



MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING OF THE THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT OFFICES, CASTLE AVENUE, THURLES ON 16th SEPTEMBER, 2019

Present: Councillor Michael Smith Cathaoirleach, presided.

Councillors Noel Coonan, Seamus Hanafin, Shane Lee, Michéal Lowry, Eddie Moran, Jim Ryan, Peter Ryan and Sean Ryan.

Also Present:

Karl Cashen	Director of Services
Liam Brett	Senior Engineer
Thomas Duffy	District Engineer
John Jones	Executive Engineer
Janice Gardiner	Acting Meetings Administrator
Deirdre O'Shea	Senior Staff Officer

Apologies: Jim Ryan Executive Engineer

1. Adoption of Minutes.

It was proposed by Councillor Jim Ryan, seconded by Councillor Shane Lee and resolved:

"That the Minutes of the July Monthly Meeting which was held on the 24th. July, 2019 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the Meeting."

2. Update from Environment & Climate Change Section.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Seán Keating, Director of Services and Cora Morrissey, Administrative Officer, Environment and Climate Change Section to the Meeting.

Seán circulated a report detailing activity in the District from 1st. January 2019 to 31st. August 2019 under the following headings:

- Infrastructure & Maintenance.
- Civic Amenity.
- Community Services.
- Control of Dogs.
- Control of Horses.
- Derelict Sites.
- Litter Enforcement.
- Waste Management.



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- Environment Protection.
 - Climate & Energy.
 - Complaints.

Seán advised that:-

- Funding has been secured to purchase one CCTV camera per District which can be moved from one location to another to address illegal dumping in the County.
- Householders that do not produce evidence of disposal of their waste in a legal manner, when requested, will be subject to fixed penalty notices and in some cases prosecutions under the new Waste Management Bye-Laws.
- The Council will commence with the preparation of actions under the new Climate Adaptation Strategy adopted by the Members at the September Council Meeting.

The Members raised the following issues:-

- Timescale for the rehabilitation of the old dump at Monanearla, Thurles. There is also an issue with horses being placed on the lands.
- Additional bins and anti dog fouling signage are needed in Thurles town.
- Install CCTV cameras in St. Patrick's Cemetery as items are being stolen from graves.
- Update in regard to removal of waste behind Clohessy Place housing estate, Inch, Thurles.
- Street bins in Two-Mile-Borris village have not been emptied since during the Summer.
- The bins at Collins Park housing estate, Thurles are not being emptied on a regular basis.
- Address continuous dumping at Stradavoher Court, Thurles.
- Condition of footpaths in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Templemore and the need for CCTV as damage is being caused to graves and the capping on the boundary wall.
- Removal of trees in Borrisoleigh Cemetery.
- Issue with unsupervised dogs in Railway View, Templemore.
- Provision of electric car charging points in Templemore town.
- Establish when CCTV cameras will be erected to combat indiscriminate dumping in the District. Liaise with Members who are very knowledgeable on litter black spot locations.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- A dedicated unit has been established to concentrate on old landfill sites in the County. Disused landfills require screening for Environmental Assessment and must automatically be referred to An Bórd Pleanála under the new European legislation which was introduced last year.



This significant change is leading to delays in the rehabilitation of landfills across the County. Horses were seized on Monanearla landfill and locks changed on the access gates.

- The Council is actively increasing awareness of the issue of dog fouling in the County through various initiatives. Twelve anti dog fouling signs were distributed to the District for erection in hot spot areas.
- The theft of items from graves in St. Patrick's Cemetery is on a small scale and being monitored. CCTV cameras may be diverted to St. Patrick's Cemetery, Thurles and St. Joseph's Cemetery, Templemore if issues persist.
- Work is taking place with Housing Section on the removal of illegally dumped waste behind Clohessy Place, Inch, Thurles.
- The issue of bins not being emptied in Two-Mile-Borris will be investigated.
- Contact will be made with the Dog Warden in regard to unsupervised dogs in Railway View housing estate, Templemore.
- Road Sections are the lead in regard to electric car charging points. Installation of electric car charging points in the County will be included as an action item under the Climate Adaptation Strategy.
- The CCTV cameras to address illegal dumping in the County should be in operation shortly and contact will be made with the Members in regard to litter black spot locations.
- Waste was removed from Stradavoher Court, Thurles recently and further action will be taken on the illegal dumping that is starting to accumulate again.

