

**Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District
held on Wednesday, 16th September, 2020 at 11.30 a.m.
in the Council Chamber, Áras Chontae an Chláir.**

In attendance: Cllr. Pat Hayes
Cllr. Pat Burke
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
Ms. Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer

Apologies:

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Pat Hayes chaired the meeting. Cllr. Hayes opened the meeting. He asked that Cllrs agree to one motion per Councillor until the end of 2020 and then rising to three in 2021 and also asked for a timely receipt of motions from councillors.

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 22nd July 2020.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 22nd July, 2020 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

Item 2 Matters Arising:

Cllr. P Burke wanted an update on the removal of boats from Mountshannon Harbour. Morgan Lahiffe A/SEO replied that a meeting took place between the Council and Waterways Ireland and is awaiting a map from Waterways Ireland in relation to it before we make any move on boats.

Cllr. J Cooney asked if speed surveys in Tulla had been carried out. Tom Mellett replied that one was complete and another was to be carried out..

Item 3 Set date for next meeting

It was agreed the next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 18th November, 2020 in the Council Chamber, confirmation of time to follow.

Item 4 Disposal of lands at Caher

This was proposed by Cllr. P Hayes and seconded by Cllr. A O'Callaghan.

Item 5 Disposal of Property at Middleline South, Mountshannon

This was proposed by Cllr. P. Burke and seconded by Cllr. P. Hayes.

Item 6 Update on Banes Field

Ms. C Greene, SEO gave an update on the lease at Bane's field, Killaloe. She stated that the Community Garden was in place a number of years and a lease arrangement would be entered into. There would be need to mark boundaries with fencing. The Community Creche which is subject of long term lease requested an extra piece of land due to COVID-19. It was agreed by the Council that this could be done. A side letter to the lease will suffice. Cllr. T O'Brien thanked the executive for following up and making this happen. He praised the cooperation shown by all parties. Cllr. P Hayes asked about the intention to develop Banes field. Mr. M Lahiffe A/SEO replied that the Banes field project will be put in under ORIS for funding.

Item 7 Notices of Motion from Cllr. T. O'Brien:-

"That an area at Ballycuggeran Amenity Park be made accessible to facilitate people with disabilities"

Morgan Lahiffe, Acting Senior Executive replied as follows:

"Clare County Council recognises the need for investment in our popular amenity areas such as Ballycuggeran. Clare County Council have applied to the Department of Rural & Community

Development through its CLAR grant programme for funding to provide general upgrades at this location. Should grant aid be realised, the issue of Universal access will be to the fore in any works proceeding including upgraded paths and disability friendly benches. Separate to the CLAR funding stream, Clare County Council will be looking to introduce dedicated Universal Access spaces in the Car Park at Ballycuggeran.

Proposed by : Cllr T. O. Brien
Seconded by: Cllr. P Burke

Cllr. T O' Brien stated that all the amenity needs is to be disability friendly. He noted that funding was being applied for but if no funding was realised he stated that small amounts of money could make big differences. Also the information sign that is hidden away needs to be exposed more.

Item 8 *Notices of Motion from Cllr. P Hayes:-*

"I propose that a planned programme of drainage works be put in place for the river Grainey and its catchment area, serious flooding issues are now a constant in these areas and need immediate attention I would ask funding be sought to progress this issue"

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

Works had been proposed for this river in the 2020 budget. The budget as adopted reduced the Drainage allocation for 2020 by €44,000 and resulted in this section being removed from the programme. Killaloe Municipal District Office will propose the Grainey for the 2021 schedule of works, however, it will require an increase in the drainage budget to enable the works to proceed.

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

Cllr. P Hayes said he was disappointed with the reply. It was a large area and there was a lack of maintenance over the years and that the Feakle/Tulla Road repeatedly flooded. He pointed out that there could be amenity opportunities if works took place. Raising roads was not the only answer in terms of dealing with the problem.

Cllr. J Cooney stated that the government needs to provide more funding to Local Authorities to ensure that these works take place.

Cllr. P Burke stated he was disappointed that the OPW were not taking responsibility in this regard.

Item 9: *Notice of Motion from Cllr. A. O'Callaghan:-*

"In the interests of safety, that the Council would put in place street lighting on the R469 and the L3150 from the 50kph speed limit in the village of Quin"

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

The 50kph speed limit extends for approximately 350m beyond the junction on the R469 and 350m on the L-3150 from the junction.

These sections have become more build up over the years and would benefit from a number of measures including public lighting, footpaths, enhanced road markings and signage.

