



KILDARE COUNTY COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES & WATER STRATEGIC POLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19TH OCTOBER 2016

PRESENT:

Councillors: Seán Power, Íde Cussen, Brendan Young, Michael Coleman, Fintan Brett, Fiona McLoughlin-Healy

Sectoral Interests: Tom Malone, Deirdre Lane

Officials: Joe Boland, Director of Services
Liam Dunne, Senior Executive Officer
Michael Holligan, Senior Engineer
Dara Wyer, Environmental Awareness Officer
Marie Callaghan, Assistant Staff Officer

Apologies: Cllrs Anthony Larkin, Murty Aspell,
Mary Glennon and Gerry O'Hagan

1. MINUTES

Minutes of meeting of the 8th June 2016 were agreed.
Proposed by Brendan Young and seconded by Ide Cussen.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES

- Control of Horses Bye-Laws
The extra time for these bye laws was to allow for the extension of the area and to circulate leaflets.
- Cemetery Bye-Laws
The Council will circulate a copy of the Naas Bye-Laws to the cemetery key holders, caretakers and committees. Report on submission will follow. Liam Dunne informed the committee that tenders for the Columbarium Wall at Naas had been invited and assessment of same was at an advanced stage.

3. WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE

Michael Holligan circulated details on the Pilot Project to improve water quality in the Clonshanbo Waterbody, which is in the Ryewater catchment. He outlined the legislative instruments, operational structure, second cycle of River Basin Management Plans and the Investigative Assessment.

There were a number of queries raised and Mr Holligan explained as follows:

- Project is to commence in next couple of weeks. Approaching landowners at present.
- A section of the catchment area is also prone to flooding so the drainage works proposed on the project will be carried out by the Kildare County Council drainage team. In regard to fencing etc. Kildare County Council will be working with landowners. Water troughs should be available to livestock, wherever possible.
- There is full co-operation from the landowners at present and there is generally good agricultural practices in the catchment.
- Biodiversity is expected to improve after the works – eg once silt is taken from the stream and cattle access is restricted. There will also be a better flow regime and the number and diversity of invertebrates will improve.
- There is a derogation to 2027 for the Ryewater catchment to achieve good ecological status.
- Information relating to the status of waterbodies in Kildare is being compiled and data will be forwarded to the Committee when available.

Deirdre Lane requested that Kildare County Council have a green procurement policy in relation to domestic products being used in Aras Chill Dara. Joe Boland agreed that a green policy was a constructive proposal and it could be listed on the Works Programme 2017.

4. WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Dara Wyer circulated details on the Eastern and Midlands Region Waste Management Plan Initiatives. He outlined the Waste Awareness Projects, Recycling Proposals and Regional Initiatives.

There were a number of queries raised and Mr Wyer explained as follows:

- Domestic Food Waste is collected in Brown Bins. This collection is available in areas where the population is greater than 500.
- Cllr Cussen felt that the Pay By Weight issue needed further discussion, particularly in relation to a grant scheme. Joe Boland felt that the concept was good although there are complexities in relation to a grant scheme ie whether a local or national issue. Sean Power agreed that with further detail the SPC could consider tabling a motion for full support by the Council.
- Cllr Young referred to the continental system – where there is an incentive to a consumer to return recyclables back to the supermarket. He felt we should explore a mechanism of how we could get producers to bear the cost of getting consumers to recycle. Dara Wyer felt that while a deposit refund scheme was a good idea where it exists, it is unlikely to be extended to other countries in the EU.
- The sum of €30,000 was proposed in the 2017 Budget for promotion of Waste Awareness Projects.

5. TIDY TOWNS PROGRESS

Dara Wyer circulated details on the Tidy Towns Results Update 2016. County Kildare had two new villages enter this year (Allenwood, Caragh) and was awarded three gold (Maynooth, Naas, Straffan) five silver (Celbridge, Kill, Leixlip, Newbridge, Rathangan) and two bronze medals (Ballymore Eustace, Clane). A number of other awards were also received. He then analysed the results and noted some issues – Community Involvement and Planning; Built Environment and Streetscape; Wildlife, Habitats and Natural Amenities; Sustainable Waste & Resources Management; Tidiness and Litter Control; Approach roads, streets and lanes.

6. DOG POUND AT BALLITORE

Joe Boland circulated a drawing of the proposed extension to the dog pound at Ballitore which includes new kennels, yard, isolation unit and disability area. The design is almost complete. Tender documents have been prepared. This extension will be subject to a Part 8 process.

7. NUCLEAR FREE LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Cllr Brendan Young attended a seminar for Nuclear Free Local Authorities (NFLA). He reported that number of issues were discussed

- Nuclear reprocessing has ceased at Windscale, UK
- Nuclear is not a safe renewable energy system
- The need to look at alternatives to burning fossil fuel
- In Britain Local Authorities are interested in solar energy and community based productions and in Edinburgh solar panel are proposed for all schools
- Climate Adaptation Plan

Joe Boland reported that the Council's Energy Management Team has been extended to encompass Climate Action and when Draft Climate Action Plan is prepared it can be submitted to the SPC.

8. PRESENTATION ON DREHID WASTE FACILITY

Bord na Mona representatives John Connolly, AES Infrastructure & Development Manager; Ciaran Brady, Head of Resource Recovery and Pat O'Neill Operations Manager attended the meeting.

John Connolly addressed the meeting and outlined the planning history of the Drehid facility. In 2016 a Section 56 allowed the facility to continue operating at the higher capacities. The current planning permission, extends the operation, at the higher capacities, to the end of 2017.

There were a number of queries raised and Mr Connolly explained as follows:

- Details were requested in regard to the composting site and Mr Connolly provided a detailed explanation on the operational procedure at the site.
- Questions were raised in regard to the impact on the road structure, particularly local roads. Mr Connolly confirmed that as part of the planning process An Bord Pleanála found that the haul routes identified were acceptable.

- Mr Connolly confirmed that the grants are provided to an impact zone, set at a radius of 9km from the site. €3,000,000 has been paid to date.
- Query as to status of Bord na Mona. It was confirmed that Bord na Mona is semi state.
- In regard to the long term plan Mr Connolly stated that as the number of landfills has decreased and with the proposed opening of Poolbeg (end of 2017) and it may be that Drehid will be the only remaining landfill.
- Mr Connolly stated that in principal AES would be amenable to investigating and developing an amenity facility on the site.

Seán Power thanked the representatives of Bord na Mona for attending the meeting.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- **Residents Association Grants**

Cllr Íde Cussen asked if the opinions expressed at the SPC meeting could be incorporated into a policy. Mr Dunne stated that each MD would have to consider distribution of the grant for it's own area, however consideration can be given when assessing estates to include verification of the number of houses therein by reference to the register of electors.

- **North Kildare Civic Facility**

A query was raised as to the current situation. The site at the Celbridge Interchange appears to be the most suitable however there are still some issues for consideration in regard to planning and roads. It will be considered as part of the Celbridge Area Plan and will be subject to a Part 8 process.

THIS CONCLUDED THE MEETING.