

Water and Transportation SPC

Meeting on Monday 1st October 2018

I attended this SPC on behalf of the PPN and here is the Report of the proceedings

The Meeting commenced with a presentation to the SPC by Phil Skelton on behalf of the "Staying Alive at 1.5" Campaign. Wexford County Council are backing this Safety Campaign which creates awareness of the necessity of being careful and observant of cyclists on the road. Phil Skelton gave several examples of bad behaviour of motorists and truck drivers which were recorded on helmet cameras by cyclists. There was a lot of dangerous behaviour displayed. The Campaign urges us to leave at least 1.5m between the cyclist and our vehicle when passing. Also there was a short presentation of danger zones and health and safety breaches on the roads, which Eamon Hore, Director of Services promised to look into. Wexford County Council were commended on the amount of support already given to the Campaign, via awareness leaflets, staff training, road signs and signs on Council Vans.

The Gorey to Enniscorthy Bypass is well under way and is expected to be completed by July 2019. The New Ross Bypass is expected to complete by August 2019, however the Barrow Bridge, which is 52% complete will determine the actual finish date. This Bridge, a three tower Extradosed Bridge, which has been a 26 year project from its conception, is a fantastic feat of modern engineering on a global scale.

With regard to the National Overlay Scheme, in Wexford the next leg to Ferrycarrig will be finished at Christmas. For the first since the recession, restoration and maintenance has been increased by 17% on minor schemes such as Mountelliott Roundabout.

There has been a €70 million reduction since 2008 in National Road Maintenance Funds. The traffic problems at Whitford Roundabout, which have worsened with the opening of the new Loreto School, have presented a huge issue with capacity. It is being looked at, within budget to try to put in another lane. The Oilgate to Rosslare road would be the answer to many problems, and is being investigated at the moment.

Water

Major Capital Scheme at Arthurstown/Duncannon/Ballyhack will get a Waste Water Treatment plant, which will be built at Arthurstown. Pressure is being put on Irish Water to include Ramsgrange in this scheme, but it will need residents to be pro active in lobbying for it as well.

The Treatment Plant at Ballyteigue in Kilmore Quay at a cost of 8 million, will have discharge to the existing outfall. Irish Water are dealing directly with the Fishing Industry on this matter. We await the outcome of this.

8km of water mains are to be replaced as part of the Gas Mains Contract.

The meeting concluded with Chairperson Larry O'Brien thanking Phil Skelton and all present for their attendance and presentations. Next meeting will be in three months, date and time to be advised.

Bernie Mullen

KRH Tops Community Group