

Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District held on Thursday, 20th July, 2017 at 11.00 a.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. Anne Haugh, Director of Service
Mr. Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, Administrative Officer

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 17th May, 2017.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 17th May, 2017 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes.

Item 2 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District AGM held on 23rd June, 2017.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District AGM held on 23rd June, 2017 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. M. Begley and seconded by Cllr. P. Burke.

Item 3 Date for next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on the 20th September, 2017 at 3.00 p.m.

Item 4 Declaration of Public Roads in relation to

- (a) Shantraud Woods, Killaloe**
- (b) Churchfields, Clonlara**

Report dated 3rd July, 2017 from Bernadette Haugh, Administrative Officer, Economic Development was circulated with the agenda. The report states that it is proposed to declare the roads in Shantraud Woods, Killaloe and Churchfields, Clonlara public roads. The Statutory

Notice to this effect was published on 12th May, 2017. The relevant maps were available for public inspection until 12th June, 2017 and the closing date for submissions was the 26th June, 2017. No submissions were received from the public during this period.

It was then proposed by Cllr. T. O'Brien and seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes

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

It was then proposed by Cllr. M. Begley and seconded by Cllr. T. O'Brien

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

Item 5 Community Facilities Scheme – Grant application approval.

It was agreed that this item would be deferred until the September meeting.

Item 6 Disposal of property at Main Street, Kilkishen, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.

Report dated 12th July, 2017 from Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services Department was circulated with the agenda. The report states that it is proposed to dispose of a derelict property situated at Main Street, Kilkishen, Co. Clare. The property in question measures 0.107 hectares and was acquired by Compulsory Purchase Order under the Derelict Sites Act 1990 and was vested in Clare County Council.

The members noted that there were issues raised in recent correspondence with the Council that needed to be addressed and explained to the parties concerned. It was proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes that the Council should address these issues before bringing the matter to a full meeting of Clare County Council.

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

“I would like to request this Council to carry out improvements at Liscullane Cross on the R466 in the interest of safety.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O'Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“While some Improvements were carried out at this cross in recent years, regular maintenance of the hedgerow is critical to safety at this junction. Responsibility for such ongoing maintenance

rests with the landowners and/or occupiers of lands adjoining the public road under Section 70 of the Roads Act 1993.”

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

“I would like to request resurfacing works to be carried out on the road at Nutfield, Barefield (on the Ruan road) as the first 500 metres were never done.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“This road (L-8230) is a Local Secondary cul-de-sac serving a number of residential properties as well as some agricultural holdings. There are currently issues relating to responsibilities of a number of property owners specifically in respect of obligations under the Roads Act , Section 70 (Overhanging trees & hedges) and Section 76 (Water from properties damaging the public road). Once such obligations are addressed I would consider that this road is suitable for a grant application under the Community Improvement Scheme. While the closing date for 2017 has now passed for this scheme consideration can be given to an application in 2018 provided the outlined obligations are met and the scheme is again active.”

Hugh McGrath agreed to write to the landowners concerned.

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

“I would like to request resurfacing works to be carried out at Ballyteigue East, Ruan, as the road is in need of repair.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The Ballytighe East road (L-8154) is a local secondary road between Ranaghan and Moyree. Consideration for all roads for re-surfacing is assessed early in the year in advance of each annual programme for inclusion in the Schedule of Municipal District Works. In the event (as is likely) that this road does not qualify for grant funding in the short term a grant application can be considered under the Community Improvement Scheme. While the closing date for 2017 has now passed but consideration can be given to an application in 2018 provided the necessary obligations are met and the scheme is active.”

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

"Calling on Clare County Council to install wheelchair access at the new cemetery Moynoe ,Scarriff."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Geraldine Corbett, Senior Staff Officer, Rural Development replied as follows:

“The current procedure for the provision of access to the burial ground is facilitated through (a) the provision of a key which is available on application to the Rural Development Department or (b) is arranged and facilitated by the Registrar dependent on the level of access required.

With regard to the installation of a wheelchair access facility, Clare County Council will examine options and access if suitable.”

The members requested that the Council consider installing a double gate, with one side remaining unlocked with a spring mechanism that would shut automatically.

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

"Calling on Clare County Council to relocate the Mountshannon name place sign at Cappaduff Cross in order to improve the visibility."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

This can be addressed at the next available opportunity.

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

"Calling on Clare County Council to make safe the junction where the L8084 meets the R352 at Clonolia, Mt Shannon."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. J Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The most significant improvements that can be made at this junction relate to regular maintenance of the hedgerow which is critical to safe visibility at this location. Responsibility for such maintenance rests with the landowners and/or occupiers of lands adjoining the public road under Section 70 of the Roads Act 1993. If there are still improvements necessary following such works I will examine the possibility of set-back provided the relevant landowners are amenable and no compensation costs are sought.”

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

“I propose that Clare County Council address the ongoing traffic problems in the Burren area which particularly affects the local farming community, with indiscriminate parking on some of these roads it is making it very difficult to manage their daily duties. In particular, the link road between Kilnaboy to Carron needs immediate attention.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Since the last time that this issue was discussed at Municipal District level the National Parks & Wildlife Services(NPWS) have been preparing a draft park management plan within which Traffic Management and parking measures are to be considered. Clare County Council technical staff have met with and given feedback to NPWS regarding this proposal. However a final proposal/application has not been received yet.”

Cllr. P. Hayes requested that the members would be given a copy of the draft plan so that they could review it and input into the final plan. The members also proposed that signage be installed on the route advising that vehicles causing obstructions would be towed away.

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

“I propose that Clare County Council investigate the possibility of providing a carpark for the town of Scarriff in order to support present business and give the opportunity for tourists to park in the town.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Such a proposal is under consideration at present.”

The members welcomed the discussions that were taking place in Scariff to provide additional car parking spaces.

The members agreed that Items 15 and 24 would be taken together.

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

“I propose that Clare County Council support the efforts to resolve the ongoing traffic and parking issues in the town of Tulla and help this town realise it's full potential.”

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

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

“I request that Clare County Council give an update on parking in the town of Tulla.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The Council will consider any proposals\measures that support more effective management of parking in Tulla including the provision of additional parking if this is deemed necessary and also any measures to improve management of the existing parking available in the village. The upgraded car park at the Green is available for parking at all times to facilitate the limited parking times on the main street.”

Item 16 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

“I wish to request that a pedestrian crossing be installed opposite Kincora Kids Creche and Árd na Derige housing estate in Killaloe.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is an existing pedestrian crossing in close proximity to this location from Beal Boru to the council car park & playground. It is anticipated that further improvements to pedestrian facilities in this vicinity can be carried out in the near future in association with the Bane Field\Tobbermurry development.”

Item 17 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

“I wish to request that traffic calming measures be installed at the entrance to Clarisford estate and St. Anne's school.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“We can review the need for such measures in conjunction with the revised school development and having regard for the impact of other infrastructural developments in this area.”

Item 18 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

“I wish to request that grass cutting take place in Millstream housing estate in Killaloe.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Clare County Council has not cut grass in this estate for a number of years.”

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

“I would like to request that hedge cutting be carried out at Harolds Cross – R471.”

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Begley

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O'Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“This was completed in the past week. Hedgerows at such junctions require regular maintenance for safety reasons. Responsibility for such ongoing maintenance rests with the landowners and/or occupiers of lands adjoining the public road under Section 70 of the Roads Act 1993.”

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

“I would like to request that hedge cutting be carried out on the L-3058, from Clonlara sports centre to MD boundary at Mountcatherine.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Hedge-cutting is carried out in accordance with the adopted 2011 policy. Responsibility for such maintenance rests with the landowners and/or occupiers of the adjoining lands under Section 70 of the Roads Act 1993.”

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

“I would like to request that a direction sign for Clonlara be put at Connors Cross – R463 (opposite Clancy’s shop)”.

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Begley
Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Directional signage on regional roads is carried out in accordance with National Guidelines. Typically this provides for a primary destination(e.g. Killaloe) on a route and if necessary a secondary destination on the same route (e.g. Broadford).”

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

“I request that Clare County Council give an update report on the Dooras Road O'Callaghan's Mills.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Proposals for this project are currently at planning stage. We anticipate that works could to complete this project could begin in the late summer\early autumn.”

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

“I request that Clare County Council outline how much funding was allocated to cleaning rivers in the Killaloe Municipal District in 2016 and what funding is available for 2017.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Funding for such works must generally be allocated from own resources. Where we have not made sufficient progress in ensuring landowners take measures to clear river channels in their responsibility consideration can be given to directing such funding to works such as this with the option reserved to retrieve such costs from landowners if this is their responsibility under the Arterial Drainage Acts. A sum of €10,000 was provisionally provided for such works, if such works are carried out in 2017.”

The members felt that the budget of €10,000 was insufficient and also outlined the difficulties and restrictions faced by landowners in carrying out these works.

Anne Haugh, Director of Services advised the members that local briefings were being held by the Local Authority Water and Communities Office to discuss areas connected with water management both locally and in the wider catchments areas. This office is under the management of Tipperary County Council on a local authority shared service basis. The members expressed some concern that there may be unrealistic expectations being formed following these briefings about the availability of funding.

Item 25 Any Other Business.

- Cllr. M. Begley queried whether responsibility along the Blackwater river lay with the Council or the OPW. Hugh McGrath clarified that responsibility changes where the old river meets the new river with the OPW being responsible for the old river.
- The members agreed that the Meetings Administrator would write to Bank of Ireland and express concern at the drop in services and a lack of support to local communities and businesses.
- The members welcomed the commencement of works in Scariff under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. Cllr P. Hayes expressed the view that the next UVR scheme should not be geared towards creating employment but should prioritise other areas of equal importance.
- Cllr. A. O. Callaghan requested that a discussion take place on Japanese Knotweed at the next meeting.

The meeting then concluded.

Kieran O'Donnell
Meetings Administrator

26th July, 2017.