

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD IN THE RATHKEALE HOUSE HOTEL, RATHKEALE, CO. LIMERICK ON TUESDAY, 9TH NOVEMBER, 2021 AT 9:30 A.M.

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

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Collins, Keary, O'Donoghue and Teskey.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director, Housing (Ms. C. Curley), Meetings Administrator (Ms. K. Butler), Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division (Mr. G.O'Connor), Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division (Mr. J. O'Keeffe), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Harnett).

APOLOGIES:

Councillor O'Brien.

At the outset of the Meeting The Cathaoirleach requested Item 2 on the Agenda would be taken first.

2. Roads, Traffic & Cleansing

Junction Improvement Works at West Square, Askeaton

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale dated 29th October, 2021 setting out details in relation to the proposed junction improvement works at West Square, Askeaton. The report had been prepared in accordance with Section 38 of the Roads Act 1994 as amended by the Public Transportation Regulations Act 2009 (Section 41) Traffic Calming Measures and noted that it is proposed to proceed with the works.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

Councillor Sheahan asked if the Meetings Administrators could write to the Environmental Protection Agency again requesting a copy of the notice they erected on the settlement beds in Askeaton a number of years back and expressed his disappointment that this request has not been fulfilled to date. Councillor Sheahan requested a representative from the Environmental Protection Agency would attend the December Municipal District meeting to discuss the water quality issues and lack of a proper sewerage system in Askeaton. Councillor Teskey requested an update on the

discussion that took place at the October Municipal District meeting whereby it was agreed to invite the three local Dail Deputies to a Special Meeting to discuss the Askeaton issues. Councillor Sheahan asked if this invitation could be put on hold for the present time, however, Councillor Teskey proposed the invitation still stand and be issued immediately. This was seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue and agreed.

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 12th October, 2021.

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

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

Following the adoption of the Minutes Councillor Sheahan together with Councillor Keary requested a representative of Bus Eireann be invited to the December meeting to discuss the change/reduction of bus stop points in Askeaton and Rathkeale in recent years.

Councillor Teskey requested the Director, Community, Tourism and Culture Mr. G. Daly would attend the December District Meeting to discuss derelict sites in Rathkeale.

Councillor Teskey also requested a member of staff from the Planning Department would attend the December District Meeting and provide an update on the Black Abbey Estate, Adare.

Councillor Teskey proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of Publican, Charlie Kirk who passed away recently and asked the District would write to the family. This was seconded by Councillor Sheahan and agreed.

Councillor Keary requested the issue of the gate beside the Bank of Ireland in Rathkeale being left open this year be looked at.

3. District Engineers Report

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division dated 9th November, 2021 outlining details of proposed works, projects and future projects planned for the District.

Following discussion the following issues were raised by Members:

- A number of footpath upgrades were requested for the following areas: Fedamore, Crecora, Banogue and Churchview Estate. The Senior Executive Engineer advised these would be considered when the Schedule of Municipal District Works is brought before Members in 2022.
- Footpath installation was discussed and the need for a path extending from Crecora Village to the GAA Field. The Senior Executive Engineer advised same could be considered under future Active Travel Programmes.
- Chawkes Cross and Lees Cross were also mentioned as needing Junction Improvement Works. The Senior Executive Engineer advised that Topographical surveys were due to be carried out shortly. Consultants had also been appointed to do Preliminary Designs and costings so that these Junctions could be forwarded to the Department for future funding consideration.
- Councillor Sheahan advised lack of parking in Ballyneety needed to be looked at.
- The lack of street cleaning in all areas of the District was discussed. The Senior Executive Engineer advised Members that it is difficult to commit staff to street cleaning as their priority is to implement the road works schedule.
- Councillor Collins raised the issue of the lack of awareness around the disposal of cigarette butts and suggested the issue be forwarded to the Environmental Strategic Policy Committee of Limerick City and County Council and request a policy or awareness campaign specifically targeting the disposal of cigarette butts be compiled. Councillor Sheahan added plastic bottles disposal should be included in this request.

4. Traffic Calming at Pallaskenry National School

Members made reference to a petition they had received regarding Traffic calming at Pallaskenry National school. The Senior Executive Engineer advised Members the National Transport Authority had published a Safe Routes to School programme which had been circulated to all National Schools in the Country to enable them to apply for funding for traffic calming works and added that only two Schools in the District had applied for funding under this programme. The Senior Executive Engineer also advised that any Traffic Calming interventions need to comply with Councils Traffic Calming Policy. This requires (1) Speed Surveys to justify any interventions and (2) A Plebiscite of residents in favour of any Traffic Calming proposals. The Executive Engineer advised Members a speed count would be carried out in the vicinity of Pallaskenry National School to ascertain if traffic calming was required in the area and added that the Safe Routes to School programme was a means of activating funding for these type of works.

5. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

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

- €1,000 for Granagh United Football Club.
- €3,000 for Granagh Development Association.

QUESTION

6. Question submitted by Councillor J. O'Donoghue

I will ask at the next meeting that Limerick City and County Council in conjunction with Irish Water provide all relevant information for a full breakdown on the issue of the boil water notice in Fedamore village: (1) When and what was detected for the boil notice to be put in place (2) How many houses/people are affected (3) What has been done to date to bring this to a resolution and (4) When will it be resolved.

Reply: Please note below the response received from Irish Water (reference 42656).
This query has been assigned to the appropriate department for review and response.
No further response has been received to date.

Councillor O'Donoghue requested this Question would be included on the Agenda for the December District Meeting for response.

NOTICE OF MOTION

7. Notices of Motion submitted by Councillor K. Sheahan

I will move at the next meeting the Council would agree to erect appropriate and suitable signage at the approaches to Askeaton to indicate it is the oldest town in the County.

The motion was proposed by Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Councillor Collins and agreed.

In proposing the motion, Councillor Sheahan requested a logo similar to the logo produced for Adare be compiled for Askeaton given 2023 will be the 500th anniversary of the Treaty of Askeaton. He also requested costing figures for the Adare logo for the December District Meeting.

Reply: The provision of new signage including at approach roads is being examined as part of the Askeaton Public Realm Plan, a draft of which will be finalised shortly.

8. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

9. A.O.B.

- Councillor Sheahan proposed a Motion be forwarded to Full Council calling on the Minister to provide grant funding for Limerick City and County Council together with Coillte to adopt a policy for planting 100 young native broad leaf trees per year under The Climate Action Plan. Councillor Collins advised she would rather see 20 mature native Irish trees planted, which would need to be site specific. Councillor Sheahan stated he would be prepared to amend his Motion and reduce the figure to 50. This was seconded by Councillor Collins, Keary and O'Donoghue, and agreed.
- The Meetings Administrator advised Members the Superintendent was available to attend a Joint Policing Sub-Committee Meeting on Wednesday 16th November, 2021 at 9.30 a.m. in the Rathkeale House Hotel. She also stated the Superintendent had requested any issues Members would like to discuss be forwarded to the Meetings Administrator in advance of the Meeting to allow for a response to be prepared.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____