



**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CHAMBER, NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT AT 10.00 AM ON 20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2020**

<b>Present</b>	Cllr's Fiona Bonfield, Phyll Bugler, John Carroll, Gerard Darcy, Hughie McGrath, John "Rocky" McGrath, Séamus Morris and Michael O' Meara.
<b>Also Present</b>	Mr. Marcus O' Connor, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Barry Murphy, District Engineer and Ms. Sinead Moriarty, Staff Officer.  <b>Planning</b> Brian Beck, Senior Planner; Eamon Lonergan, A/Director of Services  <b>Water Services</b> Gerry Robinson, SEE; Eamon Lonergan, A/Director of Services
<b>Apologies</b>	Cllr. J. Hannigan
	A vote of sympathy was proposed to Cllr. F. Bonfield and all the Bonfield family on the death of her father, Martin Bonfield. All present wished to be associated with this vote of sympathy.
<b>Item 1. Minutes of January Meeting</b>	It was proposed by Cllr. John Carroll, seconded by Cllr. Ger Darcy and resolved that the minutes of the January Meeting held on 19 <sup>th</sup> January, 2020 be adopted.
<b>Item 2. Action Plan</b>	The Action Plan from the January meeting was noted
<b>Item 3. To receive briefing from Water Services</b>	A report on Water Services was circulated and gave details of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Irish Water Capital Investment Plan 2020-2024<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➢ Infrastructural Projects</li><li>➢ Networks Portfolio Delivery</li><li>➢ Irish Water Capital Delivery Programme</li></ul></li><li>• Rural Water Programme</li><li>• Miscellaneous</li></ul> <p>Mr. G. Robinson explained that funding will not be available for the Ballina WWTP until at least 2023. Cllr. P. Bugler expressed her disappointment at this and indicated that the current system in Ballina was already at maximum capacity. The other members supported her in this. Mr. M. O'Connor and Mr. E. Lonergan agreed with the members views on this and explained that Irish Water had been written to requesting a meeting. A meeting will take place with Irish Water and the members in March/April.</p>



	<p>Cllrs. O'Meara, Carroll and Darcy requested clarification on the increase of the grants for private wells and group water schemes. Cllr. G. Darcy also queried the possibility of developing group sewerage schemes. Mr. G. Robinson explained that contact should be made to the Water Services office to clarify the issues on the private well grants and group schemes. He also clarified that there is a lot more to group sewerage schemes than water schemes and they can be difficult to put in place.</p>
<b>Item 4. To receive briefing from Planning</b>	<p>A report on Planning Services was circulated and gave details of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• County Development Plan</li><li>• Development Contribution Scheme</li><li>• Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund: Project Implementation</li><li>• Urban and Rural Regeneration and Development Fund: Funding Calls</li><li>• Taking in Charge</li><li>• Number of Planning Applications</li><li>• Enforcement Proceedings</li></ul> <p>Mr. B. Beck confirmed that an application will be submitted for Nenagh under URDF.</p> <p>The new approach to densities on planning applications caused concern for the members. Mr. B. Beck explained that An Bord Pleanála has recently begun refusing developments as the where they considered the density has been too low. Applications for over 100 units will now be dealt with by An Bord Pleanála. It will be important for developers to meet with local residents and ensure there is good communication.</p> <p>Members also raised the issues of protected buildings and the difficulties people encounter trying to carry out work on these properties. Mr. B. Beck informed members that there are over 3,000 properties on the list of protected structures. All of these have to be inspected and the owners written to.</p> <p>Cllrs O'Meara and H. McGrath believe that encouragement in the development of the backland areas and the over the shop properties would help alleviate the difficulties with development sites. Mr. B. Beck confirmed that Planning would examine the possibility of producing a guidance document on these areas.</p>
<b>Item 5. To consider Part VIII for</b>	<p>The Chief Executives Report on the Part VIII had already been circulated to members. Mr. M. O'Connor gave a brief outline of the process. The plans and particulars of the project were on</p>



<b>Emmet Place/Mitchell Street</b>	<p>public display from 14<sup>th</sup> December 2019 to the 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2020 and submissions could be made until the 6<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Two submissions were received; one from PJ Brett on behalf of Donal and Marion Dolan, House of Gifts and the other was from the Development Applications unit of the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht.</p> <p>A number of meetings took place with the House of Gifts and they have no objections to the development. A bat/swift survey took place internally and there was no evidence of bats but the Department has requested an external survey and this will take place in the summer. If there is any evidence of the presence of bats measures can be taken. This project stands on its own merits along with the advantages of the traffic management plan. Work cannot begin until the results of the survey are available but work will begin on the tender process.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr. S. Morris and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll and resolved that, pursuant to the requirements of Article 81 of Part 8 of the Planning &amp; Development Regulations 2001 as amended, having considered the Chief Executive's Report dated 17<sup>th</sup> February 2020 the Members of Nenagh Municipal District hereby decide to proceed with the development for the proposed upgrade of the existing Mitchel Street/Emmet Place Junction and the provision of a carpark at Emmet Place, Nenagh as outlined in Chief Executive's Report.</p>
<b>Item 6. To consider the Proposed amendment to Standing Orders to take into consideration disclosures and conflict of interest</b>	<p>It was agreed to amend the Standing Orders to take into consideration the disclosures/conflict of interest.</p> <p>Proposed by Cllr. John Carroll Seconded by Cllr. Ger Darcy</p>
<b>Item 7. To agree proposals in relation to allocation of GMA 2020</b>	<p>It was proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll and seconded by Cllr. S. Morris and resolved that the proposed allocation for the GMA 2020 for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 be approved as per schedule circulated.</p>
<b>Item 8. To approve allocation of funding under Festivals &amp; Events Strategy 2020</b>	<p>It was proposed by Cllr. S. Morris and seconded by Cllr. G. Darcy and resolved that in accordance with the terms of the Festival &amp; Events Grant Scheme the payment of grants be made to the following:-</p>



**Municipal:**

Festival/Event	Type	Amount
Dromineer Nenagh Literary Festival	Arts	€5,500
Taste of Nenagh	Community & Tourism	€7,000
Féile Brian Ború	Tourism	€3,000
European SN Judo Championships 2020	Sports	€5,000
Cloughjordan Honours Thomas McDonagh	Heritage	€3,000
Spleodar Halloween Arts Festival	Arts	€11,000
Cloughjordan Community Amphitheatre 2020	Arts	€3,500
Terryglass Street Fest	Community	€7,000
Irish Youth Circus Gathering	Arts	€4,000
Nenagh Castlefest	Community	€15,000
Nenagh St. Patrick's Day Parade	Community	€10,000

**Community:**

Festival/Event	Type	Amount
The Rambling House	Community	€500
Ballinderry Beo Festival	Tourism	€500
Martin O Meara Victoria Cross to Lorrha	Heritage	€1,500
Cloughjordan 2020 Biodiversity Week	Community	€700
Silvermines Rambling Festival	Community	€460
Ballina/Killaloe St. Patrick's Day Parade	Community	€1,000
The GN Abbey Court Hotel Nenagh Snooker Open	Sport	€800
Birdhill Celebrates the Roaring Twenties	Community	€500
Kilbarron Terryglass Historical Society's Heritage of Farming Tour	Heritage	€700
Newport St. Patrick's Day Parade	Community	€2,000

Cllr. S. Morris complimented the work done by committees on these festivals and events. He also informed members that 83 people were visiting Nenagh on the 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> March from a Kansas rugby club and it is hoped they would take part in a Nenagh 800 tournament and march in the Parade.

Cllrs. Darcy and O'Meara thanked Ms. R. Joyce for her work with the community groups.



	<p>Cllr. H. McGrath also thanked the volunteers and the executive for helping with events like the parade.</p> <p>Ms. R. Joyce confirmed that it was a team effort in supporting these events, the quality of applications received from the groups was very good and the members approve the funding to support these events. She also requested that the parades would be supported.</p>
<p><b>Item 9. To update members on projects and events</b></p>	<p><b><u>Newport Town Park</u></b> Six tenders were received by the closing date 11<sup>th</sup> February 2020. These have been forwarded to the consultant for assessment.</p> <p><b><u>Nenagh 800/Nenagh Castle</u></b> The launch of Nenagh 800 took place on 29<sup>th</sup> January at the Civic Offices, Nenagh with approx. 100 in attendance. A number of events have already been held including a talk by Donal A Murphy hosted by Ormond Historical Society on 'Some Streets of Nenagh – Characters &amp; Anecdotes'; the launch of the Bob Tisdall Exhibition at Nenagh Heritage Centre – this will run to June 2020 and a wonderful night of entertainment at the Kenyon Bar Castlefest Cabaret – music provided by Storm the Castle, Ebony, Gerry O' Brien &amp; Martin Grace. During February two further events will be held – 'Brown Bread' a play by Roddy Doyle performed by Nenagh Players at Nenagh Arts Centre from 26<sup>th</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March and 'Haunted Memories: When Nenagh used the Gallows' – a talk on public executions at Nenagh Gaol from 1842-1858 by Dr Conor Reidy at Nenagh Library on 25<sup>th</sup> February at 6.45 pm. Meanwhile work is continuing on events and initiatives for the remainder of the year.</p> <p><b><u>Town Revival Initiative</u></b> Proposals are being progressed for re-surfacing and improvements at John's Lane Car Park.</p> <p><b><u>Emmet Place/Mitchel Street</u></b> The Report on the Part 8 is on the agenda for the February Nenagh MD meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Tourist Office/Banba Square</u></b> The Part 8 was on public display with a closing date for submissions of 13<sup>th</sup> February. One submission was received by this date. The Report will be brought back to members at the March 2020 meeting.</p> <p><b><u>Town &amp; Village Renewal – Ely O' Carroll Place</u></b> The required bat survey is currently being commissioned. It is proposed to go to tender on this project in the near future.</p>



**Nenagh Digital Hub/Innovation Centre**

A meeting has been held with Healy & Partners and the Project Team to progress the development of the proposal and business case. Site visits to a number of other centres have been arranged for the end of the month.

**Killaloe Bypass, Shannon Bridge & R494**

Planning procedures and the Oral Hearing have been completed. Design is underway and is expected to be completed in Q2 2020. The Tender Prior Information Notice (PIN) was published in December 2019. The tender competition for the works contract will commence in Q1 2020 and will be completed in Q3 2020. Subject to availability of funding it is anticipated that construction will commence in Q4 2020 taking in the region of 3 years to complete.

**R498 Latteragh Realignment**

Part 8 procedures have been completed and design work is underway. Pre-CPO consultation with landowners is ongoing. Subject to Department approval it is anticipated that the CPO will then be published in March 2020 with an Oral Hearing expected to take place later in 2020.

**R498 Knockalton Realignment.**

Work started on the scheme in December 2018. The scheme is complete apart from snagging and some accommodation works.

**N52 Borrisokane Streets Improvement Scheme.**

Work started on the scheme in November 2018. The Contractor commenced works from the Nenagh side of scheme and completed footpaths on both sides and most of road surfacing works as far as the bridge at the bottom of Main Street. Final road surfacing works on the Main Street are underway. Remaining works include a section of the Birr Road and repairs to the bridge at the bottom of the Main Street.

**N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge Strengthening**

This scheme involves raising of the road level to mitigate flooding of a section of this road. Preliminary design work is underway and is expected to be completed shortly with detailed design and construction taking place in 2020.

**N65 Carrigahorig Village Pavement Improvements**

In 2015 this scheme was intended to be a re-alignment of a 0.6km section of the N65 on the southern approach to Carrigahorig village. Recently it has become apparent that there is now a need for road pavement improvement works on the N65 through the village and also a number of road safety concerns in the village need to be addressed including the provision of a footpath extension from the village to the R493 Terryglass Road.



	<p>This change in approach has now been agreed in principle with the TII. Preliminary design work has been completed and funding is being sought from the TII to carry out the final design and carry out the pavement improvement works, road safety elements and footpath extension works. It is anticipated that detailed design work will commence in 2020.</p> <p><b><u>Bord Gais Project</u></b> Macadam repair works began week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> January. These works include the resurfacing of parking areas on Kenyon St and Pearse St. Line markings will be put in place following this and outstanding water services issues will also be addressed.</p> <p><b><u>SIRO</u></b> Works are continuing in the town.</p>
<b>Item 10. To receive update on Works Programme</b>	<p>The Works Programme – Housing update was circulated to members.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy confirmed that the roads allocation for 2020 has been received from the Department and there has been an increase of 11% in the allocation from €7.8m to €8.7m. The draft Schedule of Municipal District Works will be available at the next meeting; any deviation from the existing three year programme will have to be approved. The fact that 6 jobs from the 2020 programme were brought forward to be completed in 2019 along with the increase in funding could lead to some projects from 2021 being brought forward to 2020.</p>
<b>Item 11. To note Engineers Checklist on Roads matters</b>	<p>The Engineer’s Checklist was circulated to members.</p> <p>Cllr. J. Carroll raised the possibility of getting an extension on the hedgecutting season and writing to Oireachtas members, IFA and Department of Agriculture. Cllrs. O’ Meara and Darcy agreed with this. Mr. B. Murphy explained that it is provided in national legislation that hedgecutting must be completed by the end of February before the nesting season.</p> <p>As a number of items on the checklist referred to issues relating to speeding a discussion took place on speed ramps. Mr. B. Murphy explained that for traffic calming measures, ramps are seen as the least popular due to delayed response times for emergency services and effects on injuries during transportation. Enforcement, education, decreasing road width and better signage are better options than ramps. There is a requirement that 2/3 of the residences request the ramps. They can also cause damage to vehicles.</p> <p>Cllr. J. Carroll requested additional staff to open gullies and clear drains given the weather over the last number of months.</p>



	<p>Cllr. S. Morris requested that the Birr Rd., Borriskane be added to the checklist.</p> <p>Cllr. H. McGrath raised the issue of the pedestrian crossing and flooding at Brooklands and a gully on Abbey St. appears to be very low.</p> <p>Cllr. P. Bugler stated that the road surface was poor and there were a lot of potholes on sections of the Boher Rd., the R494 from the roundabout at Birdhill to Ballina and the Curraghville Rd.</p> <p>Cllr. M. O'Meara asked that the yellow box at Terryglass school would be extended to the edge of the road to improve parking. There is an issue with speeding on the Ballinderry Rd into Terryglass and a gully at Crotta needs to be cleared.</p> <p>Cllr. G. Darcy stated that the road surface on the N52 at Liscarriff, Ardcroney is very poor but it may be under the remit of the NRA. The road surfaces at Ballyrickard North and Lismacrory, Ballingarry are also very poor.</p>
<p><b>Item 12. To consider Notices of Motion</b></p>	<p><b>Notice of Motion No: 1841 submitted by Cllr. S. Morris</b></p> <p>I am calling on this Municipal authority to put forward the County council-owned and Municipal controlled site at Stereame in Nenagh to the Land Development Agency (LDA) for funding to deliver the master plan drawn up by the Municipal authority. This site has been offered to private developers but there has been no interest from them so it is important that this site would strengthen the housing (both social and affordable) and economic capability of Nenagh. In Nenagh's 800th year this would be the best legacy that we could do to celebrate our proud history and deliver a real future for our people now and into the future</p> <p>This motion was proposed by Cllr. S. Morris and seconded by Cllr. Rocky McGrath and the following response was read out by Ms. R. Joyce:-</p> <p>The lands at Stereame were purchased to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Attract high technology enterprises to Nenagh and in particular to allow for the future expansion of the Fiserv (First Data) building.</li><li>2. Provide land for high quality housing which would service the development and which would also provide an element of social housing (Part 5).</li><li>3. Provide additional land for recreational and sporting purposes in the town</li></ol>





	<p>The following progress has been made in relation to these:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Fiserv is up and running and currently employing 165 people. A 250 space car park has been provided for its employees and future developments. Consultants have been appointed to prepare a business case and a Part 8 Planning consultation for a Digital Hub /Innovation Centre. Discussions are ongoing with other potential interested parties.</li><li>2. There have been discussions with developers and agents regarding developing the housing part of the site. All are agreed that the site has excellent potential and some are considering submitting proposals. However, it is the market and the ability to sell houses that will determine the opportune time to begin building. It should be noted that there are literally hundreds of acres of zoned housing land available for development in the town but in common with many areas outside Dublin, developers do not feel that it is the correct time to start these developments. Tipperary County Council feels that it is in the best position to manage the development of the Stereame site for the good of the town rather than handing it over to any third party.</li><li>3. The recreational lands have been sold to Nenagh Éire Óg who have submitted a Planning Application for the development of these lands as training and playing pitches as well as incorporating a walking track</li></ol> <p>Cllr. S. Morris felt that contact should be made and if the Land Development Agency came back to say they weren't interested that was fair enough. Cllr. H. McGrath was reluctant to do anything that could hinder the Council's plans for the site but recognised the need for Housing and believed that Cluid provide well managed estates. Mr. M. O'Connor stated that the land was sitting there a long time before the Council intervened and because of the Council intervention Éire Óg and First Data have been facilitated along with the digital hub being progressed.</p>
<b>Item 13. Delegated Employee Orders</b>	Noted
<b>Item 14. Correspondence</b>	None
<b>Item 15. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations</b>	Votes of Sympathy – ➤ Lewis Family, on the death of Mr. Ger Lewis, R.I.P. Votes of Congratulations – ➤ Nora O Meara, Heritage Centre, on Bob Tisdall exhibition.
<b>Item 16 AOB</b>	None



This concluded the business of the meeting, a true copy of which we hereby certify:-

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cllr. Joe Hannigan**  
**Cathaoirleach**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Ms. Rosemary Joyce**  
**District Administrator**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_