

Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District held on Wednesday, 23rd September, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. in the Community Hall, Tubber, Co. Clare.

In attendance: Cllr. Joe Cooney
Cllr. Pat Hayes
Cllr. Pat Burke
Cllr. Tony O'Brien
Cllr. Alan O'Callaghan

Officials: Mr. Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, Administrative Officer
Monica Meehan, Senior Executive Officer

Apologies: Cllr. Ml. Begley
Mr. Michael McNamara, Area Co-Ordinator

At the outset, Cllr. P. Hayes thanked the Tubber Hall Committee for allowing the meeting take place in Tubber Community Hall and for the hospitality they had arranged. On behalf of the local community, Michael Kelly, former Councillor, welcomed the Municipal District members to Tubber. He requested that the members would consider providing public lighting at Tubber Community Hall so that the Hall could continue to be used to provide much needed facilities for the community. He advised that the community were willing to contribute towards their installation. H McGrath welcomed the offer of assistance from the local community and offered his support for the proposal. The members also expressed their support for the proposal.

Vote of Sympathy

It was proposed by Cllr. T. O'Brien and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney that a vote of sympathy be extended to Sean O'Grady, G.S.S., on the death of his mother, Elizabeth (Betty) O'Grady, Crusheen.

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 15th July, 2015.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 15th July, 2015 were adopted

having been proposed by Cllr. P. Burke and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney.

Item 2 Date for next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on the 25th November, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

Item 3 Set date for budget meeting.

It was agreed that the budget meeting will take place on the 28th October, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

Item 4 Briefing on the Local Economic and Community Plan.

Monica Meehan, Senior Executive Officer, Tourism & Community Development attended for this item. She advised that Clare County Council has commenced the preparation of an integrated Local Economic and Community Plan for County Clare. The plan will set out the objectives and actions needed to promote and support the economic and community development of the county over the next 6 years. A Socio-Economic statement which identifies themes and high level goals to be included in the plan has been drafted. A series of public consultation workshops have already taken place and over 70 people have attended these events. It is proposed that these revised high level goals will form the basis for the next stage in the process i.e. the development of objections and actions.

The members welcomed the preparation of the Plan and hoped that the goals set would be achievable and not aspirational.

Item 5 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council give a report on the proposed improvement at junctions to Kilkishen, Kilbane and Clonlara.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney
Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Following a detailed review of the proposals we are re-examining a number of options based on positive input from some of the extensive number of third party submissions.”

The members welcomed the progress made on the issues identified and expressed hope that with the assistance of land owners, some funding could be made available to commence some works in 2015.

Item 6 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council review parking at Clonlea graveyard as it is not working well and give an up to date report on the gable of the old church in the graveyard.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Betty Devanny, Administrative Officer, Tourism and Community Development replied as follows:

“With regard to the gable end of the old church in the graveyard, the members will be aware that Clonlea church (in ruins) is listed as Number CL043-027001 in the Sites and Monument Register of the National Monuments Service. Any works on this structure will require the permission of the Minister for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht under Section 14 of the National Monuments Act 1930. Clare County Council is awaiting a further quotation on the work required to stabilize the gable wall and once that is available a source of funding will be required. Until funding and authority is given to rectify this issue, visitors and users of the burial ground are asked to comply with the advice of Clare County Council not to enter the area that is fenced off. Signage is in place to this effect.”

The members requested H. McGrath, S.E.E. to meet the local group. H. McGrath felt that it would be more beneficial if the group would outline their proposed changes to him which he could consider before meeting the group.

Item 7 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council install a pedestrian crossing in the village of Kilkishen in the interest of safety near the church.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Having regard for justification or warrant provisions for such a proposal to be considered, and in particular having consideration for the traffic and pedestrian volumes in this location it is unlikely that funding applications for such a proposal will be considered at present.”

Following a discussion, there was agreement that the speed of traffic passing through some of the villages and towns in the Municipal District continued to be a problem and different solutions should be considered.

Item 8 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"Calling on Clare County Council to provide directional signage to Clonrush cemetery, Whitegate."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke
Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

"Once details of locations are agreed we will be happy to facilitate such a request."

Item 9 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"Calling on Clare County Council to repair/replace the boundary fence between houses No. 2 and No.3 in the Cregg View Road Estate, Whitegate."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Liam O'Connor, Administrative Officer, Housing replied as follows:

"A contractor has been appointed by the housing section to carry out works on the boundary between No. 2 and No. 3 Cregg View, Whitegate. These works will be commencing in the coming weeks."

Item 10 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"Calling on Clare County Council to give an update on plans by Waterways Ireland to construct a toilet/shower block at Dromaan and Mountshannon Harbours."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke
Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Monica Meehan, Senior Executive Officer, Tourism and Community Development replied as follows:

"The Lough Derg Canoe Trail Project is being led by Waterways Ireland under the direction of the Lough Derg Marketing Group. The project involves the provision of canoe infrastructure at various locations around the lake. This infrastructure includes upgrade works to some service blocks, the construction of new service blocks, the provision of canoe storage racks, signage and information boards. A new toilet/shower block will be constructed at Dromaan and the existing building at Mountshannon will be upgraded.

An Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Directive is required and is currently being prepared. It is envisaged that planning applications for all sites will be submitted by the end of October 2015 by Waterways Ireland. It is intended that the project will be in place for next year's summer season."

Item 11 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

"That funding be sought from the Lough Derg strategy fund to assist the Ogonnelloe Exchange Community Group to put a footpath in place between Ogonnelloe church and Bellkelly Wood junction."

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O'Brien
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Monica Meehan, Senior Executive Officer, Tourism and Community Development replied as follows:

"The Lough Derg Stimulus Fund is being provided to fund projects contained within 'A Roadmap for Experience Development and Destination Marketing 2014-2017'. Projects to the value of the fund have been identified and approved by Failte Ireland. Projects are located in Clare, Galway and Tipperary. The total fund is €2m.

The above project is not contained within the plan and is unlikely to be approved funding under this fund."

Cllr. T. O'Brien acknowledged the contribution the Council has already made in the area and requested that they would continue to support the local group as much as possible.

Item 12 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien

"That furniture illegally dumped in Kay river be removed and the wall of the bridge be restored."

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O'Brien
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

"We will arrange for removal of the illegal dumping immediately and endeavour to repair the bridge at the next available opportunity."

Item 13 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien

“That fencing be repaired at the pedestrian crossing exiting Millstream onto the Newline in Killaloe in the interest of road safety.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We are seeking a resolution to this issue at present and are hopeful that the issue will be addressed in near future.”

Item 14 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

“Call on Clare County Council to put in place a 50 km. speed limit through the village of Boston in the interest of health and safety for the school and church users.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“A speed limit review is currently underway countywide. Submissions are invited to The Administrative Officer, Transportation Department, Clare Co Council, New Road, Ennis Co. Clare or by email to speedlimitreview@clarecoco.ie

This request can be considered as part of this process.”

Item 15 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

“Call on Clare County Council to write to Coillte Ireland to address the hedges owned by them on the road side, as they are in need of cutting.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Clare County Council has been in regular contact in recent years with Coillte on this issue as well as the issue relating to dangerous roadside trees. We will continue to engage with Coillte to address these issues as with other landowners and/or occupiers with regard to their responsibilities under the Roads Act 1993, Section 70.”

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes and seconded by Cllr. A. O’ Callaghan that Coillte should be invited to attend the next meeting of the Municipal District. A discussion between the members

took place as to whether Coillte alone should be invited, or whether all forestry owners in the area should be invited. The members also noted that local land owners also had responsibilities in this area and that the Municipal District should consider meeting local I.F.A. representatives. Following the discussion, the members agreed to invite Coillte to the next meeting.

Item 16 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“I propose that the roundabout entering Crusheen village be named ‘The Crusheen Roundabout’.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“This request can be referred to the N.R.A. before local consideration.”

Item 17 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“I propose that the link road from Linnanes Pub /Resturant New Quay to the N67 be included in the 2016 road programme as it is in a very poor condition at present.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is merit in this proposal. Consideration will be given to submitting an application for inclusion for such improvements in the next Roadworks Programme.”

Item 18 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“I propose that a bus stop point and shelter be put in place in the town of Scariff as there is no designated point at present.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Bus Eireann have commenced planning for the provision of a bus shelter in Scarrif. This initiative has been supported by the Municipal District Area Office.”

The members welcomed the response and outlined the importance of a bus shelter in Scarriff.

Item 19 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That drainage be carried out at the junction of Cloontra East and the R471.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O’Brien in the absence of Cllr. M. Begley

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We will arrange for these works to be carried out at the next available opportunity.”

Item 20 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That repairs be carried out to the Cloontra (Dillons) Road at its junction with the R471 and also to the damaged section near John Neville’s house.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O’Brien in the absence of Cllr. M. Begley

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We have been liaising with the developer at this location and have agreed that remedial works will be carried out once this phase of the operation is complete.”

Item 21 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That hedgecutting be completed between Carmody’s Cross and Truagh church on the R471.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O’Brien in the absence of Cllr. M. Begley

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Hedge cutting will be carried out as normal in accordance with the Council’s adopted hedgecutting policy in 2015. While this may result in Clare County Council arranging for the section referred to being cut, the primary responsibility under Section 70 of the Roads Act 1993 is with the landowners and/or occupiers who are obliged to

‘take all reasonable care to ensure that the trees, hedges and other vegetation growing on their lands are not or could not become a danger to people using or working on the public road.’”

Item 22 Any Other Business.

- The members agreed to make the following submission to the Transportation S.P.C. and to the Speed Limit Review

“In the vicinity of all schools in the district and/or County, either

1. A special speed limit order of 30kph is considered (0.5 hr before and after school hours), or
 2. A general speed limit review of 30kph is considered.”
- The Meetings Administrator advised the members that Scarriff Community Council were considering using the Market House in Scarriff as a Tourist Information Centre. The members outlined their support for this proposal.

The meeting then concluded.

Kieran O’Donnell
Meetings Administrator

25th September, 2015.