



MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TEMPLEMORE-THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE THURLES CHAMBER ENTERPRISE CENTRE, LIT TIPPERARY CAMPUS, NENAGH ROAD, THURLES ON WEDNESDAY 27th APRIL, 2016.

Present:

Councillor John Hogan, Cathaoirleach, presided.

Councillors Joe Bourke, David Doran, Seamus Hanafin, Micheál Lowry, Eddie Moran, Jim Ryan and Sean Ryan.

Also Present:

Matt Shortt	District Director.
Ruairi Boland B.E.	District Engineer.
John Jones B.E.	Executive Engineer.
Michael Tierney B.E.	Executive Engineer.
Michael Ryan	Meetings Administrator.
Deirdre O'Shea	Staff Officer.

Apology:

Councillor Michael Smith.	
Michael F. Hayes B.E.	Senior Engineer.

Welcome.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Councillor Eddie Moran to his first meeting following his co-option in place of the late Councillor Willie Kennedy who died tragically in a road traffic accident.

1. Adoption of Minutes.

(a) It was proposed by Councillor J. Ryan, seconded by Councillor D. Doran and resolved:

"That the Minutes of a Meeting with a Deputation from Barronstown, Loughmore which was held on the 23rd. March, 2016 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the Meeting."

(b) It was proposed by Councillor J. Ryan, seconded by Councillor D. Doran and resolved:

"That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting which was held on the 23rd. March, 2016 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the Meeting."

27th. April, 2016.



2. Community & Economic Development.

Ms. Áine McCarthy, Tourism Officer and Róisín O'Grady, Heritage Officer were in attendance for this item.

Áine McCarthy circulated a report on Community and Economic Development and she outlined the activities / progress to date in the following areas:

- Local Community Development Committee.
- Strategic Projects Unit.
- Economic Development.
- Tourism.
- Local Enterprise Office.
- Tipperary Sports Partnership & FAI.
- Tipperary County Museum.
- Arts.

Róisín O'Grady gave an update on the projects / events in Tipperary to mark the Centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising and she referred to the publication of "County Tipperary in 1916 - a history in 40 documents" by Denis G. Marnane and Mary Guinan Darmody, Tipperary Studies, Tipperary County Council Library Service which has proved to be very popular with schools and the community at large.

Members made the following comments / observations in relation to the Presentation:-

- Position in regard to the application submitted by Thurles Chamber under the Diaspora Grant.
- Efforts need to be made to bring the Derrynaflan Chalice back for display in the Thurles Area.
- Replacement of member of staff in Tipperary Sports Partnership during maternity leave.
- Concern at the closure of the Tourist Office in Nenagh.
- It is difficult for communities to implement projects to promote Holycross Abbey due to the cumbersome time restrictions which are applied to grant applications in having work completed.
- The importance of maintaining a record of events that take place in Tipperary in commemoration of the Centenary of the 1916 Easter Rising.
- The need to attract tourists across the County.
- The importance of promoting Thurles as the birthplace of the G.A.A.



- Write to the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government requesting that the carbon tax be removed from peat products as it is having a detrimental effect on Bord na Móna who is a large employer in the County.

Áine McCarthy confirmed that:

- A commitment has been given by Fáilte Ireland to open the Tourist Office in Nenagh for 11 weeks during the Summer period, which will then be reviewed.
- Ireland's Ancient East is the key component used to promote tourism in Tipperary and two substantial grant schemes will be announced by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport which Tipperary County Council will pursue.
- The application submitted by Thurles Chamber under the Diaspora Grant Scheme will be followed up.
- The other points raised will be referred to the relevant parties for consideration.

The Cathaoirleach and Members thanked Áine McCarthy and Róisín O'Grady for their Presentations and Áine and Róisín left the Meeting.

3. To consider the Manager's Report under Part 8 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 on the Liberty Square Refurbishment / Development of a Car Park in Thurles.

The District Director advised that there is a delay in the completion of the Manager's Report under Part 8 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 on the Liberty Square Refurbishment / Development of a Car Park in Thurles as an architectural survey needs to be undertaken on the protected structures in the proposed car parking area and that the Report will be brought before the Members for consideration at the earliest possible date.

4. Appointment of Drainage Committees.

The Meetings Administrator outlined the background to the Drainage Area Committees that existed within the Municipal District and named the non Councillors who served on the former Committees.

It was agreed that contact would be made with the former non Councillors and names of landowners put forward at the Meeting to ascertain their interest in serving on the Drainage Committees.

It was further agreed that each Councillor will serve on 2 Committees as follows:

The Black River: Councillors D. Doran, J. Hogan, S. Ryan.



The Clodiagh:	Councillors M. Lowry, J. Ryan, M. Smith.
The Cromogue:	Councillors S. Hanafin, J. Ryan, M. Smith.
The Farneybridge/Ballinahow:	Councillors S. Hanafin, M. Lowry, S. Ryan.
The Goul:	Councillors J. Bourke, D. Doran, E. Moran.
Roscrea/Templemore Area:	Councillors J. Bourke, J. Hogan, E. Moran.

5. Payment of Grants - Residents Associations and Sports / Voluntary Groups.

The Meetings Administrator confirmed that:

1. 5 Tidy Towns Committees have not reapplied this year and 3 new applications have been submitted for Ballysloe, Gortnahoe and Holycross under the Tidy Towns Grant Scheme.
2. 5 Burial Ground Committees that obtained a grant last year have not submitted an application under the 2016 Burial Ground Grant Scheme.
3. 103 applications have been received under the General Grant Scheme for Residents Associations, Sports Clubs for the provision of playing facilities for young people and other Voluntary Groups which is an increase of 18 on last year and the grant amounts to Residents Associations need to be reviewed on the basis of the size of open space to be maintained in each estate. The budget of €45,000 includes €15,000 as agreed from the General Municipal Allocation.
4. Recommendations on the payment of grants will be brought before the next Meeting.

It was agreed that every effort will be made to contact the Committees who have not reapplied to date this year.

The District Director confirmed, in response to a query raised by the Cathaoirleach regarding the cost of opening / closing graves, that a full review is currently being undertaken on all burial grounds in the County and that a Burial Ground Policy will be brought before the Water & Environment Strategic Policy Committee in the next few months.

The Meetings Administrator pointed out that there are Bye-Laws in place for St. Patrick's Cemetery, Thurles which require Council Staff to open/close the graves.



6. Schedule of Municipal District Works 2016.

A report on the expenditure to date under the Schedule of Municipal District Works 2016 was circulated at the Meeting.

The District Engineer confirmed that:-

- Tenders have been invited to undertake strengthening and surface dressing improvements under the 2016 Roadworks Programme and that work will commence in Thurles and Roscrea in the next few weeks.
- 23 applications have been received under the Community Involvement Scheme and the budget is €80,000.00.
- Improvements will commence on the road at Killinan, Thurles circa 23rd. May, 2016

Members raised the following issues:-

- The cycle lanes installed at Clongour, Thurles should be removed as the road is unsuitable.
- Renew the double yellow lines at each side of the entrance to Cabragh Court Housing Estates, Thurles which were removed when the cycle lanes were installed on Cabra Road.
- Fill the potholes on roads at Koolkip / Horse & Jockey, Killea, The Islands/Loughmore, Roadstown/Drom and Illeigh near the Church.
- Complete the footpath outside the Community Centre, Littleton.
- Update on flooding at Barronstown, Loughmore.
- The need to pursue landowners who are not cutting hedges that are interfering with road users.
- The hedge that was cut in conjunction with the road improvements at Ballyroan, Borrisoleigh is beginning to encroach on road users.

The District Director undertook to examine the suitability of the cycle lanes on Clongour, Thurles.

The District Engineer pointed out that clarification is required on whether double yellow lines can be laid where cycle lanes are located and he explained that drainage works have to be undertaken prior to installation of the footpath outside the Community Centre, Littleton.

John Jones, Executive Engineer pointed out that:-



- Margaret Brolan's house at Barronstown, Loughmore is located in a saucer in the landscape and that during heavy rainfall periods, the water flows into her property from the land to the rear of her house and from a spring located on land across the road.
- The solution identified involves the installation of drainage to the rear of Margaret Brolan's house for approximately 1km at a cost of between €200,000.00 - €250,000.00 and the goodwill of landowners would be required to undertake the works.
- Two applications were submitted to the Office of Public Works to undertake the drainage works which were unsuccessful and the District Engineer has recently applied again for funding.
- Residents have been advised to install a pump in the honeycomb system during prolonged heavy rainfall.
- Further contact is being made with landowners who have not cut hedges adjoining public roads.
- The Council is actively patching roads since the weather improved two weeks ago.

7. Update on Projects.

Thurles Town Park.

The official opening of Thurles Town Park will take place at 3.00pm today followed by refreshments in The Source Arts Centre.

Liberty Square
Refurbishment and
development of a
carpark.

This was dealt with under Item No 3 on the Agenda.

Extension to and
Refurbishment of the
Offices at Castle Avenue,
Thurles.

The contract is progressing very well within the Work Programme and a site visit will be organised for the Members at an early date.

Repairs / Improvements
to Templemore Town
Hall

A meeting has been arranged with the Conservation Architect in regard to the priority works to be undertaken to Templemore Town Hall.

Templemore Town Park
Extension.

It was agreed to defer consideration of the sketches / layouts for the additional land purchased until the next Monthly Meeting.



Village Enhancement
Works.

Tenders have been invited for footpath improvement works at Gortnahoe and Inch and the latest date for receipt of tenders is 12noon on Wednesday 4th. May, 2016.

Rocrea Enhancement
Scheme and Roscrea
Traffic and
Transportation Plan
2016.

Tender documents are being finalised for the engagement of a Consulting Engineer to prepare the Roscrea Traffic and Transportation Plan 2016 and the closing date for receipt of tenders is 12noon on Wednesday 11th. May, 2016. The successful Consultants will be required to work closely with the Landscape Architect Led Design Team who will be appointed shortly to prepare designs for the Roscrea Enhancement Scheme.

Carpark at St. Patrick's
Cemetery.

A draft layout plan for the carpark has been completed. There are some boundary / entrance issues that are currently being addressed. Plans and specification for the Part 8 Process are currently being finalised in-house by the technical staff.

8. Notices of Motion.

a) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Jim Ryan.

Councillor Jim Ryan formally moved the following Notice of Motion in his name:

"I am calling on this Council to carry out road safety works on both Turtulla Cross and Killinan Cross to include the installation of lighting, extra road markings, extra signage and reduced speed limits along with, if necessary, proper and more safe road alignment works."

Councillor J. Ryan referred to the number of fatalities and serious accidents that have occurred at Turtulla Cross since it was last examined by Transport Infrastructure Ireland and he asked that additional signage be provided from Archerstown Industrial Estate warning of the approaching junction.

Councillor D. Doran seconded the Motion and there was broad support from the other Members.



The District Engineer confirmed that the Road Safety Officer, Transport Infrastructure Ireland carried out a further inspection of the junction a number of weeks ago and that substantial funding is required from the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport to realign the road at the junction of Killinan.

The Meetings Administrator pointed out, in response to concerns from the Members, that the Notices of Motion are referred to the appropriate Directorate when they are received by the Municipal District.

b) Notice of Motion in the joint names of Councillor Sean Ryan and Councillor John Hogan.

Councillor Sean Ryan formally moved the following Notice of Motion in his name and on behalf of the Cathaoirleach:

"That this Council would support the installation of a gate and footpath improvements at Templemore Cemetery."

Councillor S. Ryan pointed out the difficulty older people have in negotiating the footpaths in St. Joseph's Old Cemetery, Templemore due to their poor condition.

The Cathaoirleach urged the Council to replace the pedestrian gate which will also prevent dogs from entering the cemetery.

Councillor J. Bourke referred to five trees that need attention in the graveyard.

John Jones, Executive Engineer agreed to examine the issues raised.

c) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor David Doran.

Councillor D. Doran formally moved the following Notice of Motion in his name:

"I am calling for the current cctv cameras in Thurles to be upgraded and extended to take in other areas of the town including Thurles Town Park."

Councillor D. Doran pointed out that some of the cameras in Thurles do not appear to be in working order and the Gardaí have recommended that the system be upgraded.

Councillor S. Ryan indicated that the insurance on CCTV systems is cost prohibitive for communities and should be included under the Council's insurance policy.

The Meetings Administrator confirmed that:-



- The Thurles CCTV system was provided under the Community Based CCTV Scheme administered by Pobal which is no longer in operation and that the cameras which are in working order are of a higher specification that what was required under the Scheme. There is a maintenance agreement in place for the system.
- Tenders have been invited for the provision of CCTV in Thurles Town Park.
- The Community & Economic Development Section is currently undertaking a review on existing community based CCTV and requests for the installation of systems in the County.
- The issues raised by the Members will be referred to the Directorate of Community & Economic Development.

9. Correspondence.

(a) Tipperary Early Payment Scheme for Rates 2016.

The Meetings Administrator advised that the Finance Section has requested the support of the Members in promoting the Tipperary Early Payment Scheme for Rates 2016 which provides for a 5% discount to ratepayers who pay their rates in full by 30th. September, 2016. It was noted that the latest date for receipt of applications has been extended to the 31st. May, 2016.

10. Vote of Congratulations / Sympathy.

The Cathaoirleach extended a Vote of Congratulations to the Meetings Administrator who will retire on Friday after almost 46 years service with the Council. He referred to the many fine qualities that Michael portrayed during the course of his distinguished career, the prudent manner in which he managed the finances of the former Thurles Town Council and the Municipal District and the legacy he leaves behind in the numerous capital projects such as Thurles Town Park that he brought to fruition.

The other Members endorsed his comments and wished him well in his retirement.

The Meetings Administrator thanked the Members for their comments and he spoke of the fulfilment and enjoyment that he derived from his role during his long service with the Council.

The District Director confirmed that a retirement function will be held for Michael in The Source Arts Centre on Friday 13th. May, 2016 at 7.00 pm.



Civic Awards.

The District Director confirmed, in reply to the Cathaoirleach, that a meeting needs to be convened of the Working Group to agree a protocol on the holding of Civic Receptions.

11. Any Other Business.

The following issues were raised:-

Issue	Response
Poor condition of the footpath near the Church in Templetuohy.	The complaint will be investigated.
Indiscriminate dumping of rubbish in the Cemetery in Borrisoleigh.	The issue will be examined.
Relocate the Cross to a more suitable area in the cemetery in Borrisoleigh.	The comments were noted.
Remove the grass cuttings in St. Joseph's new Cemetery, Templemore.	The complaint will be examined.

THAT CONCLUDED THE OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: 25th. May, 2016.

SIGNED: _____
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: 25th. May, 2016.