

# County Wicklow Public Participation Network

## Representative Report

Please complete and return to [countywicklowppn@gmail.com](mailto:countywicklowppn@gmail.com) within one week after each meeting.

**Name of Committee:** Transportation Water & Environmental Services SPC

**Name of Representative:** Tim Morgan

**Date of Meeting Attended:** 28<sup>th</sup> May 2018

### **Most important actions or issues to emerge from a County Wicklow PPN perspective:**

The Agenda for the meeting was as follows:

1. Minutes of meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2018
2. Update and presentation on CFRAMS
3. To discuss bye-laws for Presentation of Waste
4. To discuss Burial Ground Policy and recommendations for full Council meeting in June
5. To discuss charging at Wicklow Recycling Centres
6. Any other Business

#### 1. Minutes of previous meeting

Cllr Fitzgerald chaired the meeting in the absence of Cllr Doran. The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed off.

#### 2. Update and presentation on CFRAMS

Council engineer Marc Devereux gave a summary of his presentation. Catchment flood risk assessment and management plans (CFRAMS) needs to be passed by the full Council. Information on CFRAMS can be found at [floodinfo.ie](http://floodinfo.ie). There are four plans (Liffey, Vartry, Slaney and Barrow). The Vartry catchment takes up most of the east of County Wicklow while only a small section of the Barrow comes under Wicklow.

Now that the Dargle scheme at Bray has been completed there are a further 10 possible schemes, of which 6 are larger schemes, including the Arklow flood protection scheme.

The first phase of CFRAMS, namely the flood risk management plans (FRMPs) has been finished/adopted by the OPW. The second phase will probably be carried out by the County Council. The plans consist of large documents, e.g. the strategic environmental assessment (SEA), which can be viewed together with relevant maps on the OPW website.

#### 3. To discuss bye-laws for Presentation of Waste

Marc Devereux gave a presentation on a draft document entitled 'County of Wicklow (Segregation, Storage and Presentation of Household and Commercial Waste) Bye-laws, 2018'. For consistency across the region the Bye-Laws are based on a template issued by the Waste Enforcement Regional Lead Authority (WERLA).

The EU want every local authority to have such a set of bye-laws. These bye-laws which are the first on this subject outline provisions for the presentation of residual waste and recyclable kerbside waste. Schedule 1 in the bye-laws is a list of recyclable kerbside waste.

An additional provision for commercial waste is that it shall not be deposited at any Bring Centre operated by the County Council. There is also an enforcement provision outlining penalties for contravention of the bye-laws and the issuing of fixed payment notices.

The draft bye-laws are to be presented to the full Council meeting in June or July.

#### 4. To discuss Burial Ground Policy and recommendations for full Council meeting in June

There are 12 proposed policy areas developed over the last couple of years for the management of burial grounds in the county. Senior Executive Officer Helena Dennehy has been taking the lead in the development of graveyard policy. The policy areas have been discussed in previous SPC meetings, particularly the one of 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017, and for convenience they are listed below.

- 1) Definition of Locals only
- 2) Advanced Purchase – double graves at time of burial / purchase only
- 3) New Extensions – Lawn cemetery style
- 4) Headstones & Surrounds – Memorial applications
- 5) Part Lawn cemetery graveyards – requirements in relation to removal of illegal surrounds, etc.
- 6) Pricing policy going forward
- 7) Signage policy – open graveyards
- 8) Capital Programme over 10 years
- 9) Closed cemeteries – proposals / rights of burial (possibly 7 graveyards)
- 10) Health & Safety programme – Users of graveyards – undertakers, grave diggers, community programmes, etc.
- 11) Municipal District (MD) minimum responsibilities for maintenance.
- 12) Height/depth/location of headstones/memorials.

Helena Dennehy produced a large spreadsheet to show the responses of the five Municipal Districts to the 12 policy areas.

Changes and proposals to the policy areas suggested by any of the 5 Municipal Districts have been incorporated into the revised policy with the exception of 3) New Extensions – Lawn cemetery style.

The management of burial grounds has proved to be a bit controversial and the policy of lawn cemetery style seems to have been particularly problematic. Headstone foundations are provided in lawn cemeteries but no kerbing, gravel or flag stones are permitted around graves.

The lawn cemetery style policy dates from 2008 and was the basis for the 3 new graveyard extensions at Rathbran, Castlemacadam and Manor Kilbride. Baltinglass MD have requested that the traditional burial policy remain at Rathbran with regard to placement of headstones and that the cemetery be left as open plan and not lawn style. Wicklow MD is opposed to lawn style at all of its cemeteries.

It is recommended by the Council Executive that there be no change to existing policy on lawn style cemeteries. It is also recommended that all existing lawn cemetery layouts remain in place and that all extensions to existing cemeteries and new burial grounds be developed in lawn style.

#### 5. To discuss charging at Wicklow Recycling Centres

It was stated that Wicklow County council spends about €1.2m on running the recycling centres and there is a return of only about €0.3m. There is an overall staff of 20 employees with Bray and Arklow being the two busiest centres.

A local authority is not meant to be operating in competition with commercial waste management and the introduction of a charge could have an impact on the market.

Wexford County Council charge the public for depositing recycled waste at their centres but up to now Wicklow do not charge for the use of recycling centres. As a result some recyclable waste could be coming into Wicklow from Wexford.

A possible charge could be based on car entry to the centres and will be discussed further at a Council meeting.

## 6. AOB

An update on two schemes on the **N11/M11** was requested. Engineer Michael Flynn responded to say that in relation to the parallel service road at Kilmacanogue this work is being carried out under a Safety heading and it will go for 'Part 8 consultation' to the County Council in July. Arup are the consultants on this project.

In relation to the proposed N11 upgrade between J4 and J14 where an extra lane is to be constructed in both directions from the M50/M11 merge to Kilmacanogue approval for the project is being sought from the Department of Transport Tourism & Sport (DTTAS). This J4-J14 scheme has many phases to go through before possible construction in 2022.

Cllr Fitzgerald said there is a need for someone to be hired to run the **Arklow Marina**. The marine officer collects charges on fishing boats which use the harbour but the marina, which is just a floating pontoon, is not being managed in relation to berthing for visitor's boats. He suggested the role should be put out to tender.

Helena Dennehy announced that Wicklow has retained its 4 **Blue Flags** for Brittas Bay North, Brittas Bay South, Greystones and Bray South Promenade, and the Green Coast award for Arklow south Beach.

## 6. Date of next meeting:

The next SPC meeting to be held on 10<sup>th</sup> of September 2018.