



MINUTES OF THE MAY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TEMPLEMORE-THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT OFFICES, CASTLE AVENUE, THURLES ON WEDNESDAY 23RD MAY, 2018

Present: Councillor Seamus Hanafin, Cathaoirleach, presided.

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

Also Present:

Matt Shortt	District Director
Michael F. Hayes	Senior Executive 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

The Cathaoirleach read a letter received from Micheál O'Murchú, Cathaoirleach, CCÉ, Tiobraid Árann, expressing appreciation to the Council for the support and sponsorship of the Fleadh Cheoil Tiobraid Árann which was held recently in Templemore.

The Cathaoirleach extended thanks to the outdoor staff who ensured that the town was kept clean at all times during the event.

The Cathaoirleach complimented the District Director and all the staff involved in achieving the NSAI Certification OHSAS 18001-2007 in Health and Safety for the management of Templemore-Thurles Municipal District administration functions, building facilities, litter and traffic enforcement.

1. Adoption of Minutes.

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

"That the Minutes of the April Monthly Meeting which was held on the 25th April, 2018 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the Meeting."



2. Presentation by Thurles Lions Club on a study of the River Suir Walkway.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Gary Roche, John McCormack and Anne Marie Brophy from Thurles Lions Club who were in attendance for this item. Copy of a summary of the feasibility study on the potential to upgrade and extend the River Suir Walkway at Thurles was circulated at the Meeting.

Mr. Gary Roche thanked the Members for giving them the opportunity to present their proposal and acknowledged the Council's support of their other initiatives such as their housing programme. He advised that the proposed development would create a river walkway from Loughmore through Thurles to Holycross and he emphasised the numerous benefits that would accrue locally. Mr John McCormack outlined details of the routes that were considered and assessed by the consultants and their subsequent recommendations. He indicated that initial consultations had been positive and that there were some concerns around public liability, proposed width of the walkway, type of fencing, identification of landowners, possible financial impact on some landowners and sources of funding.

The Members, on thanking Gary and John for their report and complimenting them on the excellent work undertaken by the Lions Club, made the following points:-

- This is the starting point to improving the amenity of the River Suir in Thurles and the surrounding areas.
- The proposal if implemented would have significant economic potential for the town and surroundings areas and the Municipal District should take a lead role in progressing the project.
- The project could tie in with "The Pilgrim Paths Ireland".
- Confirm the number of landowners involved.
- Establish the proposed cost of the project.
- Constructive and ongoing engagement with all stakeholders/landowners is vital to the success of the project.
- Landowners concerns will have to be addressed in order for the project to proceed.
- Proposed width of walkway and height of fencing.
- Maintenance of the walkway.

John advised that:-

- The walkway would be developed to the National Trails Office Standards and inspected regularly.
- Approximately 90% of landowners were contacted in regard to the proposal.



- There are a number of walkways in existence that could be examined in terms of best practice.
- Public liability insurance would be put in place that would address concerns of landowners.

It was agreed that the full feasibility report would be forwarded to the District once available and a plan agreed on how best to proceed with advancing the project.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Gary, John and Ann Marie and they left the Chamber.

3. Update from Environment Section.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Marion O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer and Ruairi Boland, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment Section to the Meeting.

It was agreed to take the following Notice of Motion at this juncture in the Meeting as it relates to an environmental issue.

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

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

"I am calling on the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District to actively tackle the problem of dog fouling in towns and villages in the District through the provision of extra hours for the Dog Warden and / or Environmental Officers to be active in the District, the provision of Mutt bags, through a media campaign to highlight the issue and through whatever methods the Municipal District sees fit."

Marion O'Neill circulated the following response at the Meeting:-

"The Environment Section is working with the Municipal Districts and Tidy Towns groups to address the issue of dog fouling across the County. The Section distributed over 40 mutt mitt dispensers and 100 boxes of bags in the last 12 months. Provision for additional mutt mitt dispensers and bags is included in this year's anti-litter budget. Dog patrols will be carried out in known areas where there is persistent dog fouling and leaflet drops on responsible dog ownership will be distributed in these areas. A media campaign is planned for later in the year."

The Members welcomed the response and spoke of the serious health risks posed by dog faeces on green spaces and public footpaths. They emphasised the need to



monitor problematic areas, undertake out of hours inspections and ensure the offenders are identified and penalised. The issue of horse fouling at Turtulla Bridge, Thurles was also highlighted.

