

Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District held on Wednesday, 23rd January, 2019 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. Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer.
Ms. Pauline Costello, Staff Officer.
Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, Administrative Officer.

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 28th November, 2018.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 28th November, 2018 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney.

Matters arising:

Cllr. P. Hayes and Cllr. J. Cooney enquired about the status of the Irish Water works in Scarriff Town and Tom Mellett confirmed that Irish Water were due to commence works immediately and that the works would extent as far as the Feakle Road Junction.

Cllr. P. Hayes noted that many roads in the area were deteriorating due to the ongoing harvesting of timber and asked Tom Mellett to review the options open to the Council.

Cllr. P. Hayes requested an update on the improvement works in Clondrina, Crusheen and Tom Mellett confirmed that these works were due to commence later that day.

Item 1a Date for next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 6th March, 2019 at 11.00 a.m. and that the following meeting will take place on Wednesday 1st May, 2019 at 11.00 a.m.

Item 2 Notice of Motion from Cllr. A. O'Callaghan.

“I request this Council for an update on the Taking-in-Charge of Tir na Fhia and Naps Close housing developments in Kilkishen and a guide line as to the program of works and when they will be completed”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Kieran O’Donnell, Administrative Officer, Planning Department replied as follows:

“Following outstanding claims on the bonds in respect of Tir na Fhia and Naps Close, Kilkishen which required extensive negotiation between Clare County Council and the bondholders over a number of years, bond monies were received in 2018.

It is our intention to initiate the Taking in Charge of these developments in advance of carrying out any works on site. Currently, the maps required to initiate the Taking in Charge procedure are being prepared and it is hoped to advertise the commencement of the process within the next 2/3 weeks.

An audit of the public lighting and a survey of the sewer network in the Estates are currently being arranged. When these are completed, a schedule of remedial works will be prepared in consultation with Irish Water, having regard to the level of funding available, and a contractor will be procured.”

Item 3 Notice of Motion from Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

“When the preparation of the SMDW gets underway, that this MD and Ennis MD would come together and propose that the R469 from Kilmurry to Ennis would be included in the programme as this road is in need of serious repair.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Tom Mellet, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“550m of the R469 in Applefort is on the three year roadworks programme for Killaloe Municipal District.

A 1km stretch of the R-469 has been identified in the Ennis Municipal District 3 year RI programme in Keevagh, about 1.3km on the Ennis side of Quin.”

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

“I acknowledge the huge work from both sides in trying to get the new sewage system into Broadford, and I ask this Council to keep the pressure on the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund to fund this project.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney, Cllr. P. Hayes, Cllr. T. O’Brien

Cyril Feeney, Senior Engineer replied as follows:

“An application for funding to the Rural Regeneration Fund has been submitted in respect of this project. A decision has not yet been notified to Clare County Council.”

Disappointment was expressed that Broadford was not successful in the initial announcement of projects approved for funding under the RRDF. It was noted that there would be a second round of projects approved in February/March 2019 and members expressed their hope that the proposed scheme in Broadford would receive funding. Both Cllr. J. Cooney and Cllr. P. Burke advised that they had been in contact with Minister Michael Ring and it was noted that the project had the approval of the community and the full support of the Council. The project itself was ready to start and Irish Water had given an indication that they would take over the Scheme as soon as it had been constructed. Cllr. M. Begley advised that for projects of this nature to be successful, they must be marketed as pilot projects.

Item 5 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

“That trees between Riverdale Estate and Clonboy Estate in Bridgetown be cut as a matter of urgency.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“A contractor has been contacted and we expect these trees to be addressed in the next four weeks.”

Item 6 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

“That resurfacing works take place on Royal Parade, Convent Hill, the Green, and Carrig’s Lane Killaloe.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Killaloe Municipal District has included Royal Parade and Convent Hill on the 2019 Roadwork’s Programme.

The Green and Carrig’s Lane will be assessed and scheduled for works based on their condition and as resources allow.”

Cllr. T. O’Brien welcomed the response but stressed the importance of the improvement works required at The Green and Carrig’s Lane and asked that further consideration be given to carrying some improvement works at these locations during 2019.”

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

“That Clare County Council in conjunction with Shannon Heritage, open a tourist information office in Killaloe for the 2019 summer season.”

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

Monica Meehan, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“In 2018, Shannon Heritage made the facility near the library in Killaloe available to the owner of Flanagan’s restaurant to operate it as a tourist information office. Tourist information and ticketing and promotional material for some local services was available at the office.

We will follow up on the query and confirm plans for 2019.”

It was proposed by Cllr. T. O’Brien and agreed by the members that the Meetings Administrator would write to Shannon Heritage and request strongly that Shannon Heritage would open a Tourism Information Office in Killaloe. The members stressed the importance of Killaloe as a gateway for all of East Clare and they highlighted the strategic location of the Tourist Office. This Tourist Office should be open for a minimum of 6 months in 2019.

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

“I am asking for an update into the Taking in Charge of Inchicronan Housing Estate Crusheen and the timescale for this work.”

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

Kieran O’ Donnell, Administrative Officer, replied as follows:

“Clare County Council made a claim on the bond in respect of Inchicronan Estate in 2013. Following a long and complicated process, a settlement with the Bond Company was reached and bond monies were finally received at the end of November 2018.

It is our intention to initiate the Taking in Charge of this development in advance of carrying out any works on site. Currently, the maps required to initiate the Taking in Charge procedure are being prepared and it is hoped to commence the statutory process with an advertisement in a local newspaper within the next 2/3 weeks.

An audit of the public lighting and a survey of the sewer network in the Estate are currently being arranged. When these are completed, a schedule of remedial works will be prepared in consultation with Irish Water, having regard to the level of funding available, and a contractor will be procured. “

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

“I am asking that improvement works be carried out on the section of road between Crusheen and Barefield (R458) where there are a number of serious dips on this road.”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Advance Warning Signs have been placed at this location to highlight the dips to oncoming drivers.

A 520m section of the R458 from Ruan Cross towards Barefield is included in the 2019 Roadworks programme.”

Cllr. P. Hayes requested Tom Mellett to contact the Ennis MD area and request that that they examine the stretch of this road within their MD with a view to carrying out the necessary improvement works.

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

“I am asking that Clare County Council would look at preparing a town plan for the town of Tulla with particular emphasis on incentives for the use of vacant buildings and supports for Business and Community in the town.”

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

Brian McCarthy, Senior Planner replied as follows:

“Volume 3 (c) of The Clare County Development Plan 2017-2023 contains a detailed Town Plan for Tulla including a zoning map and a written statement, setting out the Councils’ vision to 2023 for Tulla in terms of context, general objectives, economic development, housing and sustainable communities, place making and amenity. Separately Clare County Council has incentivised the re-use of vacant buildings through the Long Term Vacant Property Incentive Scheme, which seeks to encourage businesses to occupy long term vacant commercial premises that have been previously occupied for commercial rates purposes. The purpose of the scheme is to give an incentive to business owners to occupy vacant premises by lowering entry costs through support and a grant related to the level of rates payable on the property. The scheme applies to all rated commercial properties in the county, (including Tulla) that have been previously occupied for commercial rates purposes. In addition there are a range of supports for businesses available through the Local Enterprise Office Clare, including subsidised skills training, one to one mentoring, on-line trading grants etc. It is respectfully suggested that a further town plan – in addition to the plan adopted in the County Development Plan 2017-2023 – may not be the required targeted approach envisaged by the Notice of Motion and it may be more appropriate to focus. Notwithstanding, the Economic Directorate is available to meet with representatives of Tulla to assist with the enhancement and support of the town.”

Cllr. P. Hayes welcomed the response and stressed the need for the Council to highlight the availability of the various incentives that were identified by Brian McCarthy in his response.

The other members also supported this motion and highlighted the vibrancy within the town while noting that there were derelict properties that needed to be refurbished.

Anne Haugh advised the members that it had been agreed that Directorates within the Council would work together to look at towns and villages and see what targeted initiatives can be put in place. She added that this approach would be rolled out in a number of pilot areas in the county.

The members requested Anne to meet with Brian McCarthy and Leonard Cleary to examine options for Tulla.

