



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE JANUARY MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN COUNTY COUNCIL CHAMBER AT 10.00 AM ON 21st JANUARY 2021

Present	Cllr's Fiona Bonfield, John Carroll, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, John "Rocky" McGrath, Michael O' Meara, Phyll Bugler, Seamus 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>Community & Economic Development: Ms. Sinead Cahalan, Tourism Officer</p> <p>Environment: Ms. Marion O' Neill, Senior Executive Officer; Ms. Ann Marie Clifford, A/Administrative Officer; Ms. Colette Moloney, Senior Executive Scientist; Mr. Rúairí Boland, Senior Executive Engineer</p> <p>Also Present: Paddy Matthews, Head of Operations, Ireland's Hidden Heartlands.</p>
	As the meeting was held by Zoom, Ms. R. Joyce did a roll call and explained that if anyone had to leave the meeting early they should notify the executive to ensure there is a quorum.
Item 1. To note any Disclosures/ Conflicts of Interest	None
Item 2. To consider and adopt Minutes of December held on 17th December, 2020	<p>It was proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. F. Bonfield and resolved that the minutes of the November Meeting held on 17th December, 2020 be adopted.</p> <p>Cllr. Darcy outlined that there was an error in the previous minutes; the road condition at Tombricane was as a result of the Borrisokane works.</p> <p>Ms. R. Joyce informed members that she had written to the Rail Partnership inviting them to the January meeting but they asked to defer attendance until the February meeting, members agreed to this. Representative from NTA will also be invited to attend.</p>
Item 3. To receive update from Environment and Climate	<p>A report from Environment was circulated to members.</p> <p>Cllr. Bugler enquired about the clean up of a park in Ballina where a person had been staying. Cllr. H. McGrath commended the staff at the recycling centre and asked if the provision of a</p>



Change	<p>dog park had come up in any other District.</p> <p>Cllr. G. Darcy complimented the litter warden for his response to complaints and stated he was efficient and courteous.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Meara requested an update on Shannon Vermicomposting. He agreed with Cllr. Darcy in relation to the litter warden and stated that litter was a problem on roadsides.</p> <p>Cllr. Morris enquired about the process when dogs are picked up as rehoming of dogs appears to be working well.</p> <p>Cllr. R. McGrath raised the issue of the dumping of tyres in scenic areas. Cllr. Carroll asked about water quality and Cllr. Darcy stated that the bottle banks are not emptied often enough.</p> <p>Ms. M. O'Neill confirmed that she will follow up on the clean up of the park in Ballina and will pass on the compliments on the recycling centre. The issue of a dog park has not come up at other Districts to date. She outlined the process in relation to rehoming of dogs. The work at Ballaghveny is on schedule and once that is completed the transfer of the waste can begin. Keep Tipp signage can be used to raise awareness of littering. €50,000 was spent on 8 big clean ups of tyres recently. Ms. C. Moloney works on an ongoing basis with LAWPRO on water quality. There are stickers on the bottle banks with contact numbers if they need to be emptied along with the office number. The turn around time is normally good but members should let the office know if there is a particular problem area.</p>
Item 4. To receive update from Community & Economic Development	<p>Mr. P. Matthews gave a presentation on Ireland's Hidden Heartlands to the members.</p> <p>All members welcomed the presentation and the work that is being undertaken to promote tourism in the area.</p> <p>Cllr. Bugler stated that the Lough Derg region does not seem to be getting a fair share of the market despite the work that is being done by the stakeholders. Fishing was always an important activity and that needs to be revitalised. Water sports, kayaking and walking are also important. Cllr. Darcy acknowledged the importance of the link to the Béara Breifne Way for the eastern part of the District. Cllr. Hannigan mentioned the importance of linking the various river walks in the District and getting community groups involved in developing walks where none currently exist.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Meara stated that the Lorrha/Rathcabbin areas also have a lot to offer, especially in relation to historic and ecclesiastic sites.</p>



	<p>Cllr. Carroll said it would be important to try and link the lakes to the uplands through the various walks and that TG4 is an important marketing resource to have available. Cllr. H. McGrath referred to the importance of linking Nenagh Town to the lake by connecting the riverwalks going from Tyone and Ballinaclough to the Mouth of the Shannon. Cllr. Bonfield acknowledged the work that has been done marketing the area in the last few years and that patience will be required but that the development of the tourist office is an important move. Cllr. R. McGrath stated that a lot of historical events happened in the uplands and that there are great stories associated with the area. Cllr. Morris raised the issue of wellness tourism and the fact that Tipperary is ideally located and has the products to suit this market. He also stated that the proposed Shannon Pipeline is a threat to tourism.</p> <p>Mr. P. Matthews thanked the members for their comments and said that they will be taken on board. Partnership is crucial.</p> <p>Ms. S Cahalan, Tourism Officer gave a presentation on the Lough Derg Visitor Experience Development Plan.</p> <p>All the members welcomed the presentation and the work that is being undertaken. Ms. S. Cahalan outlined that the plan highlights wellness and the timelines for the delivery of activities such as the Floating Village and the Eco Boats will depend on sourcing funding.</p>
<p>Items 5. To update members on projects & events</p>	<p><u>Newport Town Park</u> Concrete placed for steps at Murroe Road. Car park kerbing 80% complete. Clause 804 placed to tarmac foundation level. Site closed on 8th January in line with Level 5 Covid Restrictions.</p> <p><u>Newport Enhancement Plan</u> Consultants are continuing to work on preparation of report following conclusion of the public consultation process for submissions.</p> <p><u>Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement, Tourism and Mobility Plan</u> Report is being compiled by consultants on submissions received.</p> <p><u>Nenagh Town Revival Initiatives</u></p> <p>a) John's Lane Car Park Contractor procured for works. Currently on hold due to Level 5 Covid Restrictions. Delivery of materials impacted by increased lead in time.</p> <p>b) Nenagh Town Team A number of projects are currently in progress:</p>



	<p>(i) Pilot Enhancement Programme Painting of Wolfe Tone Terrace will be completed as soon as Covid Restrictions and weather permit.</p> <p>(ii) Covid-19 Measures Grant Scheme Kenyon St: Civil works (drainage, kerbing, reinstatement of paving and installation of resin bond surface) complete. Construction drawing being prepared for seating area. When construction drawings are agreed procurement will be undertaken.</p> <p>Hanley's Place: Contractor appointed. Due to procurement and extended lead in times works will not commence until March. Materials ordered.</p> <p>(iii) Town & Village Renewal Accelerated Measures Scheme Installation of smart benches will take place following lifting of Level 5 restrictions.</p> <p>The Nenagh Live initiative reached in excess of 572,000 people with the total number of video views 229,900 (and still rising!). Feedback shows that there was a good gender balance of men and women who viewed this and ages ranged between 13 and 65+. Largest group was women between 35-44 with the largest group of men being between 25-34. Feedback from the retailers in Nenagh was very positive.</p> <p>(iv) Christmas Lights It has been decided to leave the Nenagh Christmas lights in place up to the end of January in order to give a message of hope and continue to brighten the town.</p> <p>(v) Street Furniture A programme is commencing for the replacement of bins in the public realm. The bins have been procured. First installations will be on Kickham Street, Banba Square and Pearse Street when restrictions are lifted. Work is also underway on procuring new benches for the Town Centre area.</p> <p>(vi) St. Patrick's Day As a follow-on from the success of Nenagh Live</p>
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we are currently engaging with the same team with the view to providing an on-line St. Patrick's Day Festival which would run from 15th to 17th March and would include:

- Local business promotion and encouragement
- Live on-line show with interviews and performances (with appropriate social distancing measures, etc)
- Virtual parade with participation by music, schools, clubs, business etc
- Show-casing Nenagh

Discussions are at a preliminary stage and plans are being developed.

Emmet Place/Mitchel Street

Demolition work is complete. Kenny Civils will return on site when Level 5 restrictions are lifted to start buttresses and civil works for the junction and car park.

Tourist Office/Banba Square

Majority of the internal works for preparation of rooms for Tourism Information Office have been completed by Corcon Construction. Work has commenced on provision of access ramp. Materials are being procured for the public realm enhancement – increased lead-in time applies due to Brexit and Covid. Awaiting confirmation from ESB as to when they will be available to carry out works on undergrounding of cables at rear of Arts Centre. Work also on-going on design for fit-out of the Tourist Office. Works currently on hold due to Level 5 Covid Restrictions.

Town & Village Renewal – Ely O' Carroll Place

Work substantially complete which included road surface, line marking, stone wall re-pointing, block wall plastering and landscaping – awaiting installation of two light poles and connection of same. On hold due to Level 5 Covid Restrictions.

Nenagh Digital Hub

Following approval of the Part 8 in November a funding application was submitted to the RRDF grant scheme on 1st December together with a Business Case on the project. We await the decision on the application.

Historic Structures Fund

Conservation works on Newport Courthouse under the Historic Structures Fund have been completed and funding drawn down.

Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter

Six tenders for an architect-led design team for the Historic &



Cultural Quarter were received by the closing date of 15th January 2021. A Tender Assessment Panel has been formed and will meet within the next week to assess the tenders received and prepare a Tender Report on same.

WiFi4EU

Installation of 10 of the required connections to provide free wi-fi in Nenagh and these connections are now live. This allows the voucher from the WiFi4EU fund to be drawn down. Work will be completed on remainder of the connections when Level 5 restrictions are lifted.

Project Manager – Nenagh MD

Martin Walsh has joined the staff of Nenagh MD as project manager in respect of projects under Ireland 2040. His role will include:

- RRDF Project – Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter
- Nenagh Digital Hub – application made for RRDF funding
- Nenagh Centre of Excellence – application made for URDF funding
- Ballina potential RRDF projects in conjunction with Killaloe in accordance with the Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement, Tourism and Mobility Plan
- Newport potential RRDF projects in conjunction with the Newport Enhancement & Mobility Plan
- Management and marketing of Lisbunny Industrial Estate and Stereame Business Park
- Any other potential projects under Ireland 2040 that are identified

Progress reports on these projects will be provided to members at monthly meetings.

New Initiative:

We are currently exploring, in conjunction with Community & Economic Development and other Council staff a potential project which would provide virtual material including virtual tours, interviews and information on historic and heritage sites in the Nenagh MD for provision to Nursing Homes across the District. This is at concept development stage and we will provide further information in due course.

Killaloe Bypass, Shannon Bridge & R494 Upgrade

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. The tender competition for the works contract started in Q3 2020 and will be completed in Q1/Q2 2021. A minor works contract for site clearance and laying a section of sewer has just been awarded. It is anticipated that the main contract will be awarded in Q1/Q2 2021 and will take approximately 3 years to complete.



R498 Latteragh Realignment

Part 8 procedures have been completed and preliminary design work is completed. The CPO was published in August 2020 and an Oral Hearing held on 1st & 2nd December. A decision from An Bord Pleanála is awaited.

N52 Borrisokane Streets Improvement Scheme.

Final road surfacing work and footpath works on the Main Street, on the Birr Road and at the N52/N65 junction has been completed. The scheme is now substantially complete and snagging of the main contract works is currently taking place. The main outstanding works on the scheme include road lining and removal of some overhead cabling and erecting a small number of public lighting columns on the Main Street.

N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge Strengthening

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.

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 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 assessment of ground conditions is currently underway.

Once planning consent is obtained, the Council will complete the detailed design process.

N65 Carrigahorig Village Pavement Improvements

Tipperary County Council is preparing a pavement improvements and safety scheme for the N65 at Carrigahorig Village. This will involve the reconstruction of the pavement, installation of a



	<p>footpath and improvements at the Terryglass Road Junction. The Council is currently finalising a number of other schemes throughout the county with a view to getting these on site in 2021 and it is anticipated that work on the design and a formal submission to TII will resume early next year.</p> <p>Ms. R. Joyce informed members that three projects in the District got funding under the Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme: they are Lough Derg Blueway, St. Cualains Youghalarra and Ormond Way/Béara Breifne Way. She also informed members that the road closure for Hanly's Place is being extended for 6 months.</p> <p>Cllr. S. Morris congratulated Nenagh Live, 100 businesses engaged with the process, along with the various performers. Spain AV were very professional in their approach and it has created a forum for future projects. Cllr. Hannigan supported this. Ms. R. Joyce concurred with the professionalism shown by Spain AV and stated that people were willing to come on board.</p>
Item 6. To note Engineer's Checklist on roads matters	<p>The Engineer's Checklist was circulated to members.</p> <p>Cllr. Hannigan stated that it was very important to carry out an audit on the signage in the district and replace same where required.</p>
Item 7. To consider Notices of Motion	<p>Notice of motion 2039 was proposed by Cllr. P. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll.</p> <p>Notice of Motion No: 2039 submitted by Cllr. Phyll Bugler</p> <p>I hereby request Tipperary County Council to erect 'Deer Signs' near Killeen/Ballinacara Wood/ Ormond stile (Templederry) in the interest of safety as a lot of deer are crossing roads in this area.</p> <p>Response was given to Cllr. Bugler as follows:</p> <p><i>2 Deer/Wild Animals Warning signs will be erected at appropriate locations between the townlands of Knockmeale and Ballinacurra on the L2122-0 / L2124-0. Works are expected to be complete by the end of January 2021.</i></p> <p>Notice of motion 2046 was proposed by Cllr. P. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll</p> <p>Notice of Motion No: 2046 submitted by Cllr. Phyll Bugler</p> <p>I hereby request Tipperary county council to issue a traffic management plan for R496 and bridge from Ballina to Killaloe in</p>

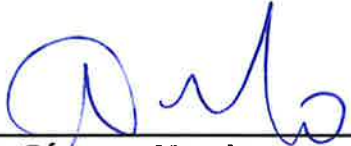


	<p>light of closure of R494 from 15th Feb to March 1st 2021. I also request details of proposed signage and a meeting in the next 2 weeks to discuss this traffic management plan.</p> <p>Response was given to Cllr. Bugler as follows:</p> <p><i>Coir Infrastructure Limited were appointed as the contractor to carry out advance works for the Ballina/Killaloe By Pass Shannon Bridge Crossing and R494 Improvement Scheme. Coir Infrastructure Ltd have applied to Tipperary County Council for a temporary road closure in accordance with S75 of the Roads Act 1993 and Part 8, Article 12 of the Roads Regulations 1994.</i></p> <p><i>A detailed traffic management plan will be developed for the advanced works following the completion of the public consultation period.</i></p> <p>Cllr. Bugler was happy with the response on the deer signs but requested further information or a meeting regarding the closure of the R494. She stressed the importance of having traffic management in place.</p> <p>Mr. M. O'Connor outlined that disruptions will be in place for the duration of the project, the road closure is only proposed at the moment and the 2-week closure is to allow for felling of trees on the R494 before the hedge cutting season is finished. If the road closure is confirmed further discussions can then take place with the contractor.</p>
Item 8. To note Delegated Employees Orders	None
Item 9. To consider items of correspondence	None
Item 10. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations	<p>Ms. R. Joyce informed members that they could email any votes of sympathy or congratulations to her.</p> <p>She informed members that Arthur Kelly; Traffic Warden will be finishing with the District and moving to a Litter Warden role. It was agreed to send him a letter of best wishes. Cllrs. H. McGrath, Morris and Hannigan acknowledged that Arthur was a great asset to the town and wished him well in his new role.</p>
Item 11. Any other business.	<p>Mr. M. O'Connor advised members of the purchase of the former Rialto Cinema (previously Sheahan's property) at Banba Square. Cllr H. McGrath enquired about the planned use for it. Mr. M. O'Connor stated that members could only be informed of the</p>



	<p>purchase when all the legal issues had been finalised. This property will form part of the overall plan for Banba Square and the application for RRDF funding.</p> <p>Cllr. H. McGrath expressed his disappointment that all the items on the agenda were not being dealt with within the two-hour limit and enquired about the possibility of moving items up the agenda. Cllrs Darcy and Morris agreed but Cllr. Morris informed members that they have the opportunity to submit questions before the meeting. Mr. M. O'Connor outlined that there was an opportunity to get a presentation from Paddy Matthews and it important to avail to this. Cllr H. McGrath also raised the issue of lighting on the N52. Mr. M. O'Connor stated that a case has been made to TII and it will continue to be raised.</p>
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This concluded the business of the meeting, a true copy of which we hereby certify:-

Signed: 
Cllr. Séamus Morris
Cathaoirleach

Date: 18/02/21

Signed: 
Ms. Rosemary Joyce
District Administrator

Date: 18/2/21