



**Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann**  
Tipperary County Council

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE JUNE MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, LIMERICK ROAD, NENAGH AT 11.00 AM ON 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017**

**Present:**

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

**Also Present:**

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

Mr. K. Cashen, Director of Services, Mr. B. Beck, Senior Planner and Mr. J. Murray, Senior Executive Engineer.

**Item 1.**

**Minutes of May Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. G. Darcy and resolved that the minutes of the May Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 be adopted.

Cllr. S. Morris referred to the ongoing roadworks in Nenagh town and asked that a meeting be arranged to discuss the plan for works and the time frames associated with same. He said he is concerned that we won't have the monies to complete the works. He added that he is still concerned that flooding will persist on the Dublin road.

Cllr. H. McGrath said he is concerned regarding the re-instatement of footpaths. He said that the Councillors need information to provide feedback to the public when asked.

Cllr. G. Darcy agreed with previous speakers and said that the Summerhill area had deteriorated.

Cllr. M. Ryan supported previous speakers and said that in order to attract tourists we need good roads. He suggested that a meeting be

sought with the newly appointed Minister for Community & Rural Affairs, Mr. Michael Ring and that more money be sought for roads.

Mr. M. O' Connor said that this is a huge project, catering for everything - gas, water mains and foul sewer drainage. He advised that the Council is in constant discussions with Ervia and that meetings take place once a week regarding problems/traffic diversions etc. He said that the Chamber of Commerce is kept up to date also. He advised that works on Dublin road are problematic however works are progressing well despite having a large diameter sewer/problem with ground water. Re-instatement would be started before the end of the year. It could not be done at the same time as excavations. Significant contributions have been levied from Ervia for re-instatements but this would not be enough and would have to be supplemented through the Roadworks Programme.

He added that he didn't see the point of a special meeting however time could be devoted at a monthly meeting to discuss the matter. Mr. P. Fee said that it is anticipated that works would be completed on Dublin road at the end of July. He added that works regarding street restoration to include kerbs, disabled bays etc would commence in July. It is hoped that restoration works would be completed by end of September.

Cllr. S. Morris congratulated Barry Coffey on signing a three year professional contract with Glasgow Celtic F.C. He said he is very proud that Ireland has 10 international players signed. He acknowledged the "Emerging Talent Programme" and expressed gratitude to the Nenagh AFC coaches. He wished Barry the best of luck in his sporting career and said that it is big loss for Nenagh Éire Óg. Cllr. G. Darcy acknowledged the work done by Mr. James Scott, FAI Development Officer in North Tipperary.

### **Item 2. Action Plan**

The Action plan from the May meeting was noted.

### **Item 3. Briefing from Planning Section**

Mr. K. Cashen, Mr. B. Beck and Mr. J. Murray attended from Planning Section. A Planning Briefing Note was circulated to Members.

Mr. K. Cashen advised that Minister Eoghan Murphy has been newly appointed as Minister for Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government.

He advised that a further settlement plan meeting was scheduled for that afternoon. He introduced Mr. J. Murray to the Members and advised that his role relates to taking in charge of estates. It is hoped to hold a workshop with members regarding updates on taking in charge later in the year.

Cllr. P. Bugler asked for an update on taking in charge of Boru Court and said it is on the list for 3 years and has no lights. She referred to changes in the County Development Plan and said that she knows of some sons/daughters that are having difficulty getting planning permission. She said that a couple of minutes with the relevant planner would be beneficial.

Cllr. H. McGrath said there was good work done in Nenagh with regard to taking in charge. In some estates bills for public lighting are being paid by residents however he is afraid that funds will dry up. Cllr. H. McGrath said he would forward details of two estates to Mr. J. Murray.

Cllr. G. Darcy enquired if pre-planning meetings could be set up again. He said it is important to get these back on track.

Cllr. M. O' Meara said there is a huge backlog of work to be done regarding taking in charge. He asked for a list of estates taken in charge.

Cllr. J. Carroll referred to Cluster Guidelines and said that it is important to incorporate the capacity of waste water treatment plants.

Cllr. J. Hannigan wondered if roads that are not public roads could be looked at with the view to taking in charge. He said some roads have five to six houses on them and previously the Council has done works to them. He wondered how these can be treated going forward.

Cllr. M. Ryan referred to cow-houses being turned into dwellings and expressed surprise that there could be an objection to this.

