



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE CHAMBER, NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT AT 11.00 AM ON 15th FEBRUARY, 2018

Present Cllr's John Carroll, Fiona Bonfield, Ger Darcy, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, Mattie Ryan, Seamus Morris and Michael O' Meara.

Also Present Mr. Marcus O' Connor, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Peter Fee, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Philip McGrath, A/Executive Engineer and Ms. Auen Melia, A/Assistant Staff Officer.

Mr. Karl Cashen, Director of Services, Mr. Brian Beck, Senior Planner

Apologies Cllr. Phyll Bugler

Cllr. J. Carroll expressed his sympathy to Cllr. M. O' Meara and his family on the death of his mother Moira, R.I.P. All members wished to be associated with these sentiments. Mr. M. O' Connor on behalf of the Executive and staff of Nenagh MD also expressed his sympathy to Cllr. M. O' Meara and his family.

It was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. J. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. G Darcy, to adjourn the meeting for 15 minutes as a mark of respect to Cllr. M. O' Meara.

Item 1. Minutes of January Meeting It was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. H. McGrath and resolved that the minutes of the January meeting held on 18th January, 2018 be adopted.

Item 2. Action Plan The Action Plan from the January meeting was noted.

Item 3. Briefing from Planning Mr. K. Cashen and Mr. B. Beck attended from Planning Section. A Planning Briefing note was circulated to Members. Mr. K. Cashen advised that The National Planning Framework will be launched tomorrow. This will be circulated to members once received and it will be discussed further at the March meeting of the plenary council. In regard to the RSES an issues paper has been published and submissions are invited up until the 16th February, 2018. In regard to Taking in Charge he advised that 5 estates were taken in charge in 2017 in the Municipal District area and a further 15 applications remain in progress. Cllr. J. Carroll congratulated all involved on being awarded the Special President's Award for their work to develop a Renewable Energy Strategy 2016 for the County. All members wished to be associated with these wishes.



Cllr. S. Morris referred to the masterplan for Stereame said there is a lot of interest in the development and wondered if all interested parties could come together. He feels that if First Data is opened without having houses available it would be a huge problem. He asked if the Council had purchased the takeaway unit.

In regard to Taking in Charge he referred to Ormond Keep which he said is only partially taken in charge and said that there are very few owners left in the part that remains to be taken in charge. He asked how this can be fast tracked.

Cllr. M. Ryan said that the National Planning Framework is a statutory document and that we are bound by this, adding that the current proposal is that only 231 houses can be built in the county. He thanked the planning staff for their input regarding submissions. He hoped the final document will be different from the initial document.

Cllr. H. McGrath said he had serious concerns regarding the proposal of having only one principal town in the county, that being Clonmel. He hopes to see that this is changed in the final document. He said he hopes there will be strong opposition by rural TDs if it is not right. In regard to Stereame, he asked if there is a final masterplan showing where the commercial, retail and housing units are on the map. He feels that Stereame needs a scheme where there are 30/40 units for social housing.

Cllr. G. Darcy said that Nenagh and the surrounding areas have the potential to grow. He asked that if people want to come to live in Nenagh is there potential for further housing development. In regard to Structures at Risk, he referred to structure in Cloughjordan and wondered what the current position is. He said that the barriers are only drawing attention to it and urged that this be moved on.

Cllr. J. Hannigan said that he hopes the submissions made will be effective. Referring to the 231 developments he hoped that, where a building is disused and brought back into use, this wouldn't be part of the overall figure. In regard to Taking in Charge, he said that Irish Water is looking for wayleaves through gardens that are there over 20 years. He hoped this would not hold up the taking in charge process. He wondered how we are going to keep villages/towns alive adding that he hopes the cluster guidelines will help promote this.

Cllr. S. Morris said that if there is such a restriction regarding building units, Stereame would not be possible.

In regard to Structures of Risk, Cllr. J. Carroll highlighted that there are



no gutters on the jail block at the Courthouse and he asked that this be looked at.

In response to some of the queries raised, Mr. B. Beck replied as follows:-

In regard to the National Planning Framework two plans were being launched – the National Development Plan and the National Planning Framework. The National Development Plan would fund the National Planning Framework and if it was not in the National Development Plan there would be no funding. This would determine the funding for 20 years. Mr. Beck referred to the Regional Spatial & Economic Strategy and said, once the Regional Assembly adopts this it would be mandatory for the County Development Plan and that in turn would make it mandatory for the Local Area Plans. He advised that a submission would be made on the Regional Spatial Economic Strategy on the following day with a view to ensuring that Tipperary's interests are reflected in that document.

In regard to Stereame he said that it is unique in the Mid-West Region as it is the only site zoned for residential and industrial use and is owned by a public authority. He said it is important to get it right for both Nenagh and Limerick and said that people will follow the houses. It has huge potential to cater for growth. Limerick is only building a small number of houses.

In response to Cllr. G. Darcy's query regarding sufficient housing, Mr. B. Beck referred to a housing development on the Dromin Road and said that the planning permission has been extended and that between this development and development at Stereame there will be between 500/550 units available. There was an emphasis on delivering social housing in both developments to meet the housing need. People will be looking to move up and likewise it is necessary to accommodate people who are retiring. He said it is important to "create a community" and advised that there is no lack of willingness on Council's part in this regard.

He referred to a new plan called "Metropolitan Area Plan" which has to be done for an area to grow around a city, for example for Nenagh to grow around/along side Limerick. He said that details of the Metropolitan Area Plans are unclear at the moment other than one needs to be done. It would be critical to get Nenagh as an integral part of that plan. When looking at it, a city like Limerick should look at assets around it for example, Foynes Port, Shannon Airport, Lough Derg etc. He said if we can get Nenagh into a Metropolitan Area Plan we can argue for growth in Nenagh.



In regard to Cluster Guidelines, he said that guidelines are now at an advanced stage of completion and will be presented to the members at the March plenary meeting. He said cluster guidelines were mentioned in the National Planning Framework as a good idea and it is hoped that we can build on this.

In regard to Taking in Charge he said that 48 applications have been progressed through Planning. An invitation has been sent to Irish Water for them to accompany the Council when doing inspections. He said there are some estates that are with Irish Water for a considerable length of time. The Council has written to Irish Water giving them a deadline to respond and advising that the Council will be proceeding with the application on the assumption that there are no problems if no response is received by that date.

He further advised that at the next Taking in Charge workshop, they will be looking at estates for which the Council are finding it difficult to get taking in charge applications. He added that with the help of members there will be a focus in 2019 on identifying estates that are in good condition and trying to get applications lodged. He said that the legislation is frustrating because the Council cannot consider an application unless there are 50% of owners applying.

In response to Cllr. S. Morris query regarding ownership of take away, Mr. B. Beck advised that the ownership is unclear.

In regard to dangerous structure in Cloughjordan he advised that this matter is being dealt with by Environment section.

**Item 4.
To approve
funding under
the Festival &
Events grant
scheme**

It was proposed by Cllr. F. Bonfield and seconded by Cllr. S. Morris and resolved that in accordance with the terms of the Festival & Events Grant Scheme the payment of grants be made to the following:

Municipal:

Name of Festival/Event	Type	Recommendation
Feile Brian Boru	Heritage	€2,500
Dromineer Literary Festival	Arts	€4,000
Terryglass Arts Festival	Arts	€15,000
Taste of Nenagh	Community	€7,000
Cloughjordan Honours Thomas MacDonagh	Heritage	€3,000
Visit Nenagh Classic	Sports	€2,500
St Patricks Day Parade - Nenagh	Community	€10,000
Nenagh Castlefest	Community	€10,000



Spleodar Childrens Art Festival	Arts	€8,000
---------------------------------	------	--------

Community:

Name of Festival/Event	Type	Recommendation
Re-Living our Bog/Kilbarron Terryglass Historical Society	Heritage	€750
Borrisokane Community Sports Ground	Sports	€500
Nenagh Badminton Open	Sports	€380
Kincora Trad Weekend	Arts	€1,500
The Abbey Court Hotel Snooker Open	Sports	€800
Killoscully Development Association	Comm	€500
Portroe Gathering	Comm	€500
Newport St. Patricks Parade	Comm	€2,000
Borrisokane St. Patrick Day Parade	Comm	€2,000
Free Reed Gathering/Cloughjordan Arts CLG	Arts	€1,200
Kilcommon Festival	Comm	€200
Ballinderry Country Fair Day	Comm	€500
Cloughjordan Naturalists F Club/Celebrating Nature in your neighbourhood	Heritage	€750
Silvermines Rambling Festival	Tourism	€500
Nenagh Classic Car Club Show 2018	Comm	€500
Curreeny Hedge School Commemoration	Heritage	€500

**Item 5.
To agree proposals in relation to allocation of GMA 2018**

Proposals in relation to the allocation of the General Municipal Allocation as circulated at workshop were agreed by the members on the proposal of Cllr. G. Darcy, seconded by Cllr. F. Bonfield. It was agreed to discuss proposals in relation to allocation agreed from General Municipal Allocation 2018 to Roadworks Programme at special meeting of Nenagh Municipal District to be held on Tuesday 20th February at 3.00 p.m.

**Item 6.
To agree RM and RI Programme for 2018**

A draft Surface Dressing (RM) and Road Improvement (RI) programme was circulated at workshop. This was considered by members and agreed that this matter be adjourned and discussed at a special meeting of Nenagh Municipal District to be held on Tuesday 20th February at 3.00 p.m.

**Item 7.
Update on Projects**

➤ **Newport Town Park**
Works based on the Site Resolution Plan for Mulkear View are now completed. A meeting has been held with Nic de Jong, Consultant to discuss Project Review Report Stage 1, once this is finalised we will be moving onto Part 8.



➤ **Gills Garden**

Masonry Works have been commenced by the Contractor. This stage of the programme is estimated to take approximately 3 months and is progressing well.

Cllr. H. McGrath wondered if access was being sought through the church grounds. Mr. M. O' Connor advised that part of the plan is to have an opening from Gills Garden into the Church grounds with two other openings a window and gate leading towards the Castle. He confirmed that the contractor is accessing same through Church View.

➤ **Community CCTV Scheme**

Works on the CCTV system at Birdhill, Burgess and Cooleen are substantially completed.

➤ **Nenagh Traffic Management Plan**

Next stage will involve demolition of buildings and design of car park at Emmet Place.

➤ **Bord Gais Project**

Works have commenced on footpaths in Tyone, works to road surface will take place thereafter, weather permitting.

Cllr. S. Morris referred to the application for a road closure on Ormond Street and said that there will be huge implications for businesses that are already at the end of their tether. Cllr. G. Darcy supported Cllr. S. Morris. Mr. M. O' Connor advised that the road closure is to facilitate waste water rehabilitation works. He said that a number of submissions has been received and these will be reviewed prior to making a decision.

➤ **New Shannon Crossing at Ballina/Killaloe**

Arbitration meeting being held in Killaloe whereby accommodation works will be agreed with landowners.

➤ **Latteragh**

An allocation to progress this scheme has been received. The next stage of the project is to proceed with C.P.O.

➤ **Borrisokane**

Contract documents will be finalised in another couple of weeks, once complete the documents will be sent to TII consultants.

Cllr. J. Hannigan said that the public are regularly asking him when Borrisokane is starting. He said he would like a definite answer. Also he said that if TII change documents this will hold up the progress even more. Cllr. G. Darcy supported Cllr. J. Hannigan.



Mr. M. O' Connor advised that he is talking about weeks rather than months. He said TII consultants will have an input however changes will probably be minor. He said it is hoped to have documents with TII by end of month and he would not expect much delay.

➤ **Knockalton**

It is anticipated that this will go out to tender in a couple of weeks with a view to contractor being on site before the summer.

Cllr. H. McGrath said that he thought this was to go to tender in February and he hopes tender documents will be issued shortly. Mr. M. O' Connor advised that staff resources are currently tied up with finalising documents for Borrisokane.

➤ **Carrigahorrig**

No update on this scheme. Staff resources are currently tied up with other schemes.

➤ **Nenagh Tourist Office**

Discussions are ongoing with the Planning Section regarding works required for the Tourist Office.

➤ **Garden of Remembrance, Cloughjordan**

Due to poor weather conditions it has not been possible to progress snags or planting.

➤ **Nenagh 2020**

A discussion has taken place with the County Librarian in regard to the potential return of the Treaty and he has agreed to take this up with the JFK Library in Boston. The Ormond Historical Society has been contacted with a view to participation on the committee. A meeting will be arranged shortly – currently trying to agree date for same.

A discussion took place on the current road conditions in the Municipal District.

Cllr. J. Carroll referred to funding for regional and local roads and said that funding has reduced from €600m to €300m in 10 years and this leaves us greatly exposed as a Council. He proposed that the members of the Oireachtas be invited to a meeting of Nenagh MD to advise of the Councillors concerns and for the Oireachtas members to refer them back to the houses of the Oireachtas to find solutions. This was seconded by Cllr. M. Ryan.

Cllr. S. Morris said that roads are not safe at the moment. He said we



are in the process of passing a roads budget, however he felt that the Road Safety Authority has a role to play in this too. He said the Council are €46m short from bringing roads up to a proper standard. He asked that a meeting be arranged with the Road Safety Authority prior to meeting the Oireachtas members. He is also looking for the Road Safety Authority to suspend NCT tests until roads are safe.

Cllr. J. Hannigan agreed with inviting Oireachtas members to meet with them. He referred to a public meeting held recently and said that people feel they have to go to that extreme to get roads done. He feels that as a result of last election Lower Ormond lost out regarding roads and he called on special funding for the Lower Ormond area.

Cllr. G. Darcy supported previous speakers and said there is certainly anger in areas. He said that roads are always an issue and have been a recurring problem for successive Governments. He said that current work practices need to be looked too.

Cllr. M. Ryan supported previous speakers and agreed that the R.S.A. should be invited to meet with members. He referred to his Notice of Motion from a previous meeting regarding deer crossing roads and said that this is also an issue that needs to be tackled.

Cllr. H. McGrath supported previous speakers regarding suspension of NCT.

Mr. M. O' Connor said there is a lot of talk regarding the National Planning Framework regarding rural Ireland however there was a need to invest in rural Ireland. In regard to road ratings he advised that €196m is required for the whole county to bring roads up to required standard, with roads in Nenagh MD requiring €45 to €50 million euro. In regard to work practices he said while the Council would like to do a proper job unfortunately when funding is not available alternative works such as patching is the only option. He said that Tipperary are somewhat below average regarding road ratings. He advised that the Road Safety Authority does not have a role regarding road conditions but driver behaviour. He too feels that comments regarding NCT are valid.

Cllr. S. Morris said that driver behaviour is as a result of the road condition.

Cllr. J. Hannigan asked for an update on the M7 with regard to the condition of road when a shower of hailstones falls.

Cllr. H. McGrath referred to aquaplaning along by junction 29 and wondered if a safety audit was carried out would it take it into account



if wind is coming from the bog. He said that the TII will have to look at erecting screening along the motorway to help with driving conditions. Again he referred to gantry signs and said that these should be erected at all junctions along the motorway to make drivers aware if there are extreme weather conditions.

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that there has been a number of accidents on the M7 and confirmed that that the TII looked at the road surface and no issue was found. He said the incidents seem to be linked to when there is a shower of hailstones which are short and intense. He advised that the R.S.A. have released a short video to guide motorists in how to deal with this type of sudden and localised hail shower and this can be viewed on the council's website.

**Item 8.
Engineer's
Checklist**

The Engineer's Checklist was circulated to the members.

Cllr. G. Darcy wondered what the update is regarding speed indicator sign at Templemore road, Cloughjordan, Mr. P. McGrath advised that it will be put up in the next week or so.

Cllr. H. McGrath asked that the yellow box be re-instated at Kenyon Street carpark and at Norbury Lane. He also asked if there is any update on re-positioning/reducing size of sign on Pearse Street which is blocking shop fronts. Mr. P. Fee asked if he had any suggestions as to an alternative location.

Cllr. J. Carroll said that road going down towards Burgess cemetery is in a poor condition. He asked that junction at Patrickswell and pinch point at Burgess school be looked at.

Cllr. J. Hannigan referred to road at Grange and said that 500/600 yards of this road is deteriorating and needs to be looked at.

Cllr. S. Morris said that footpath in Shamrock Court needs attention.

**Item 9.
To discuss the
continuous
overcrowding at
Limerick
University
Hospital**

Cllr. S. Morris referred to the new emergency unit in the University of Limerick hospital and said it is not working and from his experience every health and safety rule is being broken and he is worried if a fire breaks out how many would survive. He said they are allowed up to 16 patients on trolleys however he said yesterday there were 31 patients on trolleys and are running at a capacity of 105%. He asked that a letter be sent to the Chief Fire Officer in Limerick to ascertain if an assessment of the emergency unit has been carried out, if there is a fire cert and if not to request that the necessary action is taken. He added that as part of the proposal in the National Planning Framework, 3 new hospitals are mentioned, however he said that instead of building new hospitals,



emergency units that are currently closed should be reopened.
Cllr. J. Carroll said that Nenagh hospital has a great record and the emergency unit should be reopened.

Cllr. G. Darcy said he supported Cllr. S. Morris. He said that they were told once this new unit opened the on-going problems would be resolved. He said that the problem in the old A&E building was supposed to be due to lack of space however now with the new unit the problems continue.

Item 10. None

Notices of Motion

Item 11. None

Delegated Employee Orders

Item 12. None

Correspondence

Item 13. **Votes of Sympathy were passed to the following:-**

- Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations**
- Cllr. M. O' Meara on the death of Mrs. Moira O' Meara, R.I.P.
 - Mr. Tom Mackey on the death of Mrs. Patsy Jones, R.I.P.

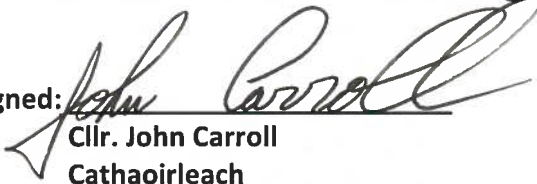
Votes of Congratulations were passed to the following:-

- Mr. David Rooney on being appointment Manager of the Limerick FC Women's International League Team.
- Kilruane National School on securing a place in the finals of the Dell Vex Robotics Challenge.
- Mr. Keelan McGrath on winning the 2018 Seán Ó Riada Gold Medal Competition.

Item 14. Cllr. H. McGrath advised that St. Patrick's Day Parade in Nenagh will
AOB commence at 11.00 a.m. on Saturday 17th March.

Cllr. M. Ryan thanked all those involved regarding new lights in Templeberry.

This concluded the business of the meeting, a true copy of which we hereby certify:-

Signed: 
Cllr. John Carroll
Cathaoirleach

Date: 15/3/18

Signed: 
Ms. Rosemary Joyce
District Administrator

Date: 15/3/18