



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, LIMERICK ROAD, NENAGH AT 10.30 AM ON 19th FEBRUARY 2015

Present:

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

Also Present:

Mr. Karl Cashen, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Peter Fee, Executive Engineer; Mr. Michael Hayes, Senior Executive Engineer; Mr. Brian Beck, Senior Planner, Ms. Sonja Reidy Senior Executive Planner, Ms. Annette Daly, Staff Officer and Ms. Lorraine Treacy, Staff Officer.

Item 1.
Minutes of January Meeting

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. M. Ryan and resolved that the minutes of the January Meeting held on 15th January 2015 be adopted.

Cllr. P. Bugler referred to the issue of dog fouling and requested that additional dog bins and bags be made available in Ballina. Ms. R. Joyce stated that she would refer the request to the Environment Section. Cllr. Bugler also referred to a massive pothole that was present on the Main Street in Ballina, near Tuscanys.

Item 2.
To receive response from planning staff on matters raised by members

This matter was dealt with during the workshop which preceded the meeting.

Item 3.
Allocation of funding 2015
(a) To approve payment of grants

It was proposed by Cllr. G. Darcy, seconded by Cllr. S. Morris and resolved that payment of grants be made to the following:

- Ballina Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee - €600

- Kincora Traditional Weekend - €800
- Brian Boru Festival - €600
- Newport Saint Patrick's Day Parade Committee - €2,000
- Borrisokane St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee - €2,000
- Fleadh na Mumhan Committee - €20,000
- Nenagh Saint Patrick's Day Committee - €10,000
- Visit Nenagh Classic Committee - €7,000
- Nenagh Twinning Committee - €3,000
- Spleodar Festival - €5,000
- Thomas MacDonagh Commemoration Committee - €10,000
- People's Picnic - €5,000
- Nenagh Childcare Centre - €7,000

(b) Terms of Reference for allocation of funding to clubs and organisations

The criteria for assessment of allocations to clubs and organisations under the Contribution/Grant Scheme for 2015, was noted and agreed by the members on the proposal of Cllr. S. Morris, seconded by Cllr. G. Darcy.

(c) To note current position on allocation of funding

Details of the current position on the allocation of funding as discussed at the workshop on the 2nd February which was circulated to the members were noted.

Item 4.
To note Action Plan from December Meeting

The Action Plan from the January meeting was noted.

Item 5.
Update on Projects

Ms. R. Joyce gave an update on projects as follows:

Lisbunny Burial Ground

The closing date for receipt of submissions on the draft Bye-Laws is today. No submissions have been received to date.

Gills Garden

An application for Ministerial Consent has been sent to the Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. This consent is required in order to carry out works on the site. It is expected that a decision on the application will be received within 6 weeks.

CCTV

Currently awaiting ESB connections to be made. It is

anticipated that these will be completed within the next two weeks. CU Security will then return to erect the cameras. This will take approximately one week.

Nenagh Traffic Management Plan

The Consultants have been requested to submit display boards for public inspection.

Newport Town Park

The Council is currently in consultation with the landowner who has agreed to a meeting with the Council. The Council is also in the process of preparing a brief for the engagement of Consultants and will be meeting with the Committee in the coming weeks.

Provision of wheelchair accessible playground equipment

A decision has been made to provide wheelchair accessible playground equipment in Nenagh Town Park. A procurement exercise is currently underway as well as discussions on the most suitable location within the park.

Mr. M. Hayes gave an update on the following:

Lough Derg Stimulus Projects

Mr. Hayes advised that a number of projects have been submitted to Fáilte Ireland for consideration under the Lough Derg Stimulus Fund. These projects include the deferred works at the Millennium Cross, Portroe/Lookout Discovery Point, Lough Derg Canoe Trail, Lough Derg Signage Strategy and works at Tountinna.

Cllr. J. Carroll requested that the road leading to the Millennium Cross be looked at and Cllr. P. Bugler requested that the car park near Goosers be looked. Mr. Hayes advised that these works could not be funded from the Stimulus Fund and would have to be financed from the Council's own resources. Cllr. Bugler enquired as to how much of the road will be repaired at Tountinna. Mr. Hayes advised that €50,000 has been allocated for repairs but that there is currently a dispute around the ownership of the road and until such time as the dispute is resolved it will not be possible to say exactly how much will be spent on the road.