The extent of the above works would require resources beyond the KMD budget and would be best incorporated into an overall Town and Village renewal type scheme.

As an interim measure this office will include upgraded line marking in the next round of line marking this year.

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. P Burke

Cllr. A O' Callaghan stated that it is good to see that the Council recognised that works are needed in the area, saying that a Town & Village Renewal Scheme in the area would be desirable.

Cllr. P Burke stated that the works would help the vibrancy of the village.

Mr. T Mellett, SEE stated that Clare Co Council would refresh the road lining in the area.

Item 10: *Notice of Motion from Cllr. J. Cooney:-*

“That Clare County Council give a progress update on the Bealkelly to Tuamgraney Walking Trail and on the Active Travel Funding that is approved to upgrade the Walking trail from Bealkelly to Killaloe & a summary of the works involved in the Bealkelly to Killaloe section”

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

The Bealkelly to Tuamgraney Amenity Trail is a 4.5km pedestrian route linking Tuamgraney via Bealkelly into an existing route from Ogonnelloe to Killaloe. It was funded through the Dept's Outdoor Recreation Fund in 2018 to a tune of €498,000 with Clare County Council providing matching funding of €124,500. Planning permission for the works was granted in 2019.

An additional €220,000 was granted from the Dept through the Active Travel Fund, part of the Governments July Stimulus Plan. This will allow for the route surface to be sealed with macadam, allowing for an improved surface ride with lower maintenance requirements.

To date approx. 1.5km has been completed to gravel finish, a further 500m are in preparation and works have commenced on accommodation works to landowners boundaries where they have been affected by the trail.

Killaloe Municipal District Office is currently assessing tenders relating to boundary finishes and is in discussion with a contractor to complete the macadam finish to the trail.

Clare County Council has been assisted in its efforts by both the Tuamgraney Development Association and the Ogonnelloe Community Group.

We are currently projecting a completion date at the end of November.

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

Cllr. J Cooney stated that both council and contractors are working on this project and it was great to see local communities working with the council. Active Travel Funding was welcome and positive for East Clare.

Cllr. P Burke said the trail was a fantastic piece of infrastructure for East Clare for locals and tourists and praised the collaboration on the project.

Mr. T Mellett, SEE gave an explanation of works that would occur at the location.

Mr. M Lahiffe, A/SEO stated that timelines on the project were extremely tight.

Cllr. P Hayes wished for an update from Waterways Ireland in relation to the possibility of a greenway from Killaloe.

Item 11. *Notice of Motion from Cllr. P. Burke:-*

“Calling on Clare County Council to include the L40361 at Derrainy, Whitegate for surface dressing in the 2021 roadworks programme”.

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

The L-40361-0 is a local tertiary Cul-de-Sac road. It's most recent PSCI condition rating in 2014 placed it at a 5 and 6 along different sections. This road will require more substantial works beyond what Surface Dressing would achieve.

KMD office will assess this road to determine its current status, however, due to the volume of use it may not justify inclusion in the SMDW for 2021 and would be best placed in the LIS programme.

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

Cllr. P Burke welcomed the fact that the council recognise that works are necessary. He was unsure if Community Roads Scheme option would be taken up. Cllr. P Hayes supported the motion also.

Item 12 **Any other business**

Cllr. P Burke complimented Morgan Lahiffe A/SEO & the team in the MD on acquiring funding through Climate Change and, in particular, pleased that road in Whitegate is getting upgraded.

Cllr. P Burke referred to Storm Ellen and how such a bad windstorm could hit the local area. He asked for more contactability with the likes of EIR and also praised the local community in helping to clean up.

Cllr. T O'Brien asked that a bollard be placed on the walkway in Killaloe to prevent errant vehicles from travelling down as occurred recently.

Cllr. T O'Brien asked for some additional signage near the river bank in Killaloe.

Cllr. J Cooney stated the trees should be cut down to a certain level and if landowners do not comply, the council should do the necessary work. He also welcomed works in Riverview Estate and Plunkett Drive.

Cllr. P Hayes sought an update on Tulla Social Housing from A. Haugh, DoS. Ms. Haugh. stated that the scheme is progressing. However some have been delayed due to COVID-19 and also that funding was granted in relation to some issues raised by Councillors in Tulla.

Cllr. P Hayes stated that a Strategic Workshop for the area should be organised for October to plan for years ahead should COVID restrictions allow.

The meeting then concluded.

Morgan Lahiffe
A/ Senior Executive Officer
5th November , 2020.