

# **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST HELD IN ÁRAS WILLIAM SMITH OBRIEN, NEWCASTLE WEST, CO. LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2018, AT 10AM.**

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Browne, Foley, Scanlan, Sheahan and Galvin.

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director, Service Operations (Mr. G. Daly), Senior Executive Engineer, West Division (Mr. B. Noonan), Meetings Administrator, Newcastle West (Ms. M. Corbett), Executive Engineer, Roads (Mr. P. Vallely), Clerical Officer, Newcastle West (Ms. A. Lenihan).

**1. Adoption of Minutes**

- (a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Newcastle West held on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

Proposed by: Councillor Foley  
Seconded by: Councillor Sheahan  
And Resolved:

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

- (b) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of the Joint Policing Sub Committee Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West held on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

Proposed by: Councillor Galvin  
Seconded by: Councillor Sheahan  
And Resolved:

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

- (c) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West on Roads held on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

Proposed by: Councillor Foley  
Seconded by: Councillor Sheahan  
And Resolved:

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

- (d) Circulated copy of draft Minutes of Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West on Housing held on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2018.

Proposed by: Councillor Scanlan

Seconded by: Councillor Galvin

And Resolved:

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

## **2. Deputation**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed representatives from Tournafulla/Mountcollins Parish Finance Committee, and noted the procedures for receiving delegations. The Deputation consisted of Fr. Denis Mullane, Ms. Eileen Moroney, and Mr. Johnny Walsh.

Fr. Denis Mullane addressed the Meeting and stated in 2014 a piece of ground for a graveyard became available for purchase but it was felt at the time that this site was too expensive. He stated that another site of 1.7 acres had now become available and the cost involved is reasonable. He also stated that the landowner in question is willing to provide a right of way for the graveyard and Mr. Walsh outlined that the proposed site is adjacent to the Old Cemetery. Fr. Mullane asked if the Council could assist with determining if the site is suitable for a graveyard.

In response, the Director of Services stated that this matter was raised previously and that the proposed new site would have to be tested. Also a more detailed survey of the existing graveyard would be required to ascertain the number of sites remaining. He also stated that the best way to progress this matter would be to have a Meeting with the Parish Finance Committee and the Council and this is to be arranged.

The Members thanked Fr. Mullane and the delegation for their attendance.

## **3. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)**

On the proposal of Councillor Scanlan, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €1,500 for road repairs at Ballyduhig, Raheenagh.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Athea Tidy Towns.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €500 to Mountcollins Community First Responder Group.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Athea Tidy Towns.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €700 to Fleadh by the Feale.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Mountcollins Community Centre.

On the proposal of Councillor Browne, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €700 to Fleadh by the Feale.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Mountcollins Community Centre.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €700 to Fleadh by the Feale.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €2,000 to Drainage Works at Abbeyfeale and Athea.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Athea Tidy Towns.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Scanlan, it was agreed to allocate €4,000 to Knockaderry/Clouncagh Community Council.

#### **4. Operations and Maintenance Services**

##### **To receive update on the provision of new graveyard in Abbeyfeale**

The Director of Services gave an update on the provision of a new graveyard in Abbeyfeale. He stated that work is ongoing and every effort is being made to identify a suitable site. The Members stated that progress was required and although the proposed site at Clash road may not be ideal, the costs associated with developing this site were requested for the next Meeting.

#### **QUESTIONS**

##### **5. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the junctions on the N21.*

**REPLY:** Following a presentation to the Newcastle West Municipal District Meeting last December, it was agreed that six of the 15 junctions between the Killarney Pole to the County boundary would be prioritised with respect to a submission for funding to TII. The six junctions are:

N21/L7091 Wards Cross

N21/L7056 Tullig/Forge Cross  
N21/L7055 Glantine GAA  
N21/L7058 Dunakenna  
N21/R576 Brosna-Rock  
N21/L7093 Dromtrasna

A letter was issued to TII in January requesting a funding allocation to carry out more detailed surveys and designs for the introduction of right turn lanes at the junctions listed above.

TII replied to the Council's request for funding on the 16<sup>th</sup> March. A copy of their correspondence is attached.

In summary, they have indicated that there is one junction that merits further investigation based on their most recent analysis of High Collision locations. The junction that they are referring to is the N21/L7091 Junction Wards Cross. They will be requesting Limerick City and County Council to design an appropriate scheme to deal with safety issues at Wards Cross, carry out an economic appraisal of any proposed works, fully cost the scheme and submit it to them for approval.

They have also indicated that while the other junctions have not been identified in their most recent list of High Collision Locations, it does not preclude the Council from submitting a feasibility report for safety improvements at other locations. The preparation of these other feasibility reports would not be funded by TII. To progress with more detailed surveys and designs for the introduction of right turn lanes at the other locations would require significant resources to be invested on the Council's part. These resources are not available at present. The Council's technical staff will however work with TII on developing safety improvements at Wards Cross.

## **6. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

*I will ask at the next Meeting (a) how many vacant houses are in Council ownership within the Municipal District of Newcastle West (b) where are these houses (c) how many people are on the housing waiting list within this District (d) how many people are on the HAP Scheme within the District (e) how many houses have the Council purchased in 2017 and 2018 within this District and where are the houses located.*

### **REPLY:**

	<b>Questions</b>	<b>Response</b>
a)	No. of vacant council houses in NCW District	10 (2 long term voids, 1 under offer, 7 currently being renovated)
b)	Where are these houses	Unable to provide details due to Data Protection constraints

c)	How many people are on the Housing Waiting List within the District	382
d)	How many people on the HAP Scheme within the District	214
e)	How many houses have the Council purchased in 2017/2018 and where are the houses located	8 in 2017 and 1 in 2018 (Unable to provide addresses due to Data Protection constraints)

**7. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

*I will ask at the next Meeting (a) how many derelict properties are in the Municipal District of Newcastle West (b) where are these properties located (c) how many derelict site notices were issued in 2017 (d) how many are currently being followed up.*

- REPLY:**
- (a) There are 61 current open cases in relation to derelict properties in the Newcastle West District.
  - (b) These properties are located in the following locations Glin (5) Athea (1) Ardagh (0) Newcastle West (30) Abbeyfeale (11) Tournafulla (2) Ashford (1) Broadford (1) Dromcollogher (3) Rural Locations (7)
  - (c) There were 15 Derelict Site notices issued in 2017 in the Newcastle West Municipal District.
  - (d) All cases are currently being followed up.

**8. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan**

*I will ask at the next Meeting if footpath renewal can be undertaken to the side and rear of No.s 16 and 17 Michael Harnett Close, Newcastle West, in the interest of safety.*

- REPLY:** Footpath renewal works will be carried out at the above mentioned locations during 2018.

**9. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan**

*I will ask at the next Meeting if a directional sign can be put in place at Cooliska Cross, indicating the location of Coolyroe GAA Grounds.*

- REPLY:** A finger post application will need to be submitted by Feohanagh Castlemahon GAA to the Council's Planning Department seeking permission for the erection of the above mentioned sign.

**10. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan**

*I will ask at the next Meeting when resurfacing works will be undertaken to the approach road and to the area fronting Killough-O-Liathan Cemetery at Banemore, Bradford.*

**REPLY:** This roadway is not included in the Roads Schedule and is therefore a private property.

**11. Question submitted by Councillor M. Collins**

*I will ask at the next Meeting if graffiti on the walls at Carrig Desmond Newcastle West can be cleaned.*

**REPLY:** The removal/covering of this graffiti will be carried out in the coming weeks.

**NOTICES OF MOTION**

**12. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

*I will move at the next Meeting that a crash barrier be put in place from Springmount towards Leahy's Cross and from Leahy's Cross towards Kelliher's house, Ballaugh North as this is a very dangerous stretch of road.*

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin stated that this is a dangerous stretch of road and asked if the crash barrier could be extended. A Programme of Works was required for this project.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Browne.

**REPLY:** There is currently no funding available for an extension to the crash barrier in the areas noted above. However if funding becomes available, this project will be considered.

**13. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

*I will move at the next Meeting that this Council call for urgent and immediate action to be taken at the Town Park/John Moloney's land, Abbeyfeale, regarding land erosion.*

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin stated that land was being eroded by the River near the Town Park and John Moloney's land. He stated that the OPW needed to take ownership of the River Feale in order to put plans in place to tackle the erosion issue. The other Members concurred with the sentiments raised and noted that the River Feale was beginning to change its course. It was also raised that trees along the course of the river could be dislodged and potentially damage the Feale Bridge. They also referred to the works carried out by Irish Water near the Water Treatment Plant. Reference was also made to the OPW Voluntary Home Relocation Scheme, which only dealt with householders who experienced flooding and not erosion issues. It was also noted that Members should contact local TDs

requesting a change in the criteria for this scheme. The carrying out of surveys on the river and the preparation of a River Basin Management Plan for the River Feale was also raised. The possibility of European funding for works was also discussed.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Sheahan.

In replying, the Director of Services stated that the Council can raise issues on any part of Limerick but carrying out surveys and works on rivers was not part of its remit.

**REPLY:** The lands in question are not in the ownership of Limerick City and County Council.

#### **14. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan**

*I will move at the next Meeting that the issue of access routes for the Ambulance Service to enter the Demesne, Newcastle West be reviewed in the interest of Health & Safety.*

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Scanlan stated that a situation arose recently where the ambulance service was required to enter the Demesne. He asked could access routes for the Demesne be reviewed.

Councillor Collins stated that a number of different organisations use the Demesne and have master keys. He asked if a sign with these contact details could be erected at the entrance to the Demesne.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Collins.

**REPLY:** There is a height restriction barrier at the entrance to The Demesne as well as a number of locked gateways within the Park.

Master keys were issued by Limerick City and County Council to the Emergency Services and to clubs/organisations who have facilities within the Demesne. Limerick City and County Council have records of who was issued with keys but if additional keys are required please advise.

#### **15. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan**

*I will move at the next Meeting that either a speed limit or speed indicators be put in place along both the Eastern and Western approaches to Coolyroe GAA Grounds.*

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Scanlan stated that there are approximately 14/15 householders in the area with various games taking place at Coolyroe GAA Grounds.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Collins.

**REPLY:** This location can be considered under the next Speed Limit Review. Repeater signs can be erected on the approaches to Coolyroe GAA Grounds as an interim measure.

## **16. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Collins**

*I will move at the next Meeting that speed ramps be installed at the entrance to Carraig Desmond Housing Estate, Newcastle West to control traffic speed in the estate.*

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Collins stated that there was a near accident recently at this location and that there is a long avenue going into the estate.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Scanlan.

**REPLY:** The Council has adopted at the March 2018 Meeting a new policy for Traffic Calming in Urban Areas. The above mentioned request will be assessed with regard to the requirement of this policy.

Prior to the conclusion of the Meeting, Councillor Collins wished Norma Prendeville well in the forthcoming Éigse Michael Hartnett Literary and Arts Festival which is due to take place from 12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2018. The Director of Services stated that it is a wonderful festival and wished the committee best of luck for 2018.

The Great Southern Greenway was also raised with regard to the incorporation of the Barnagh Tunnel. The Old Railway House in Ardagh was discussed but it was noted that this is in private ownership. The Members requested an update on works on the Greenway for the June Municipal District Meeting.

The recent Special Meeting on Roads was referred to and the Members queried if the report on additional roads funding had been prepared. If completed, the Members wished to submit a Notice of Motion regarding additional roads funding to the next Full Council Meeting. The Senior Executive Engineer stated that the report was complete and the Notice of Motion would be forwarded for the next Meeting.

Pedestrian access through Brewery Lane, Newcastle West was also raised and it was noted that the Council have no ownership of this laneway. However contact has been made with the relevant keyholders regarding the re-opening of the laneway.

The Senior Executive Engineer gave an update on double yellow lines being placed at the entrance to Marian Place, Glin and on the Garda parking bay also in Glin.

It was agreed to hold the March Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2018, at 10.00 a.m., at Áras William Smith OBrien.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

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**Cathaoirleach**

Dated:

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