



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann  
Tipperary County Council

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE JANUARY MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, LIMERICK ROAD, NENAGH AT 11.00 AM ON 21ST JANUARY 2016**

**Present:**

Cllrs. Fiona Bonfield, John Carroll, Ger Darcy, Mattie Ryan, Phyll Bugler, Joe Hannigan, Michael O' Meara, Seamus Morris and Hughie McGrath.

**Also Present:**

Mr. Marcus O' Connor, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Michael Hayes, Senior Executive Engineer; Mr. P. Fee, Executive Engineer, Ms. Mary Carroll, Administrative Officer, Ms. Olga Doyle, Environmental Scientist, Mr. G. Robinson and Lorraine Treacy, Staff Officer.

Cllr. G. Darcy proposed a Vote of Sympathy to Cllr. H. McGrath on the death of his sister Marguerite McGrath. All the members and staff wished to be associated with the vote of sympathy.

Cllr. H. McGrath thanked the members and staff for their expression of sympathy. He said Marguerite had dealings with Nenagh Town Council over the years and he thanked all the staff who had dealt with her.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll and resolved that the meeting be adjourned for 5 minutes as a mark of respect to Cllr. McGrath.

Cllr. G. Darcy said that he was heartened by the recent announcement that First Data will be bringing approximately 300 jobs to Nenagh. He said North Tipperary had been waiting over 25 years for such an announcement and he complimented all those associated with getting the jobs to Nenagh.

Cllr. F. Bonfield welcomed the announcement, which she said had been worked on for the past year and said it was a great day for all those involved.

Cllr. M. Ryan welcomed the announcement in relation to Nenagh and the Silvermines Project and congratulated all those involved.

Cllr. H. McGrath said that it was great news for Nenagh and a fantastic achievement for everyone involved. He said that Minister Alan Kelly had been working very hard on the project for the past year. He concurred with Cllr. Ryan in welcoming the news on the proposed development for Silvermines. However he added that these announcements were on the back of the loss of over 100 jobs in Borrisoleigh and he said that his thoughts were with those employees.

Cllr. J. Carroll welcomed the positive announcement. He congratulated the Chief Executive, the IDA, Minister Kelly & Minister Bruton. He went on to say that it puts Nenagh back on the map and that it will be great to see vibrancy back in the building in Stereame.

Cllr. S. Morris also welcomed the recent announcements. He congratulated Minister Kelly, Joe MacGrath and Marcus O' Connor. He went on to say that there was now a need to drive on from here in order to provide the backup services for the company. He said that there was a need for a strong road network, connectivity between Nenagh and Thurles, availability of houses and the extension of the A&E opening hours in Nenagh Hospital. He also said there was a need to be careful about supplying Dublin with water and that there was a need to ensure there was enough for our own area.

Cllr. M. O' Meara concurred with the previous speakers. He complimented all those involved especially Marcus O' Connor & J. MacGrath. He said that it showed the importance of the local authority working proactively in seeking jobs for the area.

Cllr. P. Bugler said that it was a great announcement. She complimented Marcus O' Connor, Joe MacGrath, Minister Kelly, Deputy Coonan and Minister Tom Hayes for their efforts.

Cllr. J. Hannigan also complimented all those involved in getting the jobs to Nenagh. He said that it will have a ripple effect for the entire area. He said the spin offs from the high level jobs will be massive but there were other issues which needed to be dealt with such as the roads infrastructure and broadband.

Mr. M. O' Connor welcomed the fact that First Data would be setting up in Nenagh, a company, he said, that employs over 23,000 worldwide and who deal with half of the credit card payments in the US. He went on to say that the company is involved in R&D which will provide for a mixture of jobs for graduates in IT and Finance. He said it was a fantastic coup for the town and he hoped that the company would expand beyond 300 jobs in time. He added that the Chief Executive played an important role in the negotiations and that the IDA were excellent in their engagement. On a non-political basis, he said, Minister Kelly led the project from the start. He concluded by saying that the news about the proposed development in Silvermines was also good and that while there were a few hurdles to be jumped, it would create much needed jobs in the area.

Cllr. G. Darcy associated himself with the remarks in relation to the Silvermines Projects. He also welcomed the public consultation on the road at Latteragh and said it was great to see something happening.

Cllr. M. O' Meara requested that the Standing Orders be suspended in light of the protest that was taking place in relation to the roads in the Rathcabbin area and that the matter be discussed first. This was proposed by Cllr. M. O' Meara and seconded by Cllr. H. McGrath and it was agreed to suspend Standing Orders and deal with all roads matters first.

Cllr. M. O' Meara referred to a number of meetings in Rathcabbin with local residents and the executive about a number of roads which were extremely bad. He acknowledged that there were huge budgetary constraints on the local authority but stressed the need to find a solution to the problem.

Cllr. J. Hannigan said the tolerance level among the locals had been high. He said that he had driven on the roads in question and confirmed that they are in a poor state of

repair. He said that it was not acceptable that people have to tolerate the poor conditions on the roads. He queried what level of funding the Council were able to apply for. He went on to say that there was a need for an audit to be carried out on the condition of the roads and for funding to be applied for on the basis of the costings.

Cllr. J. Carroll supported Cllr. Hannigan, saying that there has been an under investment in roads over a number of years and outdoor staff had been cut resulting in a lack of preventative maintenance. He said that over €1.3m has been collected in property tax in the Nenagh Municipal District and there must be some give back to the people. He called on all Oireachtas Members to work together to address the issue. He called for a temporary suspension of NCT testing.

Cllr. S. Morris commended the people of Rathcabbin & Lorrha who came together and said enough was enough. He referred to the two public meetings that had been held and said that there was a lot of anger at the meetings and people were feeling left out. He said that people are paying more tax now, especially property tax and there has been a lot less local services since its introduction. He referred to the EU Structural Fund and said that countries like Spain have drawn down monies from this fund in respect of flooding. He called for a full audit to be done on all roads. He called on the Council to ask the Government to apply for European funding.

Cllr. H. McGrath stressed the need for additional funding. He said that funding for repairs to roads was at 2002 levels. He called on Oireachtas members in Tipperary & Offaly to make a commitment to help the local authority get the necessary funding.

Cllr. M. Ryan said that emergency funding should be sought to address the problem. He said the roads in question are in a similar condition to other roads in the district.

Cllr. P. Bugler supported the people from Rathcabbin. She said that the roads were in a very bad condition and requested an update on the emergency funding sought from the Department.

Cllr. F. Bonfield said that it was an issue all over the country and stressed the need to work with Oireachtas Members.

Cllr. J. Carroll suggested that the members seek to meet with the Oireachtas members to discuss the matter further. It was also proposed that the Oireachtas members from Offaly be invited to attend. Mr. M. O' Connor questioned if this was appropriate.

Cllr. G. Darcy said that there was no doubt that the road is in a bad condition. He said that the reality is that no work has been done on the road in over 20 years. He referred to a meeting with the NRA late last year where he said the need for more funding was hammered home. He expressed disappointment at the fact that the bridge at Portumna was going to be closed by Galway County Council for six days. He questioned as to whether there was any other time that it could have been done. He enquired if the road to Redwood School was included on the roadworks programme. In relation to funding he asked if a special request could be made to the Department as was done in 2010. He went on to say that it was the nine members of the Nenagh Municipal District who would decide on the roadworks programme and the funding would have to be divided up across the District based on prioritisation of roads. It was not a matter for the national representatives to decide where the funding would be spent.

In response, Mr. M. O' Connor said that there is no doubt that there has been a substantial cut in funding for national and non-national roads in recent times. He said that the level of investment is at a low point in the cycle. He said that NRA funding was reduced by €40m in 2016 and he hoped that this was the bottom of it. With regard to Rathcabbin and Coolross, he said that when allocating funding through the Roadworks Programme, these areas got their fair share and were not neglected by the Council. He added that there is simply not enough money to go around. He said that the work can't be done without the money. He said he couldn't disagree that the roads are in a bad condition but said that there are a lot of other roads in a similar state. He went on to say that a road conditioning survey has been completed and is available for viewing by the public. He added that if the works were to be done it would have to be from two sources: (1) Storm Damage Funding and (2) Roadworks Programme. He said that the

Council was asked before Christmas to submit an estimate of the damage arising from Storm Desmond which was done.

Mr. O' Connor went on to say that following on from Storm Eva and Frank, the Council was requested to carry out additional assessments, which are currently being finalised. To conclude, he said that we have two options, storm funds or roadworks programme. Regarding the roadworks programme, he said that members would have to be mindful that monies will have to be spent in other areas including the town of Nenagh which has not seen investment in roads because of the gasworks.

With regard to the closing of Portumna Bridge, Mr. O' Connor said that Tipperary Council had not received any notification and the timing of it was unfortunate. In reply to Cllr. S. Morris's suggestion of applying for EU Structural Funds, Mr. O' Connor said that the local authority could not do this, that it would have to be the Department. In response to the query in relation to the road to Redwood School Mr. M. Hayes confirmed that this was not in the 2015 Roadworks Programme.

Cllr. S. Morris clarified that he was not asking the Council to apply for European funding. He suggested waiting to see what allocation was received and what the shortfall was and then asking the Government to apply for funding.

It was agreed to take items 11 and 12 on the agenda at this stage of the meeting.

#### **Item 11.**

#### **Update on Roads matters**

Mr. M. Hayes advised the members that eleven roads were closed during the recent storms and all the roads are now open.

With regard to the 3 year Roads Programme, he said that the draft programme is being put together at the moment and must be forwarded to the Department by the end of February. He said it must therefore be agreed at the February meeting of the Nenagh Municipal District and suggested that a workshop be held in advance to discuss the programme. The members agreed to hold a workshop on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February at 10 a.m.

Cllr. J. Hannigan referred to works at the Glue Pot to which Council workers had been re-deployed. He said this meant

that they were not available to work on regional and local roads and enquired if this were to happen again could temporary workers be taken on instead.

Cllr. H. McGrath referred to flooding on the Rathmartin Road. He said there was a need to catch water coming from the field as two houses were flooded there recently.

Cllr. M. O' Meara referred to flooding of house at Welshpark/Abbeyville. Cllr. J. Hannigan said there were two houses flooded at Stonepark. He said the Council had built two houses and sold back the land. The area needed to be piped to alleviate flooding.

In response to the comments on works at the Glue Pot, Mr. M. Hayes said he took on board what Cllr. Hannigan had said but it was the only way to ensure that the allocation was spent. Regarding the flooding at the Rathmartin Road, he said that there were a lot of areas where water was coming off the land onto the road and said that this was the landowners' responsibility. Cllr. McGrath requested that this be examined to see if the shaping of the road had changed over the years.

Cllr. J. Carroll referred to previous flood relief schemes and enquired if they were still in existence. Mr. M. Hayes said that the OPW notify the Council if such schemes are available.

**Item 12.**  
**Engineer's Checklist**

Cllr. P. Bugler referred to the undergrounding of cables in Ballina and bollards in Ballina that are in a bad condition.

Cllr. S. Morris referred to the roadway between Cormack Drive and Cudville through HSE land which he said was in a bad condition. He said the camogie field in this location has a lot of rubbish in and requested that the Council correspond with St. Mary's school in relation to it. He asked that the Council also write to the HSE in relation to their land. He also referred to the quality of the bulbs in the lights in Knights Crescent, a blocked gully at Belmont, and the lack of a Stop Sign on the roadway at the back of the Five Alley to access Lissenhall.

Cllr. M. Ryan referred to public lighting at Templeberry School and asked that the Council have another look at this

and see if an arm on the original pole extending out a further five feet might give adequate lighting. He also referred to a blocked gully in Kilcommon and at Jimmy Butler's house.

Cllr. H. McGrath referred to the quality of lights in Brooklands Drive, the Thurles Road Gateway and the provision of a footpath to the Rugby Club.

Cllr. J. Hannigan referred to the footpath in Riverstown in front of the pub which was being used by a lady in a wheelchair, flooding to a house in Gaulross and the need for signage/roadmarkings at the graveyard in Cloughprior.

Cllr. G. Darcy expressed disappointment at the reply from the NRA in relation to the road at Grange. He said that it was a very dangerous junction and requested that the matter be retained on the Checklist. He also referred to the road at Redwood School and asked that this be put back on the Checklist. He further referred to the need to do something in relation to Tyone where vehicles were continuously hitting the wall.

The meeting then adjourned for lunch and resumed at 1.50 p.m. Cllrs. M O' Meara and P Bugler apologised that they were unable to attend for the remainder of the meeting due to other commitments.

**Item 1**  
**Minutes of December Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll and resolved that the minutes of the December meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> December be adopted.

**Item 2.:Update from**  
**Water & Environment Staff**

A copy of the Environmental Management Report was circulated to the members.

Cllr. S. Morris enquired if a temporary waste disposal licence had been granted to the contractor who was carrying out works for Bord Gáis as he noted that material had been deposited in the Millersbrook Housing Estate. In reply Ms. O. Doyle said that she had received a number of complaints about this matter in December and she had met with representatives from Balfour Beatty. She said a lot of the material that is removed is being put back in as infill material and the remainder is being sent to a registered site. She



added that in some cases contractors would be allowed to store small amounts of material on a site on a temporary basis which must then be brought to a permitted site.

Cllr. J. Carroll referred to fly tipping on the N7 & N52 and said there seems to be a new practice of leaving rubbish on the side of the road and queried if a mobile camera system could be used. He also referred to the Five Alley Lounge which he said is becoming derelict.

Cllr. J. Hannigan referred to the bottle banks and clothes banks in Ardcroney which are not located together. He said they should be clustered and screened. Ms. M. Carroll noted that the recycling banks referred to by Cllr. Hannigan were on private property and therefore the Council would not have a say in their location but agreed that they should be located in a tasteful manner. With regard to fly tipping, Ms. Carroll said that the Environment Section can look at the possibility of using cameras.

Cllr. S. Morris requested an update in relation to the Ballycommon Treatment Plant. Cllr. H. McGrath requested a timeframe for the removal of the stone culvert in Kenyon Street and Pearse Street. Cllr. J. Hannigan requested an update on the problem with the pumping station in Riverstown. Cllr. G. Darcy requested an update on improvements to the sewerage scheme in Cloughjordan. Cllr. J. Carroll referred to the proposed water abstraction from Lough Derg and said that there are a huge number of farming families that are not aware of the proposals and there was a need to inform people. Cllr.'s M. Ryan & G. Darcy supported Cllr. Carroll on this.

In response Mr. G. Robinson advised the members that the Council had met with the developer in relation to the Ballycommon Treatment Plant and he had advised that he would be commencing works shortly. With regard to the removal of the stone culvert in Kenyon Street and Pearse Street, he said that the contractor is currently preparing a programme of works which should be finalised in the next few weeks. He added once the programme was finalised he would pass on the details to the members. Regarding the pumping station in Riverstown, he said that the problem arose from pipes surcharging and both the EPA and Irish Water were notified. With regard to Cloughjordan Sewerage Scheme, he said that Irish Water have gone out to tender

and a preferred contractor has been chosen and a timeline for commencement of the works is awaited.

**Item 3: Allocation of General Municipal Allocation 2016**

Proposals in relation to the allocation of the General Municipal Allocation as discussed at the workshop earlier that day were agreed by the members on the proposal of Cllr. S. Morris, seconded by Cllr. M. Ryan.

**Item 4. Taking in Charge of road at Tountinna**

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Morris, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll and resolved that pursuant to the provisions of Section 11 of Roads Act 1993, this Municipal District hereby agrees to declare the Road serving the area known as Tountinna, Arra Mountains, Ballina, Co. Tipperary to be public as per map which was on public display during the prescribed period and as outlined in the Director of Service Report to Members.

**Item 5. (a) & (b) Board of Nenagh Arts Centre**

Cllr. J. Carroll advised the members that it was with regret that he had to resign from the Board of Nenagh Arts Centre. He said that he had too many commitments at present.

Cllr. G. Darcy thanked Cllr. Carroll for his work and commitment to the position.

In view of the absence of some of the members, it was agreed to defer the item to the next meeting.

**Item 6. (a)&(b) Board of North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Services**

Cllr. J. Carroll said it was regret that he had to resign from the Board of North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Services and said that he had given the best that he could.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. S. Morris and resolved that Cllr. J. Hannigan be nominated to fill the vacancy on the Board of North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Services arising from the resignation of Cllr. J. Carroll.

**Item 7. Date for March Meeting of Nenagh Municipal District**

Ms. R. Joyce advised the members that the March meeting of the Nenagh Municipal District was due to take place on 17th March. As this is St. Patrick's Day, Ms. Joyce proposed that the March meeting be held on the 24<sup>th</sup> March. The members agreed to this.

**Item 8.**  
**Policy on Sponsorship of**  
**Roundabouts**

Mr. M. O' Connor advised the members that the Policy on Sponsorship of Roundabouts was brought through the SPC with mixed views, with some Municipal Districts not interested and others thinking it was a good idea.

Cllr. H. McGrath said that he was not in favour of introducing the policy into the Nenagh Municipal District fearing that multinational companies would dominate. He said this comes at a time when we are trying to promote the centre of the town through the Town Centre Forum. Cllr. J. Carroll considered that it could be a good thing if it encouraged outside participation and he felt that the scheme could pin down what could and could not be done. Following discussion the members agreed on the proposal of Cllr. H. McGrath, seconded by Cllr. S. Morris not to introduce the policy in the Nenagh Municipal District.

**Item 9:**  
**Action Plan**

The Action Plan from the December meeting was noted.

**Item 10.**  
**Update on Projects**

**Gills Garden**

Ms. R. Joyce advised that the final layout drawings have been forwarded to the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government for approval.

**Nenagh Traffic Management Plan**

Ms. R. Joyce advised that the Consultant's Report on the Submissions received is awaited.

**Newport Town Park**

Ms. R. Joyce advised the members that discussions are ongoing in relation to land acquisition.

**Promotional Material**

Ms. R. Joyce referred to Postcards of Nenagh Castle, Lough Derg, the Mural on Pound Road and Nenagh Town Park which were circulated to the members. She said the postcards are available free of charge in Nenagh Arts Centre, Nenagh Heritage Centre and Nenagh Castle. She also referred to the Nenagh River Signage which has been erected in the Chamber. She advised the members that a bigger version of the sign, which was commissioned by Artist Elle Power, will be erected on the Dublin Road.

Cllr. S. Morris enquired if a report had been received from the Consultants in relation to the fencing off of the river. Mr. M. O' Connor advised that he spoke with the Consultants and they do not see the need to fence off the river, saying it would destroy the views of the park. He said the Consultants were appointed as Project Supervisor Construction Stage and were therefore responsible for the safe design of the project. Cllr. S. Morris said that he would like to lodge his strongest objection to not fencing off the river as he said the river is very angry.

Cllr. H. McGrath referred to traffic management on the Borrisokane Road. He said that traffic is moving very quickly down the hill and enquired if speed detector units could be erected there. Cllrs. G. Darcy and J. Carroll supported Cllr. McGrath on this. Cllr. H. McGrath also referred to the bent barriers at the Dublin Road corner and requested that they be attended to. He also said that there was confusion as to whether there was one or two lanes at this junction.

He went on to say that he felt that the free parking in car parks on Saturday was not working. He said the smaller car parks were full by 9.15 a.m. by the same cars and requested that Mr. O' Connor talk to the Town Centre Forum about amending the free parking to two hours.

Cllr. J. Hannigan said that the initiatives undertaken in the town at Christmas were excellent and he commended all involved. The effort made by everybody had been recognised by Denis Finnerty, President of the Chamber of Commerce on the radio. Cllr. Hannigan said that there were serious traffic issues which need to be resolved. There was a need for parking facilities for the workers in the shops. He also asked that speed indicator signs be provided in Carrig.

Cllr. G. Darcy referred to the need for traffic calming in Ballingarry.

With regard to the Borrisokane Road, Mr. M. O' Connor said that the area in question is within the speed limits so there should be no speeding there. He said the protocol for the introduction of speed detectors units was firstly to carry out speed measurements to see if there was a need for such a unit. He pointed out however, that speed

detector units are becoming less effective and suggested that perhaps mobile units may be the answer.

Referring to the Dublin Road Corner, he said that the demarcation of this junction is a long term problem as it is too tight. He said the long term solution is a connection from Summerhill to the Dublin road, as identified in the Draft Traffic Management Plan however this would not be easy to achieve as there would be land acquisition and acquisition of houses involved. This would have to be looked at in the medium to long-term.

Regarding free car parking on Saturdays in Car Parks, Mr. O' Connor said that he had had some discussions with the Chamber of Commerce through the Town Centre Forum on the matter. He said that there was a consensus emerging that there would be benefit to limiting the time to 2 hours. He added that he would be coming back to the members with proposals on this along with a proposal for reduced parking fees for staff who use the Railway Carpark.

Cllr. H. McGrath referred to heavy goods vehicles who come through the town rather than using the by-pass. He requested that the Council write to the transport managers in the relevant companies and encourage them to use the by-pass.

**Item 13.**  
**Notice of Motion**

**Notice of Motion No. 593 submitted by Cllr. G. Darcy**

That this Council improves the sightline on the Hogan's Pass to Monsea Road by removing the dangerous bends.

The motion was proposed by Cllr. G. Darcy and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll.

Ms. R. Joyce read out a response to the Motion as follows:

*"The minimum works required to improve the sightlines this road would involve the purchase of land and the removal of ditches. Some excavation works may also be required.*

*There are no funds at present to carry out this kind of work."*

Cllr. G. Darcy said that the purchase of land would be no issue as there would be co-operation from the landowners.

Cllr. J. Carroll supported Cllr. Darcy and requested that the Council talk to the landowners in question. Mr. M. O' Connor said that funds are not available for this type of work and even if they were there are other busier regional roads that would be looked at. Cllr. G. Darcy requested that this be left on the agenda.

**Item 14.**  
**Delegated Employees**  
**Orders**

None.

**Item 15.**  
**Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted:

1. Letter from the Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine regarding TAMS II grants.

**Item 16.**  
**Votes of Congratulations/**  
**Sympathy**

Votes of Sympathy were passed to the following:

- Mr. Kevin Whelan, Castlewood, Nenagh on the death of his sister Olive Gash R.I.P.
- Noel & Theresa O' Brien, Ryninch, Ballina on the death of Mary O' Brien R.I.P.
- Ms. Anne O' Connor, Ryninch, Ballina on the death of Christy O' Connor Jnr. R.I.P
- Ms. Teresa McCormack, Radharc Darach, Nenagh on the death of Eddie McCormack R.I.P.
- Ms. Nora Morrissey, 2 Silver St., Nenagh on the death of Billy Morrissey R.I.P.
- Ms. Margaret O' Sullivan on the death of Tony Ryan R.I.P.
- Cllr. H. McGrath, 19 Brooklands Drive, Nenagh on the death of his sister Marguerite McGrath R.I.P.
- Mr. Ned Gleeson, 28 Knockaun Court, Silversprings, Clonmel on the death of his brothers-in-law, Mattie McCormack and Michael McCormack R. I. P.

Votes of Congratulations were passed to the following:

- Ms. Ann Malone, Knockalton Nenagh on Nenagh Éire Óg winning the North Under 21 Hurling Final.
- Mr. Patsy Farrell, 50 Cormack Drive on Nenagh Snooker Club winning a third Munster title in a row.
- Mr. Barry Coffey, Rathnaleen, Nenagh on being called up to the under 15 International Soccer Team.

- Ms. Callan Scully, Ballinacloough Road, Nenagh on being called up to the under 15 International Soccer Team.

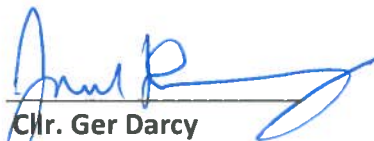
**Item 17.****A.O.B**

Cllr. H. McGrath advised the members that the St. Patrick's Day Parade will take place in Nenagh on the 17<sup>th</sup> March along the same route as previous years. He said application forms were now available and the Committee were looking for ideas to incorporate the 1916 Commemoration into the event.

Cllr. J. Carroll referred to the upcoming retirement of Mr. M. Hayes, Senior Executive Engineer. He said he had known Michael since 1999 and he had always been professional in any dealings he had with him. He wished him all the best for the future. Cllr. H. McGrath concurred with Cllr. Carroll, saying that Michael was always courteous, helpful and honest and wished him well in his retirement. Cllr. J. Hannigan said that Michael was a gentleman, he congratulated him on his service and wished him well for the future. Cllr. F. Bonfield said that Michael was very approachable and wished him well for the future. Cllr. G.Darcy also congratulated Michael on his retirement.

Ms. R. Joyce advised the members that the official launch of the year of activities in Cloughjordan was taking place on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> January in the Thomas MacDonagh Heritage Centre. A launch of the Thomas MacDonagh Poetry Project would also take place.

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

Signed:   
Cllr. Ger Darcy  
Cathaoirleach

Date: 18/2/16

Signed:   
Ms. Rosemary Joyce  
District Administrator

Date: 18/2/16

