

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST HELD IN ÁRAS WILLIAM SMITH OBRIEN, NEWCASTLE WEST, CO. LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH FEBRUARY, 2018, AT 10AM.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor M. Collins, Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Browne, Foley, Scanlan, Sheahan and Galvin.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Senior Executive Officer, Design and Delivery Services, (Mr. J. Delaney), Senior Executive Engineer, West Division (Mr. B. Noonan), Meetings Administrator, Newcastle West (Ms. M. Corbett), Executive Engineer, Roads (Mr. P. Vallely), Administrative Officer, Property Services, (Ms. T. Knox) Clerical Officer, Newcastle West (Ms. A. Lenihan).

At the outset of the Meeting, the Senior Executive Officer noted the apologies of the Director who was unavailable to attend.

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Newcastle West held on 10th January, 2018.

Proposed by: Councillor Galvin

Seconded by: Councillor Foley

And Resolved:

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

2. Disposal of Land

Circulated, report of Administrative Officer, Property Services, dated 26th January, 2018, concerning proposal to dispose of land which includes the former Council Library at Knockaderry to Knockaderry Clouncagh Resource Centre Limerick CLG.

Members noted the proposal.

3. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €500 to footpath upgrades at Daar River, Newcastle West.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to public lighting at Bishop St. Newcastle West.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Foley, it was agreed to allocate €2,500 to footpath upgrades at Gortboy, Newcastle West.

In response to a query from Councillor Galvin on funding allocated to Templeglantine GAA Club, the Executive Engineer, Roads, confirmed that the group can commence works once weather conditions are suitable. In response to a query from Councillor Scanlan on funding provided for public lighting at Broadford and Feenagh, the Senior Executive Engineer stated that these works were to be completed within the next few weeks.

4. Operations and Maintenance Services

To receive update on the provision of new graveyard in Abbeyfeale

It was agreed to defer this item to the next meeting due to the absence of the Director, Service Operations.

At this point, Cllr. Collins indicated that he had to leave the Meeting and the Chair was taken by Cllr. Foley for the remainder of the Meeting.

QUESTIONS

5. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for a litter bin to be provided at the bus stop near the Church in Abbeyfeale.

REPLY: A survey has been carried out with regard to the location and number of litter bins within Abbeyfeale. There are 14 bins within the town. With regard to the above location, there is one bin within 10 metres of this location and three further litter bins within 100m of the location.

Councillor Galvin stated the importance of having a litter bin at the bus stop in Abbeyfeale and the Members requested that a litter bin be provided at this location on a trial basis. Members also stated that litter bins in some areas that are in need of repair. In reply the Senior Executive Engineer, West Division, stated that he would arrange for conditional surveys to be carried out on existing litter bins.

6. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting if the following roads are on the roads repair programme and if not, can they be included:

(a) L7093 Dromtrasna

- (b) Healy's Forge to Horan's Cross***
- (c) Cotter's Cross to Leahy's Cross Ballybehy***
- (d) Four cross roads at the top of the hill (Collins Garage) towards Dromtrasna***

- REPLY:** (a) L7093 Dromtrasna - this roadway can be considered under the 2020 – 2021 Roads Reconstruction Programme subject to the availability of funding. As an interim measure tar patching will be carried out on this roadway.
- (b) Healy's Forge to Horan's Cross - this roadway forms part of the 2018 Roads Reconstruction Programme
- (c) Cotter's Cross to Leahy's Cross Ballybehy - this roadway forms part of the 2018 Surface Dressing Roads Programme
- (d) Four cross roads at the top of the hill (Collins Garage) towards Dromtrasna - this roadway forms part of the 2019 Roads Reconstruction Programme.

The Roads noted above which are due to be completed in 2018 and 2019 are also subject to the availability of funding from the Department.

7. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the progress for the dredging of the River in Athea.

REPLY: The Council are awaiting approval of the CFRAM schemes from the Office of Public Works. The plans with the proposed measures for the areas studied by the CFRAM need the approval of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform before any funding can be allocated. The plans are currently with the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform and the OPW await approval from the Minister.

The measures proposed for Athea involve the construction of approximately 150m embankment on the east bank upstream of the bridge and approximately 150m wall on the west bank downstream of the bridge. The estimated costs of the Athea Flood Relief Scheme are €381,747 which falls within the threshold for Minor Works. It is likely that the Council may be requested to advance this scheme as a pre-approved Minor Works scheme. However, the Council cannot proceed with advancing any of the CFRAM schemes until approval is received from the Office of Public Works.

Councillor Galvin stated works needed to commence in Athea. In replying, the Senior Executive Officer stated that approval of the CFRAM schemes from the Office of Public Works is awaited. It was agreed that the Senior Executive Engineer would follow up on this matter with the Office of Public Works.

8. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting that the TII be requested to consider safety measures for traffic entering the N21 at Buckley's Cross, Templeglantine, from the northern side.

REPLY: Contact will be made with the TII with regard to the safety measures at the above location.

9. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting when drainage issues and works to the footpaths at Kilready, Castlemahon, will be completed.

REPLY: Works will be carried out in this area in the coming months.

Councillor Scanlan stated that works are urgently required at this location. In replying, the Executive Engineer, Roads, stated that works will be carried out as soon as possible.

10. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting that low cost safety measures be considered at Bohard Cross, Kilmeedy.

REPLY: An application for this junction was submitted as part of the 2018 Low Cost Safety Scheme to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. We have been informed this week that this application was successful and it is expected that upgrade works will be carried out over the coming months.

11. Question submitted by Councillor F. Foley

I will ask at the next meeting when will the contractor return and finish the over lay at Knocknagorna Bridge in Athea.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council Roads crew have carried out repairs at this location.

Councillor Foley queried whether retention was part of the contract for these works and the Senior Executive Engineer stated that he would follow up on this matter.

Councillor Sheahan also noted pipe laying by Gas Networks Ireland and complimented the Roads Executive Engineer, Adare/Rathkeale Municipal District on ensuring that road standards are being maintained following these works.

12. Question submitted by Councillor M. Collins

I will ask at the next meeting if the Council would arrange to collect the first cut of grass at the commencement of the grass-cutting programme.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council intend collecting the first cut of grass as part of the 2018 grass-cutting programme.

NOTICES OF MOTION

13. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that the footpath below McElligott's Pharmacy at Bridge Street, Abbeyfeale, be power washed.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

In replying, the Senior Executive Engineer stated that the area would be brought to the standard necessary for pedestrians.

14. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that emergency drainage works be carried out at Parkanna, Athea.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin outlined the issues with flooding in the area.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

In replying, the Executive Engineer stated that emergency works were carried out. However, he noted that he required the assistance of local landowners in order to carry out more substantial drainage works and would be in contact with the relevant landowners.

REPLY: Emergency works have been carried out at this location.

15. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will move at the next Meeting that funding be provided to enable a Public Realm Study be prepared for Dromcollogher Town.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Browne.

In replying, the Senior Executive Officer stated that the Director, Service Operations had committed to commence a Public Realm Study for Dromcollogher Town.

REPLY: The Council's Urban & Village Renewal Department will commence the preparation of a Public Realm Plan for Dromcollgher in 2018.

16. Correspondence

Correspondence as circulated was noted by Members.

The Meetings Administrator provided an update in relation to correspondence from Office of Minister of State for the OPW, regarding responsibility for the River Feale and River Allaughaun, Abbeyfeale.

The Members also raised the issues the Roche family are experiencing at New St., Abbeyfeale and again requested that a formal proposal be sent by the Council's Chief Executive to the OPW with regard to a derogation under the OPW Relocation Scheme for the purchase of a house for the family.

The Members also agreed that a Senior Official from the Council should be appointed to liaise directly with the Roche family. Councillor Collins noted that he is awaiting a response on a number of queries he raised with regard to New St. Abbeyfeale. In response, the Senior Executive Officer, stated that he would follow up on these matters.

The recent announcement by the Minister of State, Mr. Patrick O'Donovan T.D., with regard to €1.59m being made available for housing at Colbert Terrace Abbeyfeale was also raised. The Members stated that it was disappointing that they had not been informed by the Council of this allocation. They also stated that the timing of the announcement was insensitive given the issues with the Roche house at New St., Abbeyfeale. In response, the Senior Executive Officer, stated that Design and Delivery Services will advise the relevant Elected Members when approvals for housing schemes are received in the future.

The Senior Executive Engineer gave an update with regard to the proposed Community Burial Ground at Tournafulla and advised that the Council will provide assistance in undertaking percolation tests of the site being considered by the Community Group. He noted that the Council would also carry out further surveys and a mapping exercise to ascertain how many plots are available within the existing burial ground. Thereafter a meeting will be arranged with the local committee.

The Members also raised issues with the condition of St. Ita's Road, Abbeyfeale, and asked for an inspection to be carried out. They referred to the erection of poles for the installation of CCTV cameras in Abbeyfeale and stated that concrete works are required on the footpaths around the poles.

Discussion took place on the maintenance of public lighting and the length of time to carry out repairs. It was agreed that the Members would forward their comments with regard to this matter to the Senior Executive Engineer for follow up with the service provider.

It was also agreed to hold a Meeting of the Joint Policing Committee (JPC) Sub Committee on Wednesday, 7th March, 2018, at 9.00 a.m., at Áras William Smith OBrien.

It was agreed to hold the March Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 7th March, 2018, at 10.00 a.m., at Áras William Smith OBrien.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____