Cllr. J. Hannigan queried how the Lough Derg Marketing Group came to the decision on what projects were to be submitted to Fáilte Ireland for approval. He expressed his dismay that no money was proposed to be spent on the northern end of the lake. He stated that he had made contact

with groups in relation to the possibility of a walking trail. He said these groups have gone to the trouble of preparing maps and was very disappointed to note that this project was not included on the recommendation to Fáilte Ireland.

Cllr. S. Morris agreed with Cllr. Hannigan and stated he had requested the removal of reeds from Luska and was also disappointed to note that this was not included. He went on to say that making amenity areas like Skehana and Luska available to the public was important to enhancing Lough Derg. He expressed concern that these areas were being left behind which has resulted in the bathing areas being unavailable to the public. He stated that Lough Derg is not just for Tourists, that it was for the locals as well and while he welcomed the funds, that it should be noted that Luska and Skehana are as much a part of Lough Derg as the other areas.

Mr. M. Hayes advised the members that proposals had been requested in relation to proposed projects however these projects would have to be deliverable in 2015, otherwise the funding would be lost. All legalities would have to be addressed so that the projects could be completed within the calendar year.

Cllr. P. Bugler also expressed her disappointment on the issue, stating that a lot of the work on the Lough Derg Stimulus Fund was being done behind the scenes. She went on to say that she had submitted a list of suggestions and was disappointed to note that the proposed projects are concentrated in one area.

Cllr. M. O' Meara advised that a proposal in relation to Lorrha was under consideration and was due to be submitted.

Cllr. G. Darcy stated that clarity was needed as to where each application stands. He also referred to the reeds at Skehana and Luska. Cllr. J. Carroll stated that he shared the sentiments of the other members and while welcoming the funding stated that it should be divided between the members' areas.

Mr. M. Hayes advised the members that the Municipal District is not the lead section in relation to the Lough Derg Stimulus Fund and is not involved in the decision making process. He said that he had asked the members at the January meeting for their proposals and made it clear that

the money would have to be spent in 2015.

Cllr. J. Hannigan stated that it takes time to meet with groups and that the area from Dromineer to Portumna has a lot to offer.

Ms. R. Joyce stated that she noted the members' disappointment but that the Municipal District does not make the decision on the matter. She advised that any proposals that were submitted were forwarded to the Marketing Group and that certain projects were not eligible. She added that she would take back the members concerns to the Marketing Group.

Roadworks Programme

Cllr. J. Carroll welcomed the allocation of funding for Latteragh but expressed disappointment at the reduction of €1.5m in the regional road allocation. He stated that the roads are breaking down and the Council does not have the funding to deal with them. He said it was a very serious issue and questioned the priorities of the current government.

Cllr. H. McGrath supported Cllr. Carroll and gave an example of the road at Rathfalla which he said was in an awful state and was causing damage to cars. He requested that that consideration be given to carrying out repairs on this road.

Cllr. J. Hannigan also referred to the condition of the roads and called for greater efficiencies. He referred in particular to the Luska Road and the R493 into Puckane.

Cllr. M. Ryan welcomed the funding for the road at Latteragh and thanked road staff for assisting with funerals recently. He went on to say that in order to promote tourism in his area it is essential the roads like the R497 & R503 are upgraded. He said that people are now paying property tax and they expect better roads.

Cllr. S. Morris stated that the worst road in the District is the road into the NCT centre. He acknowledged that the Council had already written to Shannon Development but stated that there was a need to put more pressure on them to repair the road.

Cllr. G. Darcy while welcoming the funding for the road at Latteragh, expressed disappointment with the reduction in

the overall roads allocation and stated that there is never enough money for roads.

Mr. M. Hayes stated that he too was disappointed with the roads allocation and had expected that with the amalgamation that it would have increased. He advised that he and Mr. P. Fee were currently working on the Roads Programme and stated that he hoped to arrange a meeting with the members in committee in the next two weeks to discuss the proposals. He added that the current programme is a four year programme but that the Council is not bound by it and it is anticipated that there will be proposed amendments.