The Cathaoirleach and Members thanked Seán and Cora for their contributions and they left the Chamber.

3. Civic Reception - Nominations.

The Acting Meetings Administrator advised the Members that 5 nominations have been received to date and outstanding nominations must be submitted by Friday 20th. September, 2019 for referral to the Corporate Policy Group for consideration.

4. (a) Update on the 2019 Work Programmes.

John Jones, Executive Engineer confirmed that:-

- The N75 from The Anner Hotel to the roundabout at Mill Road, Thurles was resurfaced last week.
- Resurfacing on the N62 on the Roscrea side of Templemore town is to commence this afternoon.
- Footpath repairs have been completed around the Cathedral, Thurles.
- Footpath improvements will be undertaken in various locations in Thurles town on completion of works by Irish Water.



- Resurfacing / relining and new signage will be provided at Killinan junction, Thurles mid-October under the Low Cost Safety Scheme.
- A dedicated crew will be put in place for street cleaning in Thurles/Thurles Area. A crew will also be put in place to deal with drainage issues south of the District.

The Members raised the following issues:-

- Overgrown trees interfering with public lighting to the front of Willowmere Drive housing estate, Thurles.
- (i) Condition of paths:- at entrance to Mitchel House on St. Mary's Avenue, Thurles, outside Ryan's Funeral Home, Slievenamon Road, Thurles, at the entrance to Kiltillane Court extending out to Grey's Funeral Home, Templemore, near Borrisoleigh Graveyard and at Moycarkey village. (ii) Include replacement of sections of the paths at Iona/Butler Avenue, Thurles in this year's programme. (iii) Sections of the paths in Moyne Road and Mitchel Street, Thurles and on Church Avenue and Lacey Avenue, Templemore need replacement.
- Update in regard to replacement of damaged speed ramps at Bohernanave, Thurles.
- Extend single white line from Thurles Rugby Football Club to Mace Shop at Loughtagalla, Thurles.
- Illegal dumping and issue with overgrowth in rear access road at Kennedy Park, Thurles. A budget needs to be set aside each year to upgrade rear access roads behind public housing estates.
- The reinstatement works undertaken by contractors on behalf of Irish Water at Lognafulla/Loughtagalla, Thurles are not up to standard.
- Update on the resurfacing of the N62 on the Thurles side of Templemore.
- Poor condition of the boundary fence at Má Téine housing estate, Templemore.
- Overgrown hedging on the roadway from the hurling field, Castleiney to Loughmore and in the Drom area. Action should be taken against uncooperative landowners who have to be written to each year to cut overgrown hedging on public roads.
- The need for the erection of additional "Yield" signage on the Cashel side of the junction at Horse & Jockey following realignment of the junction.
- Reinstatement of road markings following resurfacing works from Mary Willies to Gortnahoe and at the former briquette factory, Littleton.
- Update in regard to improvement of lighting at the pedestrian crossing in Two-Mile-Borris.
- Overgrowth at the junction at Cloncleigh, Two-Mile-Borris near Ballyduff Creamery needs regular attention as it is impeding sightlines. A verge trimming programme needs to be put in place to limit growth at dangerous junctions in the District.



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- Fill dangerous pothole on the N62 as you turn from Pouldine to Ballymoreen.
 - Consider planting wildflowers on the approach roads into the towns in order to reduce grass cutting.
 - Address safety concerns at the traffic lights near the Library, Roscrea.
 - Provision of path and public lighting at Benamore, Roscrea which is a very popular pedestrian route.
 - The R445 from the roundabout at McDonalds to Stapletons Bakery is very dark and used regularly by cyclists.
 - Provision of pedestrian crossing on the N62 at Tierney's Funeral Home, Birr Road, Roscrea.
 - Install flashing speed signs on the N62 at Kennedy Park, Roscrea.
 - Address speeding in Toomevara village coming from the direction of Gortagarry.
 - Update on resurfacing of the Bohernacrusha Road.
 - Current position with regard to the flood relief scheme in Templemore.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- A schedule of proposed footpath improvements to be undertaken in the District this year will be drawn up and circulated to the Members.
- The OPW will be required to repair/replace the boundary fence which runs adjacent to the river in Má Téine housing estate, Templemore on completion of flood relief improvements. Further contact will be made with them in regard to this issue and progress to date on the Scheme.
- The Council is obliged to adhere to the procedure which is laid out in the legislation to address overgrown hedging on public roads and resources will be strengthened in this area. The media should also increase awareness of the issue which is the landowners responsibility.
- The complaint regarding the dangerous pothole as you turn from Pouldine to Ballymoreen will be investigated.
- The planting of wildflowers on the approach roads into the 3 towns is currently being examined.
- The Council undertakes verge trimming in the District and a structured programme will be put in place.
- Safety concerns at the traffic lights on the Knock Road, Roscrea will be highlighted by the Cathaoirleach at the impending meeting with the TII.
- The Council is examining sources of funding that may be available to develop a walkway along the inner by-pass from Mulrooney's back to the Limerick Road, Roscrea.
- The road at Bohernacrusha will be resurfaced shortly after negotiations are concluded with the contractor.



4. (b) Submissions for meeting with TII in November.

The Cathaoirleach advised that the following items will be raised with the TII at the meeting in November:-

- Thurles By-Pass.
- N62 on the Roscrea side of Templemore town.
- Junction at Grove Street, Roscrea.
- Turtulla Cross, Thurles.
- Provision of footpath to Drish Bridge, Thurles.
- Pouldine Cross, Littleton.
- Provision of pedestrian crossing at Kickham Street, Thurles.
- Provision of pedestrian crossing near the Willows/Rosemount housing estates, Clongour, Thurles.

Liam Brett, Senior Engineer confirmed that any additional items need to be submitted to the Acting District Administrator within the next week.

5. Update on Projects.

Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme, Thurles.	A contractor will be appointed mid-October with works commencing on the new carpark at the end of October, 2019.
Repairs / Improvements to Templemore Town Hall.	It is anticipated that the improvements will be completed within the next 2 weeks.
Roscrea Enhancement Scheme.	Tender documents for proposed improvements at Market Square, Roscrea will be advertised on e-Tenders shortly.
Templemore Town Park.	The Council will continue to liaise with the Voluntary Housing Association to progress the widening of the entrance off Main Street into the Town Park.
Old Farm Building at Thurles Town Park.	A section of the building will be improved in due course.
Consideration of proposed Peatway on Bórd na Móna lands.	The Council will continue to engage with Bórd na Móna who are the lead on this project.

The Members raised the following queries:

- (i) Establish when works will commence on Liberty Square, Thurles.
- (ii) Ensure the public are made aware of the traffic management plan that will be in place for the duration of works on Liberty Square, Thurles.



- (i) Ensure residents are consulted prior to improvement works on Slievenamon Road, Thurles.
- (ii) Works on Slievenamon Road and Liberty Square should not proceed at the same time.
- (iii) Create linkage between Slievenamon Road and Liberty Square through the upgrading of the public lighting standards.
- Address issues raised by traders at a recent meeting on proposed improvements at Market Square, Roscrea.
- The Council should make contact with the new Property Manager in Bórd na Móna in order to progress peatway on Bórd na Móna lands.

Replies to queries raised as follows:-

- The Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme will be completed prior to undertaking improvements on Slievenamon Road, Thurles. Works on Liberty Square will commence on completion of the new carpark.
- TII will not provide funding to upgrade the public lighting standards on Slievenamon Road, Thurles.
- The consultants have been asked to examine a number of issues raised at the meeting pertaining to improvements at Market Square, Roscrea and an update will be provided to the Members at the next District Meeting.
- The contact details of the new Property Manager in Bórd na Móna should be circulated to the District Engineer.

6. Notices of Motion.

a) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor M. Smith

Councillor M. Smith formerly moved the following Notice of Motion in his name:

"I am calling on the Municipal District to open up discussions with Offaly County Council in relation to a proposed Green Way linking Birr to Roscrea."

