



MINUTES OF THE JUNE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TEMPLEMORE-THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT OFFICES, CASTLE AVENUE, THURLES ON 27TH JUNE, 2018

Present: Councillor Sean Ryan Cathaoirleach, presided.

Councillors Joe Bourke, David Doran, Seamus Hanafin, John Hogan, Eddie Moran, Jim Ryan and Michael Smith.

Also Present:

Matt Shortt	District Director
Michael F. Hayes	Senior Engineer
John Jones	Acting District Engineer
Michael Tierney	Executive Engineer
Jim Ryan	Executive Engineer
Deirdre O'Shea	Acting Meetings Administrator
Noel McCormack	Acting Staff Officer

Apologies Michéal Lowry

1. Adoption of Minutes.

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

"That the Minutes of the May Monthly Meeting which was held on the 23rd May, 2018 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the Meeting."

2. Presentation by Planning Section.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services and Brian Beck, Senior Planner, Planning Section to the Meeting. A Planning Briefing Note was circulated at the Meeting which outlined the following:-

- The Preparation of Regional and Spatial Economic Strategies (RSES) is progressing and the Regional Assembly will formally consider the Draft RSES at its September meeting.



- It is envisaged that the Draft Cluster Guidelines will be presented to the Members in September, 2018.
- The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht has approved two of the five projects that were recommended by the Council under the Structures at Risk Scheme 2018.
- 13 projects have been approved for grant assistance under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2018 by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht and the successful applicants have been notified by the Council.
- The Energy in Agriculture Event 2018 will take place on the 21st August 2018 and Deputy Denis Naughten, Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment will launch the event.
- Four developments in the District have been taken in charge in 2018 and there are a further 11 Taking In Charge applications being processed in the District.
- There is a 14% increase in the number of Planning Applications received to date in 2018 and there is a significant increase in pre Planning consultations.
- Planning permission was granted recently for a housing development which is the first of its kind in the County for a significant length of time.

The Members thanked Marcus and Brian for their report and raised the following queries :-

- The Council should ensure that there is demand for houses where planning applications are being assessed.
- A roads and services specification needs to be included in the Draft Cluster Guidelines.
- Establish why there was no feedback received by a complainant from Planning Section in regard to an unauthorised development.
- Update on the situation regarding public lighting in Kiltillane Court, Templemore and the taking in charge of developments at Cardens Court and Ma Téine, Templemore.
- Sites that are of historical and heritage importance in the County which are falling into disrepair need to be identified and made safe.
- Promotion of sites in the District that are "ready to go" in terms of zoning, infrastructure and availability in order to attract foreign direct investment / multi-national companies.
- Current situation in regard to flooding and sewerage issues in Oakdale Park, Templemore.
- Establish if Oakdale and Oakdale Park, Templemore have 2 separate Taking In Charge applications.



- Discussions should be entered into with the owner of the former Antigen site in Roscrea regarding the possible creation of a link road to the Ashbury/Assumption Park area.
- Development charges for one off houses are extremely high.
- Establish if the Council's Conservation Architect could assist local groups with applications under the Structure at Risk Scheme.
- The Council should consider the purchase of State land which is for sale in Thurles.
- Development levies are not being spent in the areas in which they are being raised.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- The Cluster guidelines, which are designed to promote housing developments in the villages in our County, will be made as attractive and affordable as possible and details will be brought before the Members in September.
- A new Taking in Charge Policy is being prepared which will be considered by the Planning SPC and brought to the Members later in the year.
- The Council is obliged to keep complainants updated on alleged unauthorised developments.
- The Taking In Charge group will be requested to provide an update on Oakdale, Cardens Court and Ma Téine, Templemore.
- The Council does not have a directly employed Conservation Architect and retains the services of a Conservation Architect based in Dublin.
- A review of the Record of Protected Structures in the County is currently underway.
- Community & Economic Development Section maintain a list of available properties and sites in the County which would be suitable for foreign direct investment / multi-national companies.
- The sale of State land in Thurles will be referred to the Director of Community & Economic Development for consideration.
- The Taking in Charge process pertaining to Oakdale, Templemore does not relate to the sewerage/surface water infrastructural project that is under consideration by Irish Water.
- Planning Section can arrange a meeting to include Water Services/Roads Sections if a request is submitted by the developer/owner of the former Antigen site in Roscrea.
- Development charges are no higher or lower than adjoining counties and charges relating to Roads and Community facilities which are reinvested into the roads network and community facility infrastructure will be reviewed in 2019.
- The Council has a procedure in place that allows for the taking in charge of housing developments in phases resulting in a reduction in the Bond making it more attractive and viable for developers.



The Cathaoirleach thanked Marcus and Brian and they left the Chamber.