Cllr. J. Carroll referred to the importance of drainage and its impact on the deterioration of road conditions and stated that the Boher Road was a prime example. Cllr. P. Bugler supported Cllr. Carroll in relation to Boher.

Cllr. G. Darcy enquired if Convent Lane is to be blocked periodically during the works on Borrisokane Surface Water Scheme. Mr. M. Hayes advised that Convent Lane would be closed from 2nd March from 9.00 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. for a period of three weeks. He added that there would be pedestrian access and access for emergency vehicles.

Cllr. M. O' Meara referred to the bridge at Ballyartella which has been damaged and to flooding in Behamore where there is a requirement for a gully at Quinlan's house and requested that this be added to the checklist.

Cllr. J. Carroll referred to the roads from Ballyartella to Knigh Cross and from Pallasmore to Coum Cross which he said required attention.

Cllr. H. McGrath requested that the road at Curraghtemple be looked at.

Cllr. G. Darcy referred to the road from the GAA field Moatfield to Bonaham graveyard.

Notice of Motion No. 262 submitted by Cllr. P. Bugler

"I hereby request Tipperary County Council to organise repair of the following lights:-

1. Pole No. 12 Main Street, Ballina
2. Pole No. 5 outside Boher Church, Ballina.

Item 6.
Engineer's Checklist

Item 7.
Notices of Motion

3. Pole No. 2 Quarry lane, Ballina

The motion was proposed by Cllr. P. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll.

Ms. R. Joyce read out a response to the Notice of Motion as follows:

I refer to Notice of Motion No. 262 submitted by Cllr. Phyll Bugler in relation to lights which were out of order.

I wish to advise that the faults on these lights were reported to Airtricity. We have been advised on 5th February by Airtricity that the lights on Pole 12 Main Street, Ballina, the Pole 5 outside Boher Church, Ballina and Pole No. 2 Quarry Lane, Ballina have all been repaired.

Cllr. P. Bugler stated that there is a delay with Airtricity carrying out repairs but that she welcomed the response. Cllr. H. McGrath and Cllr. G. Darcy also raised concerns in relation to the service being provided by Airtricity.

Notice of Motion No. 265 submitted by Cllr. S. Morris

“That this Council asks the Minister for Health Leo Vradker to immediately expedite the equipping and staffing of the new Emergency Department at the University Hospital Limerick in order to make the new facility operational”

The motion was proposed by Cllr. S. Morris and seconded by Cllr. H. McGrath and it was agreed to write to the Minister for Health. A number of members expressed similar concerns.

Notice of Motion No. 270 submitted by Cllr. M. Ryan

That Nenagh Municipal District construct a pedestrian crossing at the GAA field in Cloughjordan

The motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan and seconded by Cllr. G. Darcy.

Ms. R. Joyce read out a response to the Notice of Motion as follows:

“I refer to Notice of Motion No. 270 submitted by

Councillors Mattie Ryan & Ger Darcy requesting that the Nenagh Municipal District construct a pedestrian crossing at the G.A.A. field in Cloughjordan.

The installation of a pedestrian crossing facility may be justified where crossing movements are frequent, a clear crossing desire line can be established at the proposed crossing point and the level of vehicular traffic is such that a break in traffic flow is difficult to find. As these conditions are not consistently present at the proposed installation site, the installation of a pedestrian crossing facility is not recommended at this time."

Cllr. G. Darcy stated that he had previously submitted a Notice of Motion in relation to excessive speed from the GAA grounds to the Church of Ireland and said that there was a need for speed control in this area.

Cllr. M. Ryan said that the people in the area are anxious to have the matter addressed. A number of members supported Cllr. Darcy and Cllr. Ryan.

Cllr. J. Hannigan stated that this was a problem in a lot of villages and proposed that mobile traffic management lights be considered. The lights, he said, would make people aware that the speed was being monitored. A number of members supported Cllr. Hannigan's proposal. Mr. M. Hayes advised that he would investigate the costs of such lights. Cllr. G. Darcy was concerned that a permanent solution was required at this location. He requested that this item be added to the checklist.

Notice of Motion No. 263 submitted by Cllr. P. Bugler

I hereby request Tipperary County Council to employ a Tourism Officer for the Nenagh Municipal District (2 days per week) to organise Trade Shows for the tourism providers to market all the tourism attractions and promote festivals in the Nenagh Municipal District.

