



KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & WATER STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 8TH JUNE 2016

PRESENT:

Councillors: Seán Power, Íde Cussen, Brendan Young

Farming Pillar: Tom Malone

Officials: Joe Boland, Director of Services
Liam Dunne, Senior Executive Officer
Michael Holligan, Senior Engineer
Brian O’Gorman, Administrative Officer
Eamonn Fagan, Administrative Officer
Marie Callaghan, Assistant Staff Officer
Dara Wyer, Environmental Awareness Officer

Apologies: Cllrs Fintan Brett, Anthony Larkin, Murty Aspell, Michael Coleman
Fiona McLoughlin-Healy, Deirdre Lane, Mary Glennon

1. MINUTES

Minutes of meeting of the 9th March 2016 were agreed.
Proposed by Tom Malone and seconded by Cllr Young

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- Control of Horses Bye-Laws – raised by Cllr Cussen
Cllr Cussen queried re current position.
Confirmed that the matter is listed for June meetings for Athy and Newbridge
2 submission received – one by Gardai one by Cllr Cussen
Review after pilot scheme.
- To consider SPC Standing Orders for adoption – raised by Tom Malone
Mr Malone queried if there was any update.
Queries on Points 2, 5 and 13 were referred for consideration after our last meeting.
The final Standing Orders were approved at full Council meeting of the 30th May 2016
(copy circulated to members)
Our submissions on Points 2 (Notice of Meeting - 5 clear working days) and
Point 13 (Suspension – two-thirds) were included but Point 5 (Attendance)
was not included, it remains the same – no substitute allowed.

3. CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION

Joe Boland, Director of Services briefed the Committee with a Presentation on Climate Action and Low Carbon Development. He explained the requirements imposed by the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act 2015 and outlined the timelines and the Adaption Planning process. He analysed the changes that have already occurred and indicated future trends along with the impact of climate change - vegetation, animals, flooding.

Mr Boland outlined the Recommended Actions for Kildare County Council:

- Possibly consider partnering with adjoining local authority
- Appoint a Project Champion
- Ensure Climate Change Adaptation remains a priority for KCC Senior Management Group
- Embed Climate Change Adaptation as part of all upcoming strategies/policies
 - Key role of the elected members in this process

Mr Tom Malone stressed the importance of raising awareness with young people and also for better Interdepartmental communication.

Mr Dara Wyer emphasised that this was not just an environment issue.

Mr Brendan Young raised concerns regarding sea temperatures rising and Ireland's inability to meet KYOTO and Paris targets. He felt that we should be

- Looking at alternative sources of energy / wind turbines, solar
- Reducing load – specifying passive housing, building standards
- Encourage public transport – particularly work hours – reduce carbon emissions
- Fines from KYOTO – could provide free public transport rather than fines

4. CEMETERY BYE-LAWS

An information sheet was circulated to the Members listing the existing Legislation/Regulations, the issues and proposals. It also outlined the typical content of Cemetery Bye Laws.

The Environment Section will prepare Draft Bye Laws and these will then be circulated to caretakers/committee for comment as each cemetery is unique. They would then be brought to the SPC Committee and then onto Public Consultation.

Íde Cussen enquired if the caretakers phone number could be available for visitors.

Liam Dunne confirmed that the 61 cemeteries are in the charge of Kildare County Council.

A discussion took place regarding Cremations, scattering of ashes, designated ash plots, and columbarium wall.

5. DOG FOULING “ANY BAG, ANY BIN”

8. TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REFERRED MOTIONS - DOG FOULING - CLLR ÍDE CUSSEN

An information sheet was circulated to the Members regarding an Awareness Campaign “Any bag any Bin” setting out the responsibilities for owner and how they can comply with the Litter Pollution Act 1997. The bi-lingual slogan will appear on a simple graphic (samples attached) suitable for stickers, signs. It is proposed to initially select five high profile dog walking routes, one in each Municipal District, to commence the campaign and then extend it into towns.

It was agreed that Awareness of this issue is necessary. There are different options for bags from specially designed doggy bags to the cheaper biodegradable nappy sacks.

Cllr Cussen queried if funding from dog licences could be used to pilot two extra bins in each municipal area, or to get sponsorship for same, but at the moment the difficulty is servicing the extra bins. It was agreed that this matter would be further investigated.

6. PAY BY WEIGHT

A briefing note was circulated to the Members regarding the Pay By Weight National Awareness Campaign. A discussion took place in relation to a number of issues:

- removal of minimum charge on recycling bin
- no “bag only” areas in Kildare
- producers responsibilities re packaging
- Pay to Use facilities inability to adapt
- contractors engaging with public - group rates for housing estates

Following representations correspondence was received from the DoECLG re meetings with the HSE and waste management industry regarding households with members who use incontinence products. Cllr Cussen also has meeting arranged with Family Carers Ireland.

7. TO CONSIDER POLICY FOR DISTRIBUTION OF RESIDENTS’ ASSOCIATION GRANT

Liam Dunne stated that here is no overall policy for the Council in processing the above grants and each Municipal District makes the decision for it’s own area.

The main issues for consideration when assessing an application

- number of houses in the estate
- age of the estate
- size of green areas

A number of suggestions were made for consideration

- no. of houses on the application be verified against the Register of Electors
- encourage more Residents Associations to apply for grant
- poverty proofing

9. TO CONSIDER COMMENCING MEETINGS AT 2:00PM

The members present agreed to a 2:15pm start.

Email to be circulated to all members for feedback.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Cllr Young informed the Members that the External Emergency Plan for Intel had just finished its display period on Friday 3rd June 2016. He queried as to why some issues were redacted - Assembly points and Assessment of the Environmental Impact. Mr Joe Boland undertook to raise the matter of this SEVESO site at the next Senior Management Team meeting and to revert back.
- b) Cllr Young will attend the Nuclear Free Local Authorities Seminar (Fri 24th June 2016) and requested the item be put on next agenda.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.