



MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING OF THE TEMPLEMORE-THURLES MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH WAS HELD IN THE TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL DISTRICT OFFICES, CASTLE AVENUE, THURLES ON TUESDAY 6TH MARCH, 2018

Present: Councillor Seamus Hanafin, Cathaoirleach, presided.

Councillors Joe Bourke, David Doran, John Hogan, Michéal Lowry, Eddie Moran, Jim Ryan, Sean Ryan and Michael Smith.

Also Present:

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| Matt Shortt | District Director |
| John Jones | Acting District Engineer |
| Michael Tierney B.E. | Executive Engineer |
| Jim Ryan B.E. | Executive Engineer |
| Deirdre O'Shea | Acting Meetings Administrator |
| Noel McCormack | Acting Staff Officer |

1. Adoption of Minutes.

It was proposed by Councillor S. Ryan, seconded by Councillor M. Lowry and resolved:

"That the Minutes of the January Monthly Meeting which was held on the 24th January, 2018 be adopted as a true record of the business transacted at the Meeting."

2. Presentation by Planning Section.

The Acting Meetings Administrator circulated a Planning Briefing note as staff from Planning Section were unable to attend. The Brief provided details and updates under the headings listed hereunder:

- National Planning Framework-Ireland 2040: Our Plan.
- Preparation of Regional and Spatial Economic Strategies (RSES).
- Cluster Guidelines.
- Structures at Risk.
- Built Heritage Scheme.
- Renewable Energy Strategy and Energy in Agriculture Conference.
- Taking In Charge.



- Planning Application Statistics.

The Cathaoirleach advised Members that queries can be forwarded by email to Karl Cashen, Director of Services or Brian Beck, Senior Planner for a response. He added that Planning is on the Agenda for the next full Council Meeting on Monday 12th March, 2018 and that any issues regarding the National Planning Framework can be raised then.

3. 2018 General Municipal Allocation.

The Acting Meetings Administrator advised the Members that proposals under the General Municipal Allocation 2018 will be brought to the Members for consideration at the March Municipal District Monthly Meeting and that it will be necessary to agree on the apportionment at the Meeting.

4. Tipperary Festivals & Events Grant Scheme 2018.

Schedules setting out proposed Municipal & Community grant allocations for the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District, under the Tipperary Festivals and Events Grant Scheme 2018, were circulated at the Meeting. The Acting Meetings Administrator advised the following:-

- The proposed amount to be awarded is €22,050.00.
- Community & Economic Development Section will fund €8,750.00 of this amount.
- The amount of €5,100.00 will be funded from the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District Grants Scheme 2018.
- It will be necessary to fund the balance of €8,200.00 from the General Municipal Allocation 2018.

The Cathaoirleach acknowledged the work of all those involved in assessing the applications.

It was proposed by Councillor J. Bourke, seconded by Councillor E. Moran and resolved:

"That the Grants set out hereunder be paid to the specified applicants under the Tipperary Festivals & Events Grant Scheme 2018:



| Applicant | Type | Amount awarded |
|------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Thurles St. Patricks Day Parade | Community | €2,500.00 |
| Littleton St. Patricks Day Parade | Community | €1,000.00 |
| St Patricks Day Parade Templemore | Community | €1,000.00 |
| Roscrea Saint Patricks Day Parade | Community | €1,000.00 |
| Social Gatherings for People Alone | Community | € 400.00 |
| Cabragh Wetlands Family Fun Day | Community | € 500.00 |
| Borrisoleigh Festival | Community | € 300.00 |
| Thurles Christmas Skyfest | Community | €1,000.00 |
| County Tipperary Drama Festival | Community | € 550.00 |
| Positive Ageing Week | Community | € 300.00 |
| Taste of Roscrea | Municipal | €5,000.00 |
| Thurles Halloween Arts Festival | Municipal | €3,500.00 |
| Fleadh Cheoil, Co. Tipperary | Municipal | €5,000.00 |
| Total | | €22,050.00 |

5. Templemore-Thurles Municipal District Grants Scheme 2018.

The Acting Meetings Administrator advised the Members that 16 applications have been received from Residents Associations and 24 applications submitted by Sporting Bodies to date under the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District Grants Scheme 2018.

It was proposed by the Cathaoirleach and unanimously agreed to extend the closing date for the receipt of applications until the 28th March, 2018.

6. Proposed Work Programmes for 2018.

The Cathaoirleach acknowledged the excellent work of all the staff, locals and contractors during the recent extreme weather conditions. All of the Members wished to be associated with his comments.

A schedule outlining expenditure under the various functions to date in 2018 was circulated at the Meeting.

The Acting District Engineer advised the following:

- Kirwans Contractors will commence improvement works from the roundabout on Slievenamon Road, Thurles out towards Rosemount on the 20th March, 2018 which will take approximately 8 weeks to complete. The second phase is at planning and design stage with a view to works commencing in 2019.



- Lydons are undertaking rehabilitation works to Suir Bridge, Thurles which are scheduled for completion on 23rd. March, 2018.
- The Roads Design Office have commenced the design on the N62 entering Templemore from Roscrea in the event that additional funds become available to the TII later in the year.
- There is a commitment from the TII for a senior official to undertake site visits in the County with John Nolan, Roads Design, and this will include the 4 critical areas identified by the Members on the national secondary routes in this District.
- Street cleaning processes in the District have been restructured and are working satisfactorily at present.
- 31 applications have been received under the Community Involvement Scheme and 27 applications have been received under the Local Improvement Scheme.
- Members can bring to his attention any junctions on the national routes that require attention.

The Members raised the issues/queries listed hereunder :

- There was an overload of information on Map Alerter prior to the extreme weather event and insufficient information available when the event occurred.
- The footpaths in the towns in the District need to be salted during extreme weather events.
- The Johnstown to Templemore road was impassible during the snowfall and needs to be included in the Salting Programme.
- The snow plough should go out at least once on as many roads in the District as is possible during heavy snowfall.
- Salt should be made available to the public at various locations throughout the District during extreme weather events.
- The road should be salted out as far as Loughtagalla Cross, Thurles.
- The grounds of the Hospital of the Assumption should be included in the Salting Programme.
- Establish if additional funding will be provided as a consequence of extra expenditure being incurred to deal with the extreme weather.
- The Gardai should be requested to provide assistance with traffic control for the duration of the works on Suir Bridge, Thurles.
- The quality of the materials being used for road improvements needs to be examined.
- A letter should be sent to the TII stating that the condition of the N62 on the approaches to Templemore is a safety issue.



- The overgrowth at junctions at the Dark Road and Garrenroe Cross, along with other junctions throughout the District, should be regularly maintained.
- Update on the speed surveys at Rahealty National School.
- Establish if the Council has a role in the provision of bus shelters in rural locations.
- The inlets on the road at The New Line, Moyne need attention as water is accumulating on the road.
- The gullies on Parnell Street, Thurles need to be raised.
- Update on the inner relief road for Thurles.

Responses to the issues raised were as follows:

- The request for the salting of footpaths in the towns during extreme weather events will be examined.
- The District does not have storage facilities for the salt which is obtained in bulk format from the salt barns in Nenagh and members of the public can purchase bags of salt in any hardware store for a minimal cost.
- The extension of the salting routes will be raised with the Senior Roads Engineer.
- The issues raised regarding the Map Alerter will be referred to Ger Walsh, Corporate Services for review.
- A specific expenditure code has been created for any works undertaken as a result of the extreme weather event.
- The speed limit at Rahealty National School is not being adhered to at school times and enforcement is a matter for the Gardai.
- John Nolan, Roads Design Section will be invited to attend the March Municipal District Monthly Meeting.
- The Council has no remit in the provision of bus shelters in the District.
- Preliminary design and planning of the inner relief road is complete, however all the necessary lands have not been acquired.

It was noted that a draft Schedule of Municipal District Works will be circulated to the Members at the March Monthly Meeting for consideration and adoption.

7. Update on Projects.

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| Roscrea Enhancement Scheme. | Part 8 and tender documents are being prepared in-house for improvements to Market Square. |
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| Repairs / Improvements to Templemore Town Hall. | It is envisaged that a Contractor will be on site in May to replace and strengthen the roof, address water ingress at the steps, repointing and fixing downpipes and drains. There is no budget presently to open up the arches on the Post Office side of the building. No tenant has been identified at the present time. |
| Liberty Square Enhancement Scheme, Thurles. | Demolition of Griffins shop and site clearance works will commence shortly under the Advance Work Contract. One Contractor will be appointed to develop the car park and refurbish Liberty Square with the car park being completed first and commencing circa Q4 of 2018. |
| Thurles Town Park. | 'Expressions of Interest' for the old farm building have been received and will be assessed. |
| Carpark at St. Patrick's Cemetery, Thurles. | The ESB has relocated services and works will resume weather permitting. |
| Templemore Town Park Extension. | A meeting with the GAA is desirable as they are key to advancing the process. |
| Provision of a Town Park in Roscrea. | It was noted that Councillor M. Smith will initiate discussions with the new owners of the former Antigen site. |

8. Notices of Motion.

a) **Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor S. Ryan.**

Councillor S. Ryan formerly moved the following Notice of Motion in his name:

""That the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District would seek to repair the bridge wall over the River Breaghagh at Lahardan, Littleton. The wall was damaged in an accident some time ago and is a danger to passing motorists and pedestrians."

The response issued to Councillor Ryan in advance of the Meeting was as follows:

"Templemore Thurles Municipal District will carry out repairs to the bridge wall at Laharden in the coming weeks"



Councillor S. Ryan expressed his satisfaction with the response.

b) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor J. Ryan.

Councillor J. Ryan formerly moved the following Notice of Motion in his name:

" I am calling on this District Council to contact the relevant authorities to see if Thurles can be classed as a heritage town which would be a huge help in promoting the town as a tourist destination."

The response issued to Councillor Ryan in advance of the Meeting was as follows:

"This Notice of Motion has been referred to the Director of Community & Economic Development for a response."

Councillor J. Ryan outlined the advantages of Thurles being designated a Heritage Town and there was broad support for the Motion.

c) Notice of Motion in the name of Councillor J. Ryan.

Councillor J. Ryan formerly moved the following Notice of Motion in his name:

"Due to health and safety concerns I am calling on this District Council to install the appropriate safety fencing along the river bank in the Town Park in Thurles to avoid injury or possible drownings."

The response issued to Councillor J. Ryan in advance of the Meeting was as follows:

"Thurles Town Park incorporates the river bank and nature trails as part of it's design which is reflective of similar facilities with natural amenities throughout the Country."

Councillor J. Ryan expressed dissatisfaction with the response and indicated that there is a particular issue with easy access to the river at the pedestrian bridge.

It was agreed that the area either side of the pedestrian bridge be fenced off.



9. Correspondence.

The Cathaoirleach read out correspondence received by Mr. Joe MacGrath, Chief Executive from a member of the public on which it was acknowledged the excellent work done by Council staff in association with other agencies, local people and contractors in averting a major flooding threat to the town of Templemore on Sunday 21st January, 2018.

The Members wished to be associated with the comments.

10. Votes of Congratulations / Sympathy

Councillor J. Ryan and the Cathaoirleach congratulated the Presentation Secondary School, Thurles on winning senior football, camogie and soccer finals in one year and he asked that a Civic Reception be accorded to the school.

It was agreed that Members would have proposals for Civic Receptions prepared for consideration at the June Municipal District Monthly Meeting.

The Cathaoirleach proposed a Vote of Sympathy with John Butler, President, Thurles Chamber and his family on the death of his sister, Maeve Wilson, New Ross, Co. Wexford.

11. Any Other Business.

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| Fix time for the Templemore-Thurles Municipal District Community Safety Committee Meeting in March. | It was agreed that the Meeting would be held from 11:30am to 12:15pm prior to the March Municipal District Monthly Meeting. |
| Write to the Taxi Regulator regarding the lack of available taxis in Thurles late at night. | The Council has no role to play in regard to taxis and any Member can write to the Taxi Regulator with their concerns. |
| Write to the relevant authorities regarding the parking situation around Semple Stadium, Thurles on match days. | The issue of parking around Semple Stadium on match days is a matter for the Gardai who are working closely with residents to rectify the situation. |
| Establish if it is illegal to park in a cycle lane as sightlines are continuously being interfered with at the entrance to Cabragh Court, Thurles | The issue regarding parking on cycle lanes can be clarified with the Superintendent at the next Community Safety Committee Meeting in March. |

6th. March, 2018.



Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

Comhairle Contae
Thiobraid Árann,
Oifigí Cheantar Bardasach
an Teampaill Mhóir-
Dhurlais, Ascaill an
Chaisleáin, Durlas,
Co. Thiobraid Árann

Tipperary County Council,
Templemore-Thurles
Municipal District Office,
Castle Avenue,
Thurles,
Co. Tipperary

t 0761 06 5000
e customerservice
@tipperarycoco.ie
tipperarycoco.ie

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| Rectify damage caused by the storm in Loughtagalla Park, Thurles and establish if the fencing around the MUGA meets health and safety standards. | The issues will be investigated. |
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THAT CONCLUDED THE OFFICIAL BUSINESS OF THE MEETING.

SIGNED: _____
CATHAOIRLEACH

DATE: 28th. March, 2018.

SIGNED: _____
ACTING MEETINGS ADMINISTRATOR

DATE: 28th. March, 2018.