

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD IN THE RATHKEALE HOUSE HOTEL, RATHKEALE, CO. LIMERICK ON WEDNESDAY, 3RD NOVEMBER, 2021 AT 10.30 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, Housing (Ms. C. Curley), Meetings Administrator (Ms. K. Butler), Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division (Mr. G.O'Connor), Deputy Chief Executive, Support Services (Mr. S. Coughlan), Senior Executive Officer, Strategy & Non LA Housing Construction (Ms. S. Newell), Executive Architect, Property Support Placemaking (Mr. T. Joyce), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Harnett).

1. To consider the Draft Budgetary Plan 2022 for the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District

Circulated, report dated 26th October, 2021 from the Deputy Chief Executive, which sets out the background and legal provisions relating to the Draft Budgetary Plan, along with details of the Draft Budgetary Plan 2022 for the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale in the total sum of €270,000.

The Deputy Chief Executive outlined the figures as set out in the report and informed Members that the Draft Budgetary Plan 2022 for the Municipal District, which had been discussed at a Workshop prior to the Meeting, if approved by the Members, would go on for inclusion in the main budget for the Council.

The Deputy Chief Executive also informed Members that a total of €1,403,000 had been allocated to the General Municipal Allocation with €270,000 of this assigned to the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale as follows:

SVC	General Municipal Allocation 2020	Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District
B04	Local Roads	105,000
D05	Tourism Development Recreation & Amenity	10,000
F04	Community Initiatives	10,000
	Special Projects – LA Infrastructure	100,000
	Special Projects – LPT	45,000
Total	General Municipal Allocation	270,000

Following discussion, the following was agreed:

Proposed by Councillor O'Donoghue;

Seconded by Councillor Collins;

And Resolved:

“That the Budgetary Plan 2022 for the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale, is hereby adopted subject to the amendment that the total allocation of €270,000 be allocated to Service D05 – Tourism Development Recreation & Amenity, in accordance with Section 102 (4) of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended)”.

2. To discuss Pallaskenry Housing Scheme

Members expressed frustration and concern that a change in circumstances regarding the Council's purchase of 16 houses in Pallaskenry and the proposed purchase of this scheme by Focus Ireland.

The Director, Housing informed Members the current developer cannot now deliver the houses as per the original fixed price contract and Limerick City and County Council are not in a position to increase monies in order to complete the project. The Senior Executive Officer, Strategy & Non LA Housing Construction advised Members Focus Ireland have more flexibility in this regard and if awarded the contract, they would be able to provide a quick turnaround to finish and allocate the houses by March 2022.

Following discussion, the Cathaoirleach asked the Executive of Limerick City and County Council to arrange a meeting between elected Members, the Executive and Focus Ireland to discuss allocation management of the housing scheme.

3. To receive an update on the Adare Fountain

The Executive Architect, Property Support Placemaking circulated a report and proceeded to brief Members on the Adare Fountain, which he stated represented good value for money and explained the initial project was to repair the fountain and provide additional seating in the area, which was estimated at the time of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme application process would cost in the region of €80,000. During the course of the detailed design, it became apparent that further works were needed to complete the project and included new mechanical and electrical works as well as additional landscape, paving and ramp installation beside the existing steps.

Discussion ensued and while Members were all in agreement that a very good job was done on the fountain some Members expressed serious concerns on the overall cost of the project and asked the Executive if something could be put in place to prevent this type of overspend occurring in future project.

At the conclusion of the Agenda and with the consent of the Cathaoirleach, the Meetings Administrator advised Members that due to non-availability of personnel from the Gardaí they were unable to attend the December Municipal District Monthly Meeting and asked if Members could agree an alternative date to allow for a JPC Meeting to be convened.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____