The response issued to Councillor Smith in advance of the Meeting was as follows:

"Some preliminary work was carried out by Tipperary County Council with the view to creating a link between Roscrea and Birr along the old railway line. Difficulties were encountered and little progress was made as a result. However there is merit in re-visiting the project and contact will be made with Offaly County Council to have the matter explored."

Councillor N. Coonan seconded the Motion.



The Cathaoirleach pointed out that there is substantial funding available for the development of greenways and that recent discussions with the Cathaoirleach of Offaly County Council in regard to the proposal proved positive.

Councillor N. Coonan stressed the importance of early constructive engagement with landowners.

b) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor J. Ryan

Councillor J. Ryan formerly moved the following Notice of Motion in his name:

"In light of current 2020 Budget negotiations I am calling on this District Council to seek funding for the installation of new Street Lights from The Glebe housing estate as far as Kickham Park along the Mill Road in Thurles. I am also asking for a footpath extension to be built along the same route as this area is within both the Town Urban Boundary and the existing 50km per hour speed limit zone. I am calling for these measures under current Health and Safety Regulations."

The response issued to Councillor J. Ryan in advance of the Meeting was as follows:

"The provision of footpaths and lights at this location would be desirable, however the annual budget process provides for revenue expenditure and income only and does not provide for specific projects without an identified funding source.

The proposed works will involve the purchase of land as well as providing the infrastructure to facilitate the provision of the lights.

The 3 year capital programme and Restoration Improvement Programme have already been agreed by the Members.

The only alternative may be the GMA, the distribution of which will in due course be decided by the Members of Thurles District. However this funding stream would not apply to the installation of public lighting as there is an ongoing maintenance cost associated with same.

In the meantime an estimate will be prepared for the costs of the provision of a footpath and public lighting which will be presented to the Members in due course.

The District will, however, endeavour to explore any other specific grant funding streams which may accommodate this request."

Councillor S. Hanafin seconded the Motion.

Councillor J. Ryan advised that Mill Road is used as a short cut into Thurles and the lack of a footpath and public lighting poses a health and safety risk to young children who frequent Kickham Park, Thurles.



Councillor S. Hanafin recommended that public lighting be provided out to Dew Valley Foods on the Holycross Road and at Turtulla Cross.

The District Engineer confirmed that the requests put forward will be considered subject to the availability of funding.

7. Correspondence.

There was no correspondence received.

8. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy.

Votes of Congratulations were extended to:

- The Tipperary County Council Fire-Fighters and Fire Officers who participated in the inaugural Setanta Fire Service Games at Thurles Fire Station on Saturday 14th. September, 2019.
- The Tipperary Intermediate Ladies Football team and members, Maria Curley and Elaine Fitzpatrick (Templemore), on winning the 2019 TG4 All Ireland Intermediate Ladies Football Championship Final on Sunday 15th. September, 2019.
- Councillor P. Ryan on his outstanding performance at the 2019 UCI Para-Cycling Road World Championships held in the Netherlands in the last few days.
- The Republic of Ireland Women's U17 Soccer Team and their Manager, James Scott who qualified for the European Championships recently.
- The Dúrlas Óg U14 Hurling Teams who won the 2019 A and C Hurling County Finals.
- Thurles Gaels on winning the 2019 U12 D Hurling County Final.

9. Any Other Business.

Invite a representative of Shannodoc to a meeting with the Members to establish if there has been a cut back in the delivery of the services in Thurles town.	A letter will be forwarded to Shannodoc Headquarters.
Address the issue of speeding at Leugh and Rahealty National Schools.	The complaints will be monitored.
Extend an invitation to Grant Scheme recipients for refreshments at 1pm in the District Offices following the October/November MD Monthly Meetings.	Contact will be made with Grant recipients.



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

Comhairle Contae
Thiobraid Árann,
Oifigí Cheantar Bardasach
an
Dhurlais, Ascaill an
Chaisleáin, Durlas,
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That concluded the official business of the Meeting.

SIGNED: _____ **DATE: 21st. October, 2019.**
CATHAOIRLEACH

SIGNED: _____ **DATE: 21st. October, 2019.**
ACTING MEETINGS
ADMINISTRATOR