



COMHAIRLE | CLARE
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

6 Meán Fómhair, 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 Míósúil na Comhairle a thionólfar ar **Dé Luain, an 11 Meán Fómhair, 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,

Riarthóir Cruinnithe

- Briefing by Barry O'Sullivan on the Shannon Estuary Economic Taskforce Report at 2.00 p.m.

An Roinn Seirbhísí Corparáideach
Stiúrtóireacht 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 Iúil, a tionóladh ar an 10 Iúil 2023.
 - (a) Minutes of July monthly meeting held on 10 July 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 29 June 2023.
 - (a) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na hInse a tionóladh ar an 29 Meitheamh 2023.

 - (b) Ennis Municipal District Special meeting held on 29 June 2023.
 - (b) Cruinniú Speisialta Ceantar Bardasach na hInse a tionóladh ar an 29 Meitheamh 2023.

 - (c) Killaloe Municipal District meeting held on 17 May 2023.
 - (c) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach Cill Dá Lua a tionóladh ar an 17 Bealtaine, 2023.

 - (d) Killaloe Municipal District AGM held on 30 June 2023.
 - (d) Cruinniú cinn bhliana Ceantar Bardasach Cill Dá Lua a tionóladh ar an 30 Meitheamh, 2023.

 - (e) Shannon Municipal District meeting held on 16 May, 2023.
 - (e) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na Sionnainne a tionóladh ar an 16 Bealtaine, 2023.

 - (f) Shannon Municipal District AGM held on 29 June, 2023.
 - (f) Cruinniú cinn bhliana Ceantar Bardasach na Sionnainne a tionóladh ar an 29 Meitheamh, 2023.

5. Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 3 July 2023.
5. Cruinniú Grúpa Polasaí Corparáideach a tionóladh ar an 3 Iúil 2023.

6. Monthly Management Report.

7. Disposal of property at Calluragh, Ballinruan, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.

8. Consideration of report in accordance with Part XI, Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and Part VIII, Article 80 and 81 of the Planning & Development Regulations 2001-2013 for the proposed public car park in Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare.
9. Interim Financial Report to 30 June, 2023.
10. Agree date for Budget meeting - proposed date Thursday, 30th November 3.00p.m.
11. Milwaukee Review Report
12. Report on Utrecht Cycling Trip Visit.
13. Affordable Housing - Scheme of Allocation Priorities.
14. Report from Standing Orders Sub Committee.
15. Briefing by Barry O’Sullivan on the Shannon Estuary Economic Taskforce Report.

16. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. M. Howard:-

“I ask Clare County Council to urgently liaise with both the ESB and Safe Electric with a view to resolving public lighting and cabling issues within housing estates across the county.”

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

"That Clare members of the Oireachtas attend a meeting of the Council with a view to giving an explanation of their plan which would ensure that Minister O’Donnell would reverse his decision on his amendments to the County Development Plan and thereby undo the potential damage to the county and its people."

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

“I propose that Clare County Council should join and recognise the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower. This means that all offices, public facing or otherwise, all libraries, all leisure centres and all visitor attractions operated by Clare County Council will be able to announce and promote that they recognise the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower. Becoming a Corporate member of the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower at a cost of €1,500 plus VAT each year means that Clare County Council will be able to benefit from:

- Locations registered on the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower website proximity map.
- Organisation Logo, Contact Information and Accessibility provisions listed with each location.
- Ability to upload pictures of each location.

- Ability to distribute Sunflower Lanyards and other Sunflower wearables from chosen locations.
- Opportunity to list accessible experiences and events taking place and reach a global audience.
- Access to the Invisible Disability Index online (Useful for Department Heads and HR Teams)
- Detailed overview of each non-visible disability
- Workplace considerations
- Videos about specific non-visible disabilities
- Access to Sunflower Media Pack
- Sunflower Launch Support & Featured article in Newsletter
- Opportunity to receive Sunflower wearers' feedback – useful for visitor attractions.
- Submit articles for publication on the HDSunflower.com website.
- Sunflower Training Videos for all existing staff and new entrants/induction. Via Embed Codes if CBT is used.
- Purple365 30% discount
- Sunflower live training webinar with Q&A. Ideal before a launch event. Quarterly training webinar after that.
- Sector-specific implementation advice
- Access to Sunflower business products
- Volume Product Discounts – 15% across all items
- Complimentary Corporate Starter Pack – Ideal for an HQ reception area.
- Carbon Neutral Programme Membership
- Opportunity to provide Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Car Parking Spaces across Clare County”.

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

"In the interest of protecting ground and surface water quality (particularly drinking water sources) in the County from the risks posed by malfunctioning septic tanks, Clare County Council request the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage to urgently reform the ineffective septic tank grant regulations and remove the red tape which disqualifies affected households from accessing a grant. The wide-ranging reform should include for a provision to enable householders to self-report a fault to the local authority so that they might qualify for the grant and take the necessary action to ensure the septic tank is not a water, environmental or health hazard."

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

In light of the serious concerns that have been expressed about the upkeep and condition of some of our County Graveyards, with recent example being the condition of the old Drumcliff Graveyard and the quality of the maintenance provided at other graveyard locations such as Tulla, Ballycannon, and Ballysheehan, that the following be provided: -

- (1) What is the total number of County Graveyards within the ownership of the Clare County Council?
- (2) What is the total acreage of the graveyards within the Council's ownership?
- (3) Over the past five years (2017-2022), what has the budget allocation been for graveyard maintenance?
- (4) For the past five years (2017-2022), what was the budget expended on graveyard maintenance?

- (5) What methods are used by the Council to maintain our graveyards? For example, subcontractor use or direct labour?
- (6) How many Graveyard Caretakers are within the employment of the Council?
- (7) Are Graveyard Caretakers designated general operative employees of the Council?
- (8) Are Graveyard Caretakers on general operative employee remuneration?
- (9) Was a review undertaken by the Council of the County graveyards. If so, what outputs did the review find?

21. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. G. Keating:-

“To request Clare County Council to call on the Minister for Local Government to increase the grants for the following house adaptation:

1. Housing aid for older people
2. Mobility aid grant
3. Housing aid for people with disabilities

We live in an era when people are living longer and are applying for grants for home improvements. Due to increased cost of materials and labour, grants now need to be increased by 60%. These increases should now be reflected in the incoming budget.”

22. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. J. Killeen:-

“Following the announcement of Minister Jack Chambers and recent tragedies we call on Clare County Council, on a Municipal District basis, to undertake a suitability study and report on - the volume of traffic using our roads, assessment of the surface quality, of required signage, and hedgerow management etc. informing the need for road upgrades, speed limit reviews, traffic calming measures, vehicle type restrictions aided with enforcement on particular roads and proactive traffic management through a mobility strategy primarily on the rural roads of County Clare.”

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

“That Clare County Council call on the Minister for Finance to a) extend the 9% VAT rate up to the end of 2024, and b) permanently reduce the VAT rate for food related businesses from 13.5% to 9%.”

24. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. P.J. Ryan:-

“That this Council would consider installing traffic calming measures on all approach roads to small towns and villages in the County.”

25. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. P. McMahon:-

“That Clare County Council call on the Government to set out Ireland's refinement for gas supply over the next 20 to 50 years and to take measures to ensure that adequate supply is in place for the country's needs.”

26. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. P. Burke:-

“What is the current policy with regard to the use of Herbicides/ Weedkiller in public places/footpaths etc. during the Summer months?”

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

“I am calling on the Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan to address the chaos being caused to members of the public by the incompetent service currently in operation by the National Car Test Company. This arrangement with a company operating on a monopoly basis is not fit for purpose and should be discontinued with a view to opening up a tendering process for accredited garages in Ireland similar to the DOE process that currently provide a quality service to the public for testing commercial vehicles. The carrying out of a car test on private vehicles over 4 years is mandatory and the government have a duty of care to the public to make adequate provision in the delivery of this service. This proposal would also have the potential to provide employment at local level for many people and provide enhanced opportunities for apprenticeships.”

28. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllrs. J. Garrihy, S. Talty, L. Grant, C. Murphy, I. Lynch agus G. Keating:-

“In the interests of road safety, I call on Clare County Council to liaise with TII and the Department of Transport to immediately commence speed limit review across the country and additional reviews of road safety at towns and villages along with sensitive and vulnerable areas such as schools and community / sports facilities and in the interim work positively and with urgency alongside local communities to implement reductions and measures possible to improve road safety.”

29. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. A. O’Callaghan:-

“As a matter of urgency that this Council would contact the Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan and Minister Jack Chambers and overview the laws to help bus operators fulfil their role in school transport which has become a nightmare for the county.”

30. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. J. Crowe:-

To allow residents of housing estates take ownership of their estate by making current green areas that council own, be long term leased back to the residents of these estates. Each estate would then possibly be entitled to put up signs that say, ‘privately owned’.

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

"That the Government be requested to review the Banking landscape currently with a view to re-evaluate New Zealand and German Community banking models due to the cost-of-living crisis and significant interest rate increases over the past 12 months."

32. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. M. Begley:-

“That this Council urgently seek adequate funding specifically for the eradication of invasive species (particularly Giant Hog Weed and Japanese Knot Weed), throughout the county, before this issue gets completely out of control”.

33. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. D. McGettigan:-

“Currently there is no Government grant scheme in place for social housing affected by defective concrete blocks.

The understanding is that the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage are planning to operate a social housing pilot scheme in Donegal for properties affected by defective concrete blocks and once the findings for this scheme is complete, they will then roll this out elsewhere.

So therefore I am supporting our team in Clare County Council to call on the Minister for DHLGH to roll out a scheme for Clare, as Clare in its own rights should not have to wait on a pilot scheme to be completed in another County in order to receive its own scheme for defective concrete blocks, this will then give people living in these houses affected by defective concrete blocks a clearer picture as to when they can expect a secure, safe home.”

34. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllrs. P. Daly, J. Crowe agus J. Cooney:-

“We request Clare County Council to ask the government to intervene with RTE and the GAA, to ensure that for the future inter county championship matches are made available to watch on tv, where possible.”

35. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. P. O’Gorman:-

“Clare County Council calls on the Minister for Justice to ensure Clare Gardai have the adequate resources to deal with the violent criminal activity recently highlighted on social media.”

36. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. P. Murphy:-

"That Clare County Council request that the Local Government Management Agency allow local authorities introduce the use of CCTV, drones, etc (as provided for in the Circular Economy and Miscellaneous Provisions Act 2022) in a bid to curtail illegal dumping throughout Ireland."