The motion was proposed by Cllr. P. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll

Ms. R. Joyce read out a response to the Notice of Motion as follows:

"Nenagh has a Fáilte Ireland run Tourist Information Office which is open for the tourist season. Off peak the Arts Centre in Nenagh acts as a Tourist Information Point and

the Council make a contribution to support this.

In relation to trade shows, North Tipperary Tourism Company have in the past, and Tipperary Tourism Company will continue to arrange for attendance at trade shows both within Ireland and Internationally to promote Tipperary as a tourism destination. Attendance at such trade shows will be managed by Tipperary Tourism Company and members of the trade will be asked to attend these trade shows on behalf of the Tourism Company to promote the County.

In relation to promoting festivals and tourism attractions in the Nenagh District. Marketing and branding will be looked at by Tipperary Tourism Company and the Tourism Company will seek to promote festivals, events and tourism attractions nationally and internationally where appropriate. This will include the creation of a new dedicated website and social media for the County and also to ensure that the Tipperary content on Fáilte Ireland, Tourism Ireland and other relevant websites and social media are kept up to date.

There is a Tourism Officer assigned to work in the North of the County and she has a wide portfolio including linking in with tourism attractions, festivals and trade in the Nenagh District where appropriate. This Officer is currently on maternity leave, in her absence Marie Phelan, Tourism Development Officer or Marie Collins, Lough Derg Marketing Strategy Coordinator will be happy to link in where required."

Cllr. P. Bugler stated that she was not happy with the response and was surprised that it takes four organisations to look after Tourism in the County. She went on to say that she was very disappointed at the fact that she had received no contact in relation to Trade Shows and there was a need to have a Tourism Officer for the Nenagh Municipal District.

Cllr. S. Morris agreed with Cllr. Bugler stating that North Tipperary has a huge amount to offer and needs a local person to co-ordinate this.

Cllr. J. Hannigan stated that he believed there is a fragmented approach to Tourism. He commended Cllr. Morris on the Sports Tourism Initiative and said that there was a need for a dedicated Tourism Officer for the District.

Cllr. J. Carroll supported Cllr. Bugler and agreed that the approach to Tourism is fragmented. He went on to say that a local Tourism Co-Ordinator is the way forward.

Ms. R. Joyce advised the members that there are two Tourism Officers, one for the North of the County and one for the South of the County. She added that the Tourism Officer for the North of the County is on maternity leave at present but in the meantime members could contact Ms. Marie Collins. Ms. Joyce stated that she would pass on the members comments to the Director of Community and Economic Development.

Cllr. J. Hannigan enquired if it was possible to have a workshop with the people responsible for Tourism. Ms. R. Joyce stated that these matters could be raised when the representatives of Community & Economic Development Section attend the District meeting.

Notice of Motion No. 267 submitted by Cllr. S. Morris

That this Council asks the engineer to come up with a plan to reinstate the roads and footpaths in Tyone, Nenagh which have fallen into terrible disrepair and are not a good impression for people entering Nenagh from that side of town.

The motion was proposed by Cllr. S. Morris and seconded by Cllr. H. McGrath.

Ms. R. Joyce read out a response to the Notice of Motion as follows:

"I refer to Notice of Motion No. 267 submitted by Cllr. S. Morris in connection with roads and footpaths in Tyone, Nenagh.

A plan to permanently reinstate roads and footpaths at Tyone is premature pending the completion of gas main installation and water main rehabilitation at this location. On completion of these works, the quality of trench reinstatement and the quantity of trench works shall be assessed to determine the full extent and nature of any such reinstatement plan."

Cllr. S. Morris stated that he was disappointed with the response. He said that Tyone has been left in a poor state

and it is one of the main entrances into Nenagh. Cllr. H. McGrath supported Cllr. Morris and stated that people regularly come off the M7 Motorway at the Thurles Road Junction and enter the town via Tyone. He went on to say that the footpaths near the hospital were particularly bad. A number of members supported Cllr. Morris and Cllr. McGrath. Reference was also made to the need for additional signage in relation to the narrow bridge.

