



MINUTES OF THE JULY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TEMPLEMORE-THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT OFFICES, CASTLE AVENUE, THURLES ON 25TH JULY, 2018

Present: Councillor Sean Ryan Cathaoirleach, presided.

Councillors Joe Bourke, David Doran, Seamus Hanafin, Micheál Lowry, 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
Noel McCormack	Acting Meetings Administrator
Orla McDonnell	Staff Officer

Apologies: Councillor John Hogan

1. Adoption of Minutes.

It was proposed by Councillor D. Doran, seconded by Councillor M. Smith and resolved:

"That the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Templemore-Thurles Municipal District held on the 27th June, 2018 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the Meeting."

and

It was proposed by Councillor J. Ryan, seconded by Councillor M. Smith and resolved:

"That the Minutes of the June Monthly Meeting which was held on the 27th June, 2018 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the Meeting."

2. Presentation by Housing Section.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Sineád Carr, Director of Services, Donal Purcell, Acting Senior Executive Officer, Jonathan Cooney, Acting Senior Engineer and Michèle Maher,

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Administrative Officer to the Meeting. A Schedule containing updates under the headings listed hereunder was circulated at the Meeting:

- Housing Construction.
- Capital Assistance Scheme.
- Housing Allocations 2018.
- Vacant Houses.
- House Purchases 2018.
- RAS, Leasing and HAP 2018
- Housing Applicants and Vacant Houses.

The Members thanked the housing staff for their report and raised the following queries:-

- Establish if the Council is actively engaged with Respond and Cluid in Roscrea in an effort to secure social housing in the area.
- Establish if the Council is responsible for the area in which the ESB junction box is located on the left inside Oakfield Park/Drive housing estates, Thurles as the area is in poor condition and the subject of anti-social behaviour.
- Establish if the Council has the power to deal with a HAP tenant who has sublet a premises resulting in anti-social behaviour.
- The parameters the Council use for the acquisition of social housing units.
- The grass is overgrown and the fence is in a poor state of repair at a demountable house in Clonakenny.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- The Council actively engages with Voluntary Housing Bodies such as Cluid and Respond for social housing purposes based on housing need.
- Housing section is currently considering removing the derelict demountable house at Clonakenny, Roscrea..
- Technical staff from the District will establish the ownership of the area in which the ESB junction box is located in Oakfield Park/Drive housing estates, Thurles.
- The owner is responsible for any issues that arise under a HAP contract.
- Housing acquisitions are examined based on purchase price, condition, location, suitability and cost of repairs.

The Cathaoirleach undertook to forward a list of houses that are for sale and may be suitable for social housing purposes to Jonathan Cooney for consideration.



The Cathaoirleach thanked Sinead, Donal, Jonathan and Michèle and they left the Chamber.

3. Update from Community & Economic Development.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Marie Phelan, Tourism Development Officer to the Meeting.

A copy of the Community & Economic Development Report for Templemore-Thurles Municipal District was circulated to the Members outlining information under the following headings:-

- Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2017 as follows:-
 - Holycross – rebuild the old St. Mary’s Church wall;
 - Littleton – Community Centre Car Park Enhancements;
 - Roscrea – Implementation of the Roscrea Signage Strategy and Extension of the ‘Butler Trail’ app to Roscrea.
- Town & Village Renewal Scheme 2018.
- Scheme of Capital Grants for Community Facilities & Amenities 2018/2019.
- Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme 2018.
- Clár Scheme 2018.
- Community Enhancement Programme 2018.
- Community Action Plan, Roscrea.
- Community Action Plan, Littleton.
- Tipperary Sports Partnership – The Tipperary Women’s Mini Marathon will take place in Thurles on 30th September.
- Economic Strategies/Projects including Tipperary Craft Strategy and the Bank of Ireland National Enterprise Town Awards under which Thurles has been entered.
- Town Centre Painting and Enhancement Scheme – grant of €5,080 allocated to Templemore-Thurles Municipal District.
- Town Centre Initiative.
- Tourism – (i) The 'Butler Trail' App is complete in Roscrea and will be launched in September and (ii) Development of a Tipperary Food Trail.
- LEO - 6 projects approved in Templemore-Thurles Municipal District.
- National Broadband Plan/Commercial Investment.

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

- Reduce pay parking charges in Thurles town.

