

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD IN ÁRAS SEÁN FINN, NEW LINE ROAD, RATHKEALE, CO. LIMERICK ON THURSDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2017 AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING OF THE ADARE-RATHKEALE DISTRICT JPC SUBCOMMITTEE.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor R. O'Donoghue, An Cathaoirleach.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Keary, McMahon, O'Brien and Sheahan.

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

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

**1. Adoption of Minutes**

- (a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 10<sup>th</sup> October, 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 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2017.

On the proposal of Councillor Keary, seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue it was agreed that in relation to the Notice of Motion referred to in the final paragraph, the reference to ballcock controlled valves should be amended to read, electronically alarmed ballcock controlled valves.

Proposed by Councillor Keary;  
Seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue;  
And Resolved:

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

- (c) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Budgetary Plan 2018 Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2017.

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

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

**2. Deputation from Adare Recreation & Community Complex T/A Manor Fields Adare**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Barry O’Halloran, Director Manor Fields Adare and James Collins, Chairman Manor Fields Adare to the Meeting.

The Deputation outlined the background to, and details of, the development of the 25 acre Manor Fields site including a car park, playground, astro and grass pitches and walkways totalling €1.3 m of investment and also future plans to include a pavilion. Details of the groups funding arrangements were outlined, along with the role Limerick City and County Council might play through the allocation of funding from the Development Fund.

Members congratulated the Deputation on their progress to date and discussed the involvement of the various sporting organisations in the area with the Manor Fields facilities and the approaches that might be adopted in completing their plans.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the Deputation for their presentation and the Deputation left the Meeting at that point.

**3. Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2017**

Circulated, Report of the Senior Architect, Urban and Village Renewal Department dated 7<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 giving an update and brief outline of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme Projects for the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

**4. General Municipal Allocation (GMA) 2017**

The Meetings Administrator noted correspondence he had received from Councillor Teskey in relation to the GMA 2017 and on the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor O’Donoghue it was agreed that €2,000 be allocated to Foynes Yacht Club under the GMA 2017.

**5. Service Operations – Planning & Environmental Services**

**Update on the Taking-In-Charge of An Curran Estate, Pallaskenry**

Circulated, report of the Staff Officer, Planning and Environmental Services dated 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2017 giving an update on the taking in charge of An Curran, Pallaskenry. The report was noted by Members.

**6. Service Operations – Operations & Maintenance Services**

**Traffic Calming at Kilcornan**

Circulated, report of the A/Senior Engineer, Operations & Maintenance Services dated 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2017 setting out an update on proposed traffic calming scheme for Kilcornan. The report was noted by Members.

**7. Sewer in Adare**

The Director, Regional Services informed the Members that proposals were in place to service the Council lands in Adare by way of a sewerage pipe to be laid along the N21. She noted that the Social Development Directorate were looking at options for the site and would engage with the District Members in relation to same. Councillor Keary noted his previous request for master plans for the site to be brought to the District. Councillor Sheahan noted the previous request that affordable sites be made available on these Council lands and that a policy in relation to same be brought to the November Meeting of the full Council.

**8. Flooding Issues in Askeaton**

Circulated, report of the A/Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division dated 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2017 setting out an update on proposals to address flooding issues at Askeaton.

Members noted the ongoing risk of flooding in Askeaton associated with high tides and stormy weather and stressed the importance of flood defences being provided in Askeaton.

**9. Footpath from Kildimo to the Beer Garden Public House**

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Design and Delivery, giving an update on the incomplete footpath from Kildimo to the Beer Garden Public House. The report, as circulated was noted by Members.

## QUESTIONS

### **10. Question submitted by Councillor K. Sheahan**

**I will ask at the next Meeting for the detection rate of illegal waste dumping in Rathkeale and the surrounding townlands.**

**REPLY:** The Council investigates all litter / waste incidents reported in the Rathkeale and surrounding areas.

However, it is often the case that evidence is not recovered from the dumped material.

In 2017, 12 spot fines have been issued to date, two court cases are pending and there have been four successful prosecutions under Litter / Waste legislation in the Askeaton area.

Councillor Sheahan noted the extent of litter generated in Rathkeale arising from the activities of unlicensed traders and called for litter wardens to be put in place for the two weeks up to Christmas. Members agreed that the most appropriate time for litter wardens to operate during this period would be between 1.00 p.m. and 9.00 p.m.

### **11. Question submitted by Councillor E. O'Brien**

**I will ask at the next Meeting under what circumstances tenants of social housing are required to paint and maintain their houses.**

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council tenants are required to maintain their property in accordance with the letting agreement. The current 'Letting Agreement – Housing Act 1966 (As Amended)' stipulates the following:

Section 6:

*"The Tenant(s) shall, during the tenancy, keep the house and every part thereof, in a clean and proper state and shall not allow any refuse or offensive matter to accumulate in any portion thereof."*

Section 13:

*"The Tenant(s) shall be responsible for all internal decoration and for any breakage of glass and any damage to fixtures, fittings or the structure of the dwelling, and for the proper maintenance of fences, including gates, of the garden or plot and shall cause to make good any damage or breakage without delay and where such works, damage, or breakage is carried out or repaired by the Council, shall pay the cost of such works to the Council."*

Councillor O'Brien sought clarity on the obligations on tenants to maintain the outside of their properties and noted that he would submit a Motion in this regard for the next Meeting.

### **NOTICE OF MOTION**

#### **12. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Brien**

**I will move at the next Meeting that, in light of the recent EPA report, this District calls on Irish Water to prioritise a waste water treatment facility for Foynes to prevent waste water flowing into the Shannon estuary.**

The Motion was proposed by Councillor O'Brien and seconded by Councillor Sheahan. Members discussed the inadequacy of sewerage treatment facilities at Foynes and other locations along and near the estuary and following discussion it was agreed that the Motion should be amended to read;

"In light of the recent EPA report, this District calls on Irish Water to prioritise waste water treatment facilities for Foynes, Askeaton and Shanagolden to prevent waste water flowing into the Shannon Estuary and to provide proper backup facilities for pumping stations in the event of a power outage".

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor McMahon it was agreed that the District should write to the EPA pointing out that their recent report, highlighting the pumping of untreated sewage to waters, should have made reference to Askeaton where the overflow pipes at the treatment plant discharge untreated sewage to waters during periods of high rainfall. The correspondence should also point out that the licence granted by the EPA for the treatment plant at Askeaton required the construction of a new waste water treatment plant and ancillary works, new pumping station and stormwaters storage capacity by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2014 and this had not been compiled with.

#### **13. Correspondence**

Correspondence, as circulated, was noted by Members.

At the conclusion of the Agenda and with the consent of the Cathaoirleach, Members raised the following issues:-

- Councillor Keary requested an update on the drainage issue at Courtmatrix and requested that this go on the agenda for the next District Meeting.
- Councillor Keary sought an update on why the number of social housing units proposed for Adare had been reduced from 30 to 20.

- Councillor Keary requested an update on proposal for a pedestrian controlled crossing for Adare. The Meetings Administrator read out the update that had been circulated to Members in this regard as follows;

Central Services, has spoken informally to Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) about the introduction of a signalised crossing at Adare and they have advised that they have changed zebra crossings to signals at other locations on the national road network over the last few years and that their analysis post installation has indicated a reduction in the road capacity. It should be noted that they are not formally refusing to consider the Council's request for a signalised crossing, but they will need further information. Central Services intend to progress with traffic and pedestrian counts when resources permit and prepare a feasibility report for submission to TII.

Councillor Keary requested that this item appear as a recurring item on Agendas for the District Monthly Meetings.

- Councillor Sheahan requested an update on the request to improve the walkway along the N69 at Askeaton. The Meetings Administrator read out the update that had been circulated to Members in this regard as follows;

The existing gravel walkway is becoming overgrown with grass and difficult to walk on despite having been cleared earlier in the year. The Council will clear it again once all the leaves have fallen from the overhanging trees. The Executive Engineer, Rathkeale Area Office will cost a proposal to provide a macadam surface that will require less maintenance and be easier to clean with a sweeper.

- Councillor O'Donoghue raised the issue of community concerns at the proposed route of the Croom Distributor Road and requested an update from the Design Team before Christmas.  
The Director, Regional Services undertook to organise a workshop in this regard.
- Following discussion it was agreed that the December Meeting of the District would take place on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2017 at 5.00 p.m.
- It was agreed that a Special Meeting to consider the Part VIII associated with proposed traffic calming in Rathkeale should take place on the 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2017 at 6.30 p.m. and be preceded by a workshop on the same topic at 6.00 p.m.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathaoirleach**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_