use grass verges outside of their homes to provide additional car parking in their neighbourhood.*

Report

Grass verges occupy an area of the roadway which often contain services. These areas also contain landscaping.

While there is no real objection to altering some of these verges to provide additional parking. Proposals by individual/group of residents can be evaluated on an individual basis.

It should be borne in mind that the Council is not in a position to replace grass verges with surfacing from its own resources.

Further, the total replacement of soft landscaping by hard landscaping is also not recommended both from a visual aspect and a sustainable urban drainage aspect.

The members raised the following points:

- Thank you for your comprehensive reply. Nearly every estate has problems with car parking. It is at a premium. This is causing difficulties regarding safety and security. There are also issues of difficulty of access for emergency services. People are already parking on the grass verges, which is being churned up.
- If the residents want to make provision for parking and remove the grass verge, we should look at this on a case by case basis. I accept the drainage aspect of the response, perhaps we could look at this in terms of design. It might help alleviate any problems.
- I agree. Trucks are parking on the grass verges at the shop in Richmond Hill. It was in the original plans that these verges would be removed and replaced with loading bays. This has not happened.

**392. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council makes arrangements to put in place appropriate safety measures at Brook House School.*

Report

Bray Town Council has checked with the Gardaí regarding records of accidents at this location. Only one incident, came to our attention. There is a traffic calming measure near the school entrance. It is proposed to provide an advanced school warning sign in each direction, which might be beneficial.

The members raised the following points:

- I welcome this response. I ask that the Council liaise with the school authorities.
- I spoke to the management of the school and they were looking for a pedestrian crossing. The signs are welcome.
- It is wrong that we need to approach An Garda Síochána to see if there have been any accidents. There are dangerous bends on this road, that should have traffic calming.

The Town Clerk informed the members that the National Roads Authority maintains an official accident recording database, which is based on the CT 68 accident report forms that are completed by An Garda Síochána. The NRA takes an overview of these reports and grants for improvements to accident blackspots are based on these CT 68's. It is a very comprehensive system.

**393. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council undertakes a thorough clean-up of the wooded area in Glenwood, Herbert Road, and put in place measures to prevent future dumping.*

Report

Work was carried out a few months ago cleaning the wooded bank and repairing the fence adjacent to the Herbert Road.

The members raised the following points:

- We need to prevent future dumping. The residents have suffered with this. It is an ideal spot for fly tipping, it is sheltered and there is significant tree cover. We have to work with the Residents Association on this. They are keen to get involved. Perhaps we could make this a pilot project under the Litter Task Force. If we pay attention to the area, over time we can address this problem.

- This was discussed at the Litter Task Force meeting today. We will identify litter blackspots. The next step is to find out what works to eliminate these. We will talk to other Town Councils and the Tidy Town committees. At the moment we are at the fact finding stage.
- It is usually repeat offenders who litter. I suggest that we use mobile CCTV and then name and shame the offenders. We won't get to the root of the problem unless we catch them.
- I was told that RAPID have a CCTV camera in the Council offices. Could this be used?

The Town Clerk informed the members that she was not aware of any camera in the Council offices that was provided as part of RAPID funding. Some CCTVs in the town are funded by RAPID. Due to scarcity of resources, Bray Town Council can't clean up littered areas constantly. It is intended to go the route of enforcement. Bray Town Council will actively discourage bonfires this year. We have no resources to clean up either before or after a bonfire. We will advertise the Heavy Duty Goods Collection prior to Halloween.

The Town Engineer, Sean O'Neill informed the members that Bray Town Council are using mobile CCTV at the moment and it's very successful. He added that you may not be aware that it is there, but it is.

The members raised the following points:

- Can we have this as an item on a future Agenda [Litter Fines] and have a name and shame campaign?
- [Town Manager, Des O'Brien] We have to go to court before we can name and shame people. If they pay their fine, we can't name and shame them.
- How will people be notified of the Heavy Duty Goods Collection?

The Town Clerk informed the members that she had discussed the Heavy Duty Goods Collection with the AO Planning. It will be advertised widely and a paragraph regarding Halloween and bonfires will also be placed in the advertisement. She added that she was hopeful that some editorial would be obtained on the matter. She finished by stating that it is better value to pay to have an item removed than to have to pay a litter fine of €150.

**394. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council as part of its Litter Management programme takes serious efforts to address the issue of graffiti in the town.*

Report

This matter will be considered as part of the Litter Management Plan currently on public display.

The Town Clerk informed the members that Bray Town Council had submitted an application to Pobal regarding graffiti removal, but funding for this scheme has now been withdrawn. The scheme is still available in RAPID areas. Bray Town Council is proactive in contacting businesses to remove graffiti from their properties. There is also a section in the Litter Management Plan that deals with graffiti, which will come before the members shortly.

The members raised the following points:

- Graffiti removal has to be as much a part of our programme as sweeping. If we can offer a graffiti removal service at a reasonable charge, it might work. Most people would not know how to remove, or who to contact to arrange removal of, graffiti.
- There is a good civic spirit in the town by the voluntary groups and they must be commended. We should work together as a town.
- There are a number of premises that have graffiti on them, for example, vacant factories. Can the Council do anything about removal of graffiti on private property/property that is not ours, if the owners can't be contacted?
- I ask that people who see graffiti to report it. Residents Associations can get advice on how best to deal with it. A blank wall is a prime target for graffiti. Planting schemes that cover these walls might help to deter graffiti. If an area is graffitied, it needs to be repainted straight away.

The Town Clerk informed the members that Bray Town Council does not have the authority to remove graffiti on private property and the measure available is to issue notices and enforcements.

**395. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council initiate a Participative Democracy Scheme in Little Bray with the objective of improving the built environment of the area, raising the level of local services provided by this Council and securing investment for enhancement works.*

Report

The people of Little Bray are encouraged to participate in the Town Development Plan process, which will provide the foundations for such a project.

The members raised the following points:

- I would prefer, if after tonight, this is referred to a MPC to tease out. If Bray Town Council is proactive on initiating a project with regard to improving housing stock, undergrounding cables etc, to involve the residents and ask them what issues they would like to see addressed is a good idea. We need to look at ways of drawing new people into the process, as this creates a sense of ownership.

**396. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council commences an annual programme of works for the People's Park.*

Report

The Council carry out routine cleaning and grass cutting at the Peoples Park. Occasionally tree pruning works and cleanups near the Dargle Bridge are carried out. There is little scope for development works at this time. Most of the park is used for football by the users group and most of the rest has been earmarked for temporary site works for the forthcoming Dargle Flood Protection Scheme. A plan and additional funding is also required for the long term development of the park that will provide for a diversification of recreational activities and enhance the overall appearance of the park before a worthwhile annual programme of works can be put in place.

The members raised the following points:

- The residents would like a more streamlined approach to managing the park. Some footpaths are damaged and some are too narrow. Hopefully the works on the river can provide some funding for maintenance. People need to see investment in the park.

**397. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council makes clear arrangements with local communities in relation to street cleaning in estates and other areas.*

Report

Street cleaning in estates is primarily affected by on-street parking. Only in Oldcourt and Fassaroe where regular cleaning is required by the suction sweeper is there a regular roster on a particular day of the week. The remaining estates are cleaned only as required. Therefore the interval between cleaning and the day of the week varies. Consequently, it is not possible to make arrangements with residents in advance of cleaning to move cars etc.

The members raised the following points:

- It is more important to communicate with the residents. If road sweeping is done regularly, people will know when it is due to be done. If street cleaning is done as infrequently as suggested, we need to communicate with residents a few days prior to the sweeper entering their estates so that they can make arrangements to move their cars.

- I agree with this Motion. A private operator is employed by this Council who only comes into Bray three times a week. There are a lot of gullies to be cleaned.
- Scheduled street cleaning would have good results. Perhaps we may need to bring new byelaws in regarding parking on the streets at certain times?
- What happened to the old suction sweeper that we had?
- What is the situation with the road sweeper?

The Town Engineer informed the members that the cost of a new suction sweeper, annual maintenance and a salary is a certain cost per year. Hiring is as cost effective. It might be probable that in the coming year, current frequencies may not be achievable. Bray Town Council try to clean streets once every three weeks and gullies in strategic locations are cleaned as often as possible. While there have been problems with the green machine, it is used regularly. The old suction sweeper was in need of considerable repair and we had difficulties providing drivers for it. It was not reliable enough to warrant keeping it on.

**398. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council immediately reinstates the open space in James Everett Park to a level that can be used and enjoyed by local residents.*

Report

It is suggested that proposals for the open space adjacent to the south end of the James Everett Park (lower cul-de-sac) be drawn up and costed so that consideration may be given to improvements here in conjunction with the 2010 budget.

The members raised the following points:

- I have spoken to the Town Clerk and Housing Engineer in relation to this matter. I ask that it be incorporated into future Housing Progress Reports. This is a loss of an amenity to people in the area.
- I agree, the area needs to be upgraded and improved.

**399. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council removes the silver capping on the wall between James Everett Park and Richmond Hill and replaces it with a proper railing that is currently at both ends of the wall.*

Report

The council has no proposals to change the status quo here.

The members raised the following points:

- This is a ludicrous situation. The silver capping looks poor and cheap. It should be finished off to a standard that's acceptable.
- I have major concerns regarding silver capping. I know that it is done because it is cheap. It is unacceptable to ask people to maintain houses to a high standard and then put this on their walls.

The following two Notices of Motion were taken in conjunction:

**400. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council reinstates the open space to the front of the houses in Roger Casement Park, at the top of the hill, to the condition that it was prior to works being carried out in the area.*

Report

It is proposed that the open space adjacent to James Everett Park, which has been disturbed due to construction of housing units on the Upper Dargle Road, will be reinstated as soon as possible.

**401. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council expresses its disappointment with the manner in which the construction of the Council's own development at Sutton Villas has taken place and the impact this has had on local residents.*

Report

The Construction Project underway at Sutton Villas has been the subject to a number of delays however the Contractor has returned to site and has recommenced the diversion of existing services. It is proposed that upon completion of this phase of the project that the public open space be landscaped in an effort to curtail the stone throwing and other anti-social behaviour that has to date impacted on local residents.

The members raised the following points:

- The manner in which the project [Sutton Villas] has been handled is disappointing. We have to re-instate the bank. We also need to reinstate the area on the right hand side as you go up the hill. This needs to be done in the next few weeks to ensure that we don't miss our window and to ensure that it is completed as soon as possible. There are a lot of lessons to be learned from this.
- I called to the site today and spoke to the foreman. I was told that the delay was due to the plans being changed and that there was a 6-8 week wait for the architect. The earthen mound is there to protect the workers and the machinery from stone throwing. The mound at Roger Casement Park is topsoil and I was told that this will be replaced in 5-6 weeks.

**402. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council enters into discussions with residents in Palermo with a view to providing a playground in the area.*

Report

There is no point in considering the establishment of a further third playground in the Little Bray area as not just the provision but also the maintenance costs must be borne in mind. Generally speaking, playgrounds cost over €100,000 to install and approximately €20,000 per annum to maintain as complete replacement is required after about five years.

The members raised the following points:

- I accept this. Any public facility has costs associated with it. There is a school and about 400 houses in the area. We should look at providing a facility for younger children.
- There is nothing in Palermo for the residents, no youth clubs, no playground. I urge the Council to engage with the residents.

**403. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council implements a systematic approach to replacing doors and windows in homes in Fassaroe.*

Report

The Council will consider the inclusion of the Fassaroe estate in a windows and doors replacement programme if a decision to the effect that a major refurbishment programme is not proceeding. The extent of the programme will be dependent on available finances and prioritisation with other housing stock over the next few years.

