

Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District held on Wednesday, 20th January, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. in the offices of the Municipal District at Mountshannon Road, Scariff

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

Officials: Mr. Michael McNamara, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Pat Henchy, Executive Engineer
Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, Administrative Officer
Ms. Pauline Costelloe, Staff Officer

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 25th November, 2015.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 25th November, 2015 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. P. Burke and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney.

Item 2 Declaration of Public Road – Arda na Deirge, Killaloe (Phase 1, 22 houses).

Report dated 12th January, 2016 from Bernadette Haugh, Administrative Officer, Planning and Enterprise Development was circulated with the agenda. The report states that it is proposed to declare the roads in Arda na Deirge, Killaloe (Phase 1, 22 houses) to be a public road. The Statutory Notice to this effect was published on 23rd October, 2015. The relevant maps were available for public inspection until 23rd November, 2015 and the closing date for submissions was the 7th December, 2015. No submissions were received from the public during this period.

It was then proposed by Cllr. M. Begley and seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“That Clare County Council in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 declare the roads in phase 1 of the housing estate of Arda na Deirge, Killaloe, Co. Clare to be public roads.”

Item 3 Date for next meeting.

It was provisionally agreed that the next meeting will take place on the 9th March, 2016 at 3:00 p.m. Consideration would be given to postponing the meeting to a later date if the Schedule for Municipal District Works was not available for consideration for the meeting.

Item 4 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

“I ask Clare County Council to give an update on Ballycar on the flooding that has taken place again after monies been spent to levitate the problem didn't work”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Apart from some minor outstanding accommodation works we have successfully completed all works covered under the approved grant provided for Ballycar. The scheme as approved was undertaken in 2015 by the Killaloe Municipal District. As a result of the success of these works normal access has been maintained to the residential properties throughout the recent and current flood event. Prior to these works being carried out access to residential properties had not been possible via the public road. Residents in this community have been greatly appreciative of the scheme.”

Item 5 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

“I ask Clare County Council to reinstate the signs that have been knocked within the 50 kph zone in Kilmurry”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Maintenance of all signage is carried out having regard to the urgency and availability of resources, once we are advised of such issues.

Any such issue can brought to our attention by directly contacting us at Killaloe Municipal District Area Office, Mountshannon Road, Scarriff. Ph- 061-640815
killaloemunicipaldistrict@clarecoco.ie”

Item 6 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

“I ask Clare County Council if works could be carried out in the bend leading into Kilmurry on the R462 from the Sixmilebridge side as it has caused a lot of crashes in the past”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“In order to consider whether works are required and/or funding can be consideration will be given to carrying out a review. If determined as being necessary this review may include but is not limited to official and anecdotal accident records, road condition, road geometry, operational speed, regulatory speed limit and existing measures if any.”

H. McGrath advised that these works could be considered under the Low Cost Safety Measurement Scheme.

Item 7 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

“That emergency safeguards be put in place at the bridge at Kay river to prevent an accident happening”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is accepted that improvements are required to the road and bridge approaches in this location. We will address this at the next opportunity having regard to resources and funding.”

Item 8 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

“That an application be made to the Lough Derg Strategy Fund to upgrade the footpath in Killaloe from the Canal Bank to Brian Borus fort. This upgrade to include the provision of - lighting to the existing footpath to Ballycuggeran water park”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“In the event that further funding applications are being considered by Failte Ireland in 2016 or any other grant scheme, consideration can be given to including this proposal in any future submissions having regard to the other schemes that are we are seeking funding for under grant applications.”

Item 9 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

“That an update be obtained from the Forward Planning section of Clare County Council regarding a town plan for Killaloe town”.

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O'Brien
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Begley

Brian McCarthy, Senior Planner replied as follows:

“The East Clare Local Area Plan 2011-2017 contains the existing settlement plan, zonings and objectives for Killaloe. The draft Clare County Development Plan 2017-2023 re-organises the existing plan structure for the County, reflecting the Municipal District Areas, and incorporates land-use zoning maps and settlement statements for all the towns and villages in the County, including Killaloe. It is anticipated that on adoption of the new Development Plan the existing East Clare Local Area Plan 2011-2017 will be revoked and the future planning and development of Killaloe will be governed by *Volume 3c – Killaloe Municipal District* of the Clare County Development Plan 2017-2023.

Volume 3c of the draft Development Plan includes the written statement and land-use zoning maps for all the settlements within the Killaloe Municipal District Area, including the town of Killaloe. There are a series of over-arching objectives for the town set out in the settlement plan, with specific accompanying objectives for economic development, tourism, retail, housing and sustainable communities and place making setting the framework to facilitate future growth of Killaloe up to 2023. One of the key objectives for Killaloe is for Clare County Council work in co-ordination with Tipperary County Council to progress the development of Killaloe and Ballina as linked settlements in order to realise their complementary roles in their future sustainable growth.

The Draft Clare County Development Plan 2017-2023 – including the settlement plan for Killaloe - is on public display until 29th February 2016, during which time written submissions can be made. A series of public consultation events are currently underway throughout the county, which provide the opportunity to engage with members of the public on issues that matter to them in the future development of their county. The public consultation event for the Killaloe Municipal District area is being held in Scarriff library on Tuesday 26th January 2016. All the events being held are on the council website as well as being promoted through the media, schools, social media and promotional material throughout the county. It is anticipated that the new Clare County Development Plan 2017-2023 will come into force in January 2017.”

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

“I propose that a full assessment of all flood damaged roads be prepared and include in this the roads that have now been damaged because of diverted traffic and to seek specific funding to reinstate these roads”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We are currently in the process of such a review.”

H. McGrath advised the members that this report was being forwarded to the Department of Environment that afternoon.

Item 11 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“I proposed that every effort be made to find a solution to the ongoing flooding problem on the N67 in New Quay and adjoining roads and that this long term problem be finally resolved”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We are in the process of examining this issue with a view to seeking funding in the event that a feasible solution can be found at any of these locations.”

Item 12 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“I propose that every effort be put in place to reopen the road at Ross, Feakle as it’s impacting on the local community and funding be sought for repair of the bridge at this site as a matter of urgency”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The L-4066 is a local primary road connecting Bodyke and Feakle. Due to damage related to the recent flood event Clare County Council made a decision to close the L-4066 to through traffic at Ross on safety grounds. Once flood waters have receded sufficiently we will carry out a detailed inspection of the damage with a view to seeking emergency funding for the repair.”

Item 13 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

“Calling on Clare County Council to consider raising the road at the following two locations in the North Clare area following flooding, the L1012 at Ballyconry, Carron and the L1010 at Rockvale, Tubber”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Subsequent to the recent flood event we are reviewing locations such as these with a view to carrying out localised improvements to mitigate against future accessibility issues. Where such measures can be taken at reasonable cost and value for money, consideration will be given to advancing such proposals.”

Item 14 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"Calling on Clare County Council to clean the river Fergus down stream of Lisduff, Ruan”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Maintenance of this river is the responsibility of Clare County Council under the District of Fergus Drainage Act 1943. I have referred this request to the Ennis District Engineer, Eamon O’Dea, for consideration.”

Item 15 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"Calling on Clare County Council to take measures to alleviate the hardship endured by residents as a result of flooding at Ballynakillew, Whitegate”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The road referred to is a private road not in the charge of Clare County Council. In the event that a funding mechanism can be identified for remedial works at this location we will advise accordingly.”

Item 16 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That drainage be carried out on the R463 at "Conlons bend", Killdoorus, Clonlara as the road is regularly flooded at this location”.

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Begley
Seconded by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is accepted that there is merit in addressing drainage issues at this location. We will address this matter at the earliest opportunity.”

Item 17 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That repairs be carried out to the parapet of Gillogue bridge (over Blackwater river) as stones are continuously being removed”.

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Begley
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is accepted that there is merit in addressing this at the earliest opportunity.”

Item 18 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That the incorrect distance of 4km. shown on the large chevron sign on the R471 just north of Clonlara cross be corrected”.

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Begley
Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is accepted that there is merit in addressing this at the earliest opportunity.”

Item 19 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“To ask the Area Engineer to raise the dip on the roadway adjoining the riase at Ballymacrogan Ruan by 0.3 to 0.5 meters from Gerry Heagney’s gateway for 100 meters westward. This road has been subject to flooding in 1999, 2009, 2015, and 2016 and causes severe inconvenience to landowners and residents”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Subsequent to the recent flood event we are reviewing locations such as these with a view to carrying out localised improvements to mitigate against future accessibility issues. Where such measures can be taken at reasonable cost and value for money consideration will be given to advancing such proposals.”

Item 20 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council extend the footpath and resurface the road from the new school in Tulla to the regional road in the interest of road safety”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Consideration will be given to including this road the R462 from Cutteen Cross to Tulla, in the upcoming 3 year Roadworks Programme and future Schedule of Municipal District Works.”

The members requested Hugh McGrath to consider Traffic Management arrangements before the new school opens.

Item 21 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council give an update report on the flooding in the Killaloe Municipal District and what measures can be taken to try and prevent some of this from occurring in the future”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Clare County Council’s responsibility (in the Killaloe Municipal District) in relation to flood prevention measures is limited to:-

- Maintenance of the public road network &
- Some River Drainage district responsibility

Landowners and occupiers have responsibilities under the Roads Act 1993, Section 76. Fulfilling of these obligations by landowners\occupiers will reduce the potential for any road closures at these locations, as well as having a positive impact on road safety, reduced pavement damage and damage to property.

Where necessary and where in our area of responsibility, consideration will be given to carrying out such measures if at an affordable cost having regard to our reduced resources.

Many of the major drainage districts with in the Municipal District (including the Shannon River Basin District) are the responsibility of the O.P.W., or private landowners and any measures will be determined by the appropriate authority or owner\occupier.”

The members complimented Hugh McGrath and all the staff for their excellent work and response to the flooding situation in recent weeks. They also congratulated Cllr. M. Begley on his representation of the Council during this period and in particular the leading role he had played in Springfield, Clonlara. The members highlighted the need for additional funding to restore the road networks following the recent damage.

Item 22 Any Other Business.

- Cllr. M. Begley requested the support of the Councillors for the submission of a long-term plan for Springfield, Clonlara.
- It was noted that the T.I.I. had advised the Council that it was not their policy to name roundabouts but that they had no objection to the Council naming them locally. Cllr. P. Hayes requested the Council to install signage at the Crusheen roundabout, naming it the “Crusheen Roundabout” The members were in agreement with this proposal.

The meeting then concluded.

Kieran O’Donnell
Meetings Administrator

21st January, 2016.