Notice of Motion No. 271 submitted by Cllr. M. Ryan

I am requesting Nenagh Municipal District to carry out major repairs on the road from Seanins to Templeberry Village.

The motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll.

Ms. R. Joyce read out a response to the Notice of Motion as follows:

“I refer to Notice of Motion No. 271 submitted by Cllr. Mattie Ryan requesting that the Nenagh Municipal District carry out major repairs on the road from Seanins to Templeberry Village.

Consideration will be given to inclusion of this road on the Nenagh Municipal District Roadworks Programme 2015.”

Cllr. M. Ryan stated that there were four main patches that required attention. Cllr. J. Carroll supported Cllr. Ryan.

Notice of Motion No. 264 submitted by Cllr. P. Bugler

I hereby request Tipperary County Council to repair vacant local property house near Gooser’s Ballina as soon as possible.

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. S. Morris.

Ms. R. Joyce read out a response to the Notice of Motion as follows:

“With reference to Notice of Motion No. 264 submitted by Cllr. Phyll Bugler I wish to advise that a contractor has been appointed by Housing Section to carry out energy efficiency upgrade works and general works to the house at 17 Main St., Ballina. A commencement notice issued to the

contractor on 9th February 2015. The contractor has 10 weeks from the date of the commencement notice to complete the work.”

Cllr. P. Bugler welcomed the response.

Notice of Motion No. 269 submitted by Cllr. S. Morris

That this Council prioritises estates 12 years old and older in this municipal area to be taken in charge.

Cllr. S. Morris indicated that he was withdrawing this notice of motion in view of the earlier discussion at the workshop.

Notice of Motion No. 272 submitted by Cllr. M. Ryan

I am calling on Nenagh Municipal District to get funding to reconstruct the road from Chalkhill onwards and the Fiolnadrough Road off the R503

The Motion was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll.

Ms. R. Joyce read out a response to the Notice of Motion as follows:

“I refer to Notice of Motion No. 272 submitted by Cllr. Mattie Ryan requesting that the Nenagh Municipal District get funding to reconstruct the road from Chalkhill onwards and the Fiolnadrough Road off the R503.

I wish to advise that these roads are not included on the current 2013 to 2016 roadworks programme. Consideration will be given to including these roads on the next multi-annual roadworks programme.”

Cllr. M. Ryan queried the Council’s policy on roads and asked if the Council was going to abandon these types of roads. Cllr. J. Carroll supported Cllr. Ryan and stated that there was a need for preventative maintenance.

None.

Item 8.
Correspondence

Votes of Sympathy were passed to the following:

- Mrs. Noreen Bailey, Melrose, Nenagh on the death of Billy Bailey.

Item 9.
Votes of
Sympathy/Congratulations

- Ms. Madeline Lewis, Gurteen, Rathcabbin on the death of Billy Lewis.
- Mr. & Mrs. J. Gubbins, Gortlandroe, Nenagh on the death of Brian Gubbins.
- Ms. Nan Quirke, Silvermines, Nenagh on the death of Martin Horan.
- Ms. Patricia Butler, Dolla, Nenagh on the death of Tomas Butler.

Votes of congratulations were passed to the following:

- Ardcroney Drama Group on its excellent production of J.B. Keane's "Big Maggie".
- Nenagh Choral Society on a wonderful opening night.

Cllr. M. O' Meara enquired if the new Litter Warden had been appointed. Ms. R. Joyce advised that the recruitment process was ongoing.

Item 10.
A.O.B

Cllr. Morris enquired as to how many staff there are now and before the amalgamation as it would appear that services are being closed due to the lack of staff. Cllr. M. Ryan supported Cllr. Morris. Ms. R. Joyce advised that she would refer the staffing query to the Human Resources Department.

Cllr. J. Hannigan enquired if there was a possibility of getting additional funding for roads. He was advised that a letter was issuing from the Council as a whole on the matter. He also referred to the fact that Nenagh is not included in the Spatial Strategy and the need for job creation.

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

Signed: Cllr. Fiona Bonfield Date: 19th Mar 2015
 Cllr. Fiona Bonfield
 Cathaoirleach

Signed: Ms. Rosemary Joyce Date: 19th Mar 2015
 Ms. Rosemary Joyce
 District Administrator