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- Address the request for the Council to employ a Suicide Prevention Officer.
- The current signage on the approach roads into Thurles town is completely outdated and the new signage needs to be attractive. There is no signage in Thurles to acknowledge the town as the European Town of Sport.
- Undertake a feasibility study to examine the possibility of the development of a greenway between Thurles and Clonmel.
- Extension of the Buzz Quarter in Clonmel to Thurles Chamber Enterprise Centre.
- A greenway on the old Bórd na Móna rail line from Ballynonty to Templetuohy would be very valuable to the area.
- The Thurles Lions Club River Suir Walkway Project should be included as Category 2 in 2018 in order to be submitted as a Category 1 Proposal in 2019 under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- Marie will liaise with her colleagues in relation to the request for the appointment of a Suicide Prevention Officer for Tipperary.
- The signage for Thurles Town will be managed through the Municipal District.
- The land for the suggested greenway from Thurles to Clonmel is no longer owned by Irish Rail and therefore is not a viable proposal. A feasibility study is currently being prepared to examine the feasibility of creating a greenway on the old Bórd na Móna railway line from Ballynonty to Templetuohy and the project is also being considered for inclusion by the Council under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.
- Áine McCarthy met with GAA officials last year in an attempt to promote Thurles as the Town of Sport and Marie will follow up on this.
- Marie will raise the issue of extending the Clonmel Buzz Quarter to Thurles Chamber Enterprise Centre with LEO.
- It is anticipated that the Thurles Lions Club River Suir Walkway Project will be included in Category 2 under the Rural Regeneration Development Fund.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Marie for her presentation and responses and she left the Chamber.

4. Update from Library and Cultural Services.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Karl Cashen, Director of Services and Emer O'Brien, Senior Executive Librarian, Library Services to the Meeting.

A copy of a report outlining library initiatives currently taking place in the District was circulated at the Meeting. Karl outlined the following:-

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- The Open Library Initiative which will see libraries open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. is currently being rolled out on a phased basis and Nenagh has been selected as a pilot project. It is anticipated that every library will require a capital grant of up to €100,000.00 each.
- Big celebrations are planned for the Centenary of the sitting of the first Dáil and the commencement of the Irish War of Independence and preparatory works are currently underway.

The Members raised the following points:

- The need to extend Roscrea Library. Currently the library cannot house the George Cunningham book collection.
- The 1916 Centenary celebrations were a huge success and it is fundamental that celebrations of a similar nature take place to mark the Centenary of the Irish War of Independence.

Emer replied to the queries raised as follows:-

- It is acknowledged that the Library services in Roscrea need to be extended and a review of the Library buildings is included in the Library Plan over the next 5 years.
- The George Cunningham book collection is currently being catalogued so that they can be used by the public.
- Centenary celebrations in line with the 1916 Centenary celebrations will take place and preparatory works are already underway.

5. 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 Improvements to Market Square, Roscrea.

This item was deferred until the September Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District.

6. Proposal to declare the roads serving the following estates to be public roads

- (i) Marlstone Manor, Thurles, Co. Tipperary
- (ii) (part of) Whitethorn Hill, Tullaskeagh, Roscrea, Co. Tipperary

The Acting Meetings Administrator advised that the Director of Roads, Transportation, Health and Safety has recommended that the roads serving the housing estates listed above be declared public roads and that the open spaces, car parks, sewers, water mains and service connections within the developments be taken in charge.



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Oifigí Cheantar Bardasach
an Teampaill Mhóir-
Dhurlais, Ascaill an
Chaisleáin, Durlas,
Co. Thiobraid Árann

Tipperary County Council,
Templemore-Thurles
Municipal District Office,
Castle Avenue,
Thurles,
Co. Tipperary

t 0761 06 5000
e customerservice
@tipperarycoco.ie
tipperarycoco.ie

It was proposed by Councillor J. Ryan, seconded by Councillor M. Lowry and resolved:

"That pursuant to the provisions of Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993, this Municipal District hereby agrees to declare the roads serving the housing estate known as Marlstone Manor, Thurles to be public and to take in charge the open spaces, car parks, sewers, water mains and service connections within the development, as per the map which was on public display during the prescribed period and as outlined in the Director of Services Report to Members for the July 2018 Municipal District Meeting which was circulated with the Agenda."

It was proposed by Councillor M. Smith, seconded by Councillor E. Moran and resolved:

"That pursuant to the provisions of Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993, this Municipal District hereby agrees to declare the roads serving the housing estate (part of) known as Whitethorn Hill, Tullaskeagh, Roscrea to be public and to take in charge the open spaces, car parks, sewers, water mains and service connections within the development, as per the map which was on public display during the prescribed period and as outlined in the Director of Services Report to Members for the July 2018 Municipal District Meeting which was circulated with the Agenda."

7. Templemore-Thurles Municipal District Grants Schemes 2018.

It was proposed by Councillor M. Lowry, seconded by Councillor E. Moran and resolved that:-

"A grant of €2,524 be paid to Templemore Development Association under the Tidy Towns Grant Scheme 2018."

It was noted that payment will be issued on receipt of the necessary supporting documentation.

It was suggested that all groups from all the various categories who received a grant in 2018 be invited to a reception later in the year.

8. Civic Receptions.

The Acting Meetings Administrator advised that the deadline for the submission of nominations is this Friday, 27th July 2018 and some nominations have been received to date.

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9. 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 with road improvements in Roscrea being completed today.
- Works in Cabra and Cormackstown will commence shortly under the Local Improvement Scheme.
- General maintenance works on the N62 will be finished by mid August and improvements under the Low Cost Safety Scheme will then commence.
- A comprehensive list of completed works will be circulated at the September District Meeting.
- Road improvements at the Anner Hotel, Thurles will be undertaken next year, however, temporary works will be undertaken in the meantime.
- 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 was highlighted.
- Bridge Rehabilitation Works and footpath improvements will be undertaken in due course.

