

**Minutes of the November 2018 Municipal District of Ennis Committee Meeting  
held at 10.30am on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2018,  
in the Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir,  
New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** J. Breen, C. Colleran Molloy, P. Murphy, M. Howard, P. Daly, T. McNamara & J. Flynn.  
Apologies: A. Norton

**Officials:** Carmel Kirby, Director of Services, Eamon O’Dea, Senior Executive Engineer, Bernie Haugh, Meetings Administrator, and Sinead Armstrong-Lynch, A/Assistant Staff Officer.

**Item No. 1. Minutes of the October Meeting of the Municipal District of Ennis Committee Meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2018.**

The Minutes of the October 2018 meeting of Ennis Municipal District were proposed by Cllr. P. Murphy seconded by Cllr. Mary Howard and agreed by members.

***Matters Arising from the Minutes.***

E. O’Dea, Senior Executive Engineer, updated members in relation to Ballymacahill Cross an application has been made to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for funding and the outcome of same will be know in early 2019.

C Kirby Director of Services updated members in relation to the lands at Rocky Road. There is a meeting arranged with the Planning Department and will revert accordingly.

Members welcomed the updates.

**Item No. 2. Presentation from Shannon Group - Patrick Edmond, Group Strategy Director, Managing Director, International Aviation Services Centre Shannon Group plc**

Mr. Patrick Edmond gave a detailed report on the Shannon Group Structure which includes Shannon Airport, Shannon Commercial Properties, Shannon IASC and Shannon Heritage. He noted the strong economic impact the Group has within the Shannon Region and beyond.

Members welcomed the presentation and congratulated Mr. Edmond on his work and the success of Shannon Group. Members acknowledged that Shannon airport is key to the future success of tourism, industry and trade for the entire region. The marketing and promotion of the airport is vital to ensure further progress for the region.

**Item No. 3. GMA 2018**

This item was proposed by Cllr J. Flynn, seconded by Cllr T. McNamara and agreed by members.

**Item No. 4. Proposal to declare a section of road, adjacent to L-8250 at Islandmcgrath, Clarecastle to be a public road**

This item was proposed by Cllr. P. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. P. Daly and agreed by members.

**Item No. 5. Notices of Motion**

**No. 1. NOM submitted by Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy seconded by Cllr. M. Howard**

That Ennis Municipal District emulate the efforts of Kilkee & Westport in their respective efforts to discourage use of single use plastics as has been in progress in Kilkee since early 2018 to great effect with the “Make Kilkee Plastic Free” campaign.

**Etain McCooney, Administrative Officer, replied as follows:**

The “Make Kilkee Plastic Free” campaign is a locally led initiative by Kilkee Enterprise Development Association. This campaign was assisted with funding support under the EPA Waste Prevention Grant operated through the Environmental Education and Awareness team in the Environment Section. It is important to note that this grant scheme’s objective is to promote the prevention of waste in line with national waste policy and the Southern Region Waste Management Plan 2015-2021. It is envisaged that funding will again be available in 2019 to facilitate applications from voluntary and community groups who wish to progress waste prevention initiatives. Approaches from voluntary and community groups within the Ennis Municipal District Area would be particularly welcome in relation to proposals and initiatives to discourage use of single use plastics. Any such groups may contact the Environmental Education and Awareness team to get advice and support on how best to proceed with a funding application in 2019.

*Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy circulated an image which highlighted the damage plastic is doing to the environment. Members aired their support for a green environment and commended the Clare Vintners Association for the introduction of biodegradable straws. C. Kirby, D.o.S. confirmed that the Environment S.P.C. is meeting in December. Cillian Murphy, Kilkee will be giving a presentation on the campaign “Make Kilkee Plastic Free”, and following that there will be a better understanding of what is involved and will revert to the members.*

**No. 2. NOM submitted by Cllr. J. Flynn (Notice of Motion not seconded)**

I seek the support of fellow elected members of Ennis Municipal District in requesting that the Clare Joint Policing Committee (JPC) agree to immediately establish an Ennis District policing subcommittee within the structure of the Clare Joint Policing Committee as is allowed for under JPC guidelines. The loss of the successful Ennis JPC in 2014 which had operated since 2009 has not been good for the particular policing and community safety issues and needs of Ennis.

*Cllr. J. Flynn aired his concern on crime figures and mental health statistics in the County. Members discussed this Notice of Motion noting that the current Clare Joint Policing Committee (JPC) is very effective. Members agreed there is no need, at this time, to request the establishment of an Ennis District policing subcommittee. This Notice of Motion was not seconded.*

**No. 3. NOM submitted by Cllr. T. McNamara seconded by Cllr. P. Daly**

I call on Clare County Council to carry out black top resurfacing on the N85 from the Corofin Junction to the top of hill after Whelans quarry and create a traffic island in the centre of road to allow safe access to the dwellings on the right hand side of the road and at the junction at the top of the hill leading to Kilnamona.

**Eamon O’Dea, S. E. E., replied as follows:**

The N85 from Fountain Cross to Ballyneillan is part of the TII National Pavement Overlay Contract 2018 and the contractor is expected to commence this work before the end of November. The expenditure by TII on National Pavement work in the Ennis MD in 2018 on the N85 at Fountain Cross, N68 at Rockmount and surface texture works at roundabouts on the N85 and N68 is in excess of €1,000,000.

The Ennis MD and the Road Design Office will contact the TII Inspector in regard to the provision of right turning lane at the L41441 towards Moarhaun Bridge.

**No. 4. NOM submitted by Cllr. P. Murphy seconded by Cllr. J. Flynn**

With reference to a past Notice of Motion regarding excessive speed on the approach road into the Creggaun na h-Illa development (adjacent to the intersection with the rear of Church Drive) and the subsequent public advertisement for Part VIII planning, I wish to be briefed on the likely timescale and planned works being proposed to deal with this issue.

**Eamon O’Dea, S. E. E., replied as follows:**

The Ennis MD work crews commenced construction of the traffic calming scheme that was approved by The Ennis MD Councillors this year. This work is being funded from the General Municipal Allocation (GMA) by the Ennis MD Councillors.

**No. 5. NOM submitted by Cllr. M. Howard seconded by Cllr. P. Murphy**

In light of recent vandalism at the WW1 memorial at the Ennis Peace Park, I believe CCTV is urgently required and needs to be provided to ensure the area is safe and deter this disrespectful behaviour in the future.

**Eamon O’Dea, S. E. E., replied as follows:**

The damage to the WW1 memorial at the Ennis Peace Park is regrettable. The Ennis MD has contacted the Gardai and they have not received reports of anti-social behaviour in this area. It is the view of the Ennis MD Office that the provision of CCTV at this location is not an appropriate measure at this time given the cost and legislative requirements in providing and operating CCTV.

*Members further discussed and supported this Notice of Motion. Members highlighted the efforts done to fundraise for WW1 project. There was discussion regarding the provision of CCTV at this location. C. Kirby D.o.S. informed members that she had already queried the incident with the Gardaí who confirmed that there isn’t any evidence of ongoing antisocial behaviour in this area. Furthermore, issues in relation to G.D.P.R. would also need to be considered.*

**No. 6. NOM submitted by Cllr. A. Norton seconded by Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy**

Can Clare County Council look at making the markings on the crossings around the streets of Ennis more visible by resurfacing or painting them?

**Eamon O’Dea, S. E. E. replied as follows:**

The Ennis MD Office will be carrying out an inspection of pedestrian crossing locations and appropriate markings will be provided where required.

**No. 7. NOM submitted by Cllr P. Daly seconded by Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy**

I request Ennis MD to ensure that Christmas lights will be available to the business people in the Lifford area this Christmas.

**Eamon O’Dea, S. E. E. replied as follows:**

Festive lighting will be provided along the frontages of the businesses on Newbridge Road and Steeles Terrace. This work is being funded jointly by the businesses in the area and the Ennis MD Councillors from the General Municipal Allocation (GMA).

**No. 8. NOM submitted by Cllr J. Breen seconded by Cllr. P. Daly**

I request that the trees in Fergus Park be trimmed.

**Eamon O’Dea, S. E. E. replied as follows:**

The trees in Fergus Park will be examined and required works will be carried out by the Ennis Municipal District works crews.

**No. 9. NOM submitted by Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy seconded by Cllr. P. Murphy**

That EMD erect signs indicating Cul de Sac on L7140 in Manusmore, Clarecastle.

**Eamon O’Dea, S. E. E. replied as follows:**

A “no through road (cul de sac) sign” will be provided at the entrance to the L7140 at Manusmore Clarecastle.

**No. 10. NOM submitted by Cllr. J. Flynn seconded by Cllr. P. Murphy**

Ennis becoming a more Age Friendly Town: I welcome and wish to fully support the initiative of Ennis working over the next five years to become a more Age Friendly Town as set out as an action under the recently adopted 2nd Clare Age Friendly Strategy 2018-2022. I ask for a report as to what plans are being developed and in what way an Ennis Councillor such as I can assist. This action is urgent and timely in order to address the opportunities and challenges being faced both today and into the future by older people (those over 55yrs) and to address the predicted growth in our ageing population.

**Karen Fennessy, Age Friendly Development Officer replied as follows:**

The Clare Age Friendly Alliance Board has over the last 12 months, developed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Age Friendly Strategy for the county. Work on this strategy concluded with its launch on the 25<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

Extensive consultation with key Stakeholders delivering services to older people as well as Clare’s Older People’s Council, showed there was demand for a high level initiative around developing an Age Friendly town. Recent 2016 Census data illustrated that the Capital town of Ennis accounts for approximately 23% of the county’s population and is projected to grow by a further 25% by the year 2040.

The Clare Age Friendly Alliance Board whose membership comprises senior decision makers of key agencies, is due to discuss the implementation of the strategy’s action plan and in particular the formation of working groups to deliver the actions, at their next meeting scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> November 2018.

**No. 11. NOM submitted by Cllr. T. McNamara seconded by Cllr. J. Breen**

I call on Clare County Council to ensure that the footpath from Kilmaley School to the cross roads on the R474 is completed next year and the road resurfaced as a matter of urgency.

**Eamon O’Dea, S. E. E. replied as follows:**

The Ennis Municipal District has completed 455 metres of combined cycleway and footpath from the National School in the direction of the R474. A further 580 metres of cycleway-footpath has to be constructed to reach the R474. The Ennis MD will be including a section of the cycleway-footpath in the Discretionary Funding Grant works in 2019 subject to funding and approval by the Ennis MD Councillors. The L4230-45 is not in the restoration improvement grant works in 2019 however it will be considered if additional funding is made available during 2019. The Ennis MD will be carrying out maintenance works on sections of the L4230-45.

**No. 12. NOM submitted by Cllr. P. Murphy seconded by Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy**

I am requesting the following works to be carried out in St. Joseph’s Terrace/Ballaghafadda, Clarecastle:-

- i) Parking bays to be repaired to the front of houses 37 to 50
- ii) Laneway between houses 76 & 77 to be cleared
- iii) Footpaths in disrepair to be treated accordingly

**Eamon O’Dea, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

The parking bays to the front of the houses at 37 to 50 St Joseph’s Terrace/Ballaghafadda will be considered for inclusion in the Discretionary Funding Grant works in 2019 subject to funding and approval by the Ennis MD Councillors.

The laneway will be cleared of weeds and the footpaths will be considered when funding is made available for footpath upgrades. Essential repairs and maintenance of the footpaths will be carried out by the Ennis MD.

**No. 13. NOM submitted by Cllr. M. Howard seconded Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy**

Is there any update on the proposed roundabout/traffic lights for the junction of Shanaway Road and Lahinch Road (N85)

**Ann Cronin, Senior Executive Engineer Road Design, replied as follows:**

The Road Design Office has commenced work on this project and will investigate options for the N85/Shanaway Road junction.

We will also consider if traffic calming measures are required from the 50kph speed limit location as far as the N85/Shanaway Road Junction.

Any measures proposed may be the subject of either a Part 8 or a Section 38 public consultation process.

**No. 14. NOM submitted by Cllr. A. Norton seconded by Cllr. J. Breen**

Can Ennis Municipal District look at a viability study to make Ennis Autism friendly and Disability friendly?

**Eamon O'Dea, S. E. E. replied as follows:**

The Ennis Municipal District will examine the processes required to get accreditation as an Autism Friendly Town and a Disability Friendly Town and report back to the Councillors.

**No. 15. NOM submitted by Cllr. P. Daly seconded by Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy**

I ask Ennis MD to investigate the possibility of arranging a Spring or Autumn School (to be held in Ennis) similar to the Willie Clancy Summer School in honouring the late and great Irish Musician Tommy Peoples with the co operation of the local Comhaltas Ceolteori branch, family and musician friends.

**No response required**

**No. 16. NOM submitted by Cllr. J. Breen seconded by Cllr. J. Flynn**

I ask that feasibility study be done on the Post Office field in a view to turn it into a car park and water sports amenity.

**Leonore O'Neill, Senior Executive Officer replied as follows:**

The Ennis Municipal District Council members were briefed by The Paul Hogarth Company at the March 2018 briefing on the preparation of a draft Masterplan for the Post Office Field which discussed the future potential of the site. The Draft Masterplan seeks to assess the options for bringing the site forward in the context of inter alia pedestrian connectivity, residential accommodation, amenity enhancement and green infrastructure.

Clare County Council submitted an application for funding on the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2018 under the Urban Regeneration and Development Fund to advance the technical aspects which will inform the progression of the Proposal. It is intended, subject to funding, to appoint a Design Team to undertake the multiple technical studies required including inter alia Flood Risk Assessment; Appropriate Assessment and Natura Impact Statement; Bat Survey; Surface Water Construction Method Statements and Plans, and a Landscape Management Plan.

**Item No. 6. Correspondence - none**

**Item No. 7. Any Other Business**

***Suggestions from Members***

- *Cllr P. Daly enquired if the lighting at Tim Smythe Park could to extended to 9 pm each evening.*
- *Cllr J. Breen requested an update on proposed works at Turnpike Road.*
- *Cllr J. Flynn enquired if Clare County Council could investigate the issue of noise pollution from the Clonroadmore Beg Water Treatment Plant and asked if a notice could be issued to Irish Water under Section 107 of the Environment Pollution Act.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Meetings Administrator

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of Ennis

Date: \_\_\_\_\_