

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST HELD IN ÁRAS WILLIAM SMITH OBRIEN, NEWCASTLE WEST, CO. LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 2nd May, 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), Senior Executive Officer (Mr. J. Delaney), Senior Executive Engineer, Design and Delivery (Mr. K. O’Gorman), Clerical Officer, Newcastle West (Ms. A. Lenihan).

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Newcastle West held on 11th April, 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. Support Services Directorate

Annual Meeting

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Foley, it was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 27th June, 2018, at 10 a.m.

3. Services 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 Abbeyfeale Traffic Management Plan.

Circulated, report of Chief Executive, dated 29th March, 2018, in relation to Abbeyfeale Traffic Management Plan. 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.

A discussion took place on the Abbeyfeale Traffic Management Plan. Members welcomed the proposed works and thanked Council officials for their work to date on the project. However, it was stated that there are still a number of outstanding issues that need to be addressed including on-street car parking, loading bays, traffic lights and a pedestrian crossing in place.

The Director acknowledged the work of the Council officials, Members and Abbeyfeale community on progressing this project and stated that a balance needs to be sought between the vibrancy of the town and traffic management.

It was proposed by Councillor Collins and seconded by Councillor Foley, to defer the decision on the proposed Abbeyfeale Traffic Management Plan for one week and to consider the matter again at a Special Meeting of the Municipal District to be held on Wednesday, 9th May, 2018, at 12 noon.

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

To consider the Taking in Charge of Estate Kilfergus, Glin, 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 Engineer, Planning and Environmental Services, dated 12th April, 2018.

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

“That, Kilfergus Housing Estate, Glin, 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”.

5. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

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

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Scanlan, it was agreed to allocate €1,500 to Abbeyfeale RFC for removal of boundary fence.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Galvin, it was agreed to allocate €1500 for drainage work at Newcastle West.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Galvin, it was agreed to allocate €1500 to Abbeyfeale RFC.

On the proposal of Councillor Browne, seconded by Councillor Galvin, it was agreed to allocate €1500 to Mountcollins Community Centre.

On the proposal of Councillor Browne, seconded by Councillor Galvin, it was agreed to allocate €1000 to Athea Tidy Towns.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Foley, it was agreed to allocate €400 to Desmond Scribblers Writers Club.

(b) To review Development Fund Allocation 2018.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Foley, it was agreed to allocate €70,000 from the Development Fund 2018 to Abbeyfeale Traffic Management Plan.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Foley, it was also agreed to allocate monies from the Development Fund Allocation for 2019 to the Abbeyfeale Traffic Management Plan, once available.

6. 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 in addition to the efforts to date the Council is now seeking expressions of interest from landowners in the Abbeyfeale area who may have a site that could be considered for a new graveyard. The Members stated that a deadline should be given with regard to the receipt of expressions of interest. Discussion also took place on the Clash Road site and its potential to be developed as a graveyard and the costs associated with same.

The Director stated that once the expressions of interest have been received and evaluated, it would be possible to give a time scale on the development of a new graveyard. The Director also requested that this Item be removed from the Municipal District Agenda until the site selection process was completed.

QUESTIONS

7. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting what capacity, if any, is remaining at the Tournafulla sewerage plant.

REPLY: There is no remaining capacity at the waste water treatment plant. Irish Water has provided an update as outlined below in relation to the plant upgrade: Tournafulla is included as a candidate on a National Programme to address smaller WWTPs with a capacity of less than 500 population equivalent. However, the funding available is not sufficient to address the upgrade all sites with poor infrastructure. To ensure critical national needs are addressed, a set of investment priorities will be applied; priority will be given to discharges with the greatest potential environmental impact. Tournafulla will be considered for upgrade as part of this Project. Further assessment will be undertaken in 2018 to complete this prioritisation.

Councillor Galvin's question has been referred to Irish Water on

localrepsupport@water.ie:

8. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for a full detailed report on the upgrade of the sewerage treatment system in Athea village.

REPLY: The contract has just been awarded to TES Group. As it is a design and build it is likely to be 3 or 4 months before any works commence on site.

The duration of contract is 70 weeks from date of award. This includes a 6 month extended performance test period.

Councillor L. Galvin's question has been forwarded on 11th April to localrepsupport@water.ie

9. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting when footpath renewal works will be undertaken along Knockane in the area between Fittens Corner and Scoil Iosaf.

REPLY: Repairs to the above mentioned footpath will be carried out during the summer months.

10. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting (a) the number of Approved Housing Bodies (AHB) who have ownership of property in the Newcastle West Municipal District, (b) the number of Council qualified families/occupants accommodated (c) the names and contacts for these AHB's.

REPLY: (a) There are 10 Approved Housing Bodies operating in the Newcastle

West Municipal District as per the Approved Housing Body Audit 2016.

(b) Limerick City and County Council have 100% nominations to properties delivered through the Capital Advance Leasing Facility (CALF) and Capital Loan Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) Schemes. Nominations to properties delivered through the Capital Assistance Scheme (CAS) vary depending on the terms of the CAS loan. The minimum nomination from the housing waiting list to CAS properties is 75%.

(c)

Approved Housing Body	No. Units	Contact Name
Ardagh Voluntary Housing Association	8	Sheila O'Regan
Cluid Housing	81	James O'Halloran
Corandeeel Voluntary Housing Association	27	Siobhan Reidy
Dromcollogher Voluntary Housing Association	49	Mary O'Doherty
Glin homes for the Elderly	20	Mary O'Doherty
Peter McVerry Trust	4	Gerry Folan
St Ita's Voluntary Housing Association	23	Sr. Elizabeth
St Vincent De Paul NCW	4	Darren Crowe
Tuath Housing	4	Nollaig Barry
Thomond Housing	3	Sean Gallagher
Total	223	

Councillor Scanlan queried the above response and stated that there may be other groups operating in the District. It was agreed that clarification would be sought on this matter from the Social Development Directorate.

11. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting when will the yellow hatching at various junctions/intersections within Newcastle West be renewed.

REPLY: Relining of the yellow boxes at junctions within Newcastle West will be carried out during the Summer months.

Councillor Scanlan asked that consideration also be given to installing yellow hatching on the roadway approaching Woodfield and Killeline Heights Housing Estates as traffic backs up in this area and it can be difficult to get into or out of the estates.

12. Question submitted by Councillor F. Foley

I will ask at the next Meeting when will the trees that were removed at The Square, Abbeyfeale to facilitate the movement of the wind turbines through the town be replaced.

REPLY: Contact has been made with the relevant wind turbine company to replace the trees which were removed. It is expected that the trees will be replaced within the next four weeks.

13. Question submitted by Councillor F. Foley

I will ask at the next Meeting if the refuse bin which was removed from the front of Shanahans house at Boherbui, Newcastle West can be replaced.

REPLY: There is a litterbin in close proximity to the above mentioned location. There are no plans to place additional litterbins on this roadway.

14. Question submitted by Councillor M. Collins

I will ask at the next Meeting if the owners of forestry lands at Glenastar, Ardagh, could be written to and asked to keep their hedgerows cut as per regulations.

REPLY: A letter will be sent to the relevant landowners at Glenastar, Ardagh advising them to maintain their hedgerows in accordance with current regulations.

15. Question submitted by Councillor J. Sheahan

I will ask at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council proceed with the purchase and development of a burial ground for Abbeyfeale and its environs at the site located at Abbeyfeale West on the Clash Road.

REPLY: Limerick City and County Council are actively seeking a suitable site for a new burial ground for Abbeyfeale. In addition to the efforts to date the Council is now seeking expressions of interest from landowners in the Abbeyfeale area who may have a site that could be considered for purchase for a new graveyard. Once the expressions of interest have been received it will be possible to give a time scale on the site selection process for a new graveyard.

NOTICES OF MOTION

16. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council call on Irish Water to immediately upgrade the sewerage treatment plant in Tournafulla.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin stated that difficulty had arisen in obtaining planning permission in the village of Tournafulla as there is no capacity in the existing sewerage treatment plant to cater for additional connections. It was also stated that there is a need for social housing in the village.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

REPLY: The Notice of Motion was referred to Irish Water and the response is outlined below.

Tournafulla is included as a candidate on a National Programme to address smaller WWTPs with a capacity of less than 500 population equivalent. However, the funding available is not sufficient to address the upgrade all sites with poor infrastructure. To ensure critical national needs are addressed, a set of investment priorities will be applied; priority will be given to discharges with the greatest potential environmental impact. Tournafulla will be considered for upgrade as part of this Project. Further assessment will be undertaken in 2018 to complete this prioritisation.

The Director also noted that the proposal for social housing in Tournafulla was rejected by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government due to insufficient demand in the area. The Members also noted that Irish Water are to attend the next Environment SPC.

17. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that a litter bin be placed in Mountcollins Village at the Abbeyfeale side of the church.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin asked if a litter bin could be placed in Mountcollins Village at the Abbeyfeale side of the church. He also asked if a flap could be put on the existing litter bin.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

REPLY: There is a litterbin in close proximity to the above mentioned location. There are no plans to place additional litterbins on this roadway.

18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will move at the next Meeting that the Dromcollogher Public Realm Study be commenced without further delay.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Scanlan stated that a Public Realm Study for Dromcollogher was discussed previously and he awaited details of when the study would commence.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Galvin.

REPLY: I wish to advise that preliminary research work has commenced on this plan by the Urban & Village Renewal Department and that a first meeting will be arranged with the community in May 2018.

19. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Collins

I will move at the next Meeting that speed ramps be installed on the roadway leading to Ash, Oak, Rowan and Sycamore Crescent estates, Newcastle West.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Collins stated that the above area is a busy access point and that speed ramps are warranted at this location.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Scanlan.

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

20. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Sheahan

I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council engage the services of a consultant to work in conjunction with Athea Tidy Towns to draw up an overall plan/vision for the village for future years.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Sheahan stated that a lot of work has been carried out by this Voluntary Group and asked if an overall plan for the village could be drawn up.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

REPLY: There is currently no funding within the Urban & Village Renewal Department Budget 2018 for the appointment of a consultant to undertake this work. However, a meeting will be arranged with the community in Athea as soon as possible to assist in providing advice of the nature requested in relation to the future development of the village.

21. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. Sheahan

I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council design, cost and provide a footpath to Kilfergus Housing Estate, Glin.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Sheahan stated that this is a well built estate and requested that Limerick City and County Council design, cost and provide a footpath to Kilfergus Housing Estate.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Galvin.

REPLY: A feasibility study will be required for this request as there is insufficient road width to provide a footpath between Glin and Kilfergus. There are also restrictions from private dwellings along the route.

The Members, requested an update on the double yellow lines at Marian Place, Glin and the Senior Executive Engineer stated that drawings are being prepared at present.

The provision of a graveyard in Tournafulla was also raised and the Director stated that correspondence had been sent to Tournafulla Burial Ground Committee with regard to this matter. He also noted that tests are to be carried out on the ground proposed by the group and capacity of the existing graveyard is to be ascertained.

European funding for river erosion schemes was also raised and whether there is a contact person from the Council on this matter. The Director stated that clarification will be sought.

The Senior Executive Engineer stated that works are to commence on the N21 at Abbeyfeale with regard to the repair of a culvert. It was noted that the roadway in this area will be reduced to one lane for the duration of the works.

It was also noted that a private Meeting with regard to Newcastle West Pool is to take place Monday, 21st May, 2018, at 10 a.m.

It was agreed that a Municipal District Reception be held to acknowledge the achievements of Feenagh/Kilmeedy Senior Scór Group who recently won the All Ireland Senior Scór Léirú Final.

It was agreed to hold the June Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 13th June, 2018, at 10.00 a.m., at Áras William Smith OBrien.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____