Mr. B. Beck referred to taking in charge and said there are 250 estates and that he would encourage estates to be taken in charge. He said there will be a constant stream coming through. In regard to public lighting, Mr. B. Beck advised that a letter has issued to the electricity

provider regarding lights advising them of appointment of James Murray and requesting their patience. In relation to pre-planning he said he is supportive of pre-planning meetings however he is mindful of annual leave for the summer months. If it is necessary to pull in resources from forward planning he would do so. He said if there is a build up to let him know.

Mr. B. Beck referred to the Cluster Guidelines and advised that draft guidelines are being prepared however they will not be dependent on having a waste water treatment plant in place. They will not wait for Irish Water to upgrade treatment plants. There would be no local need restrictions and no Part V. Members would be able to say that sites in villages would be guaranteed planning permission. He said these guidelines are about ensuring villages have a future, supporting same and encouraging new blood into them. People would be able to build the house they want in or at the edge of villages. He added that these guidelines would be discussed in more detail that afternoon at the workshop. It is anticipated that the guidelines will be published next month.

Cllr. G. Darcy said if we can achieve what Mr. B. Beck had just said it would do a lot for rural Ireland. He said that an additional two or three extra families would make a huge difference to villages and would help keep teachers in schools and hurlers on local teams.

Cllr. M. O' Meara welcomed what Mr. B. Beck said. He said planning are thinking on their feet and said that two to three families would be of huge benefit to a village similar to Lorrha. He referred to high pressure areas and said that it is very restrictive and wondered if anything could be done to encourage more development.

Cllr. M. Ryan complimented Mr. B. Beck on this approach.

Mr. B. Beck advised that any site within a settlement or node or adjacent to it will be open to put in a cluster.

Mr. B. Beck also advised that the priority in relation to taking in charge would be to deal with the largest number of estates affecting the largest number of people. They were aware of a number of areas where roads had not been taken in charge. Mr. M. O' Connor added

that this would come under the Roads Act rather than Planning. He said that the Council has 5,700km of public roads. He said that there is a procedure which must be followed in relation to taking in charge of roads. The road must be of general public utility. The financial implications must be considered. Work could have been done in the past on a private road under a Local Improvement Scheme however this would not make it a public road. He added that resources are stretched in respect of tertiary roads.

Cllr. P. Bugler referred to the National Planning Framework – Ireland 2040 and said that we need a plan for our senior citizens. She said smaller units should be available for those who want to downsize, live independently and continue to carry out their daily chores.

Mr. B. Beck said that the emphasis is moving from first time buyers to last time buyers and this would dictate the markets going forward. People in their 60's and 70's who are active and healthy want a new lifestyle. The cluster guidelines will look at how this can be utilised within a cluster to allow for communal allotments, gardens, etc.

Cllr. G. Darcy referred to the review of listed buildings and wondered how it is progressing. Mr. B. Beck advised that this was specialist work and would be carried out later this year after the settlement plans are completed. He would expect there would be a significant reduction in the number of listed buildings.

Cllr. J. Carroll referred to the upcoming Energy in Agriculture Conference which will take place on 22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2017 and he encouraged everyone to highlight this event. Mr. B. Beck said that over 2,000 people are expected to attend this event. Cllr. J. Hannigan wondered if there is anything the members can do to help. Mr. B. Beck said that it is important to get the word out about this event. He said that Tipperary is at the forefront of green energy and development of green energy. He said it is important that the event is well attended.

#### **Item 4. Allocation of Funding**

It was proposed by Cllr. M. O' Meara seconded by Cllr. J. Hannigan and resolved that grants to be paid to the following:-

Name of Burial Ground Committee	
St. Joseph's Toomevara Church Grounds	€707.79
Name of Residents Association	
Boru Court Residents Association	€350.00
Cnoc Cluain Residents Association	€450.00
Name of Tidy Towns Committee/Development Association	
Aglish Residents Development Association	€1000.00
Club/Organisation	
Lorrha Cycling Club	€400.00

**Item 5. Allocation to Borrisokane Town Park**

Ms. R. Joyce advised that previously monies were allocated to Borrisokane Town Park under Contributions to Local Organisations. Given that this is such a fantastic facility and the work that is being carried out by the Committee it is considered appropriate that a separate allocation of €3000 under the GMA be considered.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. O'Meara seconded by Cllr. J. Hannigan and resolved that €3000.00 be allocated to Borrisokane Town Park.

