

**Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District held on Wednesday, 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2017 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. Tom Tiernan, A/Director of Service.  
Mr. Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, Administrative Officer

At the outset, the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. T. O'Brien welcomed Tom Tiernan to the meeting and wished him well in his temporary role as Area Co-ordinator. He also wished Anne Haugh a speedy recovery.

**Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2016.**

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2016 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan.

Arising from the minutes, the members raised the issue of speeding in residential housing estates. Tom Tiernan advised that the Council had carried out pilot studies in this area and found that increased signage doesn't make a material difference to the speed of vehicles. He stated that other options that could be considered include the construction of ramps and chicanes and re-alignment of the road, but these are more expensive and may not add to the aesthetics of an estate and are not always welcomed by residents. It was agreed that Clondrina Estate in Crusheen would be looked at as a pilot to see what options could be considered.

**Item 2 Date for next meeting.**

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on the 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2017 at 3.00 p.m.

**Item 3 Declaration of Public Roads in relation to Ballymulcashel, Kilmurry, Sixmilebridge.**

Report dated 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 from Helen Quinn, Senior Executive Planner, Economic Development was circulated with the agenda. The report states that it is proposed to declare the roads in Ballymulcashel, Kilmurry, Sixmilebridge public roads. The Statutory Notice to this effect was published on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2016. The relevant maps were available for public inspection until 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2016 and the closing date for submissions was the 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2016. No submissions were received from the public during this period.

It was then proposed by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllrs. J. Cooney & M. Begley.

“That Clare County Council in accordance with Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993 declare the roads in the housing estate of Ballymulcashel, Kilmurry, Sixmilebridge, Co. Clare to be public roads.”

#### **Item 4 Proposed Lease of land to Killaloe Ballina Tennis Club.**

Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 from Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services was circulated with the agenda. The report states that the Killaloe Ballina Tennis Club have been operational in Killaloe on lands owned by the Council since 1988. Back in 2007 Clare County Council entered into a lease with the Killaloe Ballina Tennis Club for an area of lands in the Bane Field in Killaloe following which they developed tennis facilities and a small club house and this was a great addition to the recreational facilities in the towns of Killaloe Ballina and the wider hinterland.

At the present time, Clare County Council has developed proposals for a recreational area in Tobermurragh/Banes Field, Killaloe which are currently going through a Part VIII process. This proposes that additional lands will be allocated for the future development of the Killaloe Ballina Tennis Club and the Club is currently in the process of preparing an application for funding under the Sports Capital Grant Scheme.

In light of this, it is proposed to lease an additional area of lands to the Killaloe Ballina Tennis Club. The proposed term of the lease is 21 years. The Club will be responsible for the legal costs arising in the transfer and it is proposed that the annual rent will increase from €200 to €300.

The report as circulated was noted by the members having been proposed by Cllr. T. O'Brien and seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes.

#### **Item 5 Nominee to Rural Development Forum.**

Report dated 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 from Pat Dowling, Chief Executive was circulated with the agenda. The report states that this week the Taoiseach launched the Government's National “Action Plan for Rural Ireland”. This is a priority of the Programme for Government. It sets out five pillars aimed at developing rural communities including supporting sustainable

communities; supporting enterprise and employment; fostering culture and creativity; maximising potential for tourism and recreation; improving infrastructure and connectivity. As a framework, this Action Plan is a very significant opportunity for rural development in Clare.

In recent discussions with the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs, there was a great welcome for a strong Clare multi-department response to the Action Plan. The Council's newly established Rural Development Directorate will provide the operational support for this Forum and Strategy and will work with partner organisations where additional Government funding opportunities emerge.

The report continued that **one** nominee be invited from the Killaloe Municipal District, together with other stakeholders in this area, to an inaugural meeting of the Clare Rural Development Forum as follows:

It is envisaged that the Forum will meet five times between now and early summer to guide our Clare response to the Government's "Action Plan for Rural Ireland" in the form of a Clare Rural Development Strategy.

It was agreed that Cllr. P. Hayes be nominated to this Forum having been proposed by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllr. M. Begley.

#### **Item 6 Correspondence.**

The members noted that there was further correspondence received from Nenagh Municipal District in relation to the proposed Joint Meeting and it was agreed that the Meetings Administrator would contact his counterpart in Nenagh to examine suitable dates.

#### **Item 7 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan.**

"Ask Clare County Council for an update on the bridge on the R471 Sixmilebridge to Clonlara Road, and advise on timeframe for the weight restriction on it."

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O'Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Begley

#### **Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

"€63,000 has been approved by the Department for the repair of O'Callaghan's bridge on the R471. Tender invitations are being issued this week, and works are expected to commence immediately once this process is complete. It is expected that the works will be complete & weight restriction removed before the summer."

**Item 8            Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.**

“I request this Council to put a sign showing Newmarket on Fergus at the junction where the R469 meets the L3152, as it is confusing for roads users.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Begley

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

“The L3152 is a local primary road that connects Ballycar & Dromullan. Regional Road signage is determined in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual. Traffic is typically signposted via the most suitable road network available. Where traffic can reasonably be directed via a higher standard of route (often this is the regional road network) then this is what the signage will generally signify. I am not disposed towards directing Newmarket-on-Fergus bound motorists via the L3152 at Dromullan where a more appropriate route is available via the R469\R462 & R470.”

**Item 9            Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.**

“Ask this Council to get clarity from Shannon Airport Authority on the watermain that runs from Rathline Lake to the airport, as there is water leaking on the L7180 which may be coming from this pipe.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

“Responsibility for the identification, location & repair of leaks lies with the relevant water supply operator in any given location. Where such leaks are potentially causing damage to the public road it is incumbent on that operator or authority to take the necessary actions to prevent damage to the public road. At this location the relevant Group Scheme as well as the SAA have been contacted to advise of a possible leak at this location, and have been requested to take corrective action if responsible and advise us of their proposed actions if any.”

**Item 10           Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.**

“That Clare County Council carry out improvement works on the R465 at the lower end of Broadford Hill as it is very dangerous in frosty weather and a number of accidents have occurred at this location the latest on January 2<sup>nd</sup> “

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

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

“Remedial works have been carried out at this location in the past few weeks under our annual drainage maintenance programme.”

**Item 11 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.**

“With the great works that has been done with the removal of over-hanging trees and branches that Clare County Council look at improvement works on the bad bends on R465 Bodyke/Limerick road in the interest of safety.”

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

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

“While there is merit in such a motion, any such works would be largely dependent on the co-operation and facilitation by landowners responsible for the relevant sections. Where such improvements can be made at minimal cost we are always positively disposed towards such improvements.”

**Item 12 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.**

“That Clare County Council give an update on parking and traffic concerns in the town of Tulla.”

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

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

“We expect to hold consultative meetings to include Municipal District Councillors and local representatives, as well as the business and residential representatives over the coming weeks with a view to preparing a draft Traffic Management Plan to address parking, and safe passage for road users and pedestrians in the centre of Tulla.

Following previous consultation with business representatives a number of years ago we have already carried out some improvements to parking facilities at the Fair Green, as well as

installation of a restricted (3 Hr) parking zone in the centre and the main street. In addition we have also carried out footway upgrades on the R462, Chapel Street and the town centre to enhance the pedestrian environment. We are hopeful that with a renewed commitment from business owners and their staff in facilitating visitors by parking away from the centre during the day that availability of parking at least will be significantly improved in the interim.”

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

"Calling on Clare County Council to provide an update on the proposed Killaloe by-pass/bridge crossing."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke  
Seconded by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

**Tom Tiernan, Senior Engineer replied as follows:**

“The up-to-date position is that in November 2016 the Supreme Court rejected the final appeal submitted as a consequence of the outcome of the Judicial Review which had been facilitated in the High Court in December 2014. This effectively concluded the legal process in relation to the project and means that there is now full and final approval to proceed through implementation of CPO and into construction – pending availability of funding. The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport remains fully supportive of the project and has confirmed a sum of €500,000 in the 2017 schedule of grants for the project – this to facilitate initiation of the land acquisition to be conducted in accordance with the approved CPO.

Notice to Treat were served on all affected property owners in August 2016 and the submissions received from them in response to same are now being examined with a view to progressing into the negotiation stage.”

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

"Calling on Clare County Council to install safety measures for pedestrians on the bridge east of Mounshannon village on the R352."

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

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

“It is agreed that there is merit in this motion. We will review the options available and provided a suitable scheme can be developed within the resources available we will consider developing this proposal.”

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

"Calling on Clare County Council to provide an extra street light in Whitegate village between poles 1 & 7."

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

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

"This request is being examined with a view to advancing the proposal provided the works can be carried out within the resources available."

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

"That the SEE of the Killaloe Municipal District meet with the SEE of the Shannon Municipal District to make urgent safety improvements with the pedestrian crossing at Barry's cross, Blackwater, as pedestrian rights are being ignored under the present arrangement."

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

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

"Having discussed this with the Shannon MD Engineering Area Office, I am advised that they will consider these concerns and in the event that they see merit in carrying out any improvements they will include an application for such works in any suitable funding mechanisms available."

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

"That the 2017 roads programme include the overlay of the roads in Derryvinna and Cloonmra housing estates in Clonlara."

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

“That CCTV be used to detect repeated illegal dumping at identified locations.”

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

**Tom Tiernan, A/Director of Physical Development replied as follows:**

“Clare County Council Environment Department utilises CCTV cameras on a continuous basis throughout the county where there have been incidents of illegal waste activity. Cameras are deployed currently and are re-located as conditions change. Due to the rural nature of the county it is very difficult to obtain quality footage of illegal activity, with most prosecutions coming from car registration recordings or evidence obtained from the waste.

There are many problems in gathering CCTV/photographic evidence in a large, open, rural area like County Clare. Settings such as cities/towns have the advantage of having readily available power supplies, buildings to store CCTV hardware and premises on which to mount cameras. In comparison, rural locations (where most illegal waste activity takes place) generally do not.

Clare County Council’s Environment Department have recently obtained 8 additional mobile cameras for video/photographic surveillance of illegal waste activity and these are in the process of being deployed.

Clare County Council will continue its endeavours to overcome illegal dumping and littering through education, regular patrolling, fines and prosecution.”

**Item 19 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.**

“I propose that Irish Water put in place a Sewerage system and treatment plant for the village of Broadford, This village was at the top of the list for proposed works a few years ago and in order to progress and develop this village this piece of vital infrastructure is needed as a matter of urgency.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes  
Seconded by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

**Ken Conroy, Asset Strategy Section, Irish Water replied as follows:**

“At the Local Authority’s request Irish Water considered a number of small schemes such as Broadford when identifying potential schemes for inclusion in the next Capital Investment



Programme CIP 2017 -2021. Such small unserved areas without Irish Water assets do not meet our qualifying requirements for funding under our current investment criteria.

As such the provision of facilities in such centres will need to be underpinned by economic, social and environmental justification along with a suitable funding mechanism and a sustainable operation and maintenance model.

Irish Water are supportive of initiatives to provide drainage and treatment systems in smaller development centres that are currently unserved, and are engaging with the Dept of Housing, Planning, Community & Local Government who have lead role in this area, and other stakeholders including Local Authorities in identifying suitable funding mechanism and a sustainable operation and maintenance model.”

The members expressed disappointed with the response received from Irish Water.

**Item 20 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.**

“I propose that additional public lighting be put in place in Carron village adjacent to the old schoolhouse as this building is in regular use by the local community.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

“There is merit in providing such a facility as requested, and provided a suitable funding mechanism can be found we would be disposed towards facilitating such a proposal.”

**Item 21 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.**

“I propose that a review of public lighting on the section of road between the National school Tulla to O’Hallorans shop as there is a need to upgrade the lighting in this area for safety reasons particularly in times of school events and funerals”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

**Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:**

“The review as requested has been referred to our public lighting contractors for assessment, following which a decision can be made on what if any upgrading can be provided within the resources and funding available.”

**Item 22      Any Other Business**

It was noted that Deputy Sean Canney, Minister of State at the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform (with special responsibility for the Office of Public Works and Flood Relief) would be visiting Clonlara and Ballycar on Monday, 6<sup>th</sup> February. It was agreed that Cllrs. M. Begley, T. O'Brien and P. Burke would represent the Municipal District in Clonlara and Cllrs. A. O'Callaghan, J. Cooney and P. Hayes would represent the Municipal District in Ballycar.

The meeting then concluded.

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**Kieran O'Donnell**  
**Meetings Administrator**

**2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2017.**