The members raised the following points:

- One of the complaints I have received is that people feel neglected. They see works being carried out on other homes. There does not seem to be a systematic approach. It is important that we are not seen to be jumping around and that we treat everyone equally and fairly.
- I support this Motion, we have made great progress in previous years regarding central heating and windows and doors schemes. I am disappointed that these schemes have come

to a halt due to lack of funding from the Department. We have a duty to try and fund this from our own resources.

- This should cover all housing and not just Fassaroe. All our stock has central heating, but in some instances, the doors and windows are no good. The heat is escaping through these. We need a bigger scheme to deal with more houses on an annual basis.
- Fassaroe is the biggest housing estate in Bray. Some houses never had their windows replaced and the residents feel neglected. We should replace windows and doors on a needs basis ie who needs them the most.

**404. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors David Grant, Pat Vance & Eugene Finnegan (07/07/09)**

*That Bray Town Council, in conjunction with interest groups in Fassaroe, prepares a plan for the open space in the middle of the estate and the open space that abuts the N11, to provide additional activities for young people and to improve the quality of the open space for all to use.*

Report

The Council can consider upgrading the major open space in Fassaroe in conjunction with representatives of the local community, subject to available resources and finances.

The members raised the following points:

- I welcome this and encourage the Council to get involved. The major open space has seen floodlights installed, which means that there will be more users of the pitch over the course of a day. The pitch will need to be upgraded in order to cope with the increased demand. The other green space at the N11 has drainage problems and can't be used. This open space is also subject to dumping and is not fair on the residents. I know that this NOM is subject to funding, but lets move on with that caveat.
- I welcome this NOM, we need to safeguard that green space.

At this point, the Cathaoirleach asked the Labour Party representatives if they agreed to their Notices of Motion being carried over. Councillor McManus stated that they were open to deferring their NOMs relating to job creation until the meeting to discuss job creation is convened. He stated that this is something that needs to be addressed as fully as possible. An Enterprise Centre is something that will help this town. He finished by stating that this can be discussed at a future meeting, but he would like agreement regarding a date.

The Cathaoirleach responded that he couldn't give a date for this meeting at the present time as he would like to have representatives of Enterprise Ireland and the IDA at the meeting.

The members raised the following points:

- We have put down resolutions regarding saving jobs and investment and it is important that we do this right. In the previous recession, we had the Bray Action Committee, which was driven forward by Councillor Michael Ledwidge in conjunction with the unions and Bray Chamber of Commerce. We need to get these people on board and find out how we can get jobs to Bray and how to keep businesses in Bray.
- The Labour Party have produced a document of that [job retention] nature. The officials need to drive this forward also. I am sure that we will get co-operation from the Chamber, retailers and unions for the betterment of Bray. Lets work as a team to get Bray back on the map.
- This is a matter of urgency. I am happy to hear that moves are being made to get and Enterprise Centre up and running. We have to move on the amount of empty shops in the town. We need a grouping to approach potential retailers. There are people in the town who are well able to do so, but this needs to be driven by this Council.
- I welcome the Notices of Motion from the Labour Party. Sinn Féin have also launched a job creation document. Time is not on our side. Who has been contacted to address Bray Town Council? I commend Bray Lions Club on their undertaking this challenge. They had a meeting in St. Thomas's regarding this. If the IDA or Enterprise Ireland are not lined up, I suggest that we get Bray Lions Club to come in [and address us]. We need to work with them and other groups to promote the town.
- As a result of that meeting, several committees have been set up. While some committees would be welcome, it might be a waste of time to invite others to a meeting here.

- We are trying to see how we can make an effective meeting. If the IDA have a company willing to come to Ireland, what are the defining issues that will encourage them to Bray?

Notices of Motion 405-409 were held off for discussion at the future strategic meeting.

