



COMHAIRLE | CLARE  
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL

7 Feabhra, 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 Míosúil na Comhairle a thionólfar ar **Dé Luain, an 12 Feabhra, 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,

**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 Eanáir, a tionóladh ar an 8 Eanáir 2024.
  - (a) Minutes of January monthly meeting held on 8 January 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 5 December 2023
  - (a) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na hInse a tionóladh ar an 5 Nollaig 2023
  
  - (b) Killaloe Municipal District Budget meeting held on 13 November 2023
  - (b) Cruinniú Cháinainnéis Ceantar Bardasach Cill Dá Lua a tionóladh ar an 13 Samhain 2023
  
  - (c) Killaloe Municipal District meeting held on 15 November 2023
  - (c) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach Cill Dá Lua a tionóladh ar an 15 Samhain 2023
  
  - (d) Killaloe Municipal District Special meeting held on 22 November 2023
  - (d) Cruinniú Speisialta Ceantar Bardasach Cill Dá Lua a tionóladh ar an 22 Samhain 2023
  
  - (e) Shannon Municipal District meeting held on 21 November 2023
  - (e) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach na Sionnainne a tionóladh ar an 21 Samhain 2023
  
  - (f) West Clare Municipal District meeting held on 5 September 2023
  - (f) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach Iarthar an Chláir a tionóladh ar an 5 Meán Fómhair 2023
  
  - (g) West Clare Municipal District meeting held on 14 November 2023
  - (g) Cruinniú Ceantar Bardasach Iarthar an Chláir a tionóladh ar an 14 Samhain 2023
  
  - (h) West Clare Municipal District Budget meeting held on 14 November 2023
  - (h) Cruinniú Cháinainnéis Ceantar Bardasach Iarthar an Chláir a tionóladh ar an 14 Samhain 2023
  
5. Minutes of Strategic Policy Committee Meetings.
- 5 Miontuairiscí Cruinnithe Coiste Polasaí Straitéiseach
  - (a) Physical Development Strategic Policy Committee meeting held on 21 November 2023

(a) Cruinniú Coiste Polasaí Straitéiseach Forbairt Fhísiciúil a tionóladh ar an 21 Samhain 2023

6. Minutes of Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 2 January 2024.
6. Cruinniú Grúpa Polasaí Corparáideach a tionóladh ar an 2 Eanáir 2024.
  
7. Monthly Management Report.
  
8. Disposal of property at No 1. Claureen Drive, Ennis, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.
  
9. Extension of Lease of property at Mill House, Mill Road, Ennis, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.
  
10. Disposal of property at Cappaduff, Mountshannon, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.
  
11. Draft Climate Action Plan
  
12. Chief Executive Report in accordance with Section 37E of the Planning & Development Act 2000, as amended, in respect of proposed Oatfield Windfarm.
  
13. Appointment of member to Local Authority Members Association (LAMA)
  
14. Kilkee Waterworld Refurbishment
  
15. **Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. J. Garrihy:-**

“In light of the findings, data and recommendations of the recent accommodation audit by Failte Ireland I call on Clare County Council to review the implementation of Clare Tourism 2030 Strategy with a view to our role in tackling the stark deficits in bed capacity and accommodation identified which are central to Clare's economy benefiting from our dominant position in the area of successful attractions. I further call on Clare County Council to review impacts of our dominant position on small and medium local business across the county with a view to focus on regenerative approach to tourism to discriminate favourably towards sustainable local SME business and communities across our towns and villages.”

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

“I call on Clare County Council to write to the Minister for Communications highlighting our concerns over the long-term viability of the Post Office network. To date the network is dependent on a €10 million subsidy from government that will cease in two years ensuring stability. A long-term viable model needs to be implemented to protect County Clare’s network within both urban and rural communities into the future.”

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

“What level of interest has there been in the Crói Cónaithe scheme-

How many applications?

How many of these applications were successful?

What is the approximate turnaround time from receiving application to receiving a decision?”

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

“That Clare members of Oireachtas Eireann use the occasion of amendments to Planning Act as an opportunity to address, by extra amendments, the major difficulties caused in Clare by the present act.”

**19. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. J. Flynn. Cllr. P. Burke, T. O’Callaghan, G. Flynn:-**

“We are requesting Clare County Council’s Chief Executive Pat Dowling to purchase suitable property in the county for the construction of affordable housing and to also provide details of property currently owned by Clare County Council that is earmarked for the provision of affordable housing and is suitably zoned not alone in Ennis and Shannon but throughout County Clare and also to identify the quantity and type of proposed affordable homes (standard housing or apartments). We are also requesting the CE to instruct the housing department to urgently put out a request to building contractors for quotations to deliver affordable housing on property owned by Clare County Council and in view of the fact that people on lower incomes between €35,000 and €49,000 are unable to access the current round of affordable homes been delivered by the Council we would request that the quotations from the building contractors would include the cost of delivering modular homes and standard build. We would also request that our motion would be forwarded to the Housing Minister Darragh O’Brien and Clare’s Oireachtas Members.”

**20. Curtha foe bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. M. Howard, Cllr. A. O’Callaghan agus Cllr. P. O’Gorman:-**

“Clare County Council request the Department of Housing to increase the build time requirements of the Crói Cónaithe Scheme from 18 months to 24 months.”

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

“I am requesting Clare County Council to revise their policy in regard to the contracting of suitably qualified people to deal with the management of trees throughout Clare. The current trends of climate change is bringing severe storms and wet weather that is leading to ground saturation. I

believe that it is vital that Clare County Council are more proactive in how they are currently responding to the serious health and safety risks for the public.

Trees are laden down with Ivy and the ground is saturated which creates a situation of high risk with the frequency of storms at wintertime. What I am requesting is that a greater number of tree surgeons would be sourced by the Council and placed on the appropriate list in order to address the serious concerns that exist when large trees are located adjacent to people's homes and public roadways. The maintenance and management of trees throughout Clare needs some serious attention in order to reduce risk to the public."

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

"I call on Clare County Council to request from the Minister for Agriculture an expansion to the existing Acres scheme. The existing scheme caters for 4000 applicants and should be expanded to cover all applicants who submit applications.

This is in the interest of meeting our climate targets and any farmer who is willing to help achieve these targets should be encouraged and permitted to do so through this scheme."

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

"That Clare County Council undertake a workshop with the roads department, the Municipal District offices and the elected representatives with a view to understanding the operations and constraints of the current winter maintenance and salting roads program and to discuss a solution where key strategic roads in the MD's can be included in the winter service plan and consideration given to managing these through the area offices".

**24. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. T. O'Brien:-**

"That Clare County Council ask the Minister for Education to instruct Bus Éireann school transport section to suspend the tendering of 20% of existing school transport routes until such time as all new routes for school transport for school year 2024/2025 are filled. Contractors who find themselves out of contract could negotiate renewed contracts without a tendering process thus ensuring a continuity of service for existing routes."

**25. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. C. Murphy, Cllr. J. Garrihy agus Cllr. D. McGettigan:-**

"While recognising the exemplary response to the challenges arising in supporting and accommodating the unprecedented humanitarian emergency situation of over 5,000 vulnerable refugees in our County over the last 2 years by Clare Communities, Clare County Council, other state agencies, NGOs, schools and SMEs we call on:

- a) Clare County Council to allocate specific resources from within our Integration team, and in collaboration with CLDC, CISC, Clare Youth Services, Clare PPN, Clare Volunteer Centre and other relevant partners, with the objective of providing the tools and factual information necessary for staff, elected representatives, community organisations and the public to counter the disinformation and misinformation that's currently circulating around migrants and refugees, and to provide a trusted forum for their engagement at a local level.
- b) the Ministers at Dept of Children, Equality, Integration and Youth and the Dept of Tourism to set up a working group that will plan for a sustainable tourism future beyond this emergency response by:

- 1) Considering, in the context of the impact on the communities and economy of the areas impacted, the phasing in of a maximum percentage of beds in use in any single tourism accommodation provider for the provision of humanitarian and/or immigration purposes and
- 2) The development of alternative, non-hotel based accommodation for those purposes that will add value for local communities in the long term when these crises are over and will allow positive impacts of migration to be sustainable for the future benefit of all."

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

“Mindful of the critical importance to the US, and to this region of US troop transfers through Shannon Airport, that Clare County Council urges the government to redouble its efforts to have both the UN and the US pressure Israel to desist from further aggression in response to the October 7<sup>th</sup> massacre and urges additional diplomatic initiatives to end Russia’s occupation of Ukraine & Crimea.”

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

“I am proposing that Clare County Council sign up to the "Think Before You Park Campaign" that was jointly launched by Limerick City and County Council, and An Garda Síochana in a bid to stop people parking vehicles on footpaths and thereby severely impacting people that have limited mobility and poor sight”.

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

“To ask the Taoiseach and the Minister for Mental Health and Older people to include mental health services as part of the emergency 999/112 services.  
This would allow the operator to talk to the caller directly while connecting them with a manned mental health provider.”

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

I ask the Chief Executive for a report on:

- 1) The outcome of the recent tender process for operation of the Clare County (Ennis) dog pound including the veterinary supervision
- 2) Animal welfare improvements and investments at the pound over the last decade.
- 3) Confirmation that the methods of euthanising of dogs meets the best standards of animal welfare
- 4) Analysis of the annual figures for euthanising of dogs at the Clare Council pound for the last decade.

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

“That this council would request the TII - Transport Infrastructure Ireland - to identify a suitable site for a service area with commercial parking on the section of the M18 that passes through Co Clare.”

**31. Curtha faoi bhráid na Comhairle ag Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy, Cllr. P. Hayes, Cllr. P. Murphy agus Cllr. A. Norton:-**

“In light of the growing cultural diversity and the ensuing diversity of sporting facilities being requested (such as cricket, basketball, hockey, etc.) in our county, that the Council undertake an audit of the existing facilities and devise a plan for future sports facilities in our county.”

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

“That the Council request a report on the roll out of the Local Link Bus service in County Clare, to include passenger numbers & value of the public funds that is subsidising this service, and the impact that this is having on the taxi services.”

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

“We call on Clare County Council and our Oireachtas members to lobby for greater funding for the Community Investment Scheme and the Local Improvement Scheme.

We call also for extra funding to reduce dramatically the list of those waiting to be prioritised for repair.

Please provide an outline of the number on the waiting lists per MD for LIS and CIS”

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

“That Clare County Council examine the possibility a clinic service targeted at individuals, couples and families who are deemed ineligible for social housing in order to provide comprehensive information and guidance on other schemes which they may qualify for including but not limited to; Help to Buy, Local Authority Affordable Purchase, First Home, Local Authority Home Loan, Cost Rental and Vacant Property Refurbishment Grant.”

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

“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.”

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

“Call on Clare County Council to reopen the public participation process in identifying bathing waters across the county. I would ask the Council to investigate if any work could be done to bring up the score of submitted locations so that they may reach the criteria set out in the EPA framework.

With more and more people sea swimming, there is a clear desire for more bathing water locations across the county. Many people were disappointed that several sites were not designated a bathing area, particularly Doolin Pier. The county would benefit greatly if we could get additional bathing areas.”