

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST HELD IN ÁRAS WILLIAM SMITH OBRIEN, NEWCASTLE WEST, CO. LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 1ST APRIL, 2015, AT 10.00AM.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor J. Scanlan.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Browne, Collins, Foley, Galvin and Sheahan.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Travel & Transportation (Mr. P. Crowe), Operations Manager, West and South Division (Mr. B. Kennedy), Senior Executive Officer, Corporate Services (Mr. C. O'Connor), Director of Community, Leisure and Emergency Services (Ms. J. Cotter Coughlan), Executive Engineer, Roads (Mr. P. Vallely), Senior Executive Engineer, West and South Division (Mr. B. Noonan), Senior Staff Officer, Newcastle West (Ms. M. Corbett), Head of Finance (Mr. T. Gilligan), Chief Officer, LCDC (Mr. S. O'Connor), Clerical Officer, Corporate Services (Ms. D. O'Kelly).

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Newcastle West held on 4th March, 2015.

The Senior Executive Officer stated that an amendment was required in relation to the Minutes regarding proposed work to be carried out to the Medieval Church in Castletown, to read "Estimate of all three phases of work to be in region of €125,000.00."

Proposed by Councillor Collins;
Seconded by Councillor Galvin;
And Resolved:

"That, the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read and adopted and signed, subject to the amendment as outlined above."

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Special Meeting of Municipal District of Newcastle West held on the 18th March, 2015.

Proposed by Cllr.Collins;
Seconded by Cllr.Foley ;
And Resolved:

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

2. Community, Leisure and Emergency Services

Local Community Development Committee

The Director of Community, Leisure and Emergency Services made a presentation to the Members briefing them on the background of the Limerick Local Community Development Committee (LCDC).

The Director outlined the Guiding Principles, Key Provisions and Membership of the Local Community Development Committee and gave an overview of how the Committee would operate going forward. She responded to a number of queries in relation to the role of the Committee.

Members thanked the Director for her presentation.

3. Deputations

Deputation from Mountcollins Development Association.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the Deputation from Mountcollins Development Association which comprised of Mr. Larry Begley and Mr. Patrick Naughton.

Mr. Begley thanked the Members for allowing them the opportunity to address the District Meeting. It was stated that approximately €102,000 had been raised locally in recent years for a number of projects in the village.

The following issues were raised by the Deputation:

- Social Housing.
- Waste Water Treatment.
- Work on the road in the village.
- Issues raised in relation to the old landfill.
- Community Centre yard needed to be re-lined.

The Cathaoirleach and Members thanked the Deputation for their presentation.

Deputation from Newcastle West Community Centre.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the Deputation from Newcastle West Community Centre which comprised of Mr. Seamus Hunt (Chairperson), Mr. John Holland (Vice Chair) and Mr. William O'Sullivan, Board Member.

Mr. Seamus Hunt outlined the problems that the Community Centre had in relation to the boundary wall adjacent to the G.A.A. pitch and gave costings of works needed to address the issues. The car park in the centre was also in need of urgent repairs.

Members thanked the Deputation for their presentation.

Members discussed the issues raised by the Deputations and agreed that some of the issues were outside the remit of Limerick City and County Council.

In relation to Mountcollins, there was a need for a case to be made to Irish Water to upgrade the plant as the provision of additional housing would be dependent on such an upgrade. It was requested that this matter be raised with Irish Water. It was also requested that the issue of housing be referred to the appropriate Director.

In relation to Newcastle West Community Centre, reference was made to the possibility of getting funding under the Sports Capital Programme. However, an application would have to be submitted by the deadline date.

It was agreed that the Operations Manager would write to the Deputations acknowledging their submissions.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Galvin, it was agreed that discussions relating to Deputations would take place "in committee" at the end of the Meeting.

4. Requests to receive Deputations

Members were informed that requests had been submitted to receive Deputations from the following:

- Abbeyfeale Community Development Association.
- Newcastle West Community Council.
- West Fest Committee

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Galvin, it was agreed to receive the deputations at a Special Meeting of the District to be held on Wednesday 15th April, at 10.00am.

5. General Municipal Allocation

Circulated, report of the Director of Travel and Transportation dated 30th March, 2015, setting out proposals for expenditure under the General Municipal Allocation (GMA) for the Municipal District of Newcastle West.