3. Update from Water Services Section.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Gerry Robinson, Senior Executive Engineer, Water Services to the Meeting.

Copy of a District Briefing report detailing activity in Water Services, which should be read in conjunction with the most recent bi-monthly management report on Water Services provided at the April County Council Monthly Meeting was circulated to the Members outlining information under the following headings:-

- Contact details for Irish Water and recent workshops.
- Irish Water Infrastructural Projects.
- Networks Portfolio Delivery.
- Irish Water Capital Delivery Programme.
- Rural Water Programme.
- Proposed watermain works on Abbey Road/Lidl roundabout, Thurles.
- Update on proposed infrastructural project at Oakdale Park, Templemore.
- Issuing of bills and dealing with queries on non domestic water accounts is the responsibility of Irish Water.

The Cathaoirleach and Members thanked Gerry for his report and raised the following issues:-

- Asbestos water pipes should be replaced as part of the works under the Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme contract and throughout the water system on health and safety grounds.
- Timeframe for completion of new watermain on Abbey Road, Thurles and works should be undertaken while schools are on holidays.
- Investigate issue with poor water pressure in Roskeen, Drombane.
- Current uptake under the Lead Pipe Replacement Scheme.
- Establish the cause of a number of water outages in the Gortnahoe/Ballysloe area.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- Irish Water is formulating maps of asbestos cement piping which do not pose a health and safety risk and this type of pipe is only replaced as the need arises.



- Contact will be made with Irish Water regarding a timeframe for completion of the works on Abbey Road, Thurles.
- The issue of low water pressure in Drombane will be investigated on receipt of precise location details.
- The cause of water outages in the Gortnahoe/Ballysloe area will be examined.
- Uptake under the Lead Pipe Replacement Scheme has been poor.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Gerry for his presentation and responses and he left the Chamber.

4. Fix date and time for the Templemore-Thurles Community Safety Committee Meeting.

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

"That:-

- i. The Templemore-Thurles Community Safety Committee Meeting be held at 10:00am
- ii. An 'In Committee' Meeting with Sinéad Carr, Director of Housing Services take place at 11:00am
- iii. The July Monthly Municipal District Meeting commence at 11:30am on Wednesday 25th July, 2018."

5. Town Centre Enhancement and Painting Schemes 2018.

The Acting Meetings Administrator informed the Members that:-

- A 2018 budget of €5,080.00 had been allocated by Community and Enterprise Development Section towards the Town Centre Enhancement & Painting Schemes 2018.
- 17 applications to the value of €7,145.50 have been received.
- It is proposed to proceed with approval of the 17 applications subject to receipt of any outstanding information within two weeks of date of issue of a request.
- The excess funding will be sourced from within the District Budget.

It was proposed by Councillor S. Hanafin, seconded by Councillor J. Ryan and resolved:

"That the 17 applications received under the Town Centre Enhancement & Painting Schemes 2018 be approved subject to the submission of incomplete information within two weeks of the date of issue of a request by the Council."



6. Nominations for Civic Receptions.

The Acting Meetings Administrator advised the Members that:-

- It is proposed to hold the Civic Receptions Presentation in the Templemore Arms Hotel on Thursday, 22nd. November, 2018 at 7:00pm.
- Members should consider putting forward nominations of groups, organisations or individuals who have achieved outstanding success in cultural, academic, scientific, political, community or other areas and not just in the sporting category.
- Only one nomination has been received to date this year.
- Nominations submitted at the July Monthly Meeting will have to be forwarded to the Corporate Policy Group for consideration.

It was unanimously agreed to proceed with the Presentations on 22nd. November, 2018 in the Templemore Arms Hotel.

7. Update on the 2018 Work Programmes and the 2018 Budgets.

A schedule outlining expenditure under the various functions to date in 2018 was circulated at the Meeting.

The Acting District Engineer advised the following:-

- 95% of the Restoration Improvement Programme is completed.
- Works under the Local Improvement Scheme and Community Assisted Roads Scheme will be commencing shortly.
- Patching works will recommence on completion of the roadworks programme.
- Surface dressing is well underway and will commence north of the District shortly.
- The need to dish footpaths at certain locations in Thurles town and in particular at Supervalu, Friar Street and Aldi, Kickham Street, Thurles.
- Works under the Low Cost Safety Scheme, Bridge Rehabilitation Works and footpath improvements will be undertaken in due course.

The Members raised the following points:

- Undertake immediate remedial works on the road from Mary Willies to Gortnahoe.
- Update on the request for the provision of traffic calming measures at Sean Treacy Avenue/Ard Mhuire/Loughtagalla and Butler/Iona/Innisfallen Avenues, Thurles.
- Carry out a health and safety assessment on the N75 from The Anner Hotel to the Mill Road roundabout, Thurles.



