



**Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann**  
Tipperary County Council

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE OCTOBER MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, LIMERICK ROAD, NENAGH AT 1.30 PM ON 25<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2016**

**Present:**

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

**Also Present:**

Mr. Marcus O' Connor, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Peter Fee, A/Senior Engineer, Liam McCarthy, Director of Services; Clare Curley, Director of Services; Aidan Fennessey, Senior Executive Officer, Housing; Michelle Maher, Senior Staff Officer, Housing and Aven Melia, A/Assistant Staff Officer

**Apologies:**

Cllr Séamus Morris

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll, and seconded by Cllr. G. Darcy and resolved that the meeting be adjourned for five minutes as a mark of respect to former County Councillor, Pauline Coonan, RIP.

Tributes were paid to Pauline on her work as a Councillor and particularly her work on behalf of the elderly and vulnerable in society. Members said that she was a passionate community volunteer and advocate for her community. She was highly respected as a Councillor and would be sadly missed particularly by her family. All Members wished to be associated with a vote of sympathy to her husband Noel & family.

Mr. M. O' Connor said he would like to be associated with the vote of sympathy on behalf of Management & Staff.

The meeting then adjourned for five minutes as a mark of respect.

On resumption Cllr. J. Carroll also proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of the late Anthony Foley, Killaloe. Cllr. P. Bugler wished to be associated with the vote of sympathy and thanked the Council for

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opening a Book of Condolences and for assisting with traffic control for the funeral.

**Item 1.**

**Minutes of September Meeting**

It was proposed by Cllr. F. Bonfield, seconded by Cllr. J. Hannigan and resolved that the minutes of the September Meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 be adopted.

**Item 2. Action Plan**

The Action plan from the September meeting was noted.

**Item 3. To consider Draft**

**Budgetary Plan 2017**

Ms. R. Joyce advised the Members that the sum of €117,925 was the proposed figure in relation to the General Municipal Allocation for the Nenagh Municipal District which is in line with last year's allocation based on the population of the district. Details of the proposed works to be funded would be brought back with the Schedule of Municipal District Works early in the New Year.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan, and seconded by Cllr. G. Darcy and resolved that pursuant to the provisions of Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended by Section 58(e)(c) of the Local Government Reform Act, 2014 the Draft Budgetary Plan prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Act as considered by the members be and is hereby adopted without amendment.

**Item 4. Briefing from**

**Housing Section**

C. Curley, A. Fennessey & M. Maher attended from Housing Section and circulated a report to members.

Cllr. P. Bugler raised concern regarding the number of housing applicants in the Ballina & Newport area, saying it was quite high. She also queried if works to house on Main Street, Ballina were finished. C. Curley advised that the Housing Section are implementing the Housing Action Plan i.e. land acquisition, RAS Scheme, HAP etc. to reduce the number of applicants. M. Maher confirmed works to house on Main Street, Ballina were complete.

Cllr. McGrath expressed concern regarding banks repossessing houses, houses going on the market thereafter & queries from occupiers regarding the length of time until people are qualified for further housing. He highlighted the fact that there is very little rental accommodation available in Nenagh.

C. Curley confirmed that once occupiers are on rent supplement, there is almost an immediate transition to the Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) package. Tipperary County Council has the highest rate of transitions in the country going onto the HAP package.

Cllr. J. Carroll wondered what proposals the Council have to construct houses over the next two to three years. He also queried what works were envisaged under the Energy Efficiency Works – allocation of €3.1m.

C. Curley advised that we have a lot of projects ongoing over the whole County. A meeting was held recently with the Department seeking approval for further projects. Emphasis is on buying houses. Identification of lands suitable for building houses is ongoing. In regard to Energy Efficiency Works – phase 1, which related to cavity insulation, attic insulation and sealing of windows and doors, is completed in the North of the County and is currently being rolled out in the South of the County. When this is completed they will move on to phase 2 i.e. replacement of windows & doors subject to approval from the Department.

Cllr. O' Meara referred to a regulation that was introduced last year by the Department, requiring any extensions to be inspected by a "certified architect" to ensure building regulations are complied with. Cllr. O' Meara referred to a case involving an extension for a child with special needs, this requirement is furthering the length of time of completion together with putting an additional cost on the homeowners. Cllr. O' Meara expressed annoyance at this regulation, given the fact that we have the same expertise in house. Cllr. O' Meara asked who brought in these regulations and if they can be reversed.

A. Fennessey clarified that this regulation was introduced under the new Building Regulations 2014 and that the Council does not qualify for an exemption from the requirement to appoint an independent design certifier. He advised the regulation only applies to extensions over 40 sq metres.

It was agreed by the Members to write to the Department & the Minister for Housing, Planning Community & Local Government outlining our concerns. C. Curley advised that a letter would be coordinated between Nenagh MD & Housing Section.

The issue of dereliction was discussed & Cllr. M. Ryan referred to a Council trip to Westport where they saw a lot of apartment blocks over shops & wondered if this approach could be used. Cllr. McGrath advised that if there was a grant available to refurbish first/second floor, it would be an incentive for owners to refurbish properties. He referred to a pilot project that Carlow County Council are rolling out regarding grants for dereliction and wondered if the Housing Section would roll out same. A number of other members spoke in support of this.

C. Curley referred to a pilot scheme that is being rolled out at the moment by Waterford and Carlow County Councils, the idea is to get properties back into use. It is confined to buildings that can be brought up to standard for a reasonable cost. The Council carry out the work and it is subject to a maximum cost of €40,000. The minimum lease is 10 years. An agreed rent applies and the cost is offset over a period. The results of this pilot will be reviewed by the Department before further roll-out.

Cllr. J. Carroll wondered what the statistics are regarding homelessness. A. Fennessey advised that homelessness is an ongoing problem, however, he stated it is not a huge issue in Tipperary. There are approximately 12/15 persons in B&B accommodation. He advised that M. Madigan, Resettlement/Outreach Worker is doing great work with all involved.

**Item 5.**  
**Taking In Charge of Roads**

Mr. M. O' Connor referred to Director of Service Report to Members that was circulated previously. He advised no objections/representations were received. He outlined the financial implications of taking these estates in charge and advised that it was proposed to commence works in Springfort Meadows immediately with a view to being finished by year end.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll and seconded by Cllr. G. Darcy and resolved that pursuant to the provisions of Section 180 of the

Planning & Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, this Municipal District hereby agrees to declare the Roads serving the Housing Estates known as:-

- ***Rath Doire, Rathcabbin***
- ***Springfort Meadows, Nenagh***
- ***Ivy Grove, Ballina***
- ***The Beeches, Ballina***
- ***Shannon View, Ballina***

to be public and take in charge open spaces, car parks, sewers, water mains and service connections within the development, as per the maps which were on public display during the prescribed period and as outlined in the Director of Service Report to Members for the October 2016 Municipal District Meeting.

Cllr. P. Bugler thanked the Staff in the Roads, Planning & Water Services Sections for their work on this matter. All Members wished to be associated with these sentiments. Cllr. P. Bugler asked that Shannon View be looked at as soon as possible. Cllr. H. McGrath said he hopes to see more estates taken in charge sooner rather than later. He wondered if estates where no lights are working could be fast tracked – Cllr. McGrath agreed to forward a list of estates he was referring to. Mr. M. O' Connor advised that it was great to see five more estates taken in charge and acknowledged the work done by A. Daly, Planning Section. He reiterated that the Council cannot go into estates, unless they are taken in charge. Ms. R. Joyce advised that Planning Section would be briefing members at the November meeting.

#### **Item 6.**

#### **To fix date for Community Safety Meeting**

It was agreed to have this meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 on the same day as the November Nenagh Municipal District Meeting.

Cllr. G. Darcy referred to the Speed Limit Review that is taking place at the moment. Mr. M. O'Connor advised that it is on public display and submissions can be made. Submissions will be considered & a report will be prepared and brought back to each Municipal District. If agreed at that stage by Municipal District & TII, final bye-laws would be put on display and would be brought back to the full Council for adoption.

Cllr. J. Hannigan raised concerns about reducing the speed limit from 100km to 80km on the N52 Ardcroney/Borrisokane road. Mr. M. O' Connor reiterated that submissions can be made in writing.

## Item 7.

### Update on Projects

#### Newport Town Park

Ms. R. Joyce advised that the Council has reached agreement in principle for the purchase of Mulkear View, Newport. Contracts are awaited. Discussions have been held with consultant in relation to preparation of a brief for procurement of a Design Team.

#### Gills Garden

Ms. R. Joyce advised we are waiting on a response from the Department following a meeting on site.

#### Community CCTV Scheme

Ms. R. Joyce advised that a meeting took place last week with all three groups. Mr. John O' Riordan attended same and he has been appointed by the Council to co-ordinate the project in the three locations.

#### Nenagh Traffic Management Plan

Ms. R. Joyce advised that, following consultation with the Chamber of Commerce, it was decided to defer the workshop and public meeting until early in the New Year because of the on-going works in Nenagh.

#### Borrisokane Street Renewal

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that Part VIII consultation was completed and a lot of submissions/observations were received. These were being considered and it was likely that there would be some changes arising from them. Meetings would be held with individuals.

#### Bord Gais Project

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that works were completed on Pearse Street and works have commenced on Kickham Street and will continue for approx 5 weeks. Works will then be

suspended until the New Year.