The Head of Finance outlined the background to the General Municipal Allocation. A discussion took place with regard to the proposed allocation for the Athletics Track in Newcastle West. It was pointed out that this was not in accordance with what had been agreed at the Special Meeting held on 18th March, 2015, and that the agreed figure was €20,000. It was agreed to send a letter to the steering committee of the Regional Athletics Track Newcastle West confirming funding under General Municipal Allocation proposals. A proposal in relation to the remaining €80,000 for Strategic Projects would be submitted by the Members.

Following further discussion on the matter, it was agreed that a breakdown of €11,000 from the Contribution Scheme would be forwarded to the Members by Head of Finance.

It was agreed that the Limerick Marketing Company would be invited to make a presentation at the Special Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 15th April, 2015. It was also agreed that Innovate Limerick would be invited to a future Meeting.

6. Schedule of Works for the Municipal District

Circulated, report of Director, Travel and Transportation, dated 30th March, 2015, setting out details of the Draft Schedule of Works for the Municipal District of Newcastle West.

Approval was sought for the Schedule of Works for the Municipal District of Newcastle West. The Director of Travel and Transportation stated that it should have been approved by 31st March, 2015.

The Members stated that they were not happy with some of the Allocations and asked for clarification in relation to some items.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Foley , it was agreed that a Notice of Motion in the name of all the Members would be referred to the next meeting of the Council requesting a specific allocation of funding for housing adaptation of Council rented stock. It was also agreed that this matter be referred to the Home and Social Development Strategic Policy Committee for consideration.

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

“That, the Schedule of Works, as presented, be approved.”

QUESTIONS

7. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting if road reinstatement works subsequent to lumbering at Toureen na Greine, Dromdeeven, Gortnachehy, Mauricetown, Ballagh and Rooskagh can be undertaken.

REPLY: A meeting was recently held with Coillte and once lumbering has been completed at the above mentioned locations, Limerick City and County Council will carry out repairs to these roadways.

8. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting how many Local Improvement Scheme Projects are scheduled for this Municipal District in 2015 and what relating budget is allocated to cover the costs.

REPLY: The funding available for the Local Improvement Scheme in 2015 will allow for the carrying out of 8 schemes in their entirety and 1 part scheme,

assuming that cost estimates remained unchanged.

Three of these schemes and the part scheme are located in the Newcastle West Municipal District. The estimated costs of these schemes are €61,912.70.

The position may alter if some of the schemes are not taken up by the applicants.

9. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting if road lining work can be carried out at various junctions south of Castlemahon Cross between the R522 and the R515 in the vicinity of Ashford, Broadford and Dromcollogher.

REPLY: Line marking will be carried out at the above mentioned junctions during the Summer months of 2015.

NOTICES OF MOTION

10. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will move at the next Meeting that a weekly bin service be provided at Calvary Cemetery on an ongoing basis.

Councillor Scanlan, in proposing the Motion, stated that it might be of benefit to have the Committee from Calvary attend a Meeting of the District. Following discussion on the matter, it was agreed that the Cemetery Committee would meet with the Area Engineer to discuss issues in relation to waste disposal.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Galvin.

REPLY: A fortnightly bin collection service is being provided at cemeteries in the Newcastle West Municipal District including Calvary cemetery in Newcastle West. This fortnightly service is based on the level of funding which is available for 2015.

11. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will move at the next Meeting that, given the recently announced ability to adjust speed limits at Local Authority level, an audit be undertaken of our residential estates so as to introduce appropriate limits therein in the interests of general safety.

The Director of Travel and Transportation pointed out that while he understood that a mandatory 20 km/h speed limit for housing estates had been proposed for inclusion in the Road Traffic Bill, difficulties had arisen in relation to the legal definition of what a housing estate was. The Council was awaiting revised speed limit guidelines from the Department and the matter would be considered further once they were received.

On the proposal of Councillor Scanlan and seconded by Councillor Galvin, it was agreed that the June Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West would be held in the Community Hall, Dromcollogher, Co.Limerick.

As the Director of Travel and Transportation was attending his final Meeting of the Newcastle West Municipal District, a presentation was made to him by the Cathaoirleach on behalf of the Members.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____