

Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District
held on Wednesday, 27th May, 2020 at 11.00 a.m.
in Council Chamber, Áras Chontae an Chláir.

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

Officials: Ms. Anne Haugh, Director of Service
Mr. Morgan Lahiffe, A/Senior Executive Officer
Mr. Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Pat Burke chaired the meeting.

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 25th March, 2020.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 25th March, 2020 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr Alan O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllr. Tony O'Brien.

Item 2 Matters Arising:

Cllr. Hayes, in relation to Item No. 6, sought update on surface dressing remedial works and funding for drainage works to the River Graney. T. Mellett replied a meeting with the surface dressing contractor had to be rescheduled, he anticipated a positive outcome in relation to the repairs. He advised funding for River Graney works was not available due to a reduction in the 2020 budget for drainage works in the M.D. as adopted in the March meeting.

Item 3 Set date for next meeting.

It was agreed next meeting to take place on Wednesday, 22nd July, confirmation of time to follow. Cllr. O'Brien suggested one notice of motion to be submitted by each councillor as a means of shortening the meeting, Cllr. O'Callaghan was in agreement.

Item 4 Set date for 2020 AGM.

It was agreed the Killaloe MD AGM to take place on Friday, 26th June, 2020 in Ennis, prior to the Council AGM, confirmation of time to follow.

Item 5 Nomination of Towns/Villages for Paint Scheme 2020

Cllr. A. O’Callaghan complimented works carried in Kilkishen under the Paint Scheme last year. He proposed Quin Village for this year’s funding.

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan
Seconded by: Cllr. Tony O’Brien

Cllr. J. Cooney put forward Feakle Village for the 2020 scheme.

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

Item 6 Covid 19 Update in relation to Killaloe MD

T. Mellett provided an update on the roads programme, informing surface dressing programme to commence June 15th, 2020 and the overlay tender is being advertised, he does not anticipate any delays in the completion of the SMDW. Cllr. Hayes welcomed this update and added that it is important that the Council are also examining Covid 19 measures in the MD’s towns and villages. He emphasised the need to be proactive on this matter and meet with business owners. Cllr. Hayes referred to the Cork County Council model and the need to include age friendly design as well as meeting business needs. M. Lahiffe responded that the Council is looking at implementing social distancing measures in three main towns in the MD. He gave an overview of how the MD has responded to the crisis and the provision of services as society re-opens.

Cllr. J. Cooney welcomed the progress being made on the road works programme and complimented the Council Crisis Management Team and Covid Forum on the work they have done to date. He queried if the Covid 19 situation would impact on central grant funding? T. Mellett replied grants have not been affected.

A. Haugh informed councillors the MD will work with businesses in towns and villages, highlighting the importance of consultation, as well as the role of the councillors. A. Haugh added public counters, including libraries, will reopen on a phased basis in June, 2020. The opening of these services will be progressed in a cautious manner.

Item 7 Any other business.

Cllr. P. Burke wished Kieran O’Donnell well and thanked him for his work as Meetings Administrator.

A vote of sympathy was extended by Cllr Cooney to Declan Flanagan, Executive Engineer on the death of his father Paddy.

Cllr. P. Hayes requested the Meetings Administrator write to Bank of Ireland on behalf of the councillors and requested the re-opening of the branch in Tulla.

Cllr. P. Hayes referred to Coillte’s plans for a wind farm in East Clare and referred to the lack of consultation on the project. He outlined his concerns regarding the process and requested a briefing be arranged with Coillte. Cllr. J. Cooney added that locals were consulted, however,

meetings were cancelled due to Covid 19 restrictions. Cllr. P. Burke read out an email received from Coillte. M. Lahiffe responded if the planning process has not yet formally begun he would seek to arrange a briefing with Coillte.

Cllr. A. O'Callaghan referred to the increasing problem of illegal dumping in South East Clare. T. Mellett replied CCTV cameras are being looked at as a response to illegal dumping in the county as a whole.

Cllr. A. O'Callaghan queried introduction of bicycle stations in villages such as Newmarket on Fergus in light of current Covid 19 measures. M. Lahiffe replied rural development grant sources such as Clár and Outdoor Recreation would be sought for such projects.

Cllr. P. Hayes sought an update regarding Ogonnelloe - Bodyke Blue Way Trail. T. Mellett replied works to commence late June 20.

The meeting then concluded.

Morgan Lahiffe.
A/Senior Executive Officer.
Meetings Administrator.

17th June, 2020.