MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST HELD IN ÁRAS WILLIAM SMITH OBRIEN, NEWCASTLE WEST, CO. LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 9TH JANUARY, 2019, AT 10AM.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor J. Sheahan, Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Collins, Foley, Galvin and Scanlan.

APOLOGIES:

Councillor Browne.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director, Social Development Directorate (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).

At the outset of the Meeting, the Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the first Newcastle West Municipal District Meeting for 2019 and wished all a Happy New Year.

1. Adoption of Minutes

(a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Newcastle West held on 5th December, 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".

(b) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Newcastle West held on 12th December, 2018.

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

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

2. Service Operations Directorate

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

To consider the Taking in Charge of Estate Cois Teampaill, Churchtown, 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 6th December , 2018.

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

"That, Estate Cois Teampaill, Churchtown, 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".

3. Housing Development Directorate

To note progress report from the Housing Development Directorate

Circulated, Housing Progress Report of the Director of Services, Housing Development, dated 4th January, 2019.

The Members welcomed the report but queried the location of the purchased houses which were noted in the report.

4. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Sheahan, it was agreed to allocate €500 to Newcastle West Business Association for Santa's Grotto at Newcastle West.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Scanlan, it was agreed to allocate €500 to Newcastle West Film Club.

On the proposal of Councillor Scanlan, seconded by Councillor Sheahan, it was agreed to allocate €500 to Newcastle West Film Club.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Sheahan, it was agreed to allocate €2,000 for upgrade works at the Hill Road, Abbeyfeale, Co. Limerick.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Galvin, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Glin Men's Shed.

ADJOURNED QUESTIONS

5. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for (a) a detailed breakdown of the allocated budget for housing maintenance in each of the Municipal Districts and the Metropolitan District (b) what is the budget remaining for the Newcastle West District (c) why it is difficult to get maintenance work carried out (d) what other budgets are accessible for housing maintenance (e) is there an emergency budget to carry out works.

REPLY: The table below sets out the budget allocation by district.

	Units		Budget 2018	
District	Number	Percentage	Expenditure	Percentage
Newcastle West	593	12%	€459,620	11%
Metro	3,233	64%	€2,603,284	64%
Cappamore Kilmallock	745	15%	€551,386	13%
Adare Rathkeale	520	10%	€484,926	12%
	5091	100%	€4,099,216	100%

The maintenance budget remaining for works to be undertaken in the Newcastle West District is €13,616. Maintenance work is undertaken on a priority basis and is impacted by availability of contractors and Sugar CRM case load. An additional €150,000 was allocated by the Finance Department to housing maintenance in November 2018 as part of the review of the outturn in preparation of the Draft Budget 2019.

The Members expressed concern on the following:

- re-letting turnaround time for vacant properties including longterm void , casual and purchased properties,
- the budget available for response maintenance per district for 2019 and the response times for routine maintenance requests,
- SEAI deep retrofit scheme,
- planned maintenance,
- funding for disability grants for persons living within local authority housing,
- housing developments within the District.

It was agreed that a Workshop would be held with the relevant Directors of Service with regard to these matters.

6. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for a detailed breakdown of when the vacant houses in Abbeyfeale, Athea, Mountcollins, Tournafulla and Templeglantine will be occupied.

REPLY: Houses within the above mentioned locations have been assessed for upgrade works and it is expected that the necessary works will be completed within the first quarter of 2019.

Once these houses are ready for letting, the Allocations Department will commence the allocation to persons on the Council's Housing Waiting List.

There are no vacant houses in Tournafulla.

7. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the erosion of the river bank at the town park, Abbeyfeale (a) who is responsible for that stretch of river (b) who will repair the bank (c) what will it cost (d) when can we expect works to be carried out.

REPLY:
(a) The riparian owner is responsible for that stretch of river.
(b) The repair of the river bank is the responsibility of the riparian owner.
(c) Limerick City and County Council do not have any costs.
(d) The lands in question are not in the ownership of Limerick City and County Council and therefore the Council will not be carrying out works in this area.