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

“ Calling on Clare County Council to consider traffic calming measures in Scarriff town centre”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“A one way system was introduced in Scarriff covering the centre of the town encompassing Main St, Dergview Rd and the L-4024.

Killaloe Municipal District Office will upgrade the existing line marking around the Feakle junction this year. I am open to meeting with the local community to discuss concerns around current traffic movements in the area.”

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

"Calling on Clare County Council to reconstruct the road from the Ash Tree Cross towards Williamstown in Whitegate which was damaged by the severe dry weather of last Summer "

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“900m of this section of road at Drummaanadeevan is included in the three year roadworks programme.”

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

."Calling on Clare County Council to upgrade a section of the L 4018 at Cappaduff Cross, Mountshannon "

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“This section of road is not currently on the three year roadwork’s programme, however, if funding becomes available it can be included for 2019.”

Item 14 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That the section of the L-3050 from Clonlara village south to its junction with L-3064 (300m) be tarmacked.”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“This section of road is not on the three year programme, however if funding becomes available it will be included for works in 2019.”

Item 15 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That the finger signposts for Sixmilebridge, Parteen and Kilbane be replaced at Harolds Cross on the R-471.”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The junction has been assessed and the signs required will be ordered and replaced once our schedule allows.”

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

”That a section of the Shrawickeen road L-7050 between the two graveyard entrances (approx. 150m) be tarmacked.”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“A 1 km section of road covering this location is included in the three year programme.”

Item 17 Notice of Motion from Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council install safety barriers at the side of the road on the R465 between Bodyke and Broadford where road works were carried out in 2018, in the interest of road safety.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Killaloe Municipal District Office intends to install safety barriers along relevant sections of these works during 2019.”

Item 18 Notice of Motion from Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council carry out road works on the L80001 Knockmeal, Crusheen as sections of the road are in very bad condition.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The Killaloe Municipal District Office has assessed this road and will carry out maintenance works. For a permanent improvement the road would be appropriate for a *CIS* project.”

Cllr. J. Cooney noted that this was a through road for traffic with a small number of houses and expressed concern that the *CIS* scheme may not be suitable and requested that the Council would offer whatever assistance it could.

Item 19 Notice of Motion from Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council liaise with Irish Water and carry out investigation works and subsequent remedial works to the main sewage line located at Lower River View, Scariff. The line is subject to blockages which have serious environmental, flooding and social effects.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Anne O' Sullivan, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The matter of blockages on the sewage line located at Lower River View Scariff is being dealt with by Irish Water. An update on the progress of the investigation works and proposed remedial works being carried out by Irish Water has been requested by the Water Services Section, Clare County Council.”

Item 20. Any other business.

Cllr. P. Burke welcomed the recent visit of Minister Damien English to the Municipal District to view the progress on the new capital housing schemes in Feakle and Clonlara.

Cllr. T. O'Brien requested an update on the proposed works to the Ardnataggle/O'Briensbridge walkway. Tom Mellett advised that these works were part of a wider review, encompassing the O'Briensbridge Junction.

Cllr. P. Hayes requested an update on the plans to develop Holy Island and requested that a meeting be arranged with Leonard Cleary and Joan Tarmey, Tourism Officer. It was suggested that this meeting could take place on the morning of 6th March, 2019, if that suited everybody. Cllr. P. Burke noted that funding had been sought under the RRDF fund.

Cllr. M. Begley requested Tom Mellett to examine recent road improvements in the Harold's Cross – Ballyquin road area which had created difficulties for a landowner to access his property.

A vote of sympathy was expressed to the following people :-

- Brid Bugler, on the death of her mother Nancy Bugler, Scariff
- Loretta McNamara, on the death of her father Laurence Slattery, Scariff
- Cllr. P. Hayes, on the death of his aunt Mrs Biddy McNamara, Crusheen
- The Murphy family Kilkishen on the death of Michael Murphy, former employee of Clare County Council.

Cllr. P. Burke advised the members that they had been invited by Tom Collins to visit his premises on conclusion of the meeting to view a new mobile solar CCTV system.

The meeting then concluded.

Kieran O'Donnell
Meetings Administrator

25th January, 2019.