**Item 6. To receive presentation On Genealogy/Heritage Centre**

Cllr. J. Carroll welcomed Ms. N. O' Meara, M. A., Genealogist from North Tipperary Genealogy Centre. A short presentation was given by Ms. N. O' Meara. She gave an overview of the services provided in the North Tipperary Genealogy Centre and the Heritage Centre.

Cllr. G. Darcy said that the Genealogy & Heritage Centre was one of the most important tourism attractions in the area and had allowed people all over the world trace their roots. He advised that he was a member of the Board and he commended Nora O' Meara for the excellent work done by her and her small team. He noted there were almost 600 visitors last year. He said it is a cheap way of promoting the area and it is important to maintain funding.

Cllr. H. McGrath said we have a fantastic historical quarter that has the potential to increase tourism and he would like to see phase 2 of the Nenagh Castle Project progressed. He added that the old jail block has huge potential and he feels that the whole historical quarter needs to be made more part of the town.

Cllr. J. Hannigan said he was privileged to be on the Board and said we are very fortunate to have Nora. He said there is a huge potential for tourism for North Tipperary and Nenagh needs to be resourced to show case what is there. He said we should invest to enhance what we have. He added that with development of the tourist office it is important to promote the whole area.

Cllr. P. Bugler congratulated Ms. N. O' Meara on the Gleeson Family Clan gathering which was a very successful event. She added that when people come to trace their heritage, visitors stay in the area.

Cllr. M. O' Meara thanked Ms. N. O' Meara for all her work. He said that with changes in rural Ireland, it is an asset to have this service to an area like Lorrha who are only starting to learn what they have i.e. a monastic settlement akin to Clonmacnoise. He added that people are fascinated with their roots.

Cllr. F. Bonfield and Cllr. M. Ryan complimented Ms. N. O' Meara on her presentation and said they look forward to continue working with her.

Mr. M. O' Connor said that as a member on the Board he sees firsthand the work that Ms. N. O' Meara does. He referred to the visit of the group from Basse-Goulanine who said this was a tremendous asset to have. He agreed with Cllr. H. McGrath and said that Phase 2 of Nenagh Castle project should be progressed. He said that the jail block requires work but has potential to be utilised.

Ms. R. Joyce also paid tribute to Ms. N. O' Meara, saying that she goes out of her way to be supportive and helpful. Ms. R. Joyce wished to acknowledge her work and said it was much appreciated.

## **Item 7. Update on Projects**

### **Newport Town Park**

Ms. R. Joyce advised that a preliminary first draft concept plan has been prepared by the Consultant. Some amendments have been requested and a public meeting will be arranged when the amended plan is available.



Gills Garden

Ms. R. Joyce advised that the costings are currently being examined. Following on from this tender documents can be finalised.

Community CCTV Scheme

Ms. R. Joyce advised that this has been advertised on eTenders, closing date early July.

Nenagh Traffic Management Plan

No update on this project.

Borrisokane Street Renewal

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that Part 8 is on display at the moment with a 5 week public consultation and a further 2 weeks for submissions/observations. He said if anyone has any concerns regarding proposals, a written submission should be made and this would help in discussions with TII.

Bord Gais Project

Ms. R. Joyce advised that this was previously discussed. Cllr. H. McGrath wondered is there a reason why gas is not available from Maddens Bar, Silver Street down to the Market Cross. He said he is concerned that the street is at a disadvantage as there is gas from Madden's up to Philly's bar. Cllr. J. Carroll concurred with Cllr. H. McGrath and said it would make sense to have gas in this area. Mr. M. O' Connor said he has no objection to this and that it would be a matter for Bord Gáis to consider, however there would have to be sufficient numbers interested in signing up. Cllr. H. McGrath wondered if it was on their radar at any time. Mr. P. Fee said he would check the application. It was agreed to formally write to Bord Gáis to ascertain if a connection could be secured. Mr. M. O' Connor said that it would be more economical if a couple of businesses came together.

Update on new Shannon Crossing at Ballina/Killaloe

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that approval has been received from the Department to appoint consultants for the design. He said a brief is being drawn up and appointment of consultants will be made in a couple of weeks.



R498 Latteragh

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that Part 8 is coming to a conclusion. A Manager's Report will be prepared and brought before the Members. Cllr. M. Ryan wondered who the contact person was in the Council regarding this project. Mr. M. O' Connor advised that it is Mr. John Nolan, Senior Engineer or himself in the first instance and they would facilitate a meeting with the consultants if requested.

Knockalton

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

Carrigahorrig

No update on this project.

Nenagh Tourist Office

Ms. R. Joyce advised that Scroope Design has been engaged to prepare the design for Tourist Office. Concept plans are being drawn up at the moment.

Garden of Remembrance, Cloughjordan

Ms. R. Joyce advised Members that works have commenced.

**Item 8. Update on Roadworks Programme**

A progress report on the 2017 roadworks programme was distributed to Members. Cllr. J. Carroll referred to works being carried out in Monsea, Ballycommon and wondered if a further 100/200m could be factored in.

**Item 9. Engineer's Checklist**

The District Engineer's Checklist was distributed to Members. Cllr. M. Ryan referred to a recent accident at Curreeny Cross. He noted signs are in place however he asked Engineer to look at same to ascertain if anything further can be done.

Cllr. J. Hannigan asked if a vehicle activated speed sign could be erected in Puckane and Newtown. Cllr. J. Carroll concurred with Cllr.

J. Hannigan and said that every village is coming into focus because of the behaviour of a minority of people.

Cllr. M. O' Meara referred to a problem with the road surface outside the estate at Ballyoughter, Rathcabbin and also the road is in poor condition in Killeen estate, Riverstown. He said that there is a couple of spots in poor condition on the Carrig bog road to Clonmona. He asked that the Birr to Portumna road be prioritised and wondered how it could be got back on the agenda. He complimented works carried out at Bredagh.

Cllr. F. Bonfield said that the Killoscully Tidy Towns wanted permission to widen the Mass Path. They would do this themselves if given permission. She also referred to the bridge at Newtown and said that two piers were in a bad condition.

Details of applications received under the CIS Scheme were circulated to Members. Mr. P. Fee advised that the budget for works is €80,000 and that nine applications were prioritised on the basis of usage and current condition. Mr. P. Fee said he proposed to contact the first of the nine that are prioritised and ascertain if they wished to go ahead with the work.

Cllr. M. O' Meara noted that if the first did go ahead there would be a balance of €12,935 and he asked could this money be used to commence part of works on the second application. Mr. P. Fee said they would need to know how much would be available and to know if the first person would proceed with the application.

It was agreed to work with application that has been given Priority No. 1 and review same thereafter.

**Item 10. To consider Notices of Motion**

**Notice of Motion No. 1075 submitted by Cllr. Fiona Bonfield:**

"Following on from numerous representations and as a result of representations from local schools can I ask Tipperary County Council to seriously consider looking at again putting a footpath in place that would run from the Day Care Centre down towards the entrance to the Centra Shop in Newport. The children from both the girls primary

school and the secondary school walk along here every single day and we also have residents in Mulcair Manor estate where we have over 100 houses that also use this section. There is quite an uneven surface at one particular section of this area as well where some children and older folks have fallen and there is a health and safety concern as well."

The motion was proposed by Cllr. F. Bonfield and seconded by Cllr. M. Ryan. The following response was read out by Ms. R. Joyce

*"The footpath restoration plans included in the 2017 Schedule of Municipal District Works focus on the restoration of our existing network of footpaths and the emphasis is very much on bringing these up to standard before embarking on new footpath construction work. The extension of the public footpath on the R503 just west of Newport from the entrance to Mulcair Manor estate to the entrance to the nearby service station is a desirable project which would improve safety for pedestrians using this route, however in line with our current approach to footpath development, there is no provision in our 2017 Schedule of Municipal District Works for such a footpath extension.*

*A provision for funding new footpath construction at this location by way of special contribution was included in a recent planning decision, however this decision was appealed to An Bord Pleanála and therefore the funding position is uncertain until An Bord Pleanála delivers their decision on this application".*

Cllr. F. Bonfield called on works to be carried out even to level the ground as it is a very popular route to and from the shop. Cllr. J. Hannigan said it should get major consideration.

**Notice of Motion No. 1076 submitted by Cllr. Fiona Bonfield:**

"Following on from numerous representations I am asking Tipperary County Council to look at erecting one additional public light just below the entrance to Newport Town AFC club grounds on the main R503 road at Derryleigh in Newport. This I am asking as numerous parents have been on about how an accident is waiting to happen as it is quite dark here and we have numerous children that walk from the town to the training facilities and visibility is quite bad both for oncoming traffic and also traffic that use the facilities and also for the children themselves".

The motion was proposed by Cllr. F. Bonfield and seconded by Cllr. M. Ryan. The following response was read out by Ms. R. Joyce:-

*“The provision of isolated lights outside the speed limit zones is not in accordance with the Tipperary County Council’s public lighting policy. It is also a potential hazard in that drivers are going from darkness into an area briefly lit and then back into darkness again. It also sets a precedent and generates requests for more lighting outside 50kph zones.*

*Tipperary County Council’s priority is to use its scarce public lighting monies to upgrade its existing network to more energy efficient LED lighting and thereby reaching its legally binding energy efficiency targets. The Council also, subject to funding, tries to address some badly lit areas, within the speed limits, as part of this approach”.*

Cllr. F. Bonfield said that this club is growing from strength to strength. A new club house has been built and they will be celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020. She added this is a very busy area with a number people walking to and from the facilities.

Cllr. M. Ryan wondered if a footpath could be provided on R503 as this is an extremely dangerous road. Mr. P. Fee said that the R503 is narrow and does not facilitate a footpath.

Mr. M. O’ Connor said that Tipperary County Council is the lead council in the country regarding energy efficiency. He said it makes no sense changing to LED lights while adding new public lights.

Cllr. F. Bonfield asked that a speed survey be carried out and that section be looked at and see what would come out of that survey. Speed was the issue.

**Notice of Motion No. 1083 submitted by Cllr. Michael O’ Meara:**

*“That Nenagh Municipal area erect public lighting at Kyle School, Borrisokane in the interest of public safety”.*

The motion was proposed by Cllr. M. O’Meara and seconded by Cllr. J. Hannigan. The following response was read out by Ms. R. Joyce:-

*“The provision of street lighting outside the speed limit zones is not in accordance with the Tipperary County Council’s public lighting policy. It is also a potential hazard in that drivers are going from darkness into an area briefly lit and then back into darkness again. It also sets a precedent and generates requests for more lighting outside 50kph zones.*

*Tipperary County Council’s priority is to use its scarce public lighting monies to upgrade its existing network to more energy efficient LED lighting and thereby reach its legally binding energy efficiency targets. The Council also, subject to funding, tries to address some badly lit areas, within the speed limits, as part of this approach”.*

Cllr. M. O’ Meara said he is not aware of any other rural school that does not have public lighting. He asked that the Council consider making an exception in this case. Cllr. G. Darcy and Cllr. J. Hannigan supported Cllr. O’ Meara.

Mr. M. O’ Connor said it is inefficient for a school to have an isolated light which would be lit for a minimal amount of time. He said that as part of the current programme Tipperary County Council is looking at areas like Templederry and Newtown where there is a gap/poor public lighting. He said there is a legal binding requirement in place to reduce energy by 33% which is half of our energy consumption.

**Item 11.**  
**Delegated Employee**  
**Orders**

A list of Delegated Employee Orders from 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2017 to 9<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 as circulated to the members was noted.

**Item 12.**  
**Correspondence**

The following correspondence was noted:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Correspondence from Josephine Cahill, Tipperary Scór dated 30<sup>th</sup> May acknowledging our correspondence</li> </ol> |
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**Item No: 13.**  
**Votes of Sympathy/**  
**Congratulations**

Votes of Sympathy were passed to the following:-

- Mr. Jerry McKeogh on death of Mary Bridget McKeogh, R.I.P.
- Fr. Dan Wood, P.P. on death of Tim Woods, R.I.P.
- Mrs. Lynda Sheehan on death of Eamon Sheahan, R.I.P.

Votes of Congratulations were passed to the following:-

**Item 14.**  
**A.O.B**

- Mr. Barry Coffey to extend congratulations to him on signing a professional contract with Glasgow Celtic F.C.

Cllr. G. Darcy highlighted a problem in Cloughjordan regarding the recycling receptacles which are overflowing and need to be emptied more frequently. Ms. R. Joyce advised that she would follow up this matter with Environment Section.


Cllr. J. Hannigan referred to a problem with household rubbish being dumped in street bins in Borrisokane. Cllr. J. Carroll supported Cllr. J. Hannigan and said that we need to find a way to catch the culprits. Ms. R. Joyce said this problem is experienced throughout the county however she said she would refer this to Environment Section too.

Cllr. J. Carroll asked that a letter be sent to Superintendent Robert Noonan and Sergeant Tom Delee to congratulate them on their upcoming retirement.

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

Signed:   
Cllr. J. Carroll  
Cathaoirleach

Date: 20.7.2017

Signed:   
Ms. Rosemary Joyce  
District Administrator

Date: 20.7.2017