



MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TEMPLEMORE-THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OFFICES, SLIEVENAMON ROAD, THURLES ON TUESDAY, 15th SEPTEMBER, 2015.

Present: Councillor John Hogan, Cathaoirleach, presided.

Councillors Jackie Cahill, David Doran, Seamus Hanafin Willie Kennedy, Micheál Lowry, Jim Ryan and Michael Smith.

Also Present:

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

Apology: Councillor Joe Bourke.

1. Adoption of Minutes.

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

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

2. Water Services and Environment Functions.

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

- The Bottle Banks in Littleton have been relocated to the new Community Centre.
- The Grants Schemes for Sports Clubs, Residents Associations, other Voluntary Groups and Burial Ground and Tidy Towns Committees have proved very successful and should be continued next year.

He responded to issues raised by the Members as follows:

- Enforcement proceedings will be taken against dog fouling where the owner of the dog is identified.

15th September, 2015.



- Further contact will be made with the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government regarding funding to undertake rehabilitation works at the former Monanearla landfill site.

The Cathaoirleach and Members welcomed Eddie Loughnane, Administrative Officer, Water Services to the Meeting. Eddie thanked the Members for their welcome and indicated that Sean Keating, Director of Services was unavoidably absent as he is on leave.

Eddie Loughnane and the District Director advised the Members and responded to the issues raised as follows:-

- A Report on Water Services, which dealt with all the issues, was presented to the County Council Meeting on Monday last.
- There should be a reduction in the levels of lime in the water in Thurles when the Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme comes into operation.
- Irish Water will not fund the installation of water softeners in homes.
- The issues with the communal septic tank serving houses at The Rock, Ballycahill and the communal effluent treatment plant at Brookfield Estate, Drombane do not fall within the remit of Irish Water.
- Nicholas O'Dwyer, Consulting Engineers have been appointed to prepare detailed designs and specification for the new water treatment plant at Bohernacrusha, Thurles.

It was agreed, at the request of Councillor M. Lowry, that contact be made with Ballycahill National School who are being affected by the communal septic tank.

3. Adoption of Resolution - Meetings in the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District Office.

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

"That the Meetings of the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District Members be held in the Municipal District Offices, Slievenamon Road, Thurles until completion of refurbishment works on the Library Offices, Castle Avenue, Thurles."

4. Date for September Monthly Meeting.

The District Administrator advised that there is an obligation under Standing Orders, to hold Municipal District Monthly Meetings on the fourth Wednesday of every month and that it is necessary to adopt a Resolution to adjourn the September Monthly Meeting.



It was proposed by Councillor M. Lowry, seconded by Councillor W. Kennedy and resolved:-

"That the September Monthly Meeting of the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District be adjourned to Wednesday 28th. October, 2015."

5. Consideration of the Draft Budgetary Plan.

The District Administrator indicated that the Draft Budgetary Plan for 2016 (including the GMA for the Municipal District) will be considered at the Monthly Meeting on the 28th. October, 2015 and that it will appear as an item on the Agenda.

The Members noted the position.

6. Roads Programme.

A report on the 2015 Roadworks Programme was circulated at the Meeting.

The District Engineer advised that:-

- The majority of the works included in the 2015 Roadworks Programme have been completed.
- The road from the N62 to Shanakill is not suitable for surface dressing due to its current condition but will be included for strengthening in next year's programme - the allocation was expended on other roads in the Roscrea area.
- The sections of road at Rahealty and Loughlahan will be completed this week.
- Roads not included in the 2015 Roadworks Programme were brought forward as a result of the increased funding received.
- Rehabilitation works have commenced on Laharden and Gurteenabarna Bridges.
- Funding for Community Involvement Schemes was increased from €94,000 to €134,000 and works under the Scheme should be completed in the next month.
- Substantial work has been undertaken under the Tertiary Road Allocations.

The Cathaoirleach and Members expressed appreciation to the Engineers and outdoor staff for the extensive work completed to date under the Roadworks Programme.