The Members raised the following points:

- The collapsed manhole cover in Cathedral Street needs to be repaired.
- There is no signage and no road markings at the T junction in The Willows housing estate, Thurles.
- Update on the repair of footpaths in Westgate and Cathedral Street, Thurles.
- Remove the uprooted tree located on the left hand side of the entrance to Monakeeba housing estate, Thurles.
- Signage in Ballysloe Village needs to be replaced.
- Public lighting on Suir Bridge, Thurles need to be repaired.
- The gates at St. Patrick's Cemetery are in a bad state of repair and need to be either repaired or replaced.
- Address the issue of dog and horse fouling on the Ladies Well walkway. The embankment at the Turtulla side of the Ladies Well walkway is falling away and poses a serious danger to walkers.
- There are no road markings or "Stop" sign at Bowes corner, Thurles where a recent accident took place and signage in the area also needs to be reviewed.



- Update in relation to the funding from IPB Insurance towards repairs to footpaths in Roscrea, Templemore and Thurles.
- Damaged road signage is an issue throughout the District.
- Footpaths in Park Road housing estate, Templemore require attention.
- The lake in Templemore Town Park requires attention and the fountain is not in working order.
- Provide signage at the entrance to Templemore Town Park.
- Footpaths in Borrissoleigh require attention.
- Speeding signs are required in Derrynaflan, Littleton.
- Undertake measures to stop cars from driving directly through to Derrynaflan Drive from Derrynaflan Avenue, Littleton.
- The road at Curraheen, Horse and Jockey is in a bad state of repair.
- There are no stop signs at the junction between Newtown and Drombane.
- Thurles Golf Club are hosting a national competition in October and the area surrounding the golf club needs to be cleaned up beforehand.
- Update on works required at Maxfort Cross, Coolkip and Galboola Bridge.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:-

- The District Engineer will meet with a representative from IPB Insurance in the coming weeks in relation to the repair of footpaths in Roscrea, Templemore and Thurles and the apportionment of the funding will be based on the number of accidents in each area. A fulltime crew will be put together by the District Engineer to work specifically on footpath repairs and an update will be given to the Members at the September District Meeting.
- Road improvement works will be undertaken at Maxfort Cross and other junctions in due course.
- A survey of signage in the 3 towns will be undertaken in October, 2018. Road signage in rural areas is regularly checked by General Services Supervisors. Damage to road signs occurs during the summer months when there is a high number of large machinery on the roads.
- It is hoped that there will be funding available for resurfacing works and signage at Bowes Corner, Thurles which is a complex junction due to the large number of roads that converge at this location. Talks with Iarnrod Eireann will be undertaken to see if any improvements works can be undertaken on the wall which may improve sightlines and a further update will be given at the September District Meeting.
- The budget is being monitored and a decision will be made whether to repair or replace the gates at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Thurles which will be costly.
- Improvement works at Curraheen, Horse & Jockey will be examined and may be included in the 3 year Roadworks Programme which will be finalised this October.



- Signage for Templemore Town Park will be examined.
- New signage in Ballysloe Village will be carried out under the General Municipal Allocation.
- Road markings at The Willows housing estate, Thurles have been examined and the works will be undertaken when carrying out line markings for the 3 towns.
- Ladies Well walkway will be examined.
- The issue with cars driving directly through to Derrynaflan Drive from Derrynaflan Avenue, Littleton will be investigated.
- Road improvements in the towns should commence next week and the sunken manhole at Cathedral Street, Thurles will be repaired.

10. Update on Projects

Roscrea Enhancement Scheme.	Detailed designs for Market Square, Roscrea 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 mid August .
Repairs / Improvements to Templemore Town Hall.	Tenders for the construction works have been received and are currently being examined. A commencement date will be established when the successful contractor has been appointed.
Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme, Thurles.	The Advance Works Contract is almost complete. 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.
Thurles Town Park.	Officials from the District met with Thurles Scouts who expressed a valid 'Expression of Interest' for the old farm building. Officials also met with representatives from the Thurles Farmers Market in relation to a suitable location for the market. Discussions with both groups are ongoing.



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Tipperary County Council,
Templemore-Thurles
Municipal District Office,
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Thurles,
Co. Tipperary

t 0761 06 5000
e customerservice
@tipperarycoco.ie
tipperarycoco.ie

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.

11. Votes of Congratulations/sympathy

A Vote of Sympathy was extended to Mary Guinan-Darmody, Tipperary Libraries Local Studies Department on the death of her mother-in-law, Winifred Darmody, Gaile, Thurles.

Votes of Congratulations were extended to everyone involved in the recent Footloose Festival in Holycross which was a resounding success.

THAT CONCLUDED THE OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: 26th September, 2018.

SIGNED: _____
ACTING MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: 26th September, 2018.