

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT ONLINE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD ON TUESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021 AT 9:30 A.M.**

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**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), Administrative Officer (Mr. S. O'Doherty), Planning and Environmental Services, Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Harnett).

At the outset of the Meeting, the Cathaoirleach welcomed everyone to the first Online Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale. He noted that the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Mr. Darragh O'Brien TD., had signed an Order in October 2020 allowing Local Authority meetings to be held remotely and online. Following the signing of this Order, the Municipal District incorporated this change into the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale Standing Orders at the November 2020 Municipal District Meeting.

**1. Adoption of Minutes**

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2020.

Proposed by Councillor Collins;  
Seconded by Councillor Keary;  
And Resolved:

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

The following issue was discussed following the adoption of the Minutes, with the consent of the Cathaoirleach.

Councillor Keary requested an update in relation to the extension of the footpath from Murphy's Cross to the traffic lights on the approach to Adare from the Rathkeale side. The Senior Executive Engineer agreed to contact the Road Design Office on the matter and to provide an update at the March Meeting.

## **2. Planning and Environmental Services**

### **Illegal Dumping in the District**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed The Administrative Officer, Planning and Environmental Services to the Meeting.

Councillor Sheahan informed The Administrative Officer, Planning and Environment he had spoken with the Litter Warden for the Rathkeale area to inform him that rubble was being dumped in the vicinity of the funeral parlour in Rathkeale and further advised there was a witness to this illegal dumping incident who was willing to make a statement and to date there has been no follow up and no attempt to have this waste removed. The Administrative Officer, Planning and Environment advised Councillor Sheahan that he was not aware of the case, however, he agreed to follow up with the Litter Warden and revert. Councillor Sheahan welcomed this response.

Discussion ensued and Members expressed their concerns that illegal dumping is a Countywide issue at the present time. Councillor Teskey proposed Limerick City and County Council put a strategy in place to tackle illegal dumping in the County. This was seconded by Councillor Keary and agreed.

The Administrative Officer, Planning and Environment agreed there has been an increase in illegal dumping with the onset of Covid restrictions and agreed the lack of CCTV cameras and also evidence is hampering efforts to enforce the Litter Act.

## **3. Veterinary Services**

Circulated, Limerick City and County Council (Control of Horses) Bye-Laws 2017.

Councillor Teskey queries the issue of horses being illegally kept on state body lands. The Meetings Administrator advised discussion had taken place with Gordon Daly, Director of Service, Community Development who had informed her his Department are actively pursuing the matter.

## **4. Taking in Charge of Estates**

Circulated, report of the A/Senior Planner, Planning and Environmental Services, dated 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 requesting approval for the taking in charge of Orchard Avenue, Rathkeale.

Proposed by Councillor Teskey;  
 Seconded by Councillor O'Brien;  
 And Resolved:

“That Orchard Avenue, Rathkeale be taken in charge in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993”.

**5. Community Development Directorate**

**Vacant Land and Site in Rathkeale**

Circulated, report of the Director of Service, Community Development Directorate dated 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 giving an update in relation to vacant land beside the Greenway in Rathkeale and a vacant site in The Square, Rathkeale.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

**6. Derelict Sites at Ballywilliam Close, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick**

Circulated, report of the Director of Service, Community Development Directorate dated 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 giving an update in relation to Derelict Sites Cases at Ballywilliam Close, Rathkeale.

Members welcomed the progress on this issue. Councillor Keary queried in the event of a negative response from An Bord Pleanála on the matter could Limerick City and County Council proceed with compulsory purchase orders to take ownership of the estate. The Director, National and Regional Shared Services advised she would revert to Members when An Bord Pleanála have advised of a decision on the matter.

**7. Housing Support Services**

**Disposal of Land**

Circulated, report of the A/Senior Executive Officer, Housing Support Services dated 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 setting out the position in relation to the disposal of freehold interest of premises consisting of a dwelling house situate at Smithfield, Croagh, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to full Council for approval.

Proposed by Councillor Keary;  
Seconded by Councillor O’Brien;  
And Resolved:

“That the Section 183 Notice be brought to full Council for approval”.

## **8. Operations and Maintenance Services**

### **District Engineers Report**

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division dated 26<sup>th</sup> January, 2021 outlining details of works, projects and future projects planned for the District.

Following discussion the following issues were raised by Members:

- Councillor Teskey asked if it was agreeable with Members to hold off on discussing the proposed Traffic Management Plan for Rathkeale until each Councillor received a hard and soft copy of the report. The Senior Executive Engineer agreed to forward the report to Members.
- Councillor O'Brien requested an update in relation to the proposed Low Cost Safety Scheme for the Grand Gates Curraghchase. The Senior Executive Engineer advised he would look into the matter and revert in due course.
- Councillor O'Brien raised the issue of extensive flooding in the Ballydoole area of Pallaskenry and also requested an updated reply on this issue be included in the March District Engineers Report. The Senior Executive Engineer advised the OPW were committed to maintenance works, however, these works cannot be carried out until the lands have dried out and he agreed to contact the OPW and include an update in the March report.
- Councillor Sheahan advised of a similar issue in the Ballysteen area and requested an update from the OPW in relation to same for the March Meeting.
- Councillor Sheahan also raised the issue of the lack of a sewerage treatment plant in Askeaton and requested an update from Irish Water be included in next month's report also.
- Councillor O'Donoghue asked if lighting could be improved along with riverside walk in Croom. The Senior Executive Engineer advised he would discuss the matter with Carmel Lynch, Senior Executive Engineer and revert.
- Councillor Keary queried the loss of carpark spaces outside the Old Stand in Shanagolden and requested an update for the March District Meeting.

## 9. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

On the proposal of Councillor Teskey, seconded by Councillor O'Brien, it was agreed to allocate the following:

- €5,000 for Rathkeale Soccer Club.
- €3,000 for Deel Boat Club.
- €2,000 for Knockfierna Heritage Centre.
- €1,000 for Limerick Celtics Basketball Club.
- €3,500 for Ballyhahill Development Association.
- €2,000 for Public Lighting in Rathkeale.
- €1,000 for Rathkeale Church of Ireland roof repairs.
- €5,000 for Loughill Burial Ground Committee.
- €1,000 for Kildimo/Pallaskenry GAA Club.
- €300 for Christmas Crib in the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Office.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue, it was agreed to allocate the following:

- €400 for Rathkeale Welcome Centre.
- €400 for Ballyneety Christmas Lights.
- €3,000 for Shannon Dragons.
- €3,000 for Ballysteen Library.
- €300 for Christmas Crib in the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Office.

On the proposal of Councillor O'Donoghue, seconded by Councillor O'Brien, it was agreed to allocate to allocate the following:

- €3,000 for Fedamore GAA Club.
- €300 for Christmas Crib in the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Office.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Teskey, it was agreed to allocate the following:

- €4,000 for Paddy Cronin Researcher and Author.
- €500 for Christmas Crib in the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Office.

On the proposal of Councillor Keary, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate the following:

- €2,000 for Public Lighting in Coolcappagh Village.
- €300 for Christmas Crib in the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Office.

On the proposal of Councillor O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Teskey, it was agreed to allocate the following:

- €7,000 for Kildimo/Pallaskenry GAA Club.
- €300 for Christmas Crib in the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Office.

### QUESTION

#### 10. Question submitted by Councillor A. Teskey

**I will ask at the next Meeting (a) what is the law surrounding temporary dwellings and parking of same on private and public property and (b) how many offences have been committed with regards to same and brought to a satisfactory outcome by the Local Authority in this District.**

**Reply:** A caravan/mobile home may be parked up to 9 months of the year within the curtilage of a dwelling house without planning permission, however, if the caravan/mobile home is occupied planning permission is required.

The Council have taken the following action in respect of unauthorised caravans/mobile homes in the Adare-Rathkeale District.

#### **2020**

2 Warning letters issued.

2 Enforcement notices issued.

1 Prosecution initiated.

#### **2021**

1 Warning letter issued.

All of these cases are ongoing.

### ADJOURNED NOTICES OF MOTION

#### 11. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor K. Sheahan

**I will move at the next Meeting that this District would convene a Special Meeting to discuss the future of the Industrial Park Lands in Askeaton.**

Councillor Sheahan wished to withdraw his Notice of Motion at this stage as the state lands are now for sale and it is hoped when sold they will be used for job creation purposes.

**12. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor A. Teskey**

**I will move at the next Meeting that this District write to the Minister of Communications to lobby for better internet access along with increased phone coverage for the village of Croagh.**

This Motion was proposed by Councillor Teskey, seconded by Councillor Sheahan and agreed.

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

**13. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. O'Donoghue**

**I will move at the next Meeting for Limerick City and County Council to immediately address the safe passage of people on our local, regional and national roads by way of ensuring that all roads have a clear margin of at least 1m to a height of 4m all year round so as our school buses pedestrians, cyclists and all other forms of transport can use our roads safely.**

This Motion was proposed by Councillor O'Donoghue, seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed to go to Full Council for ratification.

**14. Correspondence**

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

**15. A.O.B.**

Councillor Stephen Keary requested a Member of staff from the Housing and Property Departments attend the March Monthly Meeting to provide an update on the proposed social housing development in Pallaskenry.

This concluded the Meeting.

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

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