

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD IN ÁRAS SEÁN FINN, NEW LINE ROAD, RATHKEALE, CO. LIMERICK ON MONDAY, 3RD SEPTEMBER, 2018 AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor A. Teskey, An Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Keary, McMahon, O'Brien, O'Donoghue and Sheahan.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director, National and Regional Shared Services Central (Ms. C. Curley), Meetings Administrator (Ms. K. Butler), Senior Executive Technician (Mr. B. Henry), Executive Archaeologist (Ms. S. McCutcheon), Staff Officer (Mr. G. McNamara), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Harnett).

At the outset of the Meeting Councillor Sheahan proposed standing orders be amended in order to discuss suitable dates and times for the holding of a civic reception for the District to honour local sports people for their recent achievements in sport in the County. This proposal was seconded by Councillor Teskey.

It was also proposed should there be no reception in Merchants Quay to honour the players of the Limerick team on their success in the All Ireland hurling final one should be held in Rathkeale. It was agreed to follow this up with Corporate staff in City Hall to ascertain whether or not a reception was being held for the team.

Councillor O'Donoghue proposed a vote of sympathy be extended to the family of Danny Brosnan, the man who died in Ballingarry following a road traffic accident. This was seconded by Councillor Sheahan. All Members wished to be associated with these sentiments.

Councillor Sheahan also proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of Michael Sweeney from Askeaton who died in a motorbike accident in County Tipperary. This was seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue.

Councillor Teskey welcomed everyone to the Meeting and expressed his sympathy's to the families of both men.

1. Kilscannell Graveyard

Councillor Teskey outlined the position with Kilscannell Burial Ground saying correspondence had been issued from the Council to the owners of burial plots at Kilscannell Burial Ground. He went on to say this is a very sensitive matter and distressing to all involved. He enquired if the Senior Executive Technician had liaised with the Church of Ireland body for the Limerick region with a view to taking over the

burial ground at Kilsconnell. Councillor Teskey asked if the Council did take over the Burial Ground what they proposed to do with it? Comparisons were made by the elected Members with Kilsconnell and similar issues that have arisen with Clonsilla Burial Ground. The Senior Executive Technician circulated a report to Members which stated the Church structure which is in a derelict state and in 2010 it was deemed a matter of health and safety with temporary constraints being erected on site. In June 2018 a letter was sent to people who have burial plots in the fenced off area of Kilsconnell Graveyard stating that if Limerick City and County Council had not heard from them by the end of the month an alternative burial plot would be reassigned to them. Councillor Teskey felt because this is such a delicate situation Limerick City and County Council should consider this when writing to people who own the grave spaces.

The Senior Executive Technician informed Members that the Church of Ireland are willing to transfer the burial ground to Limerick City and County Council and he circulated a report from Malachy Walsh and Partners Consulting Engineers dated 18th June, 2010 outlining the details of works to be carried out on site and an estimated cost which would make the site safe. The Senior Executive Technician informed members these costs would be considerably more now in 2018. Funding was applied for at the time from the Department of Heritage to carry out these works, however, this was not forthcoming. Limerick City and County Council had in the interest of health and safety to erect scaffolding to carry out works to make the pinnacles of the structure safe. Following discussion Members agreed the money used to hire scaffolding at that time should have been put towards the hire of a crane to remove the pinnacles. Members also requested the costing of the scaffolding erected in 2010 be made available for the October Monthly Meeting.

From the report Members noted there were a number of unoccupied burial plots in Kilsconnell. The Senior Executive Technician informed Members this was only realised when they were carrying out a survey of the burial ground. At present there are three plots together and two single plots available. Councillor Teskey asked if Limerick City and County Council could write to the families affected at the present time and offer them first refusal of these unoccupied burial plots. All Members expressed concern given the number of "live graves" in Kilsconnell and the fact that people are being prevented from using same. Members agreed a common sense approach was needed to carry out the necessary repair works until funding becomes available to complete all the work required at Kilsconnell.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Dated:
