

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 MARCH, 2018, AT 10AM.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Browne, Foley, Sheahan and Galvin.
Apologies: Councillor Scanlan

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), Senior Executive Officer, Economic Development Directorate (Mr. B. Kennedy), Technician, Economic Development Directorate (Mr. J. O'Connor), Assistant Planner, Planning & Environmental Services (Mr. S. Martin), Head of Digital Strategy, (M. Bilauca), Senior Staff Officer, Community Support Services, (P. McDermott), Researcher, Digital Strategy, (Reka Petercsak), Arts Officer, Culture & Arts (S. Deegan), Clerical Officer, Newcastle West (Ms. A. Lenihan). Matt Packer, EVA International.

1. Adoption of Minutes

- (a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Newcastle West held on 7th February, 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”.

2. Economic Development Directorate

To receive update on the Great Southern Greenway Limerick

Mr. B. Kennedy, Senior Executive Officer, gave a presentation to Members on works completed to date with regard to the upgrade of the Great Southern Greenway Limerick. Works included the following:

- Re-surfacing Works
- New Farm and Road Crossing Gates
- New Fencing
- New Signage, Furniture and Cycle Stands
- Culvert Reconstruction at Abbeyfeale

He also referred to the proposed incorporation of the Barnagh Tunnel and noted that additional funding would be required to progress this project. He suggested that the scope of works for this project could be altered to lessen costs. He also noted that the Greenway will be officially launched within the coming months.

The Members welcomed the upgrade of the Greenway and complimented the staff involved in progressing the project.

They queried cattle crossing on some parts of the trail, signage for Purt Castle, additional planting of hardwood trees at Tullig Wood, the marketing of the Greenway, the possibility of placing play equipment on the Greenway and the extension of the Greenway at Ballingrane and also the extension of the Greenway into Kerry. Members also stated that additional funding should be sought for the incorporation of the Barnagh Tunnel which should proceed as originally envisaged.

In response, the Senior Executive Officer, acknowledged that additional re surfacing works are required on some parts of the Greenway and that the signage for Purt Castle is being finalised. The planting at Tullig Wood would be discussed with the Horticultural Section and he noted that play areas are more suited to a looped trail. He stated that the Greenway is being marketed by the Council's Marketing Section and Fáilte Ireland.

3. Culture and Arts

To receive presentation on Artist in Schools Programme taking place at Ahalin, Raheenagh and Mahoonagh National School.

Ms. S. Deegan, Arts Officer, outlined the Artist in Schools Programme and noted that the Programme was held at three primary schools within this District. The programme is designed to enhance and diversify creative education at primary schools by providing students with opportunities to actively engage in contemporary cultural production while working with professional creative practitioners. Mr. M. Packer then outlined the projects delivered at Ahalin, Raheenagh and Mahoonagh schools.

He also referenced the 38th EVA International Festival, which will be held in Limerick from the 14th April to 8th July, 2018. He noted that 27 different countries will be represented at the event.

The Arts Officer, also noted that Creative Ireland were developing a Creative Youth Plan and also referenced the additional funding which was made available by the Council to progress youth projects.

The Members welcomed the Artist in Schools Programme but stated that a more geographical spread of schools with the District was required for future programmes.

4. Schedule of Works for the Municipal District of Newcastle West

To consider Draft Schedule of Works for the Municipal District of Newcastle West.

Circulated, report of Director of Services, dated 26th February, 2018, setting out the details of the Draft Schedule of Works for the Municipal District of Newcastle West 2018.

Members, in welcoming the report, thanked staff for the work, which had gone into compiling the Schedule and also complimented all staff with regard to work carried out in the aftermath of Storm Emma. They also noted that the works proposed in the Schedule covered much of the District and referred to the additional funding which was made available for works as part of the budget process. The Relief Roads for Newcastle West and Abbeyfeale and staff resources were also discussed.

The Members referred to the poor condition of some roads in the Municipal District of Newcastle West following the winter months. Following discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Sheahan and seconded by Cllr. Collins that Special Meeting be held on road conditions within the District.

5. General Municipal Allocation Operations and Maintenance Services

(a) To review position in relation to allocations under the General Municipal Allocation 2018.

This item was noted.

(b) To consider Newcastle West General Municipal Roads Allocation 2018.

The Senior Executive Engineer circulated list of projects for consideration under the Local Roads Programme of General Municipal Allocation 2018.

It was proposed to allocate funds to the following projects:

- | | |
|---|---------|
| • Carrigkerry Footpaths | €15,000 |
| • Castlemahon Footpaths | €15,000 |
| • Newcastle West, Beechwood Gardens Estate, - Footpaths | €20,000 |
| • Newcastle West, Knockane Road – Footpaths | €10,000 |
| • Broadford Village Footpaths | €10,000 |
| • Abbeyfeale, Footpaths | €20,000 |

- Ballydonnell, Feohanagh – Road Widening € 5,000

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Foley, it was agreed to allocate funding as set out above.

The Senior Executive Engineer also advised the Members of the footpath repair projects which are being funded by Irish Public Bodies Insurance for 2018.

6. Operations and Maintenance Services

To receive update on the provision of new graveyard in Abbeyfeale

Circulated, reports of A/Senior Engineer, Operations and Maintenance Services, dated 30th January, 2018, and 27th February, 2018, giving an update on progress in relation to the provision of a new graveyard in Abbeyfeale.

The Members raised concerns regarding the Clash Road site and the additional site development costs such as the provision of car parking and public lighting. The Members noted that trial hole investigation had been positive at this site and queried the next stage in the process. The Director gave an outline on this.

7. Digital Strategy

To receive presentation on the Smart CCTV Project.

Dr. M. Bilauca, Head of Digital Strategy, gave a presentation to Members on works completed to date with regard to the Smart CCTV Project. He outlined the costs involved with progressing Phase 1 of the project along with details of the towns where the cameras are being installed. He also gave details on the specifications of the cameras. It was also noted that under Phase 2 of the project, it is proposed to install cameras at 13 additional locations subject to the availability of funding.

The Members welcomed the progress on the project and queried if the cameras were operational at present and if so, who had access to the system. Funding from the Department of Justice for community groups for the installation of cctv cameras was also discussed. Broadband in Newcastle West was also raised.

In response, the Head of Digital Strategy, noted that legal advice had been sought with regard to the security and privacy of the system. There would be no third party access other than access by specified bodies in line with Data Protection legislation and privacy laws applied to all. With regard to broadband in Newcastle West, the Council had informed the service provider of the requirements to apply for a road opening licence and had also offered to meet with the service provider.

8. Service Operations Directorate

Taking in Charge of Estates – Declaration of Roads to be Public Roads

To consider the Taking in Charge of Estates Arra View, Newcastle West and Carrig Desmond, Newcastle West, in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000-2017, and Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993.

Circulated, report of the A/Senior Planner, Planning and Environmental Services, dated 23rd February, 2018.

Proposed by Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Sheahan and resolved:

“That, Estates Arra View, Newcastle West and Carrig Desmond, Newcastle West, be taken in charge in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000-2017, and Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993”.

9. Service Operations Directorate – Planning and Environment

To consider the Chief Executive’s Report prepared pursuant to Section 179(3)(a) of the Planning and Development Acts, 2000 – 2017, as amended, and Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 – 2018, as amended, in relation to the construction of a Regional Athletics Hub in Cloonysrehane, Cork Road, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.

Circulated, report of Chief Executive, dated 5th March, 2018, in relation to the construction of a Regional Athletics Hub In Cloonysrehane, Cork Road, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick. The report has been prepared in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) and it is proposed to proceed in accordance with Section 5 of the report.

Members welcomed the proposed works and thanked Council officials for their work to date on the project. The Director stated that funding is in place to progress the project but additional funding would be required given the scope of works.

The report was proposed by Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Galvin and agreed.

10. Request to receive Deputation from Tournafulla/Mountcollins Parish Committee.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Sheahan, it was agreed to receive a Deputation from Tournafulla/Mountcollins Parish Finance Committee at the April Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West.

QUESTIONS

11. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the re-opening of Brewery Lane, Newcastle West.

REPLY: The key holder for the gate at the Market Yard entrance to Brewery Lane has been verbally contacted on a number of occasions regarding the continued opening of the laneway to the public. They have also been written to requesting same and we are awaiting a response to this correspondence.

A query was raised in relation to establishment of right of way at Brewery Lane, Newcastle West. The Senior Executive Engineer indicated that there is not a registered right of way at Brewery Lane, Newcastle West.

12. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the repair to the fence at the sewerage plant in Tournafulla (Sean Scanlon's land).

REPLY: Irish Water has approved new fencing for Tournafulla Waste Water Treatment Plant No. 1 (West). Limerick City & County Council Water Services staff are liaising with Irish Water Security team in order to complete the procurement process on this project. The elected Members will be updated when contractor has been appointed.

The above response was submitted to the 13th December Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West and the updated position at 31 Jan is outlined below.

Irish Water have approved a new 2.4m high fence for the Tournafulla Plant 1 (West).

A contractor has been appointed for these works and is due on site in the coming weeks to agree works. It is expected that these works will be completed by the end of April 2018.

Update 7th March Meeting

The contractor has been on site and has completed site surveys and is currently completing design work. It is anticipated that the contractor will commence work at the end of March 2018.

13. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting if the Council could repair the manholes at Pairc Luachra, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick.

REPLY: Repair works will be carried out with regard to the manholes at Pairc Luachra, Abbeyfeale within the next 3 weeks.

14. Question submitted by Councillor F. Foley

I will ask at the next Meeting if funding can be sought to introduce a scheme to replace storage heating units for those tenants who request it.

REPLY: Limerick City & County Council are required to provide an adequate source of heating to Tenants as per the Minimum Housing Standards. At the time of building some Council Stock had storage heaters installed to meet this need. Council Staff are in regular contact with the Department of Housing in relation to funding grants available in terms of storage heating system replacements. Unfortunately, grants for replacements systems are limited as the full replacement cost will vary from between €6,000 and €12,000 depending on the type of dwelling and suitable replacement.

As a Local Authority we invest over €200,000 annually on replacement heating systems across a Council housing stock of almost 5,500 units.

The Members raised queries with regard to the replacement of storage heating units in Local Authority houses and asked if a scheme could be put in place for same. Discussion also took place on the wood pellet stoves and it was agreed to request a meeting with the relevant Operations and Maintenance staff with regard to this matter.

15. Question submitted by Councillor J. Sheahan

I will ask at the next Meeting if double yellow lines can be placed at the entrance to Marian Place, Glin.

REPLY: Marian Place, Glin will be assessed on site for adequate sight lines with regard to the installation of double yellow lines at this location.

16. Question submitted by Councillor J. Sheahan

I will ask at the next Meeting if a Garda parking bay can be placed outside the Garda Station in Glin.

REPLY: A parking area outside the Garda Station in Glin shall be put in place following the completion of drawings and bye-laws.

NOTICES OF MOTION

17. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that a programme be put in place to number all the local roads within this Municipal District.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin asked if road numbers could be placed on all local roads within the District.

In proposing the Notice, Cllr Galvin noted that if local roads had road numbers it would make it easier for emergency services to locate people living on these roads should a need arise. He stated that a programme should be put in place to number local roads on a countywide basis.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Sheahan.

The Senior Executive Engineer stated that this item should be considered at a Meeting of the Travel and Transportation Strategic Policy Committee and Councillor Galvin's Notice of Motion would be referred to this SPC.

18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council draw up a list of litter dumping black spots and apply for grant aid from the recently announced scheme.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin stated that there are a number of litter black spots in the District and that CCTV would be a deterrent in preventing illegal dumping.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

REPLY:

Limerick City & County Council recently received notification of its grant allocation for 2018 in respect of the Anti-Dumping Initiative Scheme and is in the process of compiling a list of suitable projects including the clean-up of litter black spots.

19. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Collins

I will move at the next Meeting that Irish Water improve on how water shut offs and burst water mains are reported when emergency situations arise.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Collins asked if Irish Water could review how they notify the public of water shut offs and burst water mains as some people do not have access to email or social media. Members asked if leaflets could be delivered to households in the event of a planned outage of water supply. It was agreed to refer the matter to Water Services in order for Irish Water to be contacted.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Sheahan.

REPLY:

During normal business hours Limerick City & County Council, on behalf of Irish Water, send email notification to Councillors as soon as the crews have confirmed an emergency outage of supply. The Irish Water website www.water.ie is also updated. The "Supply & Services update" on www.water.ie will have the most recent information on the outage. Customers may also be contacted 1850278278.

Marketing & Communications Section of Limerick City & County Council check Irish Water twitter feed for specific details during normal business hours and retweet the message. Customer Services and Fire Services of Limerick City & County Council are also advised of emergency outages.

If an emergency outage occurs, out-side of normal working hours and continues into the next working day, the Councillors and the above distribution lists receive an email the next working day.

The Notice of Motion has been sent to localrepsupport@water.ie.

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

20. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sheahan

I will move at the next Meeting that this Municipal District call on our CEO and Management team to progress the provision of an eight lane 25m public pool with ancillary public facilities for the County Town of Newcastle West and its hinterland.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Sheahan asked if the CEO and Management could progress the provision of an eight lane 25m public pool.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Galvin.

21. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Sheahan

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council install CCTV cameras to curtail the fly tipping and excessive dumping that is occurring at Glin Pier so as to prevent it becoming a black spot on the Shannon Estuary.

In proposing the Motion Councillor Sheahan stated that fly tipping and excessive dumping has been taking place at Glin Pier and asked if CCTV could be installed at this location. He noted that small all weather cameras could be considered.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

REPLY:

Glin Pier will be assessed for suitability for CCTV cameras and illegal dumping at this location will be kept under review.

The Senior Executive Engineer also noted that responses to the queries raised by the Members with regard to public lighting would be circulated.

It was agreed to hold the April Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 11th April, 2018, at 10.00 a.m., at Áras William Smith Obrien, Newcastle West.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Dated:
