



**MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TEMPLEMORE-THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE LIBRARY OFFICES, CASTLE AVENUE, THURLES ON WEDNESDAY, 27th. MAY, 2015.**

**Present:** Councillor Michael Smith, Cathaoirleach, presided.

Councillors Joe Bourke, Jackie Cahill, David Doran, Seamus Hanafin, John Hogan, Willie Kennedy, Micheál Lowry and Jim Ryan.

**Also Present:**

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

**Apology:** Michael F. Hayes B.E. Senior Engineer, Roads.

**1. Presentation (In Committee) by Deirdre Black, Landscape Architect on the Concept Plans for the Roscrea Enhancement Scheme.**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Deirdre Black, Landscape Architect and Marion Carey, Assistant Planner, who were in attendance for this item.

Deirdre Black outlined the proposals as follows:

- Upgrading the visual appearance of the car park adjacent to Tesco through low key interventions such as streetscape decluttering, orientation signage, relocation of bottle banks, tree/shrub planting, seating/street furniture, repaving etc.
- Provision of coach parking in the car park which would free up parking spaces on the main streets for social and business activities.
- Provision of a youth facility in the car park.
- Improvement of the pedestrian links between the car park, the Castle and the main streets which should lead to increased footfall in the town centre.
- Enhancement to the area outside the Castle to improve the visitor experience.
- Installation of temporary seating and trees for special events in the town centre.

Deirdre Black confirmed, in response to a query from the Cathaoirleach, that one coach parking space will be retained on Castle Street.



Marion Carey made the following points in response to queries from Members:-

- The Draft Plans will be presented to the Roscrea Enhancement Committee and feedback will be brought back to the Members for consideration.
- Detailed drawings will be prepared and the Part 8 Planning Process will then commence.
- Discussions are ongoing with Leader to secure additional funding which will supplement the Council contribution of €200,000.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Deirdre Black and Marion Carey for their Presentation and they withdrew from the Chamber.

## 2. **Civic Receptions.**

- a) It was proposed by the Cathaoirleach, seconded by Councillor J. Bourke and resolved:-

"That a Municipal Reception be held to honour Mr. Noel Joyce, Clonmore, Templemore on winning the All Ireland Senior Scór 2015 Recitation for 'The day I scored the winning goal'."

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

"That a Municipal Reception be held to honour Ms. Gráinne O'Dwyer, member of the Irish Ladies Basketball Team on winning Player of the Year on a number of occasions and Thurles Sports Person of the Year in 2014."

- c) It was proposed by Councillor J. Hogan, seconded by Councillor J. Cahill and resolved:-

"That a Municipal Reception be held to honour the achievements of Ms. Áine Ryan, Playwright who made her international debut in San Francisco recently with her play 'Kitty in the Lane'."

Members expressed the view that Civic Receptions should be grouped together and held at night.

## 3. **Adoption of the Minutes of the April Monthly Meeting which was held on the 22nd. April, 2015.**

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

"That the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting which was held on the 22nd. April, 2015 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the meeting."



**Matters arising from the Minutes:**

Item	Response
Reinstatement of the pay parking machine at Kincora Terrace, Thurles to free up parking for the residents.	The income generated would not justify the re-installation of a pay parking machine which is very expensive.
Installation of traffic calming measures in Cabragh Court and Rosemount, Thurles.	The Roads and Transportation SPC has not yet agreed the policy on traffic calming measures for housing estates.
The residents of the Cluain Glas estate, Thurles are disappointed with the lack of progress in taking their estate in charge.	The matter will receive priority.
Renewal of the double yellow lines at St. Mary's Avenue, Thurles.	The lines will be renewed in the coming weeks.
Use of Kavanagh Place by heavy goods vehicles making deliveries to Thurles Shopping Centre.	The Council will examine means to prevent its continuance.
Prohibition on parking in Parnell Street, Thurles on completion of the improvement works.	Members expressed opposition to the proposal.
Members complimented the Presentation Secondary School, the Council and local businesses on the support given to the 'Cycle against Suicide' which stopped off in Thurles on 8th. May, 2015.	Noted.
Taking in Charge of the public lighting in Marlstone Manor, Thurles.	The Roads Section is clarifying the situation.
The work associated with the refurbishment of Liberty Square, Thurles should be carried out outside of business hours to minimise disruption to traders.	Noted.
Confusion regarding the amount of funding allocated by the Department of Children & Youth Affairs to refurbish The Glebe playground, Roscrea.	The Community & Enterprise Section have been asked to clarify the position.
The caps on the boundary wall at Cluain Glas, Thurles at the entrance to the Jimmy Doyle Road have become loose.	The matter will receive attention.



#### 4. Water Services & Environment.

Matt Shortt, District Director and Director of Services for Water Services and Environment confirmed the following:

- The Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme remains on the priority list following the completion of a review by Irish Water. The Contractor is presently reinstating the lands but the cost of reinstating the roads has yet to be agreed.
- Members are encouraged to attend Clinics held by Irish Water from 9.00am to 11.00am prior to the Monthly Meetings of the County Council.

He responded to issues raised by the Members as follows:

- There is a requirement to complete a three tier assessment and obtain a licence from the EPA prior to rehabilitation of the Monanearla Landfill site and the Council has submitted a request for funding to the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government to undertake the works. Members will be kept updated on the matter.
- There is no funding available for the provision of a recycling facility in Thurles town and there are 5 centres in operation in towns throughout the County.
- A Staff Member has been assigned to promote public awareness of illegal dumping in the County and a proposal has been submitted under the Gateway Scheme to employ participants who will be assigned to clear litter around the County.
- It is accepted that covert cameras are not effective and the three Traffic Wardens in the District also have responsibility for litter control. Tipp FM is launching a campaign next week to increase community involvement in combating illegal dumping.
- 324 horses were impounded throughout the County in 2014 but only 4 were reclaimed by their owners. The keeping of horses within the curtilage of rural Council houses is a matter for the Housing Section.
- There is a joint inspection regime in place involving the County Council and the Department of Agriculture under the Nitrates Directive and the Council adopts a sensible approach with inspections.
- The reason for the removal of three litter bins in the vicinity of Our Lady's Secondary School, Templemore will be investigated.
- The Council will write to the NRA in regard to horses grazing on lands in their ownership.
- Voluntary Organisations interested in undertaking litter cleanups will be provided with equipment and the Council will arrange for the disposal of the litter.



## 5. Update on the 2015 Work Programmes.

The District Engineer confirmed the following:-

1. Works have commenced on improvements to 6 roads in the Roscrea area under the Restoration Improvement Programme and strengthening works will commence in July.
2. Surface dressing will commence in the Thurles area in mid June. It will be necessary to close the road from Kearns Cross to Borrisoleigh to facilitate resurfacing works and priority should be given to resurfacing the remaining kilometre if additional funding becomes available later in the year as the road is in very poor condition.
3. (a) 47 applications were received under the Community Involvement Scheme but the allocation is €80,000.00. Six applicants have been selected and these will be written to in the coming weeks seeking the payment of the local contribution. Copy of the list was circulated.  
Members expressed disappointment with the level of funding available and it was pointed out that €1m. approx would be required to cover all 47 applications.  
(b) Additional funding may become available later in the year if the other Districts do not fully utilise their allocations.  
(c) The Department has not funded this Scheme for the last 3 years and a small portion of the Road Grant Allocations was set aside by the Council to fund the Scheme.  
(d) Members can put their tertiary road allocation towards the cost of the roads included in the priority list.
4. Two crews are currently opening inlets and patching in the District.
5. The road at Rathmoy is being patched at present and it will be considered for inclusion in the 2016 Roadworks Programme.
6. The complaint re the poor condition of the road between Cuneen's Cross and Berkery's Pub will be referred to the Nenagh Municipal District.
7. A Consultant has been appointed to prepare a design for Gurteenabarna Bridge and as the entire deck needs to be replaced, a road closure will be required to facilitate the work.

The District Director advised that there is no discretionary funding available to undertake minor emergency works which may arise during the year and that the only source of funding for such works is the maintenance budget.

Councillor D. Doran stated that he has been nominated as part of a delegation to meet shortly with the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport and he undertook to raise the issue of inadequate funding under the Community Involvement Scheme and the re-introduction of the Local Improvement Scheme for works on private roads.



## 6. Update on Projects.

Thurles Town Park.

- i. Work should be substantially complete by the end of July.
- ii. There is no provision for a zip wire in the Children's Playground and the climbing frame will be a major attraction to the children. Certain elements of the play equipment are suitable for children with disabilities. Details of the equipment being installed in the Playground will be circulated to the Members.
- iii. It would not be appropriate to install toilet facilities in the Town Park.

Liberty Square Thurles Refurbishment.

The Traffic Review and Safety Audit Reports will be available shortly.

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

An Assessment Report on the tenders received is being prepared by the Design Team.

Repairs / Improvements to Templemore Town Hall

Improvements will be undertaken to the barges and plaster in the coming months.

Templemore Town Park Extension.

Concept Plans are currently being prepared.

Village Enhancement Works.

It is recommended that enhancement works be undertaken in Littleton, Borrisoleigh and Templetuohy Villages this year and detailed proposals will be prepared for consideration at the June Monthly Meeting.

## 7. 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 install a pedestrian crossing in The Ragg Village."



Councillor J. Ryan indicated that residents in Clohessy Place have requested the provision of a pedestrian crossing to facilitate children crossing the Nenagh Road to the School which is a very busy route.

The District Engineer advised that there is no funding available to undertake the works and that significant realignment of the road would be required before a pedestrian crossing could be installed.

Members noted that the County Council has applied to the NRA to have the status of the Nenagh Road (R498) upgraded due to its strategic importance and that if successful, the road would qualify for a higher level of grants.

**(b) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor David Doran.**

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

"I am calling on this Council to name the new Town Park in Thurles after one of the signatories of the 1916 Proclamation."

Councillor D. Doran pointed out that the Motion was self-explanatory and he appealed to the Members to endorse same.

It was agreed that it would be more appropriate to run a competition, open to all sectors of the community, for the naming of the Town Park and that a working group be established to facilitate the process.

**(c) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor Michael Smith.**

Councillor Michael Smith indicated that he wished to withdraw the following Notice of Motion in his name:

"I am calling on the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District to honour the commitment given to Roscrea Chamber of Commerce for €20,000 which is to be funded from the Roscrea Pay Parking Income."

**8. Correspondence.**

a) Thurles Town Centre, Roscrea Town Centre and Templemore Town Centre Enhancement & Painting Grant Schemes 2015.

Members noted the Thurles Town Centre, the Roscrea Town Centre and the Templemore Town Centre Enhancement & Painting Grant Schemes 2015, copies of which were circulated at the Meeting.





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

"That the Thurles Town Centre, the Roscrea Town Centre and the Templemore Town Centre Enhancement & Painting Grant Schemes 2015 be and are hereby adopted."

b) Request for the introduction of a Quiet Lanes Network in Monaincha, Roscrea.

The District Administrator outlined the contents of a letter which was received from Mr. Cathal McNicholas, Chairman, Roscrea Trail Blazers, requesting that a 'Quiet Lanes' network be introduced in Monaincha, Roscrea, in order to improve the quality of life of the community living in the area by encouraging drivers to slow down and drive more considerately.

Mr. John Jones pointed out some benefits of the initiative and he undertook to carry out further research into the Scheme and report back to the Council.

c) Invitation to attend a Corpus Christi Procession on Saturday 6th. June, 2015 at 8.15pm.

The District Administrator advised that the Members have been invited by Thurles Parish Group to attend a Corpus Christi Procession on Saturday 6th. June, 2015 at 8.15pm.

d) Presentation on the Active Travel Towns Programme for Thurles.

The District Administrator stated that Mr. Dermot Donovan, Roadplan Consulting will make a presentation to the Council on proposals for Thurles under the Active Travel Towns Programme. It was agreed that the presentation be held in the Municipal District Office, Slievenamon Road, Thurles on Thursday 4th. June, 2015 at 6.00pm subject to Mr. Donovan being available.

e) Resurfacing of junction at Matthew Avenue/Butler Avenue/Friar Street, Thurles.