**410. Notice of Motion In The Name of Councillors John Byrne, Ronan McManus & Tracy O'Brien (07/07/09)**

*That the Council undertakes to employ out of work building workers to maintain and improve Council housing stock as well as a scheme to insulate the social housing in the town.*

Report

The Council has made an application for funding to the DEHLG to improve housing stock and we will investigate the possibilities of introducing a scheme to insulate social houses in the town.

To date, roof insulation has been retrofitted to most homes as part of the central heating installation scheme carried out in the last 3 years.

The Council also takes advantage of opportunities where major works are undertaken as part of preparing units for re-letting to improve insulation standards.

If and where this work is carried out it will not be carried out by currently 'out of work building workers', as Bray Town Council is not allowed to employ extra staff currently.

The work would, if funded, be carried out by contractors.

The Town Clerk informed the members that due to an embargo on recruitment, Bray Town Council cannot employ out of work builders.

The members raised the following points:

- During the last recession, more local authorities built houses and upgraded their existing stock by carrying out essential works. This is the reason why this Notice of Motion was submitted.
- Is there anything that this Council can do to provide work? We have people available to do the work. Can we contact the powers that be?
- I agree. Essential work needs to be carried out in schools, hospitals and social housing. We need to invest in the future. Can we write to the Department to further this and put the strongest argument that we can?

The Town Clerk informed the members that she would write to the Minister for Finance to express the concerns of the members and stated that she would find out details of the Sustainable Energy Ireland Warmer Homes Scheme and circulate it to the members.

The Cathaoirleach asked that the Department be requested to consider Bray as a pilot for any schemes to be trialled.

Notices of Motion 411-415 were held off for discussion at the future strategic meeting.

**5. Correspondence**

The Town Clerk informed the members that there was no correspondence arising.

**6. Any Other Business**

Circular from Department of Finance

Councillor Brady asked how the Circular from the Department of Finance to all Local Authorities regarding a 3% cut in the Local Government Fund will impact on Bray Town Council and asked for a response by the next Council meeting.

The Town Clerk informed the members that the circular received did require Bray Town Council to adjust the budget accordingly. As Bray Town Council's budget hadn't been expended at the time of making adjustments, some savings were made mainly in roads. Savings were also made as some staff members have retired and have not been replaced. She stated that she will provide more details at the Council meeting. Councillor Brady asked that the amendments that were made be shown.

Florentine Site

Councillor Finnegan stated that Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September is the day that Ballymore have designated to commence works on the Florentine site to remove the hoarding. He asked if they had contacted Bray Town Council in this regard and if they are able to keep to the schedule promised.

The Town Clerk responded that the Town Engineer and herself met with representatives of Ballymore and that they are committed to these works and re-iterated that commitment as recently as 1<sup>st</sup> September. Ballymore have proposed to give the appearance of shop fronts on the section of the site fronting onto the Main Street. Her understanding is that it is the intention to have one shop ready fairly soon.

Bus Route Along Strand Road

Councillor McManus raised the issue of the removal of the bus route along the Strand Road. He informed the members that it was his understanding that Dublin Bus are revisiting this and asked if the Town Clerk could write to Dublin Bus to support its' reinstatement.

Councillor Brady informed the members that Dublin Bus have applied to the Department of Transport for a licence for a new route along which will take in the seafront, Boghall Road and Palermo. This proposed route is the 146 route. Dublin Bus feel that there may be conflicts with private operators in the area and Councillor Brady asked that the Town Clerk write to the Department to support the application and recommend the route. Councillor Finnegan stated that there is no reason that the route will not get ministerial support if they go up the Boghall Road.

Works on Wall at Glendale Drive

Councillor Byrne welcomed the works currently being conducted on the wall at Glendale Drive and asked if a railing is to be provided? The Town Engineer said that he will investigate this matter.

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The meeting concluded with the Cathaoirleach congratulating everyone who made the reopening of the Recycling Centre possible.

\* \* \* \*

This concluded the meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**TOWN CLERK**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_