

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD IN ÁRAS SEÁN FINN, NEW LINE ROAD, RATHKEALE, CO. LIMERICK ON TUESDAY, 11TH APRIL, 2017, AT 9.00 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor A. Teskey, An Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Keary, McMahon, O'Brien, O'Donoghue and Sheahan.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director, Regional Services (Ms. C. Curley), A/Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division (Mr. T. Kelly), Senior Executive Officer, Physical Development (Mr. G. Dillon), Meetings Administrator (Mr. T. O'Callaghan), Staff Officer (Ms. K. Butler), Assistant Staff Officer (Ms. E. Buckley).

At the outset the Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Thomas Kelly to the District and looked forward to working with him for the betterment of the District.

1. Adoption of Minutes

- (a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 14th March, 2017.

Proposed by Councillor Keary;
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
And Resolved:

“That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read, adopted and signed”.

- (b) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 14th March, 2017.

Proposed by Councillor Keary;
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
And Resolved:

“That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read, adopted and signed”.

- (c) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 30th March, 2017.

Proposed by Councillor Keary;
Seconded by Councillor Sheahan;
And Resolved:

“That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read, adopted and signed”.

Members sought an update on the Area Wide CCTV Project and stressed the importance of Askeaton and Rathkeale being prioritised in relation to same and the need for the project to be up and running before Christmas 2017. Members requested that the project representative attend at the May Meeting of the District.

2(A) Physical Development

Proposal to Publish the Draft Limerick City and County Council (Control of Horses) Bye-Laws 2017 in Order to Regulate Sulky Racing on Public Roads in Limerick.

Circulated, report of the Director, Physical Development dated 31st March, 2017 setting out the background to, and procedures involved in, amending the Control of Horses Bye-Laws to regulate sulky racing on public roads.

Members welcomed the proposed amendments to the Bye-Laws and made the following points while discussing this item;

- The term sulky should clearly defined;
- Any sulkys using public roads should be registered and have reflectors at the rear. Registration would establish ownership should the sulky be involved in a road traffic accident;
- It should be clarified as to whether the Gardaí or the Council would seize horses on foot of the amended Bye-Laws;
- Consideration should be given to establishing a track for sulky racing;
- Consideration should be given to regulating any use of sulkys on public roads.

The Director, Regional Services noted that the registration of sulkys would be a national issue and not proper to Bye-Laws.

The Senior Executive Officer, Physical Development undertook to take the issues raised by Members into consideration, going forward, and stressed the need to proceed with the current amendment that had been requested by the Gardaí.

Proposed by Councillor Sheahan;

Seconded by Councillor O'Brien;

And Resolved:

“That the Draft Limerick City and County Council (Control of Horses) Bye-Laws 2017 be put on public display in accordance with Section 199 and Schedule 14A Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2001 (as amended).

2. Deputation from Rathkeale Boxing Club

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Messrs. Joe Williams and Rob Williams to the Meeting.

The deputation circulated and reviewed a document setting out the history, ethos and achievements of the club and also detailed the short term maintenance and improvement works required at their facility.

Members acknowledged the achievements of Rathkeale Boxing Club and commended the high level of volunteerism in the club and the contribution it made to the youth in the area. Members discussed the funding avenues open to the club, title to their premises and sought clarity on the allocation of any RAPID funding.

It was proposed by Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor McMahon, that the District should hold a Civic Reception to mark the achievements of Rathkeale Boxing Club.

3. Service Operations Directorate – Planning & Environmental Services

(a) Update on the Taking-In-Charge of Ballyvareen Estate

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Water Services dated 6th April, 2017 giving an update on the taking in charge of Ballyvareen Estate, Kildimo. The report was noted by Members.

(b) Update on the Taking-In-Charge of An Curran Estate, Pallaskenry

Circulated, report of the Staff Officer, Planning and Environmental Services dated 4th April, 2017 giving an update on the taking in charge of An Curran, Pallaskenry. The report was noted by Members.

4. Flooding Issues

Circulated, report of the A/Senior Executive Engineer, West Division Operations dated 6th April, 2017 giving an update on proposals to address flooding issues at Foynes, Askeaton and Ballysteen.

Members noted that the Department of Agriculture and the Marine had granted funding for the maintenance of Beagh Pier and sought clarity as to which section of the pier this was intended for.

Members also noted that this funding announcement had been misinterpreted by some members of the public as a grant towards the maintenance of flood defences at Ballysteen and requested that the Council make a public statement to clarify this matter.

Members noted the importance of maintaining the costal infrastructure and stressed the need to make annual applications to the Department for any funding available in this regard.

Members expressed disappointment that the Minister had not allocated funding to the repair of flood defences at Ballysteen, given the damage that was being carried out to agriculture land at this location.

5. Footpath from Kildimo to the Beer Garden Public House

Circulated, report of the A/Senior Executive Engineer, West Division Operations dated 6th April, 2017 giving an update on the incomplete footpath from Kildimo village to the Beer Garden Public House. The report was noted by Members.

QUESTIONS

6. Question submitted by Councillor K. Sheahan (carried forward from the previous Meeting)

I will ask at the next Meeting for the Council to advise the Members of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale what our responsibilities are, if any, now that the travelling community is regarded as an ethnic group.

REPLY: The Oireachtas announced on Wednesday the 1st of March 2017 that the Traveller Community are now an ethnic group. This means that their culture, heritage and identity are recognised by the State.

Limerick City and County Council have contacted both the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government and the Housing Agency in this regard and awaits a reply.

7. Question submitted by Councillor S. Keary (carried forward from the previous Meeting)

I will ask at the next Meeting for an itemised cost breakdown for works recently executed by this Authority at Asgard Cove, Loghill as part of the taking in charge process for this site and for a copy of an Ordnance Survey Map, duly marked and drawn to a minimum scale of 1:2500, showing the boundaries of the Asgard Cove Site being taken in charge by this Authority.

REPLY: 6 quotations were sought for completion of works at Asgard Cove, Loghill and 3 quotations were submitted. The most competitive quotation received was subsequently awarded the contract:

The main elements and associated costs are as follows:-

Concrete footpath & kerbs:	€ 2,825.00
Fencing:	€ 8,580.00
Road surfacing:	€13,440.00
Drainage works:	€ 5,650.00
Rock Armour:	€12,500.00
Topsoiling and reseeded:	€ 2,000.00

NOTICE OF MOTION

8. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor K. Sheahan

I will move at the next Meeting that this District would have an opportunity to have a discussion with senior members of the Housing Section of the Council with a view to ascertaining detailed information on the involvement of Approved Housing Bodies working in the District.

The Motion was proposed by Councillor Sheahan and seconded by Councillor O'Brien.

In proposing the Motion Councillor Sheahan acknowledged the work carried out by Approved Housing Bodies (AHBs) but stressed the need for these Bodies to engage with local public representatives in relation to allocations, as issues in relation to same were being brought to the Elected Members for resolution.

In seconding the Motion Councillor O'Brien expressed his desire that he be informed of allocations by AHBs and be in a position to make representations in relation to same.

Members supported the Motion and sought clarity on arrangements in place between the Council and AHBs and discussed the rents set by AHBs, their purchasing practices and their overheads in managing single houses in large estates. Members acknowledged the success of some AHBs in building and managing schemes of houses but raised concerns that some AHBs were purchasing single dwellings in locations where there was no perceived local demand for social housing.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor O'Brien, it was agreed by Members that a Special Meeting be held, at a date to be decided, to discuss the above issues with the relevant housing staff.

9. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted.

General Municipal Allocation (GMA) 2017

At the conclusion of the Agenda Members discussed allocations under the GMA 2017.

On the proposal of Councillor McMahon, seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue, it was agreed that the amount of €8,000 be allocated to Rathkeale Boxing Club under the GMA 2017.

On the proposal of Councillor Teskey, seconded by Councillor McMahon it was agreed that the amount of €3,500 be allocated to Limerick City and County Motor Club under the GMA 2017.

Civic Events

Members discussed the financing and protocol associated with Civic Events held by the District. The Director, Regional Services noted the need to agree invitation lists in advance and acknowledged the need to identify a budget in association with same.

It was agreed that the May Meeting of the District would be held on Tuesday, 16th May, 2017 at 2.00 p.m. in Croom.

Good Wishes

Councillor O'Brien wished the best of luck to the Kildimo/Pallaskenry players on the Limerick under 17 panels.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____