The following matters were raised:-

<u>Item</u>	<u>Response</u>
Transfer of unspent allocations under the Community Involvement Schemes in other Municipal Districts to Templemore-Thurles Municipal District in the light of the high number of applications received in this District.	Allocations for the Community Involvement Scheme are taken from the overall budget for the Restoration Improvement Programmes and consequently will remain within the Municipal District.



Footpaths and roads in the three Towns are in need of attention.	Road Grants for Thurles and Templemore were discontinued on the abolition of the Town Councils. Minor repairs will be undertaken under the Maintenance Budget.
Surface of the Suir Bridge, Thurles - the defect is disappointing given that remedial works were only completed in recent years.	The NRA is responsible for the bridge and the issue has been referred to the Regional Office for attention.
Poor quality of the overlay used on sections of roads in Thurles and Holycross.	The product is no longer being used by the Council.
Flooding at Gaile, Galbertstown, Ballyerk - urgent action is required. The reasons for flooding re-occurring on roads that were improved in the last number of years needs to be investigated.	Improvements have been completed in some areas and priority areas will be addressed in 2016. List of roads to be provided to the District Engineer.
Poor condition of footpaths in Willowmere Drive, Thurles and opposite Ken Ryan's pub in Holycross.	The repair of footpaths will be considered for inclusion in the 2016 Roadworks Programme.
Poor condition of rear access roads in Kennedy Park, Thurles.	The repair of rear access roads will be considered for inclusion in the 2016 Roadworks Programme.
Slievenamon Road, Thurles - the road surface, which is very poor, is a danger to road users and in urgent need of upgrade.	Slievenamon Road is on the Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII - formerly NRA) list of 2015 Pavement Strengthening Design projects. It is anticipated that surveys, ground investigations etc will commence shortly and that there is a strong likelihood that the overlay/reconstruction will be done in 2016.
Roads Development Levies - the levies should be expended on minor improvement works throughout the District with a specific allocation from the Department for the resurfacing of Killinan Road due to its strategic classification.	The road at Killinan is in need of resurfacing and there was no other source of funding available.
Inadequacy of the road markings provided at the junction at Ballybeg,	Sightline improvements can only be considered under the Low Cost Safety



Littleton - they do not address the sightline issue.	Scheme which is oversubscribed and the issue will be raised again with the NRA Inspector.
Cleaning of inlets on roads in upland areas to avoid deterioration of road surfaces during the winter months.	The request will receive attention.
Repairs required to smaller bridges on minor roads in the District.	The matter was noted.
Repair of pothole at Drish Bridge, Thurles.	The matter will receive attention.
Poor condition of the road surface on the roundabout at Mill Road, Thurles.	The road will be repaired in the next few days.
Improvements required to the sightline and signage at the junction at Ballybeg, Littleton, close to the Briquette Factory.	Signage and roadmarkings will be provided at the junction.
Completion of the footpath in Roscrea from Ashbury to the GAA grounds.	The footpath will be completed over a period of time.
The Black River - request Lisheen Mines to clean the Black River from the Mines to Drish before they cease operations in December.	The matter will be taken up with Lisheen Mines.
Poor condition of roads in Gortnahoe Village and Foilcamin.	These areas will be considered for inclusion in the 2016 Roadworks Programme.

7. Update on Projects.

Thurles Town Park.

The Town Park is substantially complete with only a small number of minor items to be addressed.

Liberty Square Refurbishment and development of a carpark.

The Design Team have assessed the Traffic Review and Safety Audit Reports. It is anticipated that the Part 8 Process will commence within the next month.

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

Work commenced on the 10th. August, 2015 and is scheduled for completion in December 2016.



Repairs / Improvements
to Templemore Town
Hall

The Structural Engineer and Conservation Architect reports have been reviewed. Essential works to the roof and barges will be undertaken in the coming months when staff become available.

Templemore Town Park
Extension.

A number of layouts for the additional land purchased are currently being prepared.

Village Enhancement
Works.

Footpath improvements in Borrisoleigh, Littleton and Templetuohy, which are being funded from the General Municipal Allocation, have commenced.

Roscrea Enhancement
Scheme.

A Design Team is being procured to prepare detailed plans for the Enhancement Scheme.

Carpark at St. Patrick's
Cemetery.

A draft layout plan for the carpark has been completed. Detailed plans and specification for the Part 8 Process are currently being prepared.

2015 Painting Scheme.

45 applications have been received under the Painting Scheme. All applicants have been notified of their allocation.

Matters arising.

The following matters were raised:

- The need to consult with local residents prior to commencing footpath improvements from Churchview, Littleton to the new Community Centre.
- Naming of Thurles Town Park - the Park should be opened for a period of time before a decision on its naming. The building retained will be secured to prevent anti-social behaviour pending a decision on its future.
- Inadequate public lighting between the Thurles Leisure Centre and the Source Arts Centre - additional lighting is included under the Town Park development.
- Removal of the outdoor adult exercise equipment from The Glebe Playground, Roscrea - the equipment was vandalised and there is no funding available to replace it.



- The neglect of Templemore town since the abolition of the Town Council - the level of funding and resources for maintenance works in Templemore has not been reduced since the Merger.
- Proposals for the development of the disused swimming pool site in the Town Park, Templemore - proposals will be subject to the availability of funding.
- Future use for Templemore Town Hall - efforts to secure a tenant are ongoing.
- Cleaning of the Mall River in Templemore.
- Implementation of traffic calming measures at the Lidl Roundabout, Thurles - the works were deferred pending the extension of the watermains at Abbey Road to connect into the Regional Water Supply Scheme.

8. **Notices of Motion.**

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

Councillor Jim Ryan formally moved the following Notice of Motion in his name:

"I am calling on this Council to carry out a proper resurfacing job on College Lane in Thurles and to also install public lighting on the lane."

Councillor D. Doran seconded the Motion.

The District Administrator advised that there is no provision in the 2015 Budget for public lighting improvements and the resurfacing of College Lane was not included in this year's Roadworks Programme. He added that it will be a matter for the Members to decide where allocations will be expended when the Budget for 2016 is adopted.

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

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

"I am calling on this Council to provide emergency funding to complete the external insulation works to be carried out on Council houses in the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District which have already been identified as a health risk to some of the respective residents by Tipperary County Council's own Housing Officials."

The Motion was seconded by Councillor M. Lowry.

The District Administrator pointed out that Housing Section is responsible for the management and operation of the Energy Efficiency Programme and that the Municipal District has no function in regard to securing funding for the Programme.



Civic Receptions.

The District Administrator indicated, in reply to queries raised by the Members, that a decision was made at the June Monthly Meeting to defer the holding of Civic Receptions until after the summer period.

The Cathaoirleach proposed the holding of a Civic Reception for Greg Broderick, a member of Ireland's 2015 Showjumping Team who won the Aga Khan Cup at the Dublin Horse Show.

9. Correspondence.

i. Speed Limit Review.

The District Administrator advised that the County Council is commencing a speed limit review which has a number of stages and that it is envisaged the review will be completed by the 31st. March, 2017.

ii. Roscrea Traffic Management Plan.

The District Administrator indicated that a Traffic Management Plan for Roscrea, which will be funded from Development Levies, will be prepared next year.

iii. Town Centre Initiative.

The District Administrator informed the Members that a Marketing Consultant has been engaged under the Town Centre Initiative to work with the stakeholders in the nine towns across the County.

10. Votes of Sympathy.

Votes of sympathy were passed with the following:

- Noel Hennessy, Clerk of Works on the death of his mother, Bridget Hennessy.
- Francis Molumby, General Services Supervisor and the Meaney family on the death of Mr. Jimmy Meaney Senior.
- Paddy Gilmartin, Churchquarter, Kilcommon, former employee, on the death of his wife, Mary Gilmartin.

11. Any Other Business.

Issue	Response
A need to clean the gullies in Borrisoleigh and other areas on an ongoing basis to prevent flooding.	The request will receive attention.



Inadequate public lighting at Convent Hill, Roscrea.	The complaint will be investigated.
Pruning of trees in various estates in Thurles town.	Pruning has been undertaken on trees in Thurles this year but the budget for open spaces is limited.

THAT CONCLUDED THE OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE MEETING

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: 28th. October, 2015.

SIGNED: _____
MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: 28th. October, 2015.