The District Engineer confirmed that the junction at Matthew Avenue / Butler Avenue / Friar Street, Thurles will be resurfaced in the coming weeks and that there will be a level of disruption to traffic during the works.

He advised, in reply to a query from Councillor S. Hanafin, that it would not be prudent to provide road markings for left and right lanes on the junction at Butler Avenue as it is too narrow and cars, to prevent accidents, should be discouraged from filtering into the left lane.





9. **Any Other Business.**

Item	Response
Repair of the embankment along the river at Annfield, Thurles which has collapsed.	The matter will receive attention.
The necessary repairs effected to Graigue Bridge, Thurles.	The matter will be followed up with Iarnród Éireann.
Provision of right turning lanes at Drish and Turtulla, Thurles.	The junctions are currently under review by the NRA Inspector who examined the areas recently.
Undertake river drainage works - Ballycamusk/Rathcannon/Farney Bridge, Thurles.	It will be necessary to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement as the location is within a Special Area of Conservation prior to undertaking any works.
The horses tethered on the grassed areas adjacent to the flyover at Coolcroo and Pouldine, Thurles are a danger to motorists using the motorway.	The Roads Section will be requested to refer the complaint to the NRA.
Lack of directional and stop signs at Liskeveen, Ballybeg, Derrynaflan Littleton and Curraheen, Horse & Jockey, Thurles.	A survey will be undertaken of the area.
Provision of a directional sign for Moyne/Templetuohy at Paddy Dunne's Cross, Thurles.	The request will be considered.
Resurfacing of the rear access road behind 36 to 41 College Green, Thurles.	The request will be examined.
Residents on Mill Road, Thurles are unhappy that the dividing hedge abutting The Glebe, Thurles has not been cut back.	A further inspection will be carried out.
Lights at the entrance to Dún Lia, Thurles are out of order.	The estate has not been taken in charge.
Erection of a street name plate on Mitchel Street, Thurles.	The request will be considered.
A request to reduce the height of the trees in Harkin Park, Two-Mile-Borris, Thurles.	The request can be considered during the pruning season.
The Twister Challenge held in Templemore Town Park recently - the event was a resounding success. The Council should meet with the Committee well in advance of the next event to address issues of concern.	The comments were noted.



Extension of the footpath to Drish Bridge, Thurles.	There is no funding available to undertake the works.
Cleaning of the River Suir in the Templemore area.	The availability of funding for drainage works at this location will be clarified.
St. Kevin's Park, Littleton - the grass is not being cut on a regular basis.	The complaint will be investigated.
Completion of works on the footpath outside Skehan's house, Cabra Road, Thurles.	The matter will receive attention.
A number of roads in the District have yet to be patched.	The roads will be attended to within the next few weeks.
Provision of lighting at Turtulla Cross, Thurles.	The NRA Inspector confirmed recently that the majority of accidents occurred during the day.
Improvement of the sightline at the junction in Clonmore Village.	Discussions will be held with the house owner to include improvements in a Scheme.
Provision of a pedestrian crossing near the Church in Clonmore Village.	The issue will be addressed.
The road outside houses in St. Brigid's Villas, Borrisoleigh is higher than the path which is causing flooding.	The complaint can be considered under the Village Enhancement Works.
Repair of footpaths at Pallas Street, Borrisoleigh.	The request can be considered under the Village Enhancement Works.
Provide a second lane in Borrisoleigh at the junction of the Nenagh Road / Pallas Street due to the large volume of school traffic.	The request will be examined.
The entrance to the old Nenagh Road at Ballyroan, Borrisoleigh is unsightly.	The complaint will receive attention.
Flooding issues outside two houses at St. Bridget's Terrace, Littleton.	The complaint will be investigated.

**THAT CONCLUDED THE OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE MEETING**

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: 24th. June, 2015.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: 24th. June, 2015.

27th. May, 2015.