

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD IN ÁRAS SEÁN FINN, NEW LINE ROAD, RATHKEALE, CO. LIMERICK ON TUESDAY, 11TH APRIL, 2023 AT 9.30 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor S. Keary, An Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Collins (Online), O'Brien, O'Donoghue, Sheahan and Teskey.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director, Housing (Ms. C. Curley), Meetings Administrator (Ms. K. Butler), Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. G. O'Connor), Administrative Officer, Property and Community Facilities (Ms. T. Knox), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Lenihan).

At the outset of the Meeting the Meetings Administrator invited those present to notify any declaration of interest in any item due for discussion at the Meeting. No such interests were declared.

The following issues were raised by Members, prior to the adoption of the Minutes with the consent of the Cathaoirleach.

Councillor Sheahan referred to an item he raised on the sale of houses in Rