



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD VIA ZOOM AT 10.00 AM ON 18TH NOVEMBER 2021

Present	Cllr's Fiona Bonfield, John Carroll, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, Michael O' Meara, Phyll Bugler, Séamus Morris and Ger Darcy
Also Present	<p>Mr. Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Barry Murphy, District Engineer and Ms. Sinead Moriarty, Staff Officer.</p> <p>Housing: Mr. Shane Grogan, Administrative Officer, Mr. Sean Lonergan, Administrative Officer, Mr. Kieran Malone, Executive Engineer</p> <p>Planning: Mr. Fergal O'Donnell, Executive Planner</p>
Apologies	Cllr. John "Rocky" McGrath
Item 1. To note any Disclosures/ Conflicts of Interest	None
Item 2. To consider and adopt Minutes of October Meeting held on the 21st October 2021	It was proposed by Cllr. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. Darcy and resolved that the minutes of the October Meeting held on 21 st October 2021 be adopted.
Item 3. To receive update from Housing	<p>The update on Housing was circulated to members.</p> <p>Cllr. Bugler was concerned about the number on the Housing list for Ballina and Newport and asked if it was possible to increase the number of houses in those areas. She also enquired about Priority 1 grants. Cllr. Morris called for an emergency meeting to discuss the problem of people that cannot get on the Housing list because of their income and to discuss ideas which could be put to the Housing SPC. Timber based structures may be a way of solving these issues but there are currently planning restrictions on them.</p> <p>Cllr. Carroll asked for support and training for members to enable them to help with at risk people. Cllr. O'Meara supported him on this and requested an update on the houses in Borrisokane and the energy efficiency work under the Just Transition Fund.</p>



	<p>Cllr. Darcy supported Cllrs. Carroll and O'Meara on the need for training and asked for a proposed start date for the houses in Ardcroney.</p> <p>Cllr. Bonfield acknowledged that Tipperary County Council was meeting its targets but queried if the targets were too low. Cllr. Hannigan felt that the issues with capacity and infrastructure in Irish Water can causes delays when trying to provide housing.</p> <p>Mr. S. Lonergan accepted the members frustrations but stated that staff are also frustrated and are doing everything they can. There are 2,600 people on the waiting list, 793 in Nenagh MD and 60% of them are already in receipt of some form of housing assistance. There is now a shift from acquisition of houses to construction and there are 4 stages to this process. Two Homeless Prevention Officers are in place along with a HAP Place finder working with people at risk of becoming homeless. He agreed with the need for training and informed members that staff are also subject to anti-social behaviour, including on social media. The refusal rate in Nenagh MD area is 23% but the introduction of the choice based allocation system should reduce the refusal rate. Housing are doing everything possible but the private sector also has to help alleviate the problem. Targets have to be achievable and the funding available isn't limitless.</p> <p>Mr. K. Malone confirmed that the houses in Mulkear View, Newport and Borrisokane are practically complete and tenants should be in place in January. There is very little land available in Ballina but 3 units will become available under the repair and lease scheme. The assessment of tenders for the houses in Ardcroney is currently being undertaken and it is hoped construction will begin in January. There are currently 120 houses under the Just Transition Fund and they are all in the North of the county.</p> <p>Mr. S. Grogan informed members that staff are currently contacting applicants to see if they still want to continue with their applications for housing adaptation grants and are working to eliminate the backlog.</p>
<p>Item 4. To consider the Killaloe Ballina Enhancement and Mobility Plan</p>	<p>Mr. F. O'Donnell outlined that a briefing was given to members on the plan previously. The process started in 2019 and there were 2 key objectives – to have Ballina/Killaloe progress as a single town and to ensure that the development of the new River Shannon crossing is positive. A lot of work has gone into the plan with a lot of engagement from the public. Mr. M. O'Connor complimented the plan and asked that members support it. It will then go to the full council for support which will be very important for different funding applications.</p> <p>The plan was proposed by Cllr. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. Carroll and unanimously agreed.</p>



<p>Item 5. To agree to put the draft Nenagh Car-Park Byelaws on display</p>	<p>The memo and draft of the carpark bye-laws were circulated to members. Ms. R. Joyce outlined that the purpose of this amendment was to include the new carpark under construction at Emmet Place.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr. Morris and seconded by Cllr. H. McGrath that the draft bye laws would be put on public display.</p>
<p>Item 6. To update members on projects & events</p>	<p><u>Killaloe Bypass, Shannon Bridge & R494 Upgrade</u> Planning procedures and the Oral Hearing have been completed. Design was substantially completed in Q2 2020. The Tender Prior Information Notice (PIN) was published in December 2019. A minor works contract for site clearance and laying a section of sewer is substantially complete. Tenders for the works contract were received in November 2021. It is anticipated that the main contract will be awarded in Q4 2021 and subject to DoT approval, the works will commence in Q1 2022. The scheme will take approximately 3 years to complete. Clare Co Co received an allocation of €4m to progress this scheme in the current year.</p> <p><u>R498 Latteragh Realignment</u> Part 8 procedures have been completed and preliminary design work is completed. The CPO was published in August 2020, an Oral Hearing was held on 1st & 2nd December and the CPO was confirmed on April 16th, 2021 without modifications. Tender documents have been prepared for the appointment of a consultant to carry out the detailed design, procurement and supervision of the Works contract. We have now received comments on the tender documentation from the DoT and expect that following a tender competition a consultant will be appointed in Q1 2022. The consultant is expected to have the tender documentation prepared by mid-year so that a works contractor can be appointed by Q3 2022 and, subject to final approval and DoT funding, begin work on site before the end of 2022.</p> <p><u>N52 Borrisokane Streets Improvement Scheme.</u> The scheme is now substantially complete and snagging of the main contract works is currently taking place.</p> <p><u>N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge Strengthening</u> Flooding of a short section of the N65 north of Carrigahorig results when Lough Derg lake rises significantly during severe flooding events. The most recent flooding events took place in 2019, 2015/2016 and 2009.</p> <p>The Council cannot carry out physical works to raise the road level at present due to a number of significant constraints and engineering challenges in determining a suitable solution/road scheme to prevent the road from flooding. The main issue here is there are two Natura 2000 sites (Lough Derg, North-east Shore SAC and Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA) located immediately adjacent to the proposed project. Natura 2000 sites are Special</p>



Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79 / 409 / EEC). The road in this location is also built on soft peaty ground. On the basis of its proximity to the two Natura 2000 sites any significant works to raise the road level at this location requires planning consent from An Bord Pleanála. Preparations for a planning submission to An Bord Pleanála are underway and due to the significant environmental and ecological sensitivities several studies have been conducted and completed to-date by the Council to determine flood risk, ecological, environmental and other impacts/constraints and also an initial assessment of ground conditions has been completed. Once planning consent is obtained, the Council will complete the detailed design process. A ground investigation has now been completed and the scheme has been formally categorized as a Minor Improvement Scheme. The Council will now seek approval from TII to appoint a consultant to continue with the preliminary design.

N65 Carrigahorig Village Pavement Improvements

Tipperary County Council is preparing a pavement improvements and safety scheme for the N65 at Carrigahorig Village. The scheme involves:

- 1) road pavement improvement works
- 2) addressing a number of road safety issues
- 3) the renewal and widening of footpaths in the village
- 4) the extension of footpaths to the speed limit on the Portumna side and to the R493 Terryglass Road on the Borriskane side of the village
- 5) public lighting improvements
- 6) some public realm improvements.

Feasibility work has been completed and the Preliminary Design stage has commenced. Land acquisition for footpath widening and extension works is currently underway. Subject to land acquisition it is expected that preliminary design work will be completed and the Part 8 for the scheme advertised in 2022.

Newport Town Park:

Monthly meetings are continuing to be held with the consultants and contractors. Next meeting is scheduled for the afternoon of 18th November 2021. Work is continuing on site with a view to completion and opening in March 2022.

Outdoor Dining – Covid Measures, Nenagh:

- Hanley's Place – works substantially complete. Planting to be completed at appropriate time. Works will be completed by year end.
- Kenyon St – outdoor furniture currently being manufactured and scheduled for installation in Q4 2021.



John's Lane Car Park:

- Installation of EV charging points being progressed in conjunction with Roads & Environment Section – this is likely to be completed in Q1 2022.
- Landscaping to be completed at appropriate season

Emmet Place/Mitchel St:

- Instruction has issued to the contractor that the road and footpath works at the junction of Emmet Place/Mitchel St. shall be completed to a safe, accessible and non-disruptive state by Friday 19th November and that no further disruptive works will be carried out at the junction or in its immediate proximity before the middle of January 2022. This instruction has been given to ensure there is no disruption to trade, pedestrians and traffic in the run up to Christmas.
- Works will continue on the car park.
- It is necessary to amend the Car Park Bye-Laws because of the development of a new car park. The draft Bye-Laws are before the members for consideration seeking approval to put same on public display.

Tourist Office:

- Recruitment process for the Tourist Office is now complete and Ms. Victoria Lee will commence on Monday 22nd November 2021.
- During the first week she will spend time becoming familiar with the role and the area generally.
- The Tourist Office will open to the public week-commencing 29th November 2021 – date to be confirmed next week.
- The Tourist Office will be open to the public from 10.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m., Tuesday to Saturday all year round.
- Entrance will be through the original entrance to the former Town Hall – this is separate to entrance to Nenagh Arts Centre.
- An informal ceremony to mark the opening will be held and an Official Opening will be arranged for the beginning of 2022

Ely O Carroll Place / Ball Alley Lane:

- We are still awaiting receipt of the ground recessed lights to allow this project to be completed.

Banba Square:

- Paving works have now been completed.
- We are in the process of drawing down the funding allocated under the Town & Village Renewal Scheme – this covered the costs associated with the installation of



paving at the side of Nenagh Arts Centre and the undergrounding of ESB & Eircom services to the rear.

- Accessibility ramp which will service the Tourist Office has been installed.
- Bicycle stand has been re-located and new litter bins installed.

Outdoor Dining Grants:

- Grant applications or provisional applications were received in respect of 58 properties within Nenagh MD. Two applications were found to be duplicated, one was subsequently withdrawn and one was put on hold leaving 54 applications for processing.
- 30 grants have been paid to date and 18 applications are currently being processed. Six applications were refused as they did not meet the requirements of the scheme.

Newport Enhancement Plan:

- Consultant has indicated that revised draft plan will be provided to us by the end of the month
- On receipt of this we will go through the draft with the consultant to finalise amendments and then fix a date to brief the members on same

Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement, Tourism and Mobility Plan:

- Plan has been endorsed by the members of Killaloe MD and is on the agenda for the November meeting of Nenagh MD.
- Briefing was given to members on same on 3rd November.
- Clare County Council has indicated their intention to bring the plan before their plenary Council for endorsement. Tipperary County Council will do likewise.

Ballina Access Promenade & Viewing Area:

- Awaiting decision from An Bord Pleanála – application was lodged in June 2021. The Bord's website indicates that a decision is due to be decided by 29th November 2021
- Awaiting decision on funding application under Town & Village Renewal Scheme

Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter:

- Report from Phase One (Concept Development) due December 2021
- A briefing will be arranged for members

Nenagh Centre of Excellence:

- We are in the process of appointing consultants for reviewing and updating the Preliminary Business Case
- It is proposed to provide a briefing to elected members at the December meeting of Nenagh MD.



- Quotations are being sought from consultants for the preparation of tender documentation for the Design Team.
- A working group has been established to consider the preparation of a Communications Strategy.
- Meetings of the Steering Group and the District Delivery Group are on-going

Nenagh Traffic Management Plan:

- Consultants are currently progressing the design work required.
- Works at Emmet Place/Mitchel St. will need to be completed before this can be progressed – the introduction of the one-way system will not take place until 2022.

Nenagh Transport Hub:

- Consultants are progressing the design work.
- A further meeting will be arranged with NTA.

Platforms for Growth- Dromineer:

- Documentation for the second compliance phase was submitted to Fáilte Ireland on 15th September.
- Indications have been received that approval will issue within the next few weeks
- A further meeting with Fáilte Ireland took place on 3rd November 2021.
- Bat survey has been completed and no bats were found at the location.
- Work has commenced on preparation of the planning application to An Bord Pleanála

Provision of Bus Shelters at Stereame:

- Contractor has been appointed and has commenced installation works in conjunction with Council staff.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme

- Contractor has commenced on section of Béara-Breifne Way (Lorrha to Portumna) funded under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme.
- Environmental Impact Assessments have been completed.
- Contractor has substantially completed the works however a 650-meter footpath remains to be constructed through bog. This will be completed in Q1 2022.
- Signage and circa 11 stiles will be provided.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme Measure 1 2021:

- Ballinderry River Walk has been approved for funding of €17,550 under this scheme



Funding Applications Pending Decision:

- Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme Measure 2 2021 – Cloughjordan.

Discovery Points (Castlelough & Lookout Portroe)

- This project is being undertaken jointly by Tipperary, Clare and Galway.
- A delay was experienced because of land ownership issues in one of the other counties
- This has now been resolved
- Nenagh MD has provided feedback to consultants on their preliminary report.
- Final Report & Presentation is awaited.

Stereame Housing Development

- Procurement competition for Stage One of competitive dialogue process was advertised on e-tenders on 22nd October 2021
- Closing date for receipt of tenders is 22nd November 2021
- After this date an Evaluation Team will assess the tenders received and a maximum of five candidates will be invited to participate in the competitive dialogue process following which the most economically advantageous tender will be identified

Rialto, Banba Square Nenagh

- Application for RRDF Cat 2 Funding was submitted in July 2021 for Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub - Adaptive Re-Use of a Former Cinema (Protected Structure) and Outline Masterplan for Redevelopment of a town centre brownfield site.
- Decision on application is awaited – it is anticipated that the funding announcements will be made by end of November 2021.

Enhancement of Nenagh

- The pilot project involving the painting of the row of houses on Wolfe Tone Terrace (Phase One) is complete. Phase Two, including remaining properties on Wolfe Tone Terrace and properties on Hanley's Place, is substantially complete.
- Installation of new bins in the town centre has commenced.
- A replacement programme for benches in the town centre that have become dilapidated/damaged will be agreed and progressed to procurement.

Streetscape Scheme

- An initial allocation of €84,774.28 was received in respect of Nenagh Town – based on the level of requests for funding received this was increased to €160,099.



- Letters of provisional approval were issued to successful applicants which will enable the enhancement of in excess of 40 properties (commercial and residential) in the primary retail area
- An extension of timeframe for completion of the works has been obtained up to 31st December with provision for further extension into Q1 2022 in extenuating circumstances - where works are impacted by adverse weather conditions, difficulties in sourcing specialized craftsmen or where capacity constraints impact negatively on progressing works (i.e. where there are a limited number of contractors to complete works)

Tidy Towns 2021

- The results of the SuperValu Tidy Towns 2021 were announced on Friday 12th November 2021.
- All entrants in the Nenagh MD showed increased marks despite the Covid pandemic. Range of increase in marks was from 2 to 8 with Killeen-Riverstown achieving the Endeavour Award for North Tipperary as a result of the 8 marks increase received by them.
- Terryglass achieved gold medal status with 350 marks. Birdhill, Nenagh and Silvermines achieved bronze medal status.
- The top five centres in Nenagh MD were Terryglass, Birdhill, Silvermines, Killoscully and Nenagh.

Christmas in Nenagh:

- It is proposed to turn on the Christmas Lights on Sunday 5th December
- This will be part of a programme of events being put together by Spain AV
- The Christmas Tractor Run will take place on Saturday 18th December
- Three hours free parking in Car Parks in Nenagh will be allowed from Saturday 11th to Sunday 26th December

Wifi4EU:

- Free Wi-Fi under Wifi4EU initiative is now available in Nenagh Town Centre
- This will be launched on Monday 29th November 2021.

Knockmaroe – Low Cost Safety Measures:

Planning permission has been secured from An Bord Pleanála. Site clearance to be completed by end of February 2022. Main contract works to commence Q2 2022.

Cllr. H. McGrath asked for a guarantee that the carpark at Emmet Place would be opened for Christmas. Cllr. Morris enquired about the replacement of the bins on Kenyon St, dog bins on Dromin Road/Borrisokane Road and the exit from the



	<p>creamery onto the roundabout. Cllr. Hannigan requested an update on the Casual Trading Bye-Laws.</p> <p>Mr. M. O'Connor confirmed that the work on the footpath at Emmet Place would be completed by the 19th November but that it is not possible to guarantee that the carpark will be opened by Christmas, he will however speak to the contractor about it. He also informed members that the old entrance to the creamery is still in use and the footpath won't fully open until the new entrance is in use. There will be no change to the number of bins on Kenyon St or around the town.</p> <p>Ms R. Joyce stated that the submissions on the Casual Trading Bye Laws will be reviewed in the New Year. She also informed the members that Mr. B. Beck will give a presentation on the Centre of Excellence and that Mr. John Flannery has requested that Nenagh Historical Society would be able to present to the members about their organisation and military history in Nenagh. Members agreed to accept these presentations at the December meeting.</p>
Item 7. To update members on Works Programme 2021	<p>The Updated Work Programme was circulated to members.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy outlined that the programme was mostly complete, the R493 at Coolbawn will be completed this week. Initially 10 lanes were listed for the CIS/LIS schemes but an additional 11 were approved. The good weather later in the year has helped with the programme. The work at Kilmastualla Bridge will not be completed until next year. The Beara Breffini Way is 80%, currently awaiting signage and stile; the pathway should be available by the end of the year.</p> <p>Cllr. Darcy complimented the work programme and asked about maintenance work at Quakerstown, Ballingarry and Curragh, Lorrha. Cllr. Bugler requested an update on the drainage works at the Congo Bar and that a number of potholes on the Willowcliff to Roulagh would be filled.</p> <p>Cllr. Hannigan stated that it was important to avail of the opportunities under the Active Travel scheme and Cllr. O'Meara asked what was the criteria for the Climate change schemes, he stated that it was important to get funding under this scheme.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy explained that there is a unit in Roads for larger active travel projects but that the District will also be able to avail of funding under this scheme. The climate change scheme can be used to repair roads that were damaged as a result of flooding on another road and this scheme will also be used going forward.</p>
Item 8. To note Engineer's	<p>The Engineer's Checklist was circulated to members and noted.</p>



Checklist on roads matters	
Item 9. To consider Notices of Motion	None
Item 10. To note Delegated Employees Orders	Noted.
Item 11. To consider items of correspondence	None
Item 12. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations	Votes of sympathy – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Paul Keane on the death of his father, Donal• Naughton Family, Nenagh on the death of Sean Votes of congratulations – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Danny Grace on the launch of his new book
Item 13. Any other business.	Cllr. Morris requested an update on the title on the Military Barracks from the Department of Defence. There is concern that the site has become overgrown and used for dumping rubbish. Cllr. O'Meara supported this and also acknowledged the event held in Modreeneey. Cllr Darcy stated that the event in Modreeneey was well organised. Ms. R. Joyce confirmed that she will follow up on the title for the military barracks.

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

Signed: 
Cllr. Michael O'Meara
Cathaoirleach

Date: 16/12/2021

Signed: 
Ms. Rosemary Joyce
District Administrator

Date: 16/12/2021

