



COMHAIRLE | CLARE
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

3 Aibreán, 2024.

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 8 Aibreán, 2024 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,

125th Anniversary of Clare Council:
Reading of the April 1899 Clare County
Council Minutes at **2:00 p.m.**

Mary M'Manon
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 Márta, a tionóladh ar an 11 Márta 2024.
 - (a) Minutes of March monthly meeting held on 11 March 2024.
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 6 February 2024
 - (a) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na hInse a tionóladh ar an 6 Feabhra 2024
 - (b) Ennis Municipal District meeting held on 5 March 2024
 - (b) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na hInse a tionóladh ar an 5 Márta 2024
 - (c) Killaloe Municipal District meeting held on 17 January 2024
 - (c) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach Cill Dá Lua a tionóladh ar an 17 Eanáir 2024
 - (d) Shannon Municipal District meeting held on 23 January 2024
 - (d) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na Sionnainne a tionóladh ar a 23 Eanáir 2024
5. Minutes of Strategic Policy Committee Meetings.
- 5 Miontuairiscí Cruinnithe Coiste Polasaí Straitéiseach
 - (a) Social Development Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on 6 December, 2023.
 - (a) Cruinniú Coiste Polasaí Straitéiseach Forbairt Shóisialta a tionóladh ar an 6 Nollaig, 2023.
6. Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 4 March 2024.
6. Cruinniú Grúpa Polasaí Corparáideach a tionóladh ar an 4 Márta 2024.
7. Monthly Management Report.
8. Disposal of land at Bearnafunshin, Ballyline, Crusheen, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.
9. Disposal of land at Dromellihy West, Cree, Kilrush, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.
10. Disposal of land at Enagh, Newpark, Kilkishen, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.
11. Disposal of Derelict Site at No. 4 An Garrán, Mountshannon, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.

12. Disposal of property (by lease) at Quin Water Tower, Quin, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.
13. Chief Executive Report under Section 37E of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, in respect of proposed Moneypoint SID application.
14. Draft Clare County Council Local Economic & Community Plan 2024-2030.
15. Clare PPN – Nomination to Joint Policing Committee.
16. Schedule of Municipal District Works 2024
17. Reading of the April 1899 Clare County Council Minutes – 2.00pm
18. **Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. J. Crowe (deferred from the March Council meeting): -**

“I am calling on Clare County Council to arrange for a viability study to deal with a view of the possibility of a rail link service to link Ennis and Limerick with Sixmilebridge, Bunratty and Shannon Airport, to include Shannon Town Centre and the Industrial Estate.

In turn this will give connectivity to many holiday makers and business, people not alone in the mid-west region but throughout Ireland, especially with the growth that is taken place at the Airport. This will help to maintain and drive same.

It will benefit workers from Ennis, Limerick and surrounding areas to travel to Shannon. It will also help our environment to reduce cars and busses from our roads.”

19. **Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. P. McMahon (deferred from the March Council meeting): -**

“I will ask the Taoiseach and all the relevant Ministers to give the Shannon Airport Group the relevant economic “push”, to sustain the economic projection of the airport, to relieve Dublin Airport and sustain the Airport into the future.”

20. **Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. P.J. Ryan (deferred from the March Council meeting): -**

“That this Council requests that Minister for Education, Norma Foley would include road safety on the curriculum at all levels of education in the county”.

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

“On a Countywide basis, to demonstrate that our County is sensitive to and progressive on older person parking needs, that:

1. A report be provided of the existing priority parking spaces in the County, with quantity and their precise locations listed for each area of the County.

2. Indicate if the Council Executive consider that the spaces are sufficient in quantity and are of appropriate width to accommodate their users.

3. Take action to adopt a COUNCIL issued car badge/sticker for Age Friendly/Priority Parking bays to all Clare residents in receipt of the OAP, so as to differentiate and ensure proper use by those permitted.

4. Erect agreed standardised signage, large enough and low enough on the poles for each priority parking bay to accommodate their correct usage.

5. Adopt stiff penalties for their misuse, with similarly stiff penalties for misuse of disability parking bays.

6. Adopt measures and training to ensure that County Parking Wardens understand the significance of a “zero tolerance” approach to misusers of both the priority and disability parking bays.”

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

“With only 21 days for a commercial vehicle failing a test and the retest date, that the local authority would contact the Minister for Transportation and the RSA to extend it to 28 days, as mechanics are under pressure to turn them around in this time frame.”

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

“That the Chief Operating Officer of DAC in Ennis 2040 attend the April monthly meeting to allay members concerns and to provide a detailed report on all expenditure since the formation of the Designated Activity Company together with inter alia what steps are taken to protect the commercial footfall affecting existing retail units opposite both Abbey Street and Parnell Street carparks. In the interest of Compliance and Transparency please provide details the procedure used in appointing the current Board of Directors.”

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

“I call on the Minister for Social Protection, Ms. Heather Humphries T.D., to consider extending the timeframe for the Tús Scheme, from 12 months to 3 years, similar to the Community Employment Scheme.”

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

“In the interest of regenerative & sustainable tourism for our small towns and villages, local host communities and the SMEs/Attractions who preserve their unique and authentic culture and identity I Call on Clare Co Co & Clare Tourism DAC to implement a system of booking to ensure a target of at least 30% of Visitors to the Council Owned flagship Attractions are directed to local T&V through pre booking systems and visit the attractions through integrated park and ride shuttle bus service located in the Towns and Villages & an accompanying regeneration strategy for Town regeneration is developed in tandem.”

26. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. R. McInerney: -

“The EU report in late 2023 on the Monitoring of the application of the European Charter of Local Self Government in Ireland cited it's primary concerns as “although new functions have been transferred to local authorities, local government is far from complying with the principle of subsidiarity which requires that public responsibilities shall generally be exercised, in preference, by those authorities closest to the citizens, and local authorities do not manage a substantial share of public affairs under their own responsibility”.

Among its recommendations are that “the authorities of Ireland transfer additional functions to local authorities, in particular within the area of public welfare and increase the amount of own resources that can be used at the discretion of local government and the share of non-earmarked grants”.

Therefore, Clare County Council should request the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage outline the strategy and timeline to introduce the full recommendations of this report.”

27. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllrs. S. Talty, C. Colleran Molloy agus Joe Killeen: -

“Call on Clare County Council, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and the Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan to re-commence the N85 Kilnamona Re-Alignment project immediately. The road is an embarrassing National Road, for both Clare residents and also over one million visitors to North & West Clare with a series of narrow & dangerous bends. Crashes along this road are a regular occurrence.”

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

“That the Government quadruple the amount of annual grant given for the Local Improvement Scheme”.

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

“30km speed limit saves lives and prevents injury. I request Clare County Council to introduce and implement a 30km speed limit in our towns and communities.”

30. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllrs. M. Howard, P. O’Gorman agus A. O’Callaghan: -

“Clare County Council requests the Minister for Health Stephen Donnelly to immediately scrap the current system of reviewing medical cards for the over 70s”.

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

“I am calling on Clare County Council to re-evaluate their Casual Trading Licenses for the County of Clare. Some members of the public have raised serious concerns in the granting of licences for Fast Food Mobile Units in Towns and Villages throughout our County, Health & Safety of Residents living adjacent to these temporary trading outlets that are operating in conditions where the risks of fire could have serious consequences for residential property and also the fact that large volumes of people are drawn to these outlets late at night and creating an anti social environment with very little oversight or control from The Garda or Private Security arrangements.”

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

“That Clare County Council call on Government to develop a new housing plan based on a supply of sufficient, secure, high quality and environmentally housing. Core components of this proposed new housing plan would be,

- i) Setting up a public construction company/agency that would be tasked with sourcing and hiring the key trades, such as carpenters, plumbers, architects and engineers that can deliver housing. In the short term, priority may have to be given to sourcing these tradespeople from other countries. The long term proposed plan would incorporate an overhaul of our current apprenticeship model, introducing changes and incentives that will make these courses more attractive and align them with third level institutions, thereby providing a steady stream of trained and skilled tradespeople.
- ii) Tasking this public construction company/agency with sourcing and importing construction materials on behalf of the state, thereby making the materials more affordable to builder’s providers and contractors which in turn would lead to an increased supply of housing.”

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

“That Clare County Council support Clare Leader Forum in their call to scrap the Green Paper on Disability Reform and to start with consultation with disabled people from the beginning, drawing on a human rights and social model perspective.

Disabled people are calling for a cost of Disability, independent living supports to get to work and to separate secondary benefits, such as the medical card which prevents people from considering work.”

34. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. T. O’Brien: -

“Clare County Council writes to the Taoiseach Simon Harris and requests from him that the next round of D maps preparation is expedited and prioritises the waters off The Shannon Estuary and County Clare as the next area for D map preparation.”

35. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllrs. C. Murphy, I. Lynch, L. Grant, R. McInerney, J. Garrihy, S. Talty, T. O’Brien and P. Hayes

“Given the deplorable condition of many regional, local secondary and tertiary roads, that

- a) a commitment is given by senior management team to examine our own resources with view to providing an increased allocation in 2024 targeted at addressing these issues, and that this allocation be made to each LEA pro rata on a road length basis;
- b) a working group of elected members and senior management be set up in September to discuss the equitable allocation process for roads funding in the future, and
- c) a detailed report outlining the funding deficit between the recommended 10% of road restoration and maintenance per annum, and the percentage of roads actually being maintained, be forwarded to the Minister of State for Transport.”

36. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. Ian Lynch: -

To ask the Taoiseach, Minister for Health, Minister for Education and Minister for Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth to urgently intervene in the ongoing crisis in relation to diagnosis, early intervention and education needs of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder. This crisis is having a devastating impact on childhood development and placing families in extreme financial burden and mental anguish due to the chronic under-resourcing of services and bureaucratic red tape limiting access to adequate education services.

37. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. Joe Killeen: -

We call on Clare County Council, Department of Agriculture, Farming Bodies, colleagues and stakeholders to support farm families and give whatever help they can to those who are experiencing hugely increased stress levels due the persistent inclement weather we are suffering at present.