Discussion took place on river erosion and it was noted that the OPW had been contacted regarding taking responsibility for the Rivers Feale and Allaghaun as they flow through Abbeyfeale.

Following further discussion, it was agreed that the legal opinion would be sought on current legislation governing rivers along with advice on how this legislation could be amended.

8. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting when litter bins and an adequate cctv system will be provided to the Market Yard area of our county town Newcastle West.

REPLY: A survey will be carried out on litter bins currently in use within the town of Newcastle West and the necessity of a bin in the Market Yard will be determined from this.

Locations such as the Market Yard Newcastle West can be considered for cctv should additional funding become available.

9. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting when a junction lining programme will take place throughout the Newcastle West Municipal District.

REPLY: Relining of junctions was carried out in the Newcastle West Municipal District during the summer months. However, if there is any junction you would like to be considered please advise and it will be assessed.

10. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting the cost of the big screen sponsored by the Council at The Square, Newcastle West for All Ireland Sunday.

REPLY: The cost of the big screen sponsored by the Council at The Square, Newcastle West, for Hurling All Ireland Sunday was €2,000.

ADJOURNED NOTICES OF MOTION

11. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that the purchase of the Lane property, Killarney Road, Abbeyfeale, be explored as part of the Abbeyfeale Traffic Management Plan if it is for sale.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin asked that the purchase of the Lane property, Killarney Road, Abbeyfeale, be explored as part of the Abbeyfeale Traffic Management if it is for sale to assist in alleviating traffic congestion at this location.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

REPLY: The purchase of the Lane property on the Killarney Road, Abbeyfeale, will be explored if it is for sale but this acquisition is subject to commitment of TII to the project and the resources being made available.

12. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that the road running parallel to New Street, Abbeyfeale be resurfaced (back of Jim Lanes Bar) as it is impassable.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Sheahan.

REPLY: The above roadway can be considered under the Roads Programme 2019-2021.

QUESTIONS

13. Question submitted by Councillor Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for slow down signs to be placed on the approach to Reilig Ide Naofa, Abbeyfeale.

REPLY: Signage as noted above has been ordered and it will be erected once available.

14. Question submitted by Councillor Galvin

I will ask at the next Meeting for the following information on Ellis Wood, Abbeyfeale: a detailed report on the steps taken to date with regard to completion works and the taking in charge process (ii) a detailed report on the next steps to be taken with regard to completion works and the taking in charge process (iii) details on the programme of works to be undertaken (iv) a report on the timeframe for the works (v) how much of the bond is outstanding (vi) cost of required works at the estate.

REPLY: (i) A request from the residents to have this estate taken in charge was received by the Council. The developer was contacted and requested to submit the necessary documentation for taking in charge of the estate. The estate was then assessed and a schedule of works were drawn up that needed to be completed in order to bring the estate to a taking in charge standard. This schedule was issued to the developer to have the works carried out. The ownership of the estate changed hands and the Council engaged with the new developer to have the works completed. The Council also lodged a claim against the planning bond. Both of these avenues are ongoing.

(ii) The Council will continue to pursue both the developer and the bond holder in order to have the estate completed to a satisfactory standard.
(iii) Schedule of outstanding works attached.
(iv) As the developer does not appear to be completing the works, we are following up our claim with the bondholder. As soon as the bondholder confirms payment of our claim the Council can arrange for the works to be carried out.
(v) There is a bond in place in the amount of €94,060.35
(vi) The costs have not been finalised.

Schedule of Works - Ellis Wood, Abbeyfeale

General Items
Pedestrian crossing to be put in place between houses 2, 3 and 13.
Raised cushion to be put in place near entrance gate at road.
Weeding is required throughout the estate.
All road gullies to be cleared out. Remove mortar at gullies near entrance gate.
Pointing required to kerbs throughout the estate
All loose stone cappings on front boundary walls and walls throughout the estate to be made good.
Clear access paths/cut back excess shrubbery or remove shrubs.
Lawns near entrance gate- both sides to be topsoiled where required.

Trip hazards
Top soil to raise up flower beds at edge of all footpaths/roads.
Two trip hazards outside house number 8 on footpath to be made good
All footpath joints to be repaired.
Trip hazard at kerb outside house 2 to be made good.
Subsidence of paving stone. Located before house 1 from public road to be made good.
Also subsidence on LHS and RHS footpaths of entrance road.
Topsoil required both sides of entrance road to houses 15 and 16
Cover of Eircom manhole is unstable (located near house 15) – to be made good
Damaged kerb to be replaced (located outside house 10)
Repair concrete footpath at house 3.
Make good trip hazard on footpath outside rear garden of house 3.

Macadam and footpaths.
Wearing course layer of macadam required over estate roads.
Base course and wearing course macadam to be put in front of house 16.
Wearing course macadam at area to be put in front of house 15.
Remove debris and rubble near houses 15 and 16.
Macadam required up by house 14 to new well mesh fence. Footpath is to be finished to house 14.

Sluice valves and hydrants
Clean out sluice valve outside house 1.
Sluice valve to be opened at main entrance.
Fire hydrant outside house 14 is flooded and marker plate is required.
Marker plate by house 15 to be painted

Sewers
Manholes to be opened for inspection by house 14.
Sewer manhole cover outside house 10 is off centre and benching to be improved.
Clear blockage in sewer manhole near junction by house 1.
CCTV survey of sewers will be required.

Fencing
All existing fencing to be replaced with 2m high green powercoated well mesh fencing.
Fencing to be erected in accordance with attached map.

Road, footpath and all services to be extended to a point in line with the northern gable wall of house 16 Ashgrove.

All underground services to be provided to service unfinished houses (4 semi-detached) siding onto rear of houses 6 & 7 Foxfield and fronting onto house 15 Ashgrove.

Central green area to the front of No. 15 Ashgrove and paving to be completed and landscaped.
Macadam roadway (base and wearing course) to be completed in full around this area

ESB metre box on rear boundary wall of house No. 3 to be removed

Rear boundary wall of sites 3 & 4 which backs onto central green area to be faced in stone to match existing.

Provide dropped kerbs to vacant sites adjoining house No. 15 Ashgrove

Vacant sites adjoining house No. 15 Ashgrove to be cleaned up by removal of scrub and bushes and all weeds sprayed and materials removed.

Footpath to side of roadway to house 14 to be completed

Area between kerb and paving near to house 1 to be made good

Carry out the necessary works as required under Condition No. 3 of planning permission 05/953 –"The junction shall be constructed, changes to the markings on the National Primary road, right hand turning lane, all signage shall be put in place and the pedestrian footpath constructed in accordance with the recommendations of the Road Audit, prior to the commencement of construction on the site. The Planning Authority shall be informed at least one week in advance of works commencing."

Provide name plates as required under Condition No. 18 of planning permission 05/953

Provide road markings and signage for the current site layout as required under Condition No. 24.

Public lighting to be fully functional and in accordance with the public lighting design agreed for the development.

Existing trees and shrubs to be pruned.

All dead trees and shrubs to be removed and replaced where required.
Some shrubbery beds to be removed and replaced with topsoil and seeded.
(These to be agreed on site with Council)

Comply with Condition No. 25 – "The developer shall submit to the Planning Authority within 3 months after completion of the development or within 3 months of work commencing on a subsequent phase:

As constructed drawings of all underground services, including SUS 25 sewer survey
Infiltration test for manholes
Full details of pressure tests on watermains and sewers
CCTV survey including location map and condition report of sewers."

15. Question submitted by Councillor Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting when drainage works will be carried out along the Kilready approach to Castlemahon village.

REPLY: Drainage works along the Kilready approach to Castlemahon village will be carried out as part of the Roads Programme of Works for 2019.

16. Question submitted by Councillor Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting when repair works will be carried out to the recently damaged bridges at Ballydonnell, Feoghanagh on the R522 and at Killoughteen.

REPLY: Repair works on the bridges at Ballydonnell, Feohanagh and at Killoughteen have been carried out.

Members complimented the Council on the repair works and asked if reflective bands could be placed on the northern approach to the bridge at Ballydonnell, Feohanagh.

17. Question submitted by Councillor Scanlan

I will ask at the next Meeting when safety measures will be undertaken at the Cross of the Glen, Kilmeedy.

REPLY: A contractor has been appointed to improve road markings and signage will be erected by Limerick City and County Council at the Cross of the Glen.

NOTICES OF MOTION

18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council design and cost a pedestrian crossing for Killoughteen National School with a possibility of part funding same.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin stated that a pedestrian crossing for Killoughteen National School is required in the interests of safety given the increase in the numbers attending the school.

A discussion took place on pedestrian crossings and the funding required for same. The Members queried if funding would be available from Development Levy monies but the

Director advised that funding from the GMA local roads budget would be more appropriate. The need for the Department of Education to extend responsibility outside schools for road safety infrastructure was also raised.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Scanlan.

REPLY: A costing and a design for the above mentioned pedestrian crossing is currently being prepared and will be available before the next Meeting.

19. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Galvin

I will move at the next Meeting that this Council take all the necessary steps to bring Ellis Wood housing estate in Abbeyfeale to completion.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin stated that the Council need to take all necessary steps to bring Ellis Wood housing estate in Abbeyfeale to completion. A discussion followed on a number items including the amount of the bond and the collapsed sewer in the estate.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

REPLY: There are outstanding works in this estate which need to be completed to bring the estate to a taking in charge standard. The Council has engaged with the developer and has also lodged a claim against the planning bond in order to have these works carried out. We will continue to pursue both of these avenues in order to have the estate completed.

20. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Scanlan

I will move at the next Meeting that a safety survey be carried out along the R520 between the Kerry Co-Op premises and Clooneyskehane in the interest of pedestrian safety.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Scanlan stated that there are a number of houses at this location and that a footpath is required in the interest of pedestrian safety.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Sheahan

REPLY: A safety audit and a costing for the provision of a footpath, piping a stream/culvert, public lighting and drainage in the above mentioned area was carried out and it was estimated that works would be in the region of €130,000.

The length of footpath necessary to the last house is 500m approximately. There are only 7 houses to be serviced by the requested footpath. This would result in a cost of €18,580 per house to bring a footpath out this road.

Therefore based on the above, this project is a cost prohibitive project.

21. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Collins

I will move at the next Meeting that this Municipal District will impose a voluntary ban on election posters for this year's Council, European and any Referenda elections taking place on May 24th 2019.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Collins outlined the benefits to the environment and the cost benefits of imposing a voluntary ban on election posters for this year's elections. He also stated that the voluntary ban should be extended to all areas within the Municipal District of Newcastle West and not confined to towns and villages.

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

The voluntary ban on election posters for this year's Local, European and any referenda taking place on the 24th May. 2019 was agreed by the Members of the Municipal District of Newcastle West. It was also proposed by Cllr. Collins and seconded by Cllr. Scanlan, that the Motion would be referred to the Environment SPC for discussion with a view to extending the voluntary ban to other areas of the County.

The following items were also raised.

Members referred to remedial works required for Skehanagh Bridge following a traffic accident and the need for signage or a stop/go system until works are complete. It was noted that this work is being carried out by the Municipal District of Adare/Rathkeale and the Senior Executive Engineer, stated that he would liaise with the office regarding the matter.

A discussion took place on works on the bridge at Tulligoline North, Templeglantine and the Senior Executive Engineer stated that this matter is being reviewed and he has been in contact with Central Services.

An update on the provision of a graveyard in Abbeyfeale was also raised. The Director referred to the update given to the Members in November 2018. He stated that the Council has also identified further potential sites and landowners are to be approached. He also referred to the availability of spaces within existing graveyards as an interim measure.

A request has been received from the Board of Management of Broadford National School with regard to attending a Meeting to address the Members on road safety at the school. The Members agreed to the attendance of a delegation at the February Meeting of the District.

A request has also been received from the Board of Management of St. Fergus National School, Glin with regard to attending a Meeting to address the Members on road safety at the school. The Members agreed to the attendance of a delegation at the February Meeting of the District.

It was agreed to hold the February Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 6th February, 2019, at 10.00 a.m., at Áras William Smith OBrien.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____