

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT ONLINE MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD ON TUESDAY, 11TH JANUARY, 2022 AT 10.00 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, 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).

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 14th December, 2021.

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

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

2. Disposal of Land

Circulated, report of the Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 3rd December, 2021 setting out proposal to dispose of portion of land comprising 0.0026 hectares situate at 2 Church Street, Askeaton, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring a Section 183 Notice to full Council for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

3. District Engineers Report

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division dated 11th January, 2022 outlining details of proposed works, projects and future projects planned for the District.

Following discussion the following issues were raised by Members:

- Councillor Keary requested an update on the proposed junction improvement works at Ballyengland. The Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division advised these works were being progressed by the Mid West Road Design Office and he would request a progress report for the next Meeting.
- Councillor Teskey requested an update on his request to have post and rail fencing erected at Saint Mary's Park, Rathkeale. The Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division advised fencing for Saint Mary's Park and Orchard Avenue has been ordered and works will be carried out at both locations in due course.
- Councillor O'Brien noted flooding issues, which usually occurs this time of year in Ballydoole, Pallaskenry have been resolved and thanked the Senior Executive Engineer, the OPW and all involved in the recent works carried out on the sluice gates.

4. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

On the proposal of Councillor Teskey, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €4,000 to Ballyhahill Parents Association.

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Keary, it was agreed to allocate €3,500 to Saint Mary's Athletic Club.

On the proposal of Councillor O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Teksey, it was agreed to allocate €3,000 to Pallaskenry Soccer Club.

Councillor O'Brien further proposed €1,000, which was previously allocated to Kilcornan Burial Ground in October, 2020 be reallocated to Hearsay International Audio Festival. This was seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed.

5. Kilcornan Tidy Towns Committee Request

The Meetings Administrator provided Members with a response from The Senior Executive Engineer, Service Operations West Division, as follows:

There are 2 locations in Kilcornan utilised by Limerick City & County Council Road Crews. A small depot across the road from the entrance to Curraghchase is used for signage storage and has welfare facilities. This depot has security fencing around it and laurel hedging was planted in late Autumn 2021 outside the fence to make it more presentable. This is an established Depot for a significant number of years.

On the opposite side of the road across from the Old Coach Inn, there is a temporary storage depot for chips and other materials. This depot has been used intermittently for spoil over the years, with Council crews utilising it more extensively over the past 2 years since the realignment of Operational Areas with Municipal Districts.

These are the only available depots for our crews operating in the western part of Adare Rathkeale District which would previously have operated out of the Kinard Depot in Glin which is now in the Newcastle West Municipal District. The alignment of Operational Areas with Municipal Districts makes the Kinard Depot impractical for use in the Adare Rathkeale Municipal District.

It is planned to carry out works to make this site more secure to prevent unauthorised access. It is also planned to carry out extensive Landscaping to screen the site appropriately to make it aesthetically acceptable..

Long-term from an Operational viewpoint, the Council are actively reviewing Depot locations with the aim of securing a Permanent Depot location.

Discussion ensued and the Elected Members were all in agreement with the people of Kilcornan that an alternative depot be sought as a matter of urgency. Councillor Sheahan proposed they be kept updated on a quarterly basis on the progress on this matter. This was seconded by Councillor Keary and agreed.

6. Request to Receive Deputation from The Mague Rivers Trust

Circulated, report from The Mague Rivers Trust outlining their work to date and their request to give a presentation to the Elected Members of the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District. Councillor Collins proposed a Deputation be received by the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District from the group when Covid restrictions ease. This was seconded by Councillor Sheahan and agreed.

NOTICE OF MOTION

7. Notices of Motion submitted by Councillor E. O'Brien

I will move at the next Meeting that the Shannongrove Collar currently at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London be repatriated to Limerick on lease to the Limerick City and County Museum.

The motion was proposed by Councillor O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Councillor Sheahan and agreed.

In proposing the motion, Councillor O'Brien requested Limerick City and County Council enter into discussions with the Hunt Museum with a view to bringing the Shannongrove

Collar back to Limerick on loan for a period of time. The Meetings Administrator advised Councillor O'Brien this Motion would have to go to Full Council for agreement.

8. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor K. Sheahan

I will move at the next Meeting that the necessary steps be taken to ensure Askeaton is officially classified as a heritage town.

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

In proposing the motion Councillor Sheahan advised he wanted to make an amendment to the motion to change a heritage town to a historic town due to cost factors involved. He further requested appropriate road signage be erected on all approach roads into the town to indicate it is a historic town and also the oldest town in Limerick.

Reply: The designation of heritage town status to towns throughout Ireland was part of a scheme run in the early 1900's, by Bord Failte, at the time. This scheme is no longer recognised by the Heritage Council, although the associated signage is still in place in many of the towns.

The Heritage Council currently have no plans to create any similar designations, however they do recognise heritage status of towns around the Country both through the Irish Walled Towns Network and through the Historic Towns Initiative.

The town of Askeaton is classified as a Historic Town under the National Monuments Act and is a Recorded Monument, LI011-092001, included on the Sites and Monuments Register and the Zone of Notification for the town incorporates a large amount of the Local Area Plan area.

The Local Authority could examine the provision of entrance signage to emphasise the medieval status and importance of Askeaton.

9. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

10. A.O.B

- Councillor O'Donoghue proposed all District Meetings be held in person going forward. This was seconded by Councillor O'Brien and agreed.
- Councillor Sheahan proposed the February District Meeting be held in Ballysteen Carnegie Library and a Civic Reception be convened to acknowledge the Carnegie

Library Group success in the Excellence in Place Making Awards, Best Community Project in Munster 2021. This was seconded by Councillor O'Brien and agreed.

- Councillor Sheahan proposed the March District Meeting be held in The Woodlands House Hotel, Adare to accommodate the Civic Receptions proposed at the December District Meeting. This was seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed.
- Councillor Sheahan proposed the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District committee congratulate all front line workers and anyone dealing with Covid 19 for all their efforts dealing with Covid 19 to date. This was seconded by Councillor O'Brien and agreed.
- Councillor Sheahan proposed a motion be forwarded to Full Council seeking support in June 2023 to commemorate the 500th year anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Askeaton. This was seconded by Councillor Keary and agreed.
- Councillor Teskey proposed that Limerick City and County Council should support the HSE in the current pandemic situation, where there are delays for ambulances due to staffing shortages, by allowing the Fire & Emergency Services be activated to emergency medical calls to provide first responder assistance in life and death situations. This was seconded by Councillor Collins and agreed.
- Councillor Teskey proposed a Vote of Sympathy to Tom Kane, who had created immense employment in the Adare area, on the recent death of his wife, Judy Kane. This was seconded by Councillor Collins and agreed.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Dated:
