



COMHAIRLE | CLARE
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

8 Samhain, 2023.

DON CATHAOIRLEACH AGUS GACH BALL DEN CHOMHAIRLE

A Chomhairleoir, a chara,

Leis seo, iarraim ort, le do thoil, a bheith i láthair ag Cruinniú Míosúil na Comhairle a thionólfar ar **Dé Luain, an 13 Samhain, 2023 AR 3:00 i.n. i SEOMRA NA COMHAIRLE, ÁRAS CONTAE AN CHLÁIR, INIS** agus via ardán MS Teams. Thíos faoi seo, gheofar sonraí den ghnó a dhéanfar ag an gcruinniú.

Iarrtar ort a bheith i láthair.

Mise le meas,

NOTE: Briefing by Saoirse Wave Project,
1:30 p.m.

Riarthóir Cruinnithe

An Roinn Seirbhísí Corparáideach
Stiúrthóireacht Airgeadais agus Seirbhísí Tacaíochta
Áras Contae an Chláir, Bóthar Nua, Inis, Co. an Chláir, V95 DXP2

Corporate Services Department
Finance and Support Services Directorate
Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare, V95 DXP2

CLÁR OIBRE - AGENDA

- 1) Miontuairiscí na Cruinnithe seo leanas den Chomhairle.
- 1) Minutes of the following Council meeting.
 - (a) Miontuairiscí Chruinniú mí Deireadh Fómhair, a tionóladh ar an 9 Deireadh Fómhair 2023.
 - (a) Minutes of October monthly meeting held on 9 October 2023.

2. Matters Arising.
2. Nithe ag éirí as.

3. **Comhfhreagras/Correspondence.**

4. Minutes of Municipal District Meetings.
4. Miontuairiscí cruinnithe Ceantar Bardasach
 - (a) Ennis Municipal District meeting held on 5 September 2023.
 - (a) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na hInse a tionóladh ar an 5 Meán Fómhair 2023.

 - (b) Ennis Municipal District meeting held on 10 October 2023.
 - (b) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na hInse a tionóladh ar an 10 Deireadh Fómhair 2023.

5. Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 2 October 2023.
5. Cruinniú Grúpa Polasaí Corparáideach a tionóladh ar an 2 Deireadh Fómhair 2023.

6. Monthly Management Report.

7. Disposal of land at Oak Park, Ennis, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000

8. Recommendation for award of a Civic Reception to Clare Junior Camogie Team and Clare Minor Hurling Team.

9. Briefing by Saoirse Wave Project, at 1.30p.m.

10. **Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. L. Grant:-**

“Call on Clare County Council to include cost rental units in any future social housing developments. There is a serious lack of rental accommodation available in Clare and we need to be doing more as a council to address this. Clare County Council are yet to build any cost rental accommodation. I think it would be a benefit to society to have mixed housing developments like this.”

11. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. P.J Kelly:-

“That the Government provide a grant of €70,000 for persons building their own houses.”

12. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. T. O’Callaghan:-

“To ask Clare County Council following a presentation by Uisce Éireann how safe is our water supply today serving both Urban and Rural Communities and what protection is in place ensuring all potential carpark developments don’t contaminate natural springs to our Towns and Villages.”

13. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. C. Murphy:-

“To ask the Minister at the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to consider, in the context of a land transfer application registered by an individual with the Property Registration Authority of Ireland, the introduction of a requirement by PRAI to notify the landowner involved by registered post, and/or the notification of a solicitor acting for that landowner, rather than the current system of a standard postal notification.”

14. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. J. Garrihy:-

“I call on Clare County Council to refocus and increase the priority and allocation of resources towards Town and Village regeneration, renewal and sustainability throughout all of our strategies and implementation actions and to collaborate closely with CLDC, Failte Ireland and all other key stakeholders and agencies working in this area.”

15. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. C. Murphy, Cllr. I. Lynch, Cllr. T. O’Brien, Cllr. D. McGettigan agus Cllr. J. Garrihy:-

“To invite the CEO of the HSE, Bernard Gloster to an “in camera” workshop type meeting with the councillors of Clare Co. Co. with a view to having a full and frank discussion on
a) the significant healthcare deficits facing the people of Clare
b) potential solutions to those issues.”

16. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. G. Flynn:-

“In view of the very high failure rate concerning private rental inspections, I am calling on Clare County Council to examine the process involved and to elaborate on the methodology involved in the whole process and provide comprehensive information on how compliance is addressed to make sure that private rental accommodation is up to an acceptable standard to satisfy the accommodation needs and safety of tenants.”

17. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. I. Lynch:-

“With the potential of offshore electricity generation far surpassing the capability of the current national grid, hydrogen production and electricity exportation are two welcome uses of excess electricity, however, before rushing to export excess electricity the IDA must exhaust all potential use by current and new industry within Ireland prior to exportation.

I request that the IDA are invited into the chamber to present on their strategic approach to attracting new industry to County Clare, specifically to the state-owned lands at Moneypoint to provide much need jobs and economic boost but equally to provide a more suitable alternative to exporting excess electricity.”

18. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. J. Flynn:

“In light of recent devastating flooding in Middleton, Newry and a sustained pattern of increased rainfall due to climate change, that Clare County Council will protect both the biodiversity and flood role of town and village watercourses by ensuring adherence to Inland Fisheries Ireland (IFI)* guidance on developments adjacent to urban watercourses which includes provision of a minimum nature-based buffer of 33m before hardcore development.

Clare County Council acknowledges the important role of such town and village rivers, streams, and their riverside (riparian) corridor in slowing down the flow of rainfall, helping to regulate flooding and preventing flash flooding. (*referred to in Vol 10 a & b Clare County Development plan 2023-2029).”

19. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. J. Cooney:-

“I call on the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to extend the period for which the waiver of development levies will apply. The extension should be applied to both the commencement and completion dates and implemented to both Development Contributions and Uisce Éireann water and wastewater connect charges.”

20. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy:-

“That Clare County Council indicate what efforts are underway to address the unacceptable condition and deterioration of the facilities on the ground at this key public amenity in our County. With Ennis now being the largest town in Munster possessing many ambitious plans for its future, it is of great concern to witness the deterioration evident at the athletic facilities at John O’Sullivan Lees Road Park, such that Munster or National Championships can no longer be held at the facility. The concern is exacerbated when contrasted with facilities available in Co. Tipperary, which has three athletic facilities, two outdoor, in Templemore and Clonmel, and one indoor, in Nenagh. The deterioration is evident with underlay coming through the running track; rotten steeple chase timber; missing track rails; missing hurdle labels; verges not being cut back; missing net covers over the sand for the Long Jump; missing mats at the Pole Vault rendering it unusable; Short Put not useable due to rotten wood; and finally the Hammer & Dicus Cage not fit for purpose requiring a female athlete from Scariff (asserted to be of world master champion standards) to go to Templemore to train.

In the response to this motion, identifying the Council efforts that are underway, please indicate if there are intentions to manage access differently, especially as it is open all day with little or no limitations on times for access; and to manage permitted use of the track (e.g., bicycles being used on the track), which access it seems is unlike similar facilities in other Counties which have stricter and more controlled access.”

21. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. A. Norton:-

“Today I want to encourage all of you to urge the Minister for Finance to take immediate action in introducing Primary Medical Certificates (PMCs) to all individuals with physical disabilities. I also call upon the members of the Seanad to initiate a commencement debate emphasizing the critical necessity for the Minister for Finance to issue PMCs to all those with physical disabilities.

In recent weeks, I have received numerous heartfelt communications from individuals across our county. These messages have come from parents and family members who share a common belief with me - that the widespread issuance of PMCs to individuals with physical disabilities could significantly enhance the quality of life for these individuals and their families.

I understand this is not the first time this issue has been brought to the attention of the Minister, or the Ministers before him, and undoubtedly it will continue to be raised with the ministers who follow.

People born with physical disabilities often endure a multitude of health challenges, including heart problems, early onset arthritis, chronic pain, conditions such as Lupus, MS, Syringomyelia, visual and hearing impairments, bronchial issues, and a compromised immune system, to name just a few. The introduction of PMCs for all those affected would go a long way in aiding families by providing improved access to transportation for hospital and doctor visits, granting individuals a modicum of independence necessary to maintain their spirits.

The current criteria for obtaining a Primary Medical Certificate is archaic and no longer applicable to the myriad of complex disabilities diagnosed on a daily and weekly basis. A Primary Medical Certificate should be a top priority, not an arduous and exasperating process.

We must recognise that individuals with disabilities deserve our unwavering support and assistance. They should not be treated as second-class citizens but should receive the necessary support to help them navigate each day with reduced pain and improved quality of life. A Primary Medical Certificate is a vital document that confirms severe and permanent disability.

The existing criteria, defined in the Finance Act 2020, no longer suffice. We must advocate for a radical overhaul of the Finance Act in 2024 to adapt to the evolving needs of individuals with disabilities.

Our government must actively champion the rights of people with disabilities and provide more than mere table scraps in terms of support and recognition. It is crucial that we facilitate the application process for a Primary Medical Certificate through Local Health Offices.

In conclusion, let us unite in our resolve to make a difference in the lives of individuals with physical disabilities by pushing for the introduction of Primary Medical Certificates. Let us demonstrate our commitment to equality, compassion, and progress for all members of our society.”