#### Update on new Shannon Crossing at Ballina/Killaloe

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that there was no further update on this matter. Notices to Treat have been served.

#### R498 Latteragh

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that the route selection report has been sent to Department of Environment, relevant landowners have been notified & ground investigation works on land of the proposed route will be carried out. Part VIII consultation will be required thereafter to finalise the route.

#### Knockalton

Mr. M. O' Connor advised that the delay is regretted, however the Council is fully committed to doing works here, lands have been acquired and it is anticipated that this will be progressed further early in the New Year.

#### Spleodar

Brochure was given to each member. Activities will be going on from Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> to Monday 31<sup>st</sup> October. Ms. R. Joyce advised that the fireworks display is taking place in the CBS sports field. Mr. M. O' Connor acknowledged the work done by M. Scott, Arts Officer. Cllr. J. Hannigan raised concern regarding a landowner who would have livestock in lands nearby. Mr. M. O' Connor advised that a leaflet drop had been done, however, he confirmed he would speak to M. Scott regarding landowner in question.

#### Switch Project

Brochure was given to each member. Ms. R. Joyce advised that this was going ahead from 1<sup>st</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> November. These are different moving images displayed at different locations in the windows of vacant premises.

#### Tidy Towns 2016

Ms. R. Joyce advised that there was a huge level of engagement from groups in the District. All groups showed an increase in marks from 2015 ranging from a minimum of +3 to a maximum



of +9. Birdhill were awarded title of Ireland's Tidiest Village with a total of 326 marks. Birdhill & Terryglass were gold medal recipients, Silvermines were silver medal recipients, while Nenagh retained its bronze medal. Cloughjordan were commended in the small town category for the "Let's Get Buzzing – Local Authority Pollinator Award".

All Members complimented each group for the work done. The financial contribution given by the Council & the engagement by the Council with people on the ground was acknowledged by the members.

#### Cloughjordan 1916

Ms. R. Joyce advised that a talk took place recently on Tipperary on the run up to 1916. Another event will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, Ray Bateson from Glasnevin Cemetery will be attending same. It is proposed to hold an end of year concert. In regard to Remembrance Garden, agreement is being finalised.

#### Municipal District Awards

It was agreed to hold this event on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00 p.m.

Cllr. F. Bonfield nominated Cillian Dunne and Miss Ireland, Niamh Kennedy. Cllr. M. Ryan nominated Aaron Delaney. It was agreed to include these in the Awards evening if they are available to attend.

#### Stereame

Mr. M. O' Connor advised members that tender would be sought in the next week or two for development of carpark in Stereame. Contractor will be in place early next year. It is anticipated that First Data would be in operation in Q3 next year. He advised members that a Master Plan for the whole area is being drawn up by the Planning Section at the moment. Cllr. Carroll hoped that the mature beech trees on Dark Road would not be affected.



**Item 8. Update on  
Roadworks  
Programme**

Progress report was given to each member. Mr. P. Fee advised that items marked in yellow were either underway or about to start, all other items were completed. He advised members that any remaining tertiary funds must be allocated this week. Cllr's Carroll & Bonfield complimented the roads team involved, saying that substantial work has been completed.

**Item 9.  
Engineer's Checklist**

Engineer's checklist was distributed to each member. Cllr. John Carroll asked could the hard shoulder/carriageway be widened on R494 at Newtown.

Cllr. M. Ryan noted that Coolmore Bridge was not on list. He complimented the work done at Cuneen's Cross but requested that the yield sign be looked at.

Cllr. H. McGrath advised that a new chamber is needed in John's Terrace, Nenagh and asked that this be taken up with Water Services.

Cllr. G. Darcy complimented the Council on works done. He advised that patching works needs to be done at Rathurles, the road that links the Cloughjordan Road to the Old Dublin Road. Also there is flooding at White's Pub, Carrig since traffic calming was carried out. On N52 at Grange, branches are overhanging, some works have been done by the Council, but a more permanent job is required on both sides of the road. On the Tipperary side of the Angler's Rest bridge there are no line markings at all – he queried if there should be a continuous white line. He also requested that the rubble at Monsea graveyard be removed as a matter of urgency and said there are graves underneath this pile of rubble. This was supported by Cllr. J. Carroll.

Cllr. M. O' Meara raised concern regarding the wall at Pallas Graveyard. He also said that the wall at the Ferry on right hand side needs to be looked at. He referred to a problem with one of the bollards at the Ferry Inn which was causing problem for a landowner – can this be removed? He requested that the problem with flooding at Nelius O' Meara's be kept on the checklist.

Cllr. J. Hannigan raised concern regarding the Kilcarron bog road, also a bad bump on road from Aglish to Gurteen College. He further referred to a damaged bollard at junction turning right from Sarsfield Street onto Pound Road, Nenagh.

Cllr. P. Bugler asked for an update on the carpark in Ballina and the undergrounding of cables.

Mr. P. Fee responded to queries from members. He advised that approx 100 hedge cutting notices have been issued to landowners, and noted a good response to same. Mr. M. O' Connor advised that, following an SPC meeting, an advertising campaign had been undertaken on local radio. He noted that of 11 notices served in a particular area, 9 had been complied with and the other two were being followed up.

**Item 10.**  
**Notice of Motion**

**Notice of Motion No. 816 submitted by Cllr. Phyll Bugler**

"that the members of the Nenagh Municipal District call on the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport to progress the development of "Ireland's Lakelands Brand", encompassing the River Shannon and all its tributaries plus the canal network across the Midlands, to which a commitment is given in the Programme of Government 2016 and to provide the funding required for this purpose. This call is backed by the Restaurants Association of Ireland who believe that the lack of a co-ordinated Tourism Brand for the area is having a negative effect on local tourism and hospitality businesses"

The motion was proposed by Cllr. P. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll. The following response was read out by Ms. R. Joyce

*"Subject to the approval of the Nenagh Municipal District, this motion will be referred to Shane Ross, Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport for consideration and response".*

Cllr. P. Bugler advised members that this was very important to her. She said that she feels that Lough Derg is sandwiched

between the Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland's Ancient East and said she is calling on the Minister to allocate funding for the branding of the Lakeland to the same extent as was provided for the other two initiatives

All members fully supported the motion and it was agreed by members that this motion be referred to the full Council meeting for their support and requesting that it be forwarded to the Minister and Fáilte Ireland.

**Notice of Motion No. 839 submitted by Cllrs. J. Hannigan, P. Bugler, H. McGrath, F. Bonfield, G. Darcy, S. Morris, M. O'Meara, M. Ryan, J. Carroll**

"We the elected members of Tipperary County Council are calling on Chief Executive Joe MacGrath & Director of Services Marcus O' Connor to honour commitment made to the people of Newport and make a provision within the upcoming budget for a playground and associated carpark in Clonbealy, Newport which was recently granted planning permission by the Council"

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Hannigan, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll and agreed that consideration of this Motion be deferred.

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

A list of Delegated Employee Orders from 1<sup>st</sup> September to 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016 as circulated to the members was noted.

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

The following correspondence was noted:

1. Acknowledgement letter from Fr. Des Hillery.
2. Letter from Intreo Centre Thurles dated 29 <sup>th</sup> September regarding HSE Reception area.
3. Letter from Department of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government dated 8 <sup>th</sup> September regarding legislation relevant to the taking in charge of housing estates.
4. Letter from Department of Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht dated 15 <sup>th</sup> September regarding the importance of providing support for rural town and villages in Ireland

**Item No: 13****Votes of Sympathy/  
Congratulations**

Votes of Sympathy were passed to the following:-

- Mr. Noel Coonan on death of Pauline Coonan R.I.P.
- Mrs. Olive Foley on death of Anthony Foley R.I.P

Votes of Congratulations were passed to the following:-

- Paula Wright, Glenree, Newport on winning a 24 hour marathon recently in Tralee, with all monies raised going to charity
- Mary Bourke, Secretary, Newport GAA on winning County Intermediate Hurling Championship
- Nicholas Ryan Purcell, Townsfield, Cloughjordan on his documentary film about Gordon Lord Byron
- Dessie Clancy, Rathcabbin, Roscrea on Lorrha/Shannon Rovers winning U-14B, County Hurling Championship

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

Cllr. H. McGrath referred to the fire at Tippo International at the weekend and expressed sympathy to the Martin family & all involved. He called on M. O' Connor, Director of Services to make contact with the Martin family to ascertain if the Council can be of assistance. The Fire Services were commended for their efforts & it was agreed to write to letter to Mr. D. Carroll, Chief Fire Officer, acknowledging their work.

All Members were associated with above comments.

Cllr. Bugler referred the "Nenagh Enterprise Town" event held in the Scouts Hall on the weekend of 14<sup>th</sup> October. This was a very successful event. Members requested that a letter of congratulation be sent to D. Harty, Bank of Ireland, in recognition of this event.

Cllr. P. Bugler also referred the Dromineer Literary Festival held recently and asked that a letter be sent to the organising committee.

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

Signed: Phyll Bugler  
Cllr. P. Bugler  
Cathaoirleach

Date: 17.11.2016

Signed: Rosemary Joyce  
Ms. Rosemary Joyce  
District Administrator

Date: 17.11.2016