- Improve safety measures at the pedestrian crossings on Friar Street, Thurles.
- Update on the proposed signage/roadmarkings at Scoil Ailbhe, Thurles.
- Poor condition of the footpaths at Kickham Street, Cathedral Street and Mitchel Street, Thurles.
- Update on the replacement of the main gates to St Patrick's Cemetery, Thurles which should be locked at night to improve security.
- Remove algae/rubbish from the River at Suir Bridge, Thurles.
- The 1798 monument in Liberty Square, Thurles needs to be cleaned.
- Condition of the back entrances at Collins Park and Kennedy Park, Thurles.
- Undertake repairs to the footpath at the top of the railway bridge on the Holycross side in Thurles.
- Re-examine the provision of a footbridge in Holycross.
- Update on improvements to Killinan junction.
- Update on relocation of families to the new group housing scheme at Cabragh Grove, Thurles.
- The need for the provision of flashing speed signs at Rahealty.
- Provision of traffic calming measures / pedestrian crossing on the N62 at the Church of Ireland, Templemore.
- Address issue of overgrown hedges in locations throughout the District and levy the expense of undertaking such work on the landowner.
- Carry out works to the road surface at the Church in Castleiney.
- The public should be advised in advance of works to the square in Borrisoleigh.
- Provision of directional signage for Drom Village at Knocka Cross.
- Timeframe for commencement of works at Lismackin, Roscrea.
- Establish if diversions and traffic management measures will be put in place during road works in Roscrea.
- Carry out repairs to the footpath outside Moyne Church.
- Replace the continuous white line at Cassestown.
- Undertake a survey of all roads leading to the Lisheen Mine site to ensure that they are all in good condition prior to any developments on site.
- Update on completion of the refurbishment of the Fire Station in Templemore.
- Address the poor condition of paths in the two cemeteries in Templemore and involve the community in the continuous maintenance of them.
- Cut back overgrowth on the bad bend at Cloncleigh, Two Mile Borris and at Pouldine Cross, Thurles.
- Update on the works required to Galboola Bridge.
- Prune the tress in Templemore Town Park and on Church Avenue, Templemore which are interfering with the public lighting.



- Update on the request for the provision of extra car parking in the vicinity of the Garda College in Templemore.
- Improve road markings at Bowes Corner, Thurles.
- Update on restoring the fountain in the Lake in Templemore Town Park.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- The road surface at Mary Willies will be investigated and it is proposed to include this road in the 3 Year Roadworks Programme 2019-2021.
- The whole issue of traffic calming in the County will be discussed at the Roads Strategic Policy Committee Meeting in September.
- A number of areas on national secondary routes in the District including the section on the N75 from The Anner Hotel to the Mill Road roundabout, Thurles have been itemised on a priority list submitted to the TII.
- The pedestrian crossings at Friar Street, Thurles will be examined for possible safety improvements.
- Signage and roadmarkings at Scoil Ailbhe, Thurles are scheduled for completion in five to six weeks.
- The River Suir has a very low flow at present which may be contributing to the presence of algae and advice will be sought from the Local Authorities Water Communities Office on how best to proceed so as not to interfere with the natural habitat of the River.
- Funds are available from Development Levies, GMA and IPB for footpath repairs/replacement in the District. The Council is awaiting further instructions from IPB on conditions attached to the allocation received.
- Back entrances have not been included in the 2018 Roadworks Programme.
- An application for safety improvement works at Killinan, Thurles under the Low Cost Safety Scheme will be submitted to Roads Section in September, 2018.
- The query on the group housing scheme at Cabragh Grove, Thurles will be referred to Housing Section.
- Hedgecutting is currently being undertaken in the District and a submission has been made to the Department on the issues associated with hedge cutting.
- Advance notice will be given to the public on the proposed roadworks in Roscrea and contact will be made with the TII to establish a start date for Lismackin.
- The TII has previously examined the provision of a pedestrian crossing on the N62 at the Church of Ireland, Templemore and deemed the location unsuitable.
- The request for a footbridge at Holycross was examined a number of years ago and conservation / architectural / budgetary issues would make it difficult to implement.
- There is a four year plan in place and agreed with the Members for the cemeteries in Templemore and concentration will be on resurfacing the public car park this year



with footpath improvements planned for 2019. Any community involvement in the maintenance of the cemeteries would be welcomed by the Council.

- The replacement of the gates of St Patrick's Cemetery, Thurles can be considered for inclusion under the GMA for 2019.
- Roadmarkings will be undertaken in the District in approximately six weeks time.
- Officials from the Garda College should make contact with the District Director in regard to their car parking requirements.
- The query in regard to the Templemore Fire Station will be referred to Mr. Dave Carroll, Chief Fire Officer.

8. Update on Projects.

Roscrea Enhancement Scheme.	Plans and particulars for Market Square, Roscrea are on public display up to the 6th July, 2018 and the closing date for receipt of submissions is 4.30pm on Friday 20th July, 2018. Detailed designs for Market Square are currently being prepared and the Council is awaiting instructions from the ESB regarding undergrounding of services which could impact on the target date for commencement of works. The interpretive/ orientation signage under the Roscrea Signage Strategy should be installed by August/September and locations of the signage will be provided .
Repairs / Improvements to Templemore Town Hall.	The latest date for receipt of tenders for the construction stage is 6th. July 2018 at 12 noon. A commencement date will be established when the successful contractor has been appointed.
Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme, Thurles.	The Advance Works Contract is nearing completion. Preparation of detailed designs is progressing satisfactorily and discussions with the consultants are ongoing as new issues arise. It is not possible to give a start date for commencement of the car park and Liberty Square due to the complexity of the project and funding streams required. A meeting has been arranged with representatives of the Farmers Market on Friday, 29th June, 2018.
Thurles Town Park.	Officials are meeting today with the group who submitted a valid 'Expression of Interest' for the old farm building.



Carpark at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Thurles.	Work is progressing on the development of the car park.
Templemore Town Park Extension.	A meeting with the GAA is desirable as they are key to advancing the process.
Provision of a Town Park in Roscrea.	Councillor M. Smith to initiate discussions with the new owners of the former Antigen site.

9. Notice 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:

"That this Municipal District provides funding to improve the Council owned building (former area office) on the Birr Road, Roscrea which has deteriorated and in a bad state of repair. Otherwise, I would ask consideration be given to the disposal of this property."

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

"Major works are required to this building to make it fit for use. At the moment no decision has been taken on the future use of the building but the MD members will be kept up to date on any developments."

The Motion was supported by Councillor J. Hogan.

The Members agreed that a decision needs to be made on this building as it is in very poor condition and situated in a prominent position on a main approach road into Roscrea.

The District Director advised that the issue has been referred to the Property Section and he undertook to pursue it with them.

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 requesting that this Council make safe the sight lines at many road junctions throughout the District with the overgrowth of hedges and weeds etc and that this work be prioritised each year as a matter of health and safety."



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

"Overgrowth has been cut back at a significant number of road junctions in the District in the last two weeks and work will continue until the month end."

The Motion was seconded by Councillor J. Ryan.

Councillor D. Doran expressed his disappointment with the response and requested that junctions should be kept clear of overgrowth at all times.

c) 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 address the dangerous road junction at Bowes corner in Thurles by way of a roundabout or whatever is necessary to make this junction safer , there are many accidents after occurring here and some safety measures need to be implemented immediately."

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

"Examinations have been undertaken at this junction in the past and it has been deemed not possible to install a roundabout at Bowes Corner. Resurfacing of the junction and improved road markings will be considered under the 2019 Road works programme. "

The Motion was seconded by Councillor J. Ryan.

Councillor D. Doran expressed his dissatisfaction with the response and requested that a roundabout should be considered on a trial basis. The District Director indicated that it is a very complex junction which would not support a roundabout and that any resurfacing improvements would have to be considered in the context of the Roadworks Programme 2019.



10. Correspondence.

Notice of Motion for the construction of a merging road off the Two-Mile-Borris motorway junction to allow cars going to Cork to join the M8.

The Acting meetings Administrator read out details of the response received from TII which was as follows:-

"The M8 in the vicinity of Two Mile Borris was delivered as part of the Cashel to Cullahill scheme which received planning consent from An Bord Pleanála in December 2004 and opened to traffic in December 2008. The scheme was planned and implemented taking into account traffic demands and environmental and economic considerations. There is modest N75 traffic demand towards the M8 South which is met by using the existing R445 to Horse & Jockey. Notwithstanding the apparent lack of demand and justification for south facing ramps, any intervention at the M8 Junction 5 Two Mile Borris would require a Motorway Order to secure all necessary lands in association with the relevant statutory consent (likely to be EIAR). There are no plans for any changes at this time."

Councillor J. Ryan who initially proposed the Motion expressed his disappointment with the response and maintained that it was required on traffic grounds.

11. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy.

Votes of Congratulations were extended to:-

- The daughter of Ruairi Boland, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment Section whose design was chosen for the Papal Vestments to be worn by Pope Francis on his upcoming visit to Ireland.
- Two-Mile-Borris Development Association for reviving and organising an extremely successful parish fun day.

THAT CONCLUDED THE OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: 25th. July, 2018.

SIGNED: _____
ACTING MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: 25th. July, 2018.

27th. June, 2018.