

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD IN ÁRAS SEÁN FINN, NEW LINE ROAD, RATHKEALE, CO. LIMERICK ON TUESDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019 AT 9.00 A.M.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor K. Sheahan, An Cathaoirleach.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Collins, Keary, O'Brien, O'Donoghue and Teskey.

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director, National and Regional Shared Services (Ms. C. Curley), Meetings Administrator (Ms. K. Butler), Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division (Mr. A. Finn), Director, Senior Executive Engineer, Mid West National Road Design Office (Mr. G. Carey), Assistant Engineer, Mid West National Road Design Office (Mr. R. Gorey), A/Senior Executive Officer, Design and Delivery (Ms. M. Donoghue), Senior Architect, Housing Development (Mr. S. Hanrahan), Assistant Architect, Housing Development (Mr. B. Ranahan), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Harnett).

At the outset of the Meeting, the Cathaoirleach advised Item 5 would be taken after the adoption of the minutes.

Councillor Teskey proposed a Civic Reception be held to honour Joe Dunleavy for his work in the Rathkeale area with Rathkeale Community Council and Rathkeale Sheltered Housing. This was seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue.

Councillor O'Donoghue proposed a Civic Reception be held to honour Robert Sheahan, (at this point the Cathaoirleach excused himself from the Meeting and Councillor O'Brien chaired the Meeting in his absence), for being the first successful double lung and liver transplant patient operated on in Ireland. Members commended the medical team who oversaw Roberts operation and described Robert as an ambassador for people who suffer with cystic fibrosis. This was seconded by Councillor Teskey.

Councillor Teskey proposed the District write to Dr. Salters Sterling to thank him for his invitation to meet with the Rathkeale Pre Social Cohesion Group. All Members were in agreement this was a very worthwhile Meeting. This was seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue.

**1. Adoption of Minutes**

- (a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 8<sup>th</sup> October, 2019.

Proposed by Councillor O'Donoghue;  
Seconded by Councillor Collins;

And Resolved:

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

- (b) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Budgetary Plan 2019 Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2019.

Proposed by Councillor O’Donoghue;

Seconded by Councillor Collins;

And Resolved:

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

## **5. Deputation**

### **(a) To consider receiving deputation from the Great Southern Trail (GST) Ltd.**

Councillor Keary proposed a deputation be received from the Great Southern Trail (GST) Group Ltd. at the December Meeting.

Following discussion Councillor Sheahan proposed the District not receive a deputation at this time given the Part VIII Planning and Development requirements have been passed and also due to contractual arrangements with contractors. This was seconded by Councillor O’Donoghue.

### **(b) To consider receiving deputation from Loughill N69 Health and Safety Committee**

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Keary, it was agreed to receive a Deputation from Loughill N69 Health and Safety Committee at the December Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale.

Councillor Keary requested a copy of the report received from the Gardaí on the speed limit review of Loughill.

## **2. Mid West National Road Design Office**

### **N20 Banogue Traffic Calming Scheme – Part 8 Planning**

Circulated, drawings of the Assistant Engineer, Mid West National Road Design Office dated 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 outlining the proposed Part 8 Planning for the N20 Banogue Traffic Calming Scheme.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Ger Carey and Assistant Engineer, Mr. Richard Gorey, Mid West National Road Design Office to the Meeting. The Senior Executive Engineer addressed the Meeting and outlined details of the proposed scheme which will include a zebra crossing, designated set down areas, road signage,

resurfacing and drainage works. Following discussion, it was agreed a bus shelter would be considered. The scheme was proposed by Councillor O'Donoghue and seconded by Councillor O'Brien.

### **3. Capital Investment Directorate**

#### **Part 8 Procedure – Towerfield, Croom, Co. Limerick**

Circulated, report of the A/Director of Services, Capital Investment Directorate dated 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 setting out details in relation to Part 8 Planning for the construction of 16 residential units at Towerfield, Croom, Co. Limerick. The report has been prepared in accordance with Section 179(3) (a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Following discussion, Members welcomed the plans.

Proposed by Councillor O'Donoghue;  
Seconded by Councillor Collins;  
And Resolved:

“That the report, as circulated, be adopted”.

### **4. Housing Development Directorate**

#### **Housing Progress Report**

Circulated, report of the Director of Service, Housing Development Directorate, dated 4<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 giving details of the number of casual vacancies/void houses and houses requiring major refurbishment within the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District.

This report was noted by Members.

Discussion ensued in relation to the new proposals outlined in the affordable housing national policy. On the proposal of Councillor Keary it was agreed it should go to Full Council for discussion. This was seconded by Councillor Sheahan. Councillor Sheahan also requested that all six Councillors be invited to attend and participate in the next Housing SPC Meeting. The Meetings Administrator agreed to revert to Councillors with a date and time in due course. Councillor Keary also requested the Senior Architect, Housing Development Directorate provide an update on the 16 acre site in Adare for the next Meeting.

## 6. Operations and Maintenance Services

### District Engineers Report

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division dated 12<sup>th</sup> November, 2019 outlining details of works, projects & future projects planned for the District.

Following discussion, the following issues were raised in relation to the Report:

- Councillor Sheahan requested the current street cleaning contract be extended to all the villages outside of Adare. The Senior Executive Engineer advised Members the situation is currently being looked at and clarification is awaited on the matter.
- Councillor Sheahan referred to a previous request for a Meeting between Members and the OPW and asked if this request had been progressed. The Senior Executive Engineer agreed to discuss with the OPW and revert.
- Councillor O'Brien raised the issue of flooding due to climate change which is a very prominent discussion point in the media at the present time and pointed out that lands under water level with low populations are being ignored. The Senior Executive Engineer advised the CFRAMS system identifies risk areas that may need flood defence installation. There are currently proposals to improve and extend flood defences that will take account of climate change.
- Councillor O'Donoghue expressed concern at the condition of the parking area and access road adjacent to the Community Centre in Croom and called on the roads engineer to repair the surface as a matter of urgency due to its unsafe nature. The Senior Executive Engineer advised as this is private property it cannot be maintained by the Council, however, it could be looked at under GMA or Local Improvement Schemes.
- Councillor O'Donoghue also raised the issue of the road condition between Chawkes Cross and Liskennett. The Senior Executive Engineer agreed to include this route for surfacing in the 2020 programme of works.
- Councillor Keary requested the junction at Clonshire on the N21 be examined with a view to installing a right turn lane on the Adare to Croagh side of the roadway. Councillor Keary also requested a traffic count take place to establish the volume of cars who use this junction.

## QUESTIONS

**7. Question submitted by Councillor B. Collins**

**I will ask at the next Meeting if a full time village caretaker or maintenance operative has been appointed in Adare on the occasion of the retirement of Mike Brouder.**

**REPLY:** Adare Rathkeale Municipal District will continue to provide a street cleaning service in Adare Village from its remaining complement of staff given the recent retirement of the General Operative dedicated to this work. A business case for the replacement of this staff member has been approved and will be filled as soon as possible.

**8. Question submitted by Councillor B. Collins**

**I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the planning application for the Foynes to Limerick Motorway.**

**REPLY:** The Government recently announced its approval for Limerick City and County Council to submit the Foynes to Limerick Road (including Adare Bypass) to An Bord Pleanála for planning approval.

We are currently finalising the various statutory documents with a view to submitting these to the Board at the end of November 2019.

**9. Question submitted by Councillor A. Teskey**

**I will ask at the next Meeting for an update to a previous Motion that I passed in the District with regards to installing a gate at the laneway beside the Bank of Ireland and at Pepperds Lane, Rathkeale.**

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council has agreed to erect a gateway beside the Bank of Ireland and on Pepperds Lane for the Festive Period as requested by the Gardaí.

## NOTICE OF MOTION

**10. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Brien and Councillor R. O'Donoghue**

**We will move at the next Meeting that the Adare Rathkeale area approves traffic calming measures at Castlequarter Heights, Cluain Ard, Ballyea Close and Clohessy Park.**

**REPLY:** Ballyea Close is a narrow laneway and traffic is naturally calmed by virtue of the cross section of the roadway.

Clohessy Park is a narrow laneway and traffic is naturally calmed by virtue of the cross section of the roadway.

Castlequarter heights has a chicane in the roadway close to the entrance of the estate, this has a traffic calming effect and no further works are recommended here.

Cluain Ard is a large estate and this will be analysed in accordance to Council Policy as set out below:

‘Please note the following in relation to all traffic management related proposals with immediate effect:-

- 1) Approval of all such proposals must be reviewed at each stage by the Senior Engineer , Roads (prior to giving any commitments to delivery).
- 2) All proposals must first be advised to the Senior Engineer at conception stage – Approval to assess.
- 3) In order to be considered further it must be identified that there is
  - a. A Warrant and\or Justification.
  - b. Compliance with National Guidelines and Specifications.
  - c. Compliance with LCCC adopted policy.
  - d. Necessary surveys and engineering assessment\recommendation must be carried out.
- 4) If the proposal has met the criteria \ has merit a detailed costing must then be provided for submission for funding.
- 5) A scheme can only be approved within the funding criteria of the relevant funding body.
- 6) If funding is agreed the final design and full costings must again be submitted to the Senior Engineer (Roads) for approval subject to funding being available.
- 7) Once approved the scheme should be added to a new tracker stored in Central Services to record all new (and existing) schemes.

‘Under no circumstance should TM projects proceed without regard to the above’.

**11. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O’Brien, Councillor R. O’Donoghue, Councillor K. Sheahan and Councillor A. Teskey**

**We will move at the next Meeting that the Council carry out a traffic survey in Loughill, Co. Limerick with a view to having traffic calming measures installed.**

**REPLY:** Operations and Maintenance Central Services will review in Q1 2020 the existing traffic scenario in Loughill to determine if traffic calming measures are required.

**12. Correspondence**

Correspondence, as circulated, was noted by Members.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathaoirleach**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_