



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE JULY MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE LAKESIDE HOTEL, BALLINA AT 10.00 AM ON 20TH JULY 2017

Present:

Cllrs. John Carroll, Phyll Bugler, Fiona Bonfield, Ger Darcy, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, Seamus Morris and Mattie Ryan

Also Present:

Mr. Marcus O' Connor, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Philip McGrath, Executive Engineer, Mr. David Fahy, Executive Engineer and Aiven Melia, A/Assistant Staff Officer.

Ms. Clare Curley, Director of Services, Ms. Michele Maher, Senior Staff Officer, Housing Section and Ms. Attracta Lyons, Economic Development Officer.

Mr. John Nolan, Senior Engineer, Tipperary County Council., Mr. Tom Cannon and Mr. Andrew Bass, Tobin Consulting Engineers.

Apologies:

Cllr. Michael O' Meara

Item 1.

Minutes of Annual Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr. H. McGrath and seconded by Cllr. M. Ryan and resolved that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 15th June, 2017 be adopted.

Item 2.

Minutes of June Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Morris and seconded by Cllr. G. Darcy and resolved that the minutes of the June meeting held on 15th June, 2017 be adopted.

Cllr. S. Morris referred to the reinstatement of footpaths in Nenagh town and called for a meeting with Councillors and Members of the Chamber of the Commerce to discuss the plan for the works. Cllr's McGrath, Carroll and Ryan supported Cllr. S. Morris.

Cllr. H. McGrath thanked Arrabawn Co-Op for removing the blocks and replacing same with bollards & a chain outside the Railway Bar. He thanked the Executive for their part too.

Cllr. S. Morris referred to the historical quarter of the town and to phase 2 of the Castle project. He said that the jail block needs to be opened as a public amenity, he said there is huge interest in Nenagh Castle, Town Hall and Heritage Centre and it is disappointing that the jail block remains closed. He said it is time to use this as a facility to boost tourism for the town. He asked that measures be taken to open up the facility.

Cllr. J. Carroll concurred with Cllr. S. Morris and said it would be hugely beneficial. He complimented Cllr. H. McGrath and his committee on the Castle Fest held recently.

Cllr. S. Morris concurred with Cllr. J. Carroll and said it was a very successful weekend in Nenagh. He said that with Nenagh Castle being 800 years old in 2020 it is important to promote the town and said that Nenagh started at Nenagh Castle.

Cllr. G. Darcy complimented Cllr. H. McGrath saying it was a great couple of days and that it was great to be able to host such a weekend.

Cllr's Ryan & Bugler also complimented Cllr. H. McGrath and his committee on this event.

Cllr. J. Hannigan congratulated Cllr. H. McGrath and his team. He said that a working group should be put in place to progress such events to incorporate the historical quarter.

Cllr. H. McGrath thanked Members for their comments. He said he accepted the sentiments on behalf of his committee. He said it was a great weekend with a unique atmosphere and thanked everyone who supported it. Referring to the historical quarter he said that Phase 2 needs to be re-visited and that we should contact the Oireachtas members.

Cllr. P. Bugler asked if broadband was available on the streets of Nenagh, she said it is important to have hot-spots for people to check out different facilities. Mr. M. O' Connor advised that there is a high speed broad band and that speeds are generally good. He said that

hot-spots are not available however people can use their own mobile data. He said that these were tried in a few places however he was unsure how successful they were.

In response to Cllr. S. Morris' query regarding Nenagh 800, Ms. R. Joyce advised that a group has been established. She said that members were invited to nominate two members to participate on the group. The group consists of representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, Nenagh Arts Centre, North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Centre and Mr. Kevin Whelan. She said that a call will go out to clubs and organisations to see how they can be involved. She added that further information would be advised in due course.

Item 3. Action Plan

The Action plan from the June meeting was noted.

Item 4. Briefing from Community & Economic Development

Ms. A. Lyons attended from Community & Economic Development Section and circulated a report to Members. She gave an update on the following:- LCDC, LDS/LEADER, Arts, Heritage/Museum & MSPI Accreditation, Tourism, Lough Derg, National Famine Commemoration 2017, PPN, Strategies & Projects, Local Enterprise Office, TSP Social Inclusion Programme, TSP General Programme and the FAI.

Cllr. S. Morris referred to the Emerging Talent Programme and paid tribute to all coaches involved for their hard work. He said that a girl has been called to a soccer team in Dublin for trials and other girls are having assessment. He said the promotion of ladies sport has to be welcomed and congratulated everyone involved.

Cllr. G. Darcy welcomed the initiative regarding Tipperary tourism coordinating familiarisation trips from Travel Journalists.

Cllr. P. Bugler asked if there was an update on the walking/cycling feasibility study, Ms. A. Lyons advised that she would get an update on this matter.

Item 5. To approve Grant Allocations under Communities Facilities Grant Scheme

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Darcy, seconded by Cllr. M. Ryan and resolved that grants under Communities Facilities Grant Scheme 2017 be allocated as recommended by Tipperary Local Community Development Committee on 17th July to the following:-

Organisation/Group Name	Amount Allocated
Borrisokane Community Sports Ground Ltd	€653.06
Borrisokane Town Park Ltd	€653.06
Cloughjordan Circus Club	€653.06
Kilbarron Hall Committee	€653.06
Kilbarron/Terryglass Historical Society	€653.06
Nenagh Lawn Tennis	€653.06
Puckane Anglers	€653.06
Puckane Tennis Club	€653.06
Riverstown Tidy Town	€653.06
Scean Lorra	€653.06
Terryglass Improvement Association	€653.06
Thomas MacDonagh Museum & Heritage Centre	€653.06

**Item 6. To receive briefing
From Housing Section**

Ms. C. Curley and Ms. M. Maher attended from Housing Section and circulated a report to Members. Ms. C. Curley gave an outline for the housing construction projects 2015 – 2017 which include Cloughjordan – Part 8 will be advertised in July, Mulkear View, Newport a stage 2 application is being finalised, stage 1 for 17 units in Borrisokane has been approved. Sites have been identified in Puckane and Portroe which are proposed for Stage 1 applications. In regard to Stereame she advised that a masterplan is being prepared.

In regard to Housing Allocations 2017 she advised that the scheme for Housing Adaptation Grants for private houses is open for new applications with an allocation of €3,032,731. An allocation is awaited regarding housing adaptation grants for local authority houses. In regard to vacant houses an allocation of €751,200 is granted, 58 houses with 10 houses in Nenagh MD. Under the Capital Assistance Scheme acquisition of 4 units are completed. In regard to house purchases 10 sales have been agreed with 4 sales closed to date in the Nenagh MD area.

Ms. C. Curley further advised that there are 656 approved applicants on the housing list in the Nenagh District with 23 vacant houses, 21 of which only require minor repairs. It is noted that the number of approved applicants has decreased from 695 to 656 since Housing's

last presentation in March.

In regard to the Repair & Leasing Scheme Ms. C. Curley advised that an email had been sent to members advising details of this scheme. If a property has been vacant for more than one year the Council or a Voluntary Housing Body carry out the work to bring it back into productive use subject to a maximum of €40,000 whereby the rent is clawed back. She advised that Nenagh MD has the highest interest to date in the County. She said that if anyone has any queries in relation to this scheme to contact Housing Section in Nenagh or Clonmel or alternatively information is available on the website.

Cllr. H. McGrath referred to this scheme and wondered if staged payments could be put in place. He referred to shops in the town centre with the first and second floor lying idle and wondered if the owner could apply to convert these floors also if the shop is unused can the shop be converted into an apartment. Ms. C. Curley advised this scheme doesn't preclude owners regarding first or second floors, however property must be viable to provide social housing and there must be a housing need in the area. In regard to converting shop unit, a case is being made to the Department regarding same.

Cllr. J. Carroll wondered what the timeframe is regarding sites at Puckane and Portroe. Ms. C. Curley advised that it is difficult to put an exact timeframe on this, it is a 4 stage approval process. She said they are actively working with the Department. In Puckane there are approx 20 units, with 8-10 units in Portroe, she said that the Members would be kept apprised of progress. In regard to the 10 vacant houses 7 of these are completed with work on-going to the remaining 3.

Cllr. M. Ryan thanked Ms. Curley for her comprehensive report. He said that Garda Stations not in use are becoming an eyesore.

Cllr. M. O' Meara referred to Focus Ireland and asked for further information, Ms. C. Curley advised that North Tipperary have highest number in TUSLA and Focus Ireland. He advised that there are apartments in Nenagh & Thurles where one can take occupancy for

approx 6/12 months and work is done with them to move into a more long term tenancy with HAP/Leased unit.

Cllr. P. Bugler wondered if Tipperary County Council make regular contact with the housing applicants, she said that this was carried out recently by Kerry County Council and she wondered if Tipperary do similar? Ms. C. Curley advised that a Housing Need Assessment is carried out every year in Tipperary.

Cllr. J. Hannigan noted figures had decreased. In regard to the Repair & Leasing Scheme he said it is a great opportunity. He wondered if any of the 656 applicants could liaise to purchase property & have house of their own. Ms. C. Curley re-assured Cllr. J. Hannigan that Tipperary County Council are using every strand of Rebuilding Ireland to reduce numbers. In regard to purchasing property, each applicant is means tested therefore applicants would not qualify.

Cllr. G. Darcy said this is an excellent scheme, he asked if it applies to bungalows and semi detached houses. He wondered what the time frame is for Part 8 houses in Cloughjordan and asked if there are plans to utilise other areas. Ms. C. Curley advised that this scheme applies to any type of unit, single or two storey.

Cllr. C. Curley advised a target has been set to get 23 units over the line in the county, to date there are 20 expressions of interest with 9 of these in the Nenagh MD area.

Cllr. H. McGrath – looking re Clúid actively talking to builders regarding land/building, he said he is in favour of Clúid which is very successful in Nenagh town already. However he feels in the current housing crisis that another scheme is required to help reduce housing list. He wondered if Clúid would be allowed in Nenagh even though houses already exist within this sector. He referred to a scheme that is being Tullamore/Athlone and he wondered if something similar could be rolled out in Tipperary.

**Item 6. To consider proposed
Realignment of the R498 Regional
Road at Latteragh, Nenagh**

Cllr. H. McGrath advised the Members that he would be removing himself from the meeting room while this item was being considered because he had made a submission on behalf of the company he works for. He said he had no further Council role in this Part 8 and that he had spoke to Mr. G. Walsh, Corporate Section. He said he was disappointed to have to do this. Mr. McGrath then left the meeting room.

Cllr. S. Morris said he was uncomfortable that Cllr. McGrath had to leave the meeting room. He said he feels the submission made by Cllr. McGrath was under health & safety grounds. He asked that the legality of this be checked.

Cllr. M. Ryan asked why Cllr. McGrath has to go?

Cllr. S. Morris asked that clarity be sought on Cllr. McGrath's decision. He said he was not happy with the level of engagement with people who made submissions and that more time is needed to engage with people who made submissions. He formally requested to delay this matter for a month or so to allow further engagement.

Cllr. M. Ryan said he welcomed the project however some people are not happy and a meeting needs to be arranged to discuss the issues. He proposed to defer this matter to the September meeting.

Cllr. J. Carroll suggested that the matter be discussed but that no decision be made until further engagement takes place with those who made submissions.

Mr. M. O' Connor said that Cllr. H. McGrath did seek advice regarding the Ethic's Register because he is working for the company, he added this was prudent course of action and that Cllr. McGrath was acting properly in accordance with regulations. He said that this project is going on a number of years, Tobin Consulting Engineer were engaged and they have carried out a huge amount of consultation with the land owners. He said it would be unfortunate not to have presentation given the fact that Mr. J. Nolan, Senior Engineer, Tipperary County Council, Mr. T. Cannon & Mr. A. Bass, Tobin Consulting Engineers were present.

It was agreed by Members that the presentation be given. Mr. J. Nolan outlined details in Chief Executive's Report dated 17th July, 2017 which had already been distributed to each member by email.

Cllr. M. Ryan said the road from Seanin's pub to the Quarry is very narrow and feels that the new layout will not work. He said that under this €14m project is it impossible to make a right turn. He asked if a new bridge is going to be built.

Cllr. G. Darcy said he agreed with Cllr. M. Ryan's proposal to defer this matter. He added that he did not think they should be discussing issues at a public meeting. However he said he did not want to do anything to delay this project from going ahead.

Cllr. J. Hannigan said that names of those who made submissions should not be mentioned. He said that a business is depending on an access point to their Quarry and that this business is a big employer with probably 50 years left in the quarry. He asked if an alternative i.e. underpass/overpass was considered? He asked why an access point to road from residents/land cannot be achieved. He added that the potential for property is being diminished.

Cllr. P. Bugler wondered if a consensus could be reached with the 5 existing entrances.

Cllr. J. Carroll said he has serious concerns that there would be a build up of traffic if there was no right turn and if the bridge on the L2258 was not improved. He added that resident, land owners and effected businesses should come together again with Consultants to discuss the remaining issues.

Mr. T. Cannon said that one of the key objectives is to improve road safety. Under the Transport Infrastructure Ireland standards there are restrictions where one can provide a ghost island. He said that they would widen the road from Seanin's pub to the bridge to allow two vehicles pass. He advised that initially there was a weight restriction on the L2259 however following a meeting with the objectors this restriction was lifted.

He said that there would be combined access for the existing residents/farm access. To reduce illegal parking it is proposed to reduce road width to 4 metres, erect bollards and sow some wild flower/grass mix. In regard to shared footway/cycleway it is proposed to move to follow parallel with proposed road.

Mr. J. Nolan said it is normal practise to discuss submissions made under Part 8 in this public forum however he asked the press not to use family names when reporting this matter.

Cllr. J. Carroll concurred with Mr. J. Nolan and asked the press not to name names.

Cllr. M. Ryan proposed that the consultants meet again with landowners, this was seconded by Cllr. F. Bonfield.

Cllr. J. Hannigan asked if any improvements are being made to bridge. He asked if there would be an island for local people turning right off the new road, Mr. T. Cannon advised there would be no island. Cllr. J. Hannigan said it is ludicrous and that they are creating a danger. He said there is a similar situation at Congor on the Borrisokane road where there has been numerous accidents. Mr. T. Cannon advised that under the guidelines there has to be 400 vehicle movements a day at a junction to have an island installed.

Mr. M. O' Connor said the scheme will cost €13/14 million and is badly needed. He said there has been a number of serious accidents there, the road is unstable and that there is an onus on the Council to do something. He said we have got it this far and that now once we get over the issues, we need to get it to the Department with the selected route and proceed to CPO.

In regard to combined entrance he said this is for safety reasons. If an island was put in it would take away the overtaking opportunity on the opposite side. For the amount of movement he said it does not justify having an island.

In conclusion he agreed that contact be made with all those who made submissions with a view to arranging a meeting to go through the

issues. However he added that some of the issues are difficult to overcome.

In regard to the bridge, Cllr. G. Darcy said the bridge was built for donkeys and cars and wondered why upgrading this bridge was not considered.

Cllr. M. Ryan asked if the bridge breaks down will monies have to come out of own roads budget.

Mr. M. O' Connor said that the quarry is using this bridge as it is and that the amount of traffic using it will not increase. He added that the comments regarding the bridge are valid however the funding allocated is for the R498.

Cllr. J. Carroll thanked those for presentation.

**Item 8. Taking in Charge
Farmleigh, Riverstown**

Mr. M. O' Connor referred to Director of Services Report to Members that was circulated previously. No objections or representations were received.

It was proposed by Cllr. S. Morris and seconded by Cllr. G. Darcy and agreed "that pursuant to the provisions of Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, and being satisfied that the roads are of public utility, and having considered the financial implications for the local authority and any submissions made, it is hereby ordered that the Roads serving the Housing Estate known as Farmleigh, Riverstown to be public and take in charge 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 Service Report to the Members for the July 2017 Nenagh Municipal District Members Meeting".

**Item 9. Taking in Charge
Ashgrove Meadows, Ballina**

Mr. M. O' Connor referred to Director of Services Report to Members that was circulated previously. No objections or representations were received.

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. F. Bonfield and agreed "that pursuant to the provisions of Section 180 of the Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, and being satisfied that the roads are of public utility, and having considered the financial implications for the local authority and any submissions made, it is hereby ordered that the Roads serving the Housing Estate know as Ashgrove Meadows, Ballina to be public and take in charge 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 Service Report to the Members for the July 2017 Nenagh Municipal District Members Meeting".

**Item 10. Declaration of a Road
to be a public road Lackabrack
Killoscully, Newport**

Mr. M. O' Connor advised Members that following on from a query regarding the condition of the local road and having checked records held by the Council, the Council was unable to obtain a resolution declaring the L21161 to be a public road.

In this regard it was advertised and one objection/representation in respect of this proposed public road was received during the consultation period. He advised that should this road be declared a public road it will be classed as a tertiary road which will be eligible for funding options under the Community Involvement Scheme/Tertiary Road Scheme.

It was proposed by Cllr. F. Bonfield and seconded by Cllr. M. Ryan and agreed "that pursuant to the provisions of Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, this Municipal District hereby agrees to declare the Road serving area known as Lackabrack, Killoscully, Newport, Co. Tipperary to be public, as per the map which was on display during the prescribed period and as outlined in the Director of Service Report to the Members dated 14th July, 2017."

Item 11. Update on Projects**Newport Town Park**

Ms. R. Joyce advised that costings are being prepared

Gills Garden

Ms. R. Joyce that this has been advertised on e-Tenders, closing date early August.

Community CCTV Scheme

Ms. R. Joyce advised that the Consultant is evaluating tenders received and will forward recommendations in due course.

Nenagh Traffic Management Plan

Ms. R. Joyce advised members that it is proposed to hold a public meeting in October.

Cllr. H. McGrath said he hoped the public meeting would include the whole town and not just the circle. He hopes the junction at William Street/Sarsfield Street would be considered too. He referred to the properties purchased by the Council in Emmet Place and wonders if works on those will be carried out independently of this project or will works be done altogether. Mr. M. O' Connor said that there is positive feedback regarding the demolition of properties at Emmet Place. He added that works could be done independently of the traffic management plan however we do not want to be blocking roads. In regard to junctions, he confirmed that all junctions will be looked at.

Borrisokane Street Renewal

Mr. M. O' Connor advised closing date for submissions/observations regarding Part 8 is early next week. It is anticipated that a report would be forthcoming to the September meeting.

Cllr. J. Hannigan pleaded with the Executive to acquire a decent carpark to satisfy the parking need in Borrisokane. He highlighted that double yellow lines at Nenagh road are new. He complimented the remedial works carried out recently. Cllr. G. Darcy supported Cllr. J. Hannigan and said this is a unique opportunity to acquire property to provide a carpark for the town.

Mr. M. O' Connor said he is aware of concerns regarding parking/double yellow lines. He added that a carpark cannot be funded from this scheme however he gave an undertaking that provisions for a carpark will be looked at when this scheme is complete.

Bord Gais Project

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that good progress was being made. Reinstatement works starting shortly.

Mr. P. McGrath advised members that the Dublin Road was opened this morning and signs will be removed accordingly.

Update on new Shannon Crossing at Ballina/Killaloe

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that approval has being received by the Department to appoint consultants for the design.

Knockalton

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that the brief for the consultants dealing with Latteragh was being extended to incorporate a detailed design for Knockalton.

Carrigahorrig

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that studies are on-going.

Nenagh Tourist Office

Ms. R. Joyce advised that the consultant is drawing up concept design plans.

Garden of Remembrance, Cloughjordan

Ms. R. Joyce advised that works are on-going.

Cllr. G. Darcy thanked everyone for getting this final project regarding 1916 to fruition he paid special thanks to Ms. R. Joyce for her work on this project.

CIS Scheme

An updated report on 2017 CIS Scheme applications was distributed to members. Ms. R. Joyce advised that following a number of allocations from Councillors tertiary funds €29,000 has been allocated to road at Cooleen (L95002-1) this reduces the cost down

to €49,900 with local contribution of €7,485. This leaves a remaining budget of €44,218 and the members agreed that this should be allocated to the applicant who is shown as second in the priority rating Mervyn Culbert, Burntwood, Cloughjordan. It was noted that the allocation would not cover the full cost of the job however it was agreed that he should be written to offering the amount of funding that is available and if he does not want to proceed with the application then it should go down the list in the order of priority.

Item 12. Update on Road Works Programme

A progress report on the 2017 roadwork's programme was distributed to members.

Item 13. Engineer's Checklist

Cllr. S. Morris referred to dangerous junction at Old Birr Road and said that traffic are not using this junction as it is too narrow and are using the road via Sallygrove instead. He asked if properties could be acquired at the Birr Road Junction to facilitate works. As a result of the increased traffic in Sallygrove he called on further calming measures to be considered.

Cllr. J. Carroll wondered if the overgrown vegetation could be cut at Portroe Cross.

Cllr. G. Darcy said there is a bundle of signs at Hackstown Cross near the Golf Club which are obstructing views. He asked that these be looked at.

Cllr. P. Bugler asked that overgrown vegetation be cut back on the Boher Road which is a popular route for cyclist and has bad bends.

Cllr. H. McGrath asked that contact be made with local developer at St. Flannans Crescent, Ballinacloy to facilitate a footpath.

Cllr. J. Hannigan said that a reply needs to be sought from TII regarding footpaths in Riverstown.

Cllr. P. Bugler noted that undergrounding of cables in Ballina is advertised on e-Tenders. She asked for timelines regarding pedestrian crossing at McKeogh's supermarket, Ballina.

Cllr. J. Hannigan asked that the indentation on road at Flynn's in Carrigahorrig be tackled.

Item 14. To consider Notices of Motion

None

Item 15. Delegated Employee Orders

A list of Delegated Employee Orders from 12th June to 14th July, 2017 as circulated to the members was noted.

Item 16. Correspondence

None

Item No: 17. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations

Votes of Sympathy were passed to the following:-

- Mr. Pat McKeogh on the death of Mrs. Nancy McKeogh, R.I.P.
- Mr. Simon O' Duffy on the death of Mr. Frank O' Duffy, R.I.P.
- Ms. Helen Kennedy on death of Mr. Tom Kennedy, R.I.P.
- Mr. Tim Donoghue on death of Mrs. Mary Donoghue, R.I.P.
- Ms. Helen McLoughlin on death of Mr. Tony McLoughlin, R.I.P.
- Mrs. Mona Hanafin on death of Mr. Des Hanafin, R.I.P.

Votes of Congratulations were passed to the following:-

- Ms. Stephanie Browne to extended congratulations to the Musical Theatre Academy Nenagh on winning gold, silver and bronze medals at the World Championships of Performing Arts in Los Angeles.
- Nenagh Castlefest Committee to extend congratulations on holding such a successful event on weekend of 23rd – 25th June.

Item 18. A.O.B

It was agreed that IT Section would brief members on cyber security prior to the commencement of the September meeting.

It was also agreed to meet representations from the Chamber of Commerce at the September meeting in regard to launching marketing material.

Cllr. P. Bugler referred to a scheme introduced by Waterford County Council regarding the provision of tables and chairs to promote tourism. It was agreed that this scheme would be looked at.

Cllr. H. McGrath advised his colleagues that he has arranged for the European Alliance group to visit Nenagh. The European Alliance group are coming to Ireland to discuss Brexit and will be in Nenagh on 11th September if members wished to meet them.

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

Signed:  Date: 14/9/17
Cllr. J. Carroll
Cathaoirleach

Signed:  Date: 14/9/17
Ms. Rosemary Joyce
District Administrator