Marion circulated a report detailing activity in the District in 2018 under the following headings:-

- Infrastructure and Maintenance.
- Community Services.
- Control of Dogs and Horses.
- Derelict Sites.
- Litter Waste Management Enforcement and Public Awareness Initiatives.
- Environment Protection and the number of complaints received and closed.

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

- The dangers associated with loose horses on the public road near the Briquette Factory, Littleton which is a common occurrence.
- The surplus in revenues from the Civic Amenity Site in Roscrea should be retained in the District.
- Update on Derelict Sites in Rosemary Street, Roscrea and at Sheehane, Roscrea.
- Address the issue of unaccompanied dogs in the District.
- Update on proposed drainage works in Littleton graveyard and repairs to the wall in Moycarkey Cemetery.
- Investigate illegal dumping at Gurteen, Lanespark and in the boglands of Bórd na Mona.
- The need to monitor and maintain College Lane, Thurles on completion of the clean up under the National Anti Litter Initiative.
- Investigate the possibility of the presence of a rodent nest in the stone wall on Templemore Road, Thurles which is adjacent to a public footpath.
- Responsibility for the upkeep of private houses that have fallen into disrepair and referral of complaints in regard to one particular house in Cluain Glas, Thurles.
- Derelict sites should be acquired by compulsory purchase order and necessary works undertaken by the Council.
- A report detailing the locations and condition of derelict sites in each town and village in the County should be given to the Members.
- The cost of the opening/closing of graves in St Patrick 's Cemetery, Thurles is the most expensive in the County.



- Local authority tenants should not be responsible for the eradication of pests from their houses.
- The cost of cleaning up illegal dumping in the District.
- Update on the request for the provision of a recycling centre in Thurles.
- Re-examine the possibility of extending Templeree graveyard which is near to capacity.
- Establish if the Council would pay for the cost of the macadam to undertake footpath repairs in Templetuohy graveyard as the Committee has raised the remainder of the funding required.
- Address the issue of illegal dumping and footpath repairs in St Joseph's new Cemetery, Templemore.
- Capacity in cemeteries in the County is reducing and a policy needs to be put in place to provide for extensions to cemeteries.
- The availability of volunteers to maintain cemeteries is reducing and may become an issue for the Council in the future.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- The condition of the footpaths in Templetuohy Cemetery will be examined.
- The District will investigate the complaint regarding a rodent nest on the Templemore Road, Thurles.
- The Council will pursue the provision of a recycling facility in Thurles if a funding opportunity arises.
- The Dog Warden carries out patrols on a regular basis pertaining to Dog Licences and compliance is relatively high.
- No revenue surplus is envisaged at the Roscrea Civic Amenity Centre as costs always exceed revenues at these sites.
- Technical reports are being prepared on the derelict site at Rosemary Street, Roscrea and engagement with landowners can prove problematic for a number of reasons. The procedure under the Derelict Sites legislation is a long drawn out process.
- An inter agency group is in place to deal with the control of horses in the County.
- The illegal dumping at Gurteen, Lanespark and in the bogs will be investigated.
- An update on the Derelict Sites in the District can be brought to the next Meeting.
- A priority list of graveyards with capacity issues is being worked through and it may be possible to gain extra grave spaces along the sides of some of the sites.
- It is the Council's policy to maintain / provide capacity in one burial ground in each parish. Priority is given to parishes where burial grounds are full or near capacity.
- Drainage works in Littleton Cemetery will be undertaken during the Summer. Repairs to the wall in Moycarkey Cemetery will not be carried out this year.



- The cost of cleaning up illegal dumping is in the region of €40,000 to €50,000.
- It is the responsibility of the homeowners to maintain houses and gardens and Environment Section will engage with owners where an area has become unsightly and is in public view.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Marion and Ruairi for their presentation and they left the Chamber.

4. Fix date and time for Annual General Meeting of Templemore Thurles Municipal District.

It was proposed by Councillor S. Hanafin, seconded by Councillor M. Smith and resolved:

"That the Annual General Meeting of the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District take place at 10.00am on Wednesday 27th June, 2018 followed by the June Monthly Meeting of Templemore-Thurles Municipal District."

5. Update on the 2018 Work Programmes.

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

The Acting District Engineer advised the following:-

- 75% of the Restoration Improvement Programme is completed and the Restoration Maintenance Programme commenced today in the north of the District.
- Tarmacadam works in Roscrea town will be undertaken when the schools close and improvements at Mary Street, Templemore will be carried out shortly.
- Works will be undertaken in Thurles on completion of improvements at Slievenamon Road/Clongour.
- The junction at Killinan was inspected by Fiona Bohane, TII who has confirmed that a roundabout is not suitable and an application under the low cost safety scheme for realignment, signage and traffic calming would be more appropriate.
- The design process is underway on the national secondary road at Lismacken, Roscrea.
- An Appropriate Assessment Screening and Environmental Impact Assessment has been completed for the proposed infilling works on The Mall River, Templemore and the reports are currently being assessed by Planning Section. Proposals will be brought back to the Members prior to Part 8.



- A list of junctions on national roads, that require safety works, is being compiled for submission to the TII.
- Bridge rehabilitation works and low cost safety schemes will be carried out on completion of the Roadworks Programme 2018.

The Members raised the following points:

- Footpath repairs are required on Mitchel Street, Moyne Road and Cathedral Street, Thurles.
- Establish if the Council is resurfacing back entrances anymore.
- Undertake repairs to the surface of the MUGA in Loughtagalla Park, Thurles.
- Update on works required to the road surface from (i) the Anner Hotel to the roundabout at the Mill Road junction, Thurles (ii) on the N62 on both approaches to Templemore town.
- The road surface at the entrance to the Munster Hotel Car Park and at Peak Villa F.C. require attention.
- Extend the footpath and provide public lighting from the Glebe, Mill Road, Thurles out to Kickham Park, Thurles which is within the 50kph speed limit.
- Undertake immediate road improvements to the roundabout at Parkmore, Roscrea.
- Fill potholes at Clonamiclan cross, Gorthnahoe.
- The surface dressing from Pouldine to the Ballymoreen Flyover should be undertaken when the national school closes.
- The junctions at Camblin and Clonmore need to be included under the TII Improvement Scheme.
- Rebuild the wall on Galboola Bridge and install reflectors at the junction at The Rectory, Ballybeg.
- Include the junctions at Liskeveen/Williams' Bridge and Shanbally Cross under the Low Cost Safety Scheme.
- Grass cutting in Littleton is an issue since the disbandment of Littleton Tidy Towns.
- Update on timeframe for work to be completed at Maxfort & Coolkip, Horse & Jockey.
- Address the issue of overgrowth at road junctions on a continuous basis.
- There is a safety issue at the junction of Bowes corner as a number of accidents have occurred recently.
- Ensure that adequate signage to assist traffic flow is in place during works on Liberty Square, Thurles.
- Overgrown hedges on the approach road and condition of the surface on the car park at the Devils Bit.
- The Strogue road, Templemore is in very poor condition.
- Improve the traffic calming measures at Pallas Street, Borrisoleigh.



- Address the dangerous junctions on The Ragg to Templemore Road at Dovea Upper and Manna Templemore.
- Resurfacing is required from Mary Street to Grey's Funeral Home, Templemore.
- Rebuild the wall that has collapsed into The Mall River, The Mall, Templemore.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- Works on the Thurles side of the N62 in Templemore can be undertaken should funds become available and design works have commenced on the Roscrea side of the N62. Discussions have been held with TII regarding the condition of the N75 from The Anner Hotel to the roundabout at Mill Road, Thurles.
- Funds are being made available by IPB for footpath repairs in the three towns and concentration will be on priority areas where accidents have occurred.
- Back entrances have not been included in the 2018 Roadworks Programme
- The policy on public lighting does not include for extensions with priority given to upgrading existing lamps to LED which is paid for through savings in energy consumption.
- Opening/closing charges in St Patrick's Cemetery, Thurles are based on true costs and the charging structure is currently being reviewed across the County.
- Repair works will be undertaken to Galboola Bridge on completion of the 2018 Roadworks Programme.
- Applications under the Low Cost Safety Scheme will be considered for the junctions at Liskeveen/Williams' Bridge and Shanbally Cross.
- The overgrowth at junctions will be tended to in June.
- The road surface at the entrance to the Munster Hotel car park and at Peak Villa FC Thurles will be examined.
- The surface of the Devils Bit car park is in good condition and contact will be made with the new landowner regarding the hedges on the approach road.
- The school in Pallas Street, Borrisoleigh was not in a position to proceed with the proposed works under the Low Cost Safety Scheme last year and further contact will be made with them to establish the current position.
- The junction at Bowes Corner and Strogue Road will be included in the three year Roadworks Programme 2019-2021.
- Works will commence shortly on the junction at The Ragg and part of Mary Street, Templemore is included in the 2018 Roadworks programme.
- The flooding issues at Maxfort and Coolkip, Horse & Jockey will be addressed on completion of the 2018 Roadworks Programme.

6. Update on Projects.

23rd. May, 2018.



Roscrea Enhancement Scheme.	The Part 8 documents for improvements to Market Square, Roscrea are almost complete and the statutory period for public consultation will commence in June.
Repairs / Improvements to Templemore Town Hall.	The procurement process for the engagement of a contractor is underway and works will commence as soon as possible.
Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme, Thurles.	The Advance Works Contract is progressing well .
Thurles Town Park.	One valid 'Expression of Interest' for the old farm building has been received and is under consideration.
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.

7. Notices of Motion.

a) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor S. Hanafin.

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

" That this Council request Transport Infrastructure Ireland to install a Pedestrian Crossing on the newly resurfaced N62. This is one of the busiest roads in Thurles with an number of housing estates and lacks a safe crossing point for pedestrians."

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

"The request has been referred to the Roads Safety Officer, Transport Infrastructure Ireland, for consideration."

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Jim Ryan.



The Members were informed that certain conditions need to be present to warrant the installation of a pedestrian crossing. It was agreed that the required information would be sought.

b) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor S. Hanafin.

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

"That Tipperary County Council and the Safety Officer of the TII engage with land owners at Turtulla Cross, Thurles to explore ways in which safety can be improved for road users by realigning the junction."

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

"This junction has been examined on a number of occasions by the Roads Safety Officer, Transport Infrastructure Ireland. The request will be submitted to Roads Section for referral to the Roads Design Office."

Councillor S. Hanafin indicated that a landowner was willing to engage to facilitate realignment at the junction and it was agreed that Michael Tierney would make contact with the owner.

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

The following Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor S. Ryan was taken earlier in the Meeting under Item 3 of the Agenda:

"I am calling on the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District to actively tackle the problem of dog fouling in towns and villages in the District through the provision of extra hours for the Dog Warden and / or Environmental Officers to be active in the District, the provision of Mutt bags, through a media campaign to highlight the issue and through whatever methods the Municipal District sees fit."

8. 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 advised the Members that TII had acknowledged receipt of the 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 and that a more detailed response would issue in due course.

Notice of Motion relating to the omission of the Thurles Bypass from Project Ireland 2040.

The Acting Meetings Administrator advised the Members that the Notice of Motion which relates to the omission of the Thurles Bypass from Project Ireland 2040 will be brought to the attention of the CPG at its next meeting.

Moyne / Templetuohy Parish Forum - Lisheen Windfarm Trust Approval to Payment of Grants.

The Acting Meetings Administrator advised that Lisheen Windfarm Trust provides funding for payment of grants to community / voluntary groups in the area towards capital expenditure incurred by them. She indicated that John Jones, Executive Engineer has confirmed that the projects have been completed. The following grants have been recommended by the Trust:

- Moyne Athletic Club €20,000.00
- Moyne/Templetuohy Hurling GAA Club €30,500.00

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

"That the following Grants be paid as recommended by the trust:

- Moyne Athletic Club €20,000.00
- Moyne/Templetuohy Hurling GAA Club €30,500.00"

Application for the retention of an unauthorised access from Moyne Road housing estate to Loughtagalla Road, Thurles.

A report prepared by Michael Tierney, Executive Engineer recommending the refusal of the application for the retention of unauthorised access from Moyne Road housing estate to Loughtagalla Road, Thurles on safety grounds was circulated at the Meeting.



The District Director, in outlining the reasons for refusal, advised that the Council would fund the cost of closing up the access and he lauded the work undertaken by the Residents Association in the estate.

9. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy.

Votes of Congratulations were extended to:-

- Cabragh Wetlands which was officially opened by President Michael D. Higgins on the 19th May, 2018.
- Templemore Fleadh Ceoil Committee for hosting an extremely successful County Fleadh in Templemore.
- Larry Ryan, Thurles who was awarded the Thurles Sports Person of the Year Award on Saturday night.

Votes of Sympathy were extended to:-

- Francis, Breda and family on the death of Tom Murphy, Church Avenue, Templemore.
- Gerry O'Hara and family, Roscrea on the death of his brother.

THAT CONCLUDED THE OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: 27th. June, 2018.

SIGNED: _____
ACTING MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: 27th. June, 2018.