

**Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Bray Town Council held in the Council Chamber,  
Town Hall, Bray on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2010 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 Ciaran O'Brien  
Councillor Tracy O'Brien  
Councillor Sarah Wray

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

**Apologies:** Ms. Triona Irving, Administrative Officer  
Councillor Pat Vance

As the meeting opened, the Cathaoirleach, Councillor John Ryan proposed that the members discuss the Temple Vevay Sports Field & Sugarloaf Crescent as item number 1 on tonight's agenda. This was agreed.

**Vote of Sympathy**

Councillor John Brady and the members extended a Vote of Sympathy to the family and friends of Mr. Andy Cummins, of Little Bray on his passing. Councillor John Byrne seconded this.

**To Discuss The Temple Vevay Sports Field & Sugarloaf Crescent Residents Association**

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John Ryan informed the members sitting in the public gallery that the council's standing orders apply to the conduct of council meetings. The standing orders apply to members of the public attending meetings also. He asked that anyone holding up banners to lower them in the interest of holding an orderly and composed meeting.

The Town Clerk, Christine Flood stated that with regard to the legal status, she has been in discussions with the Council's Law Agent. It will take time to obtain a detailed response as it entails going back through documents over the last thirteen years. The Town Clerk added that she should have a legal report in two weeks and this report will be circulated to the members and residents when it comes to hand.

The members raised the following points –

- We are supportive of both the Sugarloaf Crescent residents and the users of the Temple Vevay sports fields.
- Residents do have rights.
- Bray Town Council, Sugarloaf Crescent residents and the Temple Vevay Sports field users should sit down and have a meeting as soon as possible.
- An undertaking was given that the Right of Way would remain open until a meeting has taken place.
- The Council is not out to 'do' anyone.
- Bray Town Council has a lease on this ground, which is coming to an end. During this lease there has been constant anti-social behaviour, drug users, drinkers, a playground that had to be closed and a fence that was taken down.
- I await the legal report, however Bray Town Council made a policy regarding this field, it is up to the management to implement that policy.
- The welfare and safety of children comes first and any policy should reflect this.

- It was always intended that local children would be allowed to use the field
- What is the nature and purpose of the legal opinion?

The Town Clerk, Ms. Christine Flood, stated that access to the Temple Vevay Sports fields would continue while the legal issue is being carried out. She added that the legal opinion relates to the status of the late Mr. Raphael Walsh's appeal. In the meantime residents can still access the sports field.

The Cathaoirleach, Councillor John Ryan, stated that the legal opinion would be circulated in two weeks.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of Town Development Plan Workshop dated 27th April 2010**

Councillor John Byrne proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 27<sup>th</sup> April 2010 and Councillor Tracy O'Brien seconded the proposal.

**2. Confirmation of Minutes of Resumed Town Development Plan Workshop dated 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010**

Councillor John Byrne proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 4<sup>th</sup> May 2010 and Councillor David Grant seconded the proposal.

**3. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting dated 11th May 2010**

Councillor Ciaran O'Brien proposed confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> May 2010 and Councillor Sarah Wray seconded the proposal.

**4. To Receive A Managers Report Regarding Part 8 Process for 87 O'Byrne Road, Bray**

The Executive Engineer, Mr. Stephen Fox read out the Managers Report regarding the Part 8 Process for 87 O' Byrne Road, Bray.

Councillor John Byrne proposed the adoption of the managers report regarding the Part 8 process for 87 O' Byrne Road and Councillor Ciaran O'Brien seconded the proposal, subject to variation.

The Town Clerk called for a vote on the motion and the Councillors voted in the following manner:

**To Adopt The Managers Report Regarding The Part 8 Process For 87 O' Byrne Road**

|                            | For           | Against       |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Councillor John Brady      | ✓             |               |
| Councillor John Byrne      | ✓             |               |
| Councillor Eugene Finnegan | ✓             |               |
| Councillor Mick Glynn      | ✓             |               |
| Councillor David Grant     | ✓             |               |
| Councillor Ronan McManus   | ✓             |               |
| Councillor Rossa Murray    | ✓             |               |
| Councillor Ciaran O'Brien  | ✓             |               |
| Councillor Tracy O'Brien   | ✓             |               |
| Councillor John Ryan       | ✓             |               |
| Councillor Pat Vance       | <i>Absent</i> | <i>Absent</i> |
| Councillor Sarah Wray      | ✓             |               |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>11</b>     | <b>0</b>      |

## 5. To Receive A Presentation on the Rationalisation of Dublin Bus Routes in Bray, By Derry O'Leary of Dublin Bus

Mr. Derry O'Leary gave a presentation on the summary of proposed changes on the Dublin Bus routes in Bray. He informed the members of the following:

- Prior to bringing in the changes Dublin Bus had consulted extensively with public representatives, communities and business representatives.
- Based on data analysis it is proposed to split the Greater Dublin Area into corridors.
- The focus on cross-city routes will reduce the traffic coming in to the city.
- We have also looked at orbital routes e.g. Dun Laoghaire to Tallaght.
- The bus gate at College Green has proved to be a great asset.
- Two changes are proposed to the 145, it will no longer go to the Dart Station, and will go to Heuston Station instead of O'Connell Street.
- The 184 will be at half hourly frequency and will stop at Greystones and Bray Dart Stations
- All 185s will go to Palermo and all will stop at the Dart Station.
- The most material change to the 84 is that it is proposed that it will terminate at Cherrywood. We may have to re-examine this, as it will affect students travelling to Belfield.

The members raised the following points:

- The 145 service is a fantastic service. Congratulations on the frequency of this service but one frustration is when the driver turns off the engine and leaves the vehicle with a number of passengers still on board wondering what is happening.
- Where will the new changeover of drivers take place? We would be vigorously opposed to any changeover plans on the Main Street.
- 185 service – do you have any idea where the rumour started that this service wouldn't serve Palermo?
- Opposed to any withdrawal of the 45 from Wolfe Tone estate. Can we have assurances that it won't be withdrawn?
- Has a licence to link the Seafront with Little Bray been granted?
- When will integrated ticketing be introduced?
- Regarding the 185 bus route – can you clarify if every 185 will be going into Palermo, as there are two different 185 buses one goes to Shop River?
- These are not just rumours about the 185 the frequency will be affected.
- This is not only a bus route but it is a means of a social network for a lot of elderly people.
- Reducing the number of cars on the road is our main aim.
- There is no bench outside the stop at SuperQuinn. Can this be looked at?
- Glad to see strong attention to try to link up our services in Bray but eliminating estate routes is always suspicious. Far more important that a service for the elderly is maintained.
- Can we look forward at non – duplicating of services in the Main Street?
- What is the situation with bus stops at Kilmacanogue?

Mr. Derry O'Leary informed the members of the following –

- We are keen to keep the 145 service as direct as possible.
- Changeovers will likely happen at Donnybrook garage.
- Not sure where rumours came from but it didn't come from the N.T.A.
- Wolfe Tone – we are not aware of any plans to get out of here.
- Integrated ticketing – it is ready to go but we are just waiting on other agencies to go.
- 185 timetables – we are hoping to maintain a solid route.
- Ballywaltrim – 45a will go to the DART station.
- I am not sure of any plans for a South Eastern route.
- 45 and 45a – we won't be hiding anything regarding these routes.
- Kilmacanogue bus shelter – we received planning permission for a shelter but we don't propose to build the shelter as per planning permission and we have had discussions with Wicklow County Council regarding this.
- Links to other roads – we've gone out of our way to ensure this.
- The volume of buses in the street will still be strong.
- Smart cards – hoping to have these in operation soon.
- There are no plans for a circular bus route around the town.

The members thanked Mr. O'Leary for his presentation.

## **6. To Discuss The Presentation Made By Bray Economic Think Tank**

The Town Clerk, Ms. Christine Flood, gave a presentation on the Bray Economic Think Tank.

The members raised the following points:

- It is now time to move on and look at actions and to put them into action. Can we start in the short – term?
- The absence of data on Bray is a problem – we need to look at the likes of Wurzburg where they have done this kind of research.
- Bray does not have an industry committee and we need one to promote the town. We should try to involve stakeholders.
- Our online presence is incredibly weak.
- What is the status of the funding that was allocated in the budget for this?
- The most important thing mentioned in this report was the establishment of a steering group.
- The short, medium, and long term to me is 6 months, 1 year, and 5 years. How will we proceed? How can we proceed with the enterprise centre?
- The Cathaoirleach needs to be complimented as he went out of his way to get this report and the Town Manager and Town Clerk also need to be complimented.
- This project will be extremely expensive so we do need a designated group or person to drive this. I would be reluctant for the project to be transferred to Wicklow County Enterprise Board.
- A DVD on Bray could be made and issued now.
- Bray has a wealth of groups in the town. It is vital that we make a quick start. The Chamber of Commerce could lead but they would need to be guided.
- We need to promote Bray commercially Bray as the gateway to The Garden of Ireland.
- This report ticks the box with regards to being strategic. It also gives us a plan and a way forward.
- We do need a quick plan of action but instead of deciding on a steering group just now I suggest that the Town Clerk look at proposals and how to bring this forward and maybe bring to the next Council meeting.
- Enterprise Centre – there are other sites in Bray. B.E.T.T. stated that in the short term we should move forward with something. The APC might not be ideal now but as a short term it will do. This was agreed by most of the members.

## **7. To Discuss Changes to the Standing Orders**

The Town Clerk stated that the members had previously agreed to change the Annual General Meeting to the last Tuesday in June. She proceeded to read the proposed changes and informed the members that following discussions at the protocol meeting it is proposed to change the Annual General Meeting to the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in July. She further advised that she did not have the Local Government Act to hand and any changes would have to be in accordance with the Act.

The members raised the following points –

- The idea of having two meetings at either end of the month is not practical. Two months is too big of a gap also (6<sup>th</sup> July to September).
- There has been a substantial reduction of people employed in Bray Town Council. How are we fixed for staffing levels and what impact is it having?
- Can we send some correspondence to the Minister of the Environment, Heritage, and Local Government to propose representations regarding the embargo and the effect it is having?
- We are one of only a few councils in Ireland to hold two meetings a month – things will not get better in the short term.
- There is a serious problem with lack of staff and there is no point in giving out about the Government – we need to act.
- What you achieve at meetings is a lot more important than how many meetings are held.

The Town Clerk informed the members that she was also surprised that there was no mention of a second meeting in each month in the standing orders. They only referred to the ordinary meeting. She added that the council is down approximately ten administrative staff and one and quarter engineering staff, a caretaker and a utilities inspector - so overall we are down about fourteen staff members who are normally based in the Civic Offices.

The Town Manager stated that he is very concerned about the risks to the organisation because of the staff reduction. He added that a lot of the staff take their duties very seriously and they are under a lot of stress because of the extra workload. He also stated that the industrial action is having a big impact. The Town Manager stated that in April/May the council held meetings every Tuesday for 5 weeks, so it is not a matter of not wanting to hold extra meetings.

The Cathaoirleach stated that the resources for the town of Bray's size aren't there at the moment. He added that everything has been radically reduced and so many of the staff in Bray Town Council are putting in a phenomenal effort. He proposed that the schedule of meetings item be taken at the AGM and the members agreed this.

Councillor Ciaran O'Brien proposed that the Annual General Meeting be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in July 2010 and Councillor Mick Glynn seconded the proposal.

The Town Clerk called for a vote on the motion and the Councillors voted in the following manner:

***That The Annual General Meeting be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday in July 2010***

|                            | For       | Against  |
|----------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Councillor John Brady      | ✓         |          |
| Councillor John Byrne      | ✓         |          |
| Councillor Eugene Finnegan | ✓         |          |
| Councillor Mick Glynn      | ✓         |          |
| Councillor David Grant     | ✓         |          |
| Councillor Ronan McManus   | ✓         |          |
| Councillor Rossa Murray    | ✓         |          |
| Councillor Ciaran O'Brien  | ✓         |          |
| Councillor Tracy O'Brien   | ✓         |          |
| Councillor John Ryan       | ✓         |          |
| Councillor Pat Vance       | Absent    | Absent   |
| Councillor Sarah Wray      | ✓         |          |
| <b>Total</b>               | <b>11</b> | <b>0</b> |

**8. Reports and Recommendations**

*Pedestrian Crossing - Egan Centre*

The Town Clerk informed the members of the Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Liam Bourke's, report regarding the above.

*'Wicklow County Council are planning to install a pedestrian crossing on the Upper Dargle Road at the Egan Centre. This was requested through the Bray Electoral Area and funding has been provided through accessibility grants. Following consultation with Bray TC a suitable location has been determined that will complement the planned speed table which was approved during a Part 8 public consultation process carried out by Bray TC. The crossing will be a Zebra crossing type on top of a full width speed table located west of the Rivervale apartment entrance.'*

**9. Correspondence**

*Request from Bray Forum Against Head Shops*

The Town Clerk stated that she received the following correspondence from the Bray Forum Against Head Shops.

*'Regarding a meeting with Bray Town Council, The Bray Forum Against Head Shops are thrilled with the new and upcoming legislation to curb these drug shops. However, we feel it is important to protect our town through planning and whatever means available to us. To further this goal we would like to re-iterate our request for the opportunity to present our concerns to the council.'*

The members raised the following points –

- Can a deputation be dealt with through the Municipal Policy Committee?
- This group deserve to be awarded the full attention of the full council.

Signal Arts Centre

The Town Clerk informed the members that she had received correspondence from the Signal Arts Centre stating how pleased they are to hear that Bray Town Council has decided to support the ongoing development of the centre with the provision of a grant and to thank all the community groups, arts practitioners and citizens of Bray who regularly use the centre and the Councillors for their unanimous support.

\* \* \* \*

This concluded the meeting.

**Signed:**

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**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**Signed:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**TOWN CLERK**

**Dated:**

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