

**Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District held on Wednesday, 20th July, 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: Ms. Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, Administrative Officer

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 16th July, 2016.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 18th May, 2016 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney.

Item 2 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District AGM held on 27th June, 2016.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District AGM held on 27th June, 2016 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan.

Item 3 Date for next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on the 21st September, 2016 at 3.00 p.m.

Item 4 Approval to commence process to Take in Charge the Knockyclovaun Road, Killaloe.

Hugh McGrath, S.E.E., advised the members that the approval of the members of Killaloe Municipal District was required to commence the process of taking in charge the Knockyclovaun Road, Killaloe. This was proposed by Cllr. T. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney and agreed by the members present.

Item 5 Update on works approved for funding under Tranche 2 of the Flood Damage Remediation Programme 2016.

Hugh McGrath, S.E.E., advised the members that funding under Tranche 2 of the Flood Damage Remediation Programme had been received and that a schedule of works for each of the Municipal Districts had been circulated to the members. He was satisfied that all the priority areas in the region were now included in the Programme. Cllr. Ml. Begley expressed concern about the break in the embankment at Mount Catherine and the need to determine whether the OPW, Waterways Ireland or Clare County Council were responsible for the works. Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer advised the members that there was a proposal that Clare County Council would hold a multi-agency meeting in September and proposed that this issue could be addressed at that meeting.

Item 6 Review of one way traffic system and parking in Scariff.

A detailed discussion took place on the one way traffic system and current parking arrangements in Scariff town. There was general agreement that the one way traffic system was working and had improved the movement of traffic in the town. It was noted that there was still some confusion at some of the junctions and Hugh Mc Grath, Senior Executive Engineer was requested to review the signage at these junctions. The members noted that there were parking issues in the town with the current 3 hour limit for parking not being adhered to. The members also referred to the shortage of parking in the town and the lack of an obvious solution. Hugh McGrath noted that the off-street parking provided in Tulla was not being used and in general, he felt that off-street parking in rural towns and villages was not successful. The members requested that the implications for residents and local businesses in Scariff would need to be considered before requesting the Gardai to enforce the 3 hour parking limit in the town. Some members also advised that they would not be in favour of issuing parking fines in the town. It was agreed that this matter would be discussed further at the September meeting.

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

“That remedial work be carried out on the pull in bays on the Ballynevin road in Bridgetown.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is agreed that the L7104-7 would benefit from such remedial works. We will address this at the next opportunity.”

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

“That speed controls be put in place in Killaloe between the new cross roads estate and the old cross roads, and also at Clarisford from St. Annes School to Clarisford Park.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We will review both these locations with a view to carrying out necessary measures to improve safety at these locations at reasonable cost.”

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

“That a forum be set up between representatives of the Killaloe Municipal Area and the Nenagh Municipal Area to discuss areas of mutual co-operation.”

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

Carmel Greene, Area Co-ordinator replied as follows:

“The Council can arrange a meeting between the two Municipal Districts in the Autumn to discuss issues of mutual co-operation. It is suggested that the initial meeting could be used to establish the key issues that could be progressed in such a forum.”

The members felt that the provision of tourist information, public toilets and provision of outdoor seating could be considered at this forum.

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

"Calling on Clare County Council/Waterways Ireland to provide an up to date progress report on the planned toilet/shower block and canoe storage facilities at Dromaan and Mt. Shannon harbours."

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

Monica Meehan, Senior Executive Officer replied as follows:

“The Lough Derg Canoe Trail project is an initiative of the Lough Derg Marketing Group and is being funded under the Lough Derg Stimulus Fund. Waterways Ireland has agreed to lead the design and development of the project in partnership with the relevant local authorities.

Planning permission has been secured for all sites in Clare, Tipperary and Galway and the relevant sites in County Clare are located in Killaloe, Ballycuggeran, Scarriff harbour, Mountshannon harbour and Dromaan harbour.

The sites in Killaloe and Scarriff harbour are in the ownership of Waterways Ireland. The proposed works at Canal Bank, Killaloe include the provision of trail information signage and upgrade works to the existing slipway. The proposed works at the Mill Yard, Killaloe include the provision of trail information signage, a canoe storage rack and planting/screening of same. The works to Scarriff harbour include trail information signage, a canoe storage rack and screening and the installation of a new floating landing/launching step.

The sites at Ballycuggeran, Mountshannon and Dromaan are in the ownership of Clare County Council. The proposed works at Ballycuggeran include the provision of trail information signage, a canoe storage rack and screening. The works at Mountshannon include trail information signage, a canoe storage rack and screening and the refurbishment of the existing service block. Dromaan harbour will see the provision of trail information signage, a canoe storage rack and screening and the construction of a new 3-unit service block and holding tank.

Tenders are due to be submitted by the 29th July 2016 and it is hoped that a contractor will be appointed by mid August with works to commence by the end of August. The contract duration will be approximately 15 weeks from the commencement date.”

It was agreed that Item Numbers 11, 17 and 24 would be taken together.

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

"Calling on Clare County Council to deal with the problem of overgrown roadside hedges in the interest of road safety and to take whatever measures are needed to address this."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke
Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We will once again in the coming weeks be contacting some landowners and occupiers to remind them of their obligations under the Roads Act 1993 Section 70 in this regard, in advance of the seasonal end of restrictions under Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976. We greatly appreciate and are heartened by the proactive and significant increase in measures taken by landowners and occupiers in particular in this Municipal District over the last few years, without needing to be reminded. However there are still a significant number of non-compliances. Clare County Council will continue to carry out a limited amount of hedgecutting in accordance with the Authorities adopted Hedgecutting Policy throughout the year to address primarily sections of Regional and National routes.

We have allowed some funding under the discretionary maintenance budget to carry out tree limbing on strategic (generally regional road) routes, on road safety grounds.”

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

“I propose that a programme of hedge cutting take place on key tourist routes in the Killaloe Municipal District, in particular bus and heavily trafficked routes, eg. Dromore Wood, Carron, Kilnaboy, Dangan, etc”.

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Any hedgecutting carried out by contractors on behalf of Clare County Council is done in accordance with the Councils adopted Hedgecutting policy. Within this policy some discretion is facilitated for 'Strategic' routes. While each proposal will need to be considered on its merits the primary responsibility lies with the landowner and/or occupier under the Road Act 1993.”

Item 24 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council gives an update on hedge cutting and tree trimming of overhead branches throughout the Killaloe Municipal District”.

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Begley

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We will once again in the coming weeks be contacting some landowners and occupiers to remind them of their obligations under the Roads Act 1993 Section 70 in this regard, in advance of the seasonal end of restrictions under Section 40 of the Wildlife Act 1976. We greatly appreciate and are heartened by the proactive and significant increase in measures taken by landowners and occupiers in particular in this Municipal District over the last few years, without needing to be reminded. However there are still a significant number of non-compliances. Clare County Council will continue to carry out a limited amount of hedgecutting in accordance with the Authorities adopted Hedgecutting Policy throughout the year to address primarily sections of Regional and National routes.

We have allowed some funding under the discretionary maintenance budget to carry out tree limbing on strategic (generally regional road) routes, on road safety grounds.”

Further to these motions, the members noted that complaints had increased from the public this year about the condition of the hedges with some local roads being difficult to travel. The impact of this on tourist routes was raised as was the difficulty

it created for local haulage companies and agricultural contractors. It was agreed that the significant growth in hedges this summer had contributed to the problem but members noted that the hedge cutting season would not open until September. Hugh McGrath clarified that trimming of hedges was allowed in the interests of public safety and he advised that any landowners who were unsure of what works they could undertake during the closed season to contact the office in Scariff.

Members felt that further funding needed to be provided for hedge cutting but that there was also a need to ensure that all landowners carried out their responsibilities. It was agreed that the matter would be referred to the Roads SPC for further consideration.

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

"Calling on Clare County Council to examine the fluctuating levels of the river Fergus down stream of Lake Inchiquin in the Killaloe Municipal District."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Maintenance of the section of river referred falls within the Fergus Drainage District and for which Clare County Council has overall responsibility. In addition to a small section within the Killaloe MD, the Fergus Drainage District extends through the West Clare Municipal District and is primarily in the Ennis Municipal District. This section of the river has been impacted by flooding events historically. Funding of anything other than minor channel maintenance is not feasible with the resources provided to Clare County Council.”

It was agreed that Item Numbers 13 and 22 would be taken together.

Item 13 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

“Following an agreement at a previous meeting, I propose that this Killaloe MD would use Kilkishen Main Street and school area as a pilot scheme to introduce measures to reduce speed in these areas.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We will examine this proposal with a view to securing funding.”

Item 22 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council put a pedestrian crossing in the village of Kilkishen in the interest of road safety”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is merit in this proposal. However, we have no specific funding mechanism for proposals such as this. Consideration can be given to providing such infrastructure in conjunction with consideration of other similar proposals within the district in the event that funding was to become available.”

The members were in favour of a pilot scheme proceeding in Kilkishen to look at measures at reducing speed through the village. However, it was also agreed that there was a need to proceed with the construction of a pedestrian crossing at the first available opportunity and that the pilot scheme could follow when funding became available.

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

“Request Clare County Council to white line the new railway bridge in Ballycar in the interest of safety as there has been a few near misses on it.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is merit in this proposal and we will carry out appropriate works at the next available opportunity.”

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

“Request Clare County Council to do road works at Rathclooney, across from (Bumblebee Creations) business, as the road has given way.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan
Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is merit in this proposal and we will carry out appropriate works at the next available opportunity.”

Hugh McGrath agreed to circulate a map of the roads network of the Municipal District to the Elected Members with the road numbers showing on the map.

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

“I propose that a planned programme of works be put in place for the upgrading of roads and footpaths in the Riverview estate, Tuamgraney, in particular the roads and footpaths leading to harbour area”.

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is merit in this proposal. However, we have no specific funding mechanism for repair\upgrade of housing estates in the charge of Clare County Council. Any such proposals would need to be assessed in conjunction with all other proposals for inclusion in the Roadworks Programme.”

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

“I am asking for an update of taking in charge of housing estates in the Killaloe Municipal District”.

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Bernadette Haugh, Administrative Officer, Planning & Enterprise Development replied as follows:

“There are currently 21 residential developments on our Register of Estates in the Killaloe Municipal District, each at various stages of progression.

Hurdlestown Meadows, Broadford – Claim made on the bond. Bond received and development to be further assessed to determine extent of outstanding priority works subject to the available bond.

Powers Court a. Ardmore Estates, Tulla – Claim made on the bonds (IBRC bonds). Priority works required to be completed & costs submitted to special liquidator to substantiate

claim on the bond. Statutory process for Taking in Charge commenced 15th July 2016. Funding of €15K recently allocated from the National Taking in Charge Initiative.

Cuirt na Bhfiach, Tulla – Taking in Charge application received from developer and recent engagement from the Developer in relation to progressing same.

Churchfields, Clonlara – Taking in Charge application received in June 2016, report received from Killaloe Municipal District, further reports being prepared on behalf of Irish Water and Planning.

Ruanard, Clonlara – Statutory process for Taking in Charge commenced 15th July 2016.

Monaskeha, Clonlara – Recently added to our Register of Estates, site inspection to be scheduled in due course.

Inchicronan, Crusheen – Claim made on the bond, ongoing engagement from Agent appointed on behalf of bondholders towards agreeing schedule of outstanding works.

Moyglass, Crusheen – Taking in Charge application received from Developer in November 2015. Ongoing engagement between Planning Authority & Developers Agent in this regard

Cluain na Laoi, Kilkishen – Receiver appointed over this development in April 2016. Agents appointed on behalf of bondholders in June 2016 to address outstanding works on site.

Teeronea, Kilkishen – Bond claimed & negotiations with bondholder are ongoing.

Naps Close, Kilkishen – No recent progress.

Shantraud Woods, Killaloe – Schedule of works agreed with the developer & due to be completed on site shortly.

Radharc na hEaglaise, Killaloe – Site Resolution Plan received from Bondholders which is subject to agreement with the Planning Authority & Irish Water

Ballymulcashel, Kilmurry – Provisional allocation of €258,151 approved by the Department under the National Taking in Charge Initiative. Further consultation on proposed works between all stakeholders (i.e. EPA, Department, Clare Co. Council, Irish Water etc.) required before matters progress.

An Garran, Mountshannon – Taking in Charge application received from the developer. Outstanding works to be addressed prior to Taking in Charge which have been notified to the Developer and his appointed Agent.

Mountshannon (J. Maddens Dev), Mountshannon – Recently added to our Register of Estates. File to be reviewed in due course.

Radharc an Locha, Mountshannon – Recent engagement from the Developer in respect of Taking in Charge and CCTV Survey submitted for assessment. Site inspection to be carried out at which time further consultation with Developer will take place.

Cois na Sionna, O'Briensbridge – Recently added to our Register of Estates. Site inspection to be carried out in due course.

Dun Carraig, Tuamgraney – Enforcement action ongoing in relation to non-compliance issues on site.

Cregg Lake, Whitegate – Bond received and applied to priority works to access road.

Dergview, Scarriff – Taking in charge application received, site inspection and file review to be carried out in due course.

There are a further 5 commercial developments in the Killaloe Municipal District on our Register of Estates which are subject to Release of Bond applications and are being progressed through Developers/Agents.

The Planning Authority will continue to progress the taking in charge of residential developments to satisfactory completion in the interest of the residents concerned.”

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

“That surface dressing be carried out on a section of the L-70382 from its junction with the R-463 for approx 500 metres”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“This road would be suitable for grant application under the Community Involvement scheme. There is some work to be carried out by landowners\occupiers in regards to obligations under Sections 70 & 76 of the Roads Act 1993 (Hedges & drainage respectively). Such works will assist in Clare County Council's ability to continue maintenance of the road and also increase suitability for grant applications under any category.”

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

“That the Derryfadda road be surface dressed”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“This road (L-3062) can be considered for inclusion in future roadworks programmes. However, the road may also be suitable for grant application under the Community Involvement scheme. There is some work to be carried out by landowners\occupiers in regards to obligations under Sections 76 of the Roads Act 1993 (drainage). Such works will assist in Clare County Council's ability to continue maintenance of the road and also increase suitability for grant applications under any category.”

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

“That the streets in the Derryvinna & Cloonomera estate in Clonlara be tarmacadamed”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is merit in this proposal. However, we have no specific funding mechanism for repair\upgrade of housing estates in the charge of Clare County Council. Any such proposals would need to be assessed in conjunction with all other proposals for inclusion in the Roadworks Programme.”

Item 23 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“I welcome that works have commenced at the dangerous junction in Kilbane what is the update on Nash cross in Kilkishen and when is it hope that works will commence here”.

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is expected that we will carry out the improvement works at Nash’s cross in September 2016.”

Item 25 Any Other Business

- The members were advised that applicants under the C.I.S. Scheme would be written to in the coming weeks and advised of the status of their application.
- The members wished Johnny McInerney a long and happy retirement and welcomed Michael Ryan as a new overseer to the District.
- The members offered sympathy to the Hayes family on the death of Mary Hayes, Rannagh, Tulla. Mary was the wife of the late John Hayes who had worked for Clare County Council for many years prior to his death earlier this year.
- The members thanked Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer for her assistance in her role as Area Co-Ordinator in recent months. They noted Liam Conneally, Director of Services would be taking over the role.

The meeting then concluded.

Kieran O’Donnell
Meetings Administrator

21st July, 2016.