



MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TEMPLEMORE-THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT OFFICES, CASTLE AVENUE, THURLES ON WEDNESDAY 22nd FEBRUARY, 2017

Present: Councillor Joe Bourke, Cathaoirleach, presided.

Councillors David Doran, Seamus Hanafin, John Hogan, Michéal Lowry, Eddie Moran, Jim Ryan, Sean Ryan and Michael Smith.

<u>Also Present:</u>	Matt Shortt	District Director
	Michael F. Hayes B.E.	Senior Engineer
	Ruairi Boland B.E.	District Engineer
	John Jones B.E.	Executive Engineer
	Michael Tierney	Executive Engineer
	Deirdre O'Shea	Acting Meetings Administrator
	Noel McCormack	Acting Staff Officer

Matters arising from the Minutes:

- Members asked for an update in regard to the following:-
 - Timeframe for the laying of watermains at Abbey Road, Thurles in order to progress improvements at Lidl roundabout.
 - Proposals to address sewerage issues at Hayfield Manor, Thurles which needs to include houses on Bohernamona Road, Thurles
 - Speeding issue at Borrisoleigh.
 - Poor lighting at the pedestrian crossing near Our Lady's Secondary School Templemore.
 - Rodent issue in the cul-de-sac at Lacey Avenue, Templemore.
- The need to progress a ring road to address traffic congestion in Thurles town rather than looking at Parnell Street in isolation.

The District Engineer confirmed that Irish Water has given a commitment to replace the watermain at Abbey Road, Thurles later this year and the improvements at Lidl roundabout will commence on completion of the watermain.



The Acting Meetings Administrator undertook to follow up with Water Services in regard to Hayfield Manor and Bohernamona Road, Thurles and she advised that the rodent issue at Lacey Avenue, Templemore has been referred to the Environment Section.

1. Adoption of Minutes.

It was proposed by Councillor S. Hanafin, seconded by Councillor E. Moran and resolved:

"That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting which was held on the 25th January, 2017 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the Meeting."

2. Presentation by Planning.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Karl Cashen, Director of Services and Nuala O'Connell, Senior Executive Engineer to the Meeting.

Karl Cashen circulated a Report which dealt with the following:-

- A workshop for Members on the National Planning Framework-Ireland 2040: Our Plan will be held in Thurles on Monday 27th, February, 2017.
- Proposed Variation to the North and South Tipperary County Development Plans: Settlement Plans.
- Proposed Variation to the North Tipperary County Development Plan, South Tipperary Development Plan and Town Development Plans: Vacant Sites.
- Cluster Guidelines.
- Built Heritage Scheme.
- Structures at Risk (SAR).
- Town Walls Scheme.
- Energy in Agriculture Conference being held on 22/08/17 in Gurteen Agriculture College.
- Number of planning applications received in 2016 increased with the largest increase in the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District.
- Enforcement Proceedings in 2016.

The Members thanked Karl for his presentation and made the following points :

- It is essential that the Thurles Bypass and proposed Link Road from Clongour to Mill Road, Thurles are included in the Ireland 2040: Our Plan.



- Establish if there are any documents/brochures available promoting ready to go sites located in Thurles.
- The reason for the appointment of external Architects to prepare the Cluster Guidelines.
- Establish if there are any applications included under the Structures at Risk (SAR) Scheme for this District.
- Clarification is required on the Glencarrig Estate in Roscrea regarding outstanding Planning issues.
- Establish an inventory of possible development sites located in the Municipal District.
- Application form for Structures at Risk (SAR) is quite cumbersome and requires completion by an Architect which local committees may not be in a position to employ due to lack of funding.
- The Council should write to the Commission for Energy Regulation indicating it's support for Community owned solar farms and request that a certain percentage of Solar Farms should be set aside for community ownership.
- The Local Authority should become a stakeholder in Solar Farms and set up a company to drive such developments.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:

- The Council did participate in the Community Investment Programme on Renewable Energy. Members can make a submission to the Department requesting that a percentage of energy renewable projects be in community ownership and this submission can be compiled at the Workshop on the National Planning Framework Ireland 2040 on Monday 27th. February, 2017.
- Planning will check the position in regard to Glencarrig, Roscrea.
- The Council has retained the services of an external Conservation Architect who is used to provide advice and the Structures at Risk Scheme does allow for the recoupment of Architects fees. An application for Blackcastle in Templemore Town Park is currently being examined under the Structures at Risk Scheme.
- Cluster guidelines which will include best practice layouts for villages in the County are being prepared by the external Architects with the assistance of an Environmental Engineer and these guidelines may be rolled out nationally as the National Guidelines that are in place are more appropriate to residential schemes in larger towns.
- The Thurles & Environs Development Plan 2009-2015 as extended identified a number of sites for development and these need to be taken further.



The Cathaoirleach and Members thanked Karl Cashen and Nuala O'Connell for the update and they withdrew from the Chamber.

3. **To Consider Report under Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, as amended and the Planning & Development Acts 2000 as amended for the proposed construction of a Car Park at Bowling Green, Thurles.**

Copy of a Report under Part 8 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001, as amended and the Planning & Development Acts 2000 as amended was circulated with the Agenda.

It was proposed by Councillor S. Hanafin, seconded by Councillor D. Doran and resolved:-

"That having considered the District Director's Report in accordance with Section 179(4)(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, in regard to the proposed construction of a carpark at Bowling Green, Thurles, the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District decide that the proposed development be carried out as recommended in the District Director's Report."

4. **General Municipal Allocation 2017.**

The Acting Meetings Administrator confirmed that

- A balance in the sum of €3,583.76 from the General Municipal Allocation 2016 will be transferred to the Capital Account and Members will be required to decide on how it will be spent this year.
- Members must decide on the apportionment of the General Municipal Allocation 2017 at the March Monthly Meeting.

5. **Templemore Thurles Municipal District Grants Scheme 2017.**

The Acting Meetings Administrator advised the Members that it was agreed, at the January Monthly Meeting, that the Council would focus solely this year on allocating grants to Residents Associations for enhancement works in housing estates/tenant participation in Council estates and Sporting Clubs who provide playing facilities for young people and females due to the substantial increase in the number of applications received in 2016 which lead to more grants being paid out with lesser values when compared to 2015.



The Members acknowledged the substantial work involved in the administration of the Schemes and expressed concern in regard to the exclusion of Voluntary Groups this year as an expectation had been generated from previous years and they requested that this decision be re-examined. It was suggested that ways of increasing the funding should be explored and that a request to increase the General Municipal Allocation should be considered.

The District Director acknowledged the support of the Members for the Grants Scheme and it was agreed that a list of applications received would be drawn up and circulated to the Members for consideration at the March Monthly Meeting.

6. Proposed Work Programmes for 2017.

The District Engineer confirmed that the draft Schedule of Municipal District Works 2017 will be presented to the Members at the March Monthly Meeting.

The Members raised the following issues:-

- Examine the condition of the road surface at the roundabout located on the exit from the motorway at the Horse & Jockey, Thurles.
- The road surface on the Ballymoreen flyover is in need of attention and should be referred to the relevant authority.
- The road from Derrynaflan Drive to the junction of the old N8 in Littleton is in need of resurfacing.
- Re-examine the possibility of improvements works to the Dark Road, Thurles which is used extensively by the public.
- Large potholes in road after the National School in Two Mile Borris village.
- Footpaths in Thurles town are in need of attention.
- Sections of the road at Longfordpass, Thurles are in a perilous state.
- Large potholes in College Green housing estate, Thurles.
- Provision of safety improvements at Killinan Cross, Thurles.
- Write to Airtricity to have public lights repaired in Ard Mhuire, Thurles.
- Provision of footpath outside Ryan's licenced premises in Holycross.
- Provision of road signage at Galboola Cross.
- Re examine the possibility of improving sightlines at Galboola Cross when coming from Tonagha direction.
- Problem with surface water in Littleton graveyard needs to be addressed.
- Request to erect directional signs for the Community Centre in Littleton.
- Road surface on Slievenamon Road and Suir Bridge, Thurles in need of attention.



- Proposed improvements to Slievenamon Road, Thurles should also include footpaths.
- There are a number of road gullies blocked in Thurles.
- Consider the installation of Flashing Lights at Upperchurch National School.
- Establish whether additional traffic calming measures at Scoil Ailbhe, Thurles are possible.
- Consult with stakeholders in Templemore Park regarding the possibility of making their toilet facilities available to people visiting the Town Park.
- Consider the installation of flashing lights at the Gaelscoil in Bohernanave, Thurles
- Poor condition of the footpaths and road surface from the Graveyard to Kennedys funeral home in Borrisoleigh.
- Footpath and lighting required at Manna South, Templemore.
- The River Walk from the bridge at Turtulla to Ladyswell, Thurles would be used more if improvements were carried out.
- Consider inclusion of the Gantly Road Project under the Town/Village Renewal Scheme.
- Fill the large potholes on the entrance to the carpark adjacent to St. Joseph's Old Cemetery, Templemore.
- Provision of road markings/signage at Cloone Cross, Templemore.
- Ongoing issue of parking at Kincora Terrace, Thurles and entrances being blocked.
- Address speeding traffic at Rahealty National School.

Replies to queries raised as follows:-

- Re-surfacing of the road from Derrynaflan Drive to the old N8 in Littleton may be considered under the Roadworks Programme 2018 - 2020.
- Issue regarding the surface of the Suir bridge has been referred to TII.
- The existing flashing lights as you enter Upperchurch will be replaced.
- Additional signage on the approach to Scoil Ailbhe, Thurles will be considered.
- The issue regarding surface water in Littleton graveyard will be referred to Environment.
- The Council is confident that the request submitted to TII for improvements to be undertaken to the footpaths from the Garda Station to Liberty Square, Thurles will form part of the overall works on Slievenamon Road, Thurles.
- Footpaths improvements in Borrisoleigh can be considered for inclusion in the 2018-2020 Roadworks Programme.
- There is currently a 2 hour parking limit in place at Kincora Terrace, Thurles and residents have the facility of obtaining residents parking permits to park in this area.



- The potholes at the entrance to the carpark adjacent to St. Joseph's Old Cemetery were filled this morning.
- The Council does not have a funding stream available to widen the Dark Road, Thurles.
- Signs have been ordered for Cloone Cross, Templemore.
- The signage and road markings will be upgraded on the approach to Gaelscoil Bhríde, Thurles.
- Signage has been erected at Galboola Cross, Thurles.
- The Housing Section will be consulted regarding the Gantly Road site and it is anticipated that the Roscrea Signage Plan will be approved under the Town/Village Renewal Scheme 2017.
- Roads Section will make contact with Airtricity to have the public lights repaired in Ard Mhuire, Thurles.

7. Update on Projects.

Liberty Square
Refurbishment and
development of a
carpark.

The Part 8 procedure is in progress and a meeting has taken place with the Consultants to advance to full design.

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

The new offices opened to the public on Monday 16th January, 2017.

Repairs / Improvements
to Templemore Town
Hall.

A Brief is being finalised to procure Consultants to prepare tender documents and a design for the specific works that need to be undertaken to the building.

Town / Village Renewal
Project 2016.

Work is progressing satisfactorily on the new Garden in Templemore Town Park.

Templemore Town Park
Extension.

Meetings with stakeholders are underway.

Village Enhancement
Works.

Works under the 2016 GMA are complete.



Rocrea Enhancement
Scheme and Roscrea
Traffic and
Transportation Plan
2016.

A Steering Committee Meeting regarding the Traffic and Transportation Plan was held and the Consultants will continue to liaise with the Design Team on the development of plans to progress proposed improvements to Market Square, Roscrea.

Thurles Town Park.

- i. Contractors have been appointed to carry out repairs to the roof of the disused building and will commence in a few weeks.
- ii. The CCTV will be extended to cover Thurles Town Park which will be funded from the Capital Account. The server for the CCTV serving Thurles town will be relocated to the Garda Station in due course, however, there is no funding available to upgrade the existing system in Thurles Town.
- iii. The public toilet will be moved when a suitable date is agreed with all parties involved.

Carpark at St. Patrick's
Cemetery.

The Council will proceed to construction stage on the development of the carpark subject to the availability of funding.

8. **Official Opening of Tipperary County Council District Offices at Castle Avenue, Thurles.**

The Acting Meetings Administrator informed the Members that the official opening of the District Offices at Castle Avenue, Thurles by Councillor S. Ambrose, Cathaoirleach Tipperary County Council and Councillor J. Bourke, Cathaoirleach Templemore Thurles Municipal District will be held at 10.00am on Tuesday 7th March, 2017 and that all Members are invited to attend.



9. Notices of Motion.

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

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

"I am calling on this Council to install a kiddies pool section in Thurles Leisure Centre."

The response circulated to the Members with the Agenda in advance of the Meeting is as follows:

"The request will be referred to the Board of Thurles Swimming Pool DAC for consideration.

Councillor Ryan indicated that the provision of a kiddies pool in Thurles Leisure Centre would lead to an increase in usage as local families were travelling elsewhere to access such a facility.

b) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor D. Doran.

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

"I am calling on this Council to formally request from the OPW that because of the historical and cultural significance of Roscrea Castle and the surrounding grounds that it be opened to the public and also recognised and promoted as a Tourist attraction."

The response circulated to the Members with the Agenda in advance of the Meeting is as follows:

"The Notice of motion will be referred to the Office of Public Works, for consideration and response, with the permission of the members."

Councillor D. Doran expressed satisfaction with the response and he clarified that he wanted the grounds of Roscrea Castle to be opened up more frequently to the public.

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

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



"I am calling on the HSE to set up a Diabetic Nurse Clinic in Thurles."

The response circulated to the Members with the Agenda in advance of the Meeting is as follows:

"Subject to the approval of the Members the request will be forwarded to the HSE West for consideration and response"

Councillor Ryan explained that there was a service available in Nenagh and that some level of service should be available in Thurles.

Councillor S. Hanafin seconded the Motion.

d) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor S. Ryan.

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

"In light of the fact that the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District provides financial support to Saint Patrick's Day Parades in some towns in the Municipal District that the District would consider giving financial support to the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in Littleton given that it has no other funding grant source available."

The response circulated to the Members with the Agenda in advance of the Meeting is as follows:

"The Members can consider the request under the budget set aside for the Grants Scheme"

Councillor S. Ryan expressed satisfaction with the response.

e) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor S. Ryan.

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

"That the Municipal District would investigate the possibility of improving sight lines at Shanballa Cross near Moycarkey Village."

The response circulated to the Members with the Agenda in advance of the Meeting is as follows:

"This matter has been investigated. In order to increase the sightlines at this junction acquisition of agricultural lands and a section of a private yard is required to facilitate the removal of hedges and fences to increase the sightlines and



visibility. This will be considered as a Low Cost Improvement Scheme proposal for 2018 along with other proposed schemes"

Councillor S. Ryan expressed satisfaction with the response.

10. Correspondence.

i. Community Hospital of the Assumption, Thurles.

The Acting Meetings Administrator read out correspondence received from the HSE outlining the number of beds and services available in the Community Hospital of the Assumption in Thurles and advising that the overall capacity of the Hospital will be examined on completion of a review of the layout of the multi occupancy rooms.

Councillor J. Ryan expressed dissatisfaction with the response received and called on the local TDs to support the re-opening of the 12 beds in the Hospital.

11. Vote of Congratulations/ Sympathy.

- The Cathaoirleach congratulated Our Lady's Secondary School, Templemore on winning the Harty Cup Final and proposed that a Civic Reception be held to honour the team and mentors. All of the Members wished to be associated with the Vote of Congratulations and supported the holding of a Civic Reception for them. It was also suggested that a protocol should be developed for the active participation of the Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District in the homecoming events organised for successful teams/groups from the District. The District Director confirmed that a meeting of the sub-group would be convened later today to agree criteria for the holding of Civic Receptions in the District.
- Councillor S. Hanafin congratulated the Ursuline Secondary School, Thurles on winning the Munster A Schools Camogie Championship and he wished to acknowledge the achievements of Peake Villa Soccer Club in reaching the Quarter Final of the FAI Junior Cup.
- Councillor J. Ryan congratulated the Thurles Ladies Under 18 Rugby Team on winning the Munster Shield.



- Councillor S. Ryan congratulated St Kevin's U12 Boys Soccer Team who have qualified for the Regional Finals.

The Members extended Votes of Sympathy with the following:

- Mr. Noel Fogarty, teacher and member of the management team of Our Lady's Secondary School Harty Cup Team on the death of his mother-in-law Mrs. Anne O'Dwyer, Kilrush, Thurles.
- Former Thurles Town Councillor Mr. Martin Ryan on the tragic death of his daughter, Yvonne.
- The family of Mrs. Mary Shields who died recently.
- The family of the late Mr. Paddy Gleeson, The Park, Templemore.

12. Any Other Business.

Christmas Lights in Templemore.	The Cathaoirleach invited the Members to a meeting with the Templemore Development Association and the Templemore Traders Association in the Templemore Town Hall @ 5.00pm to discuss options for improving the Christmas lights in the town this year.
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THAT CONCLUDED THE OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: 22nd March, 2017.

SIGNED: _____
ACTING MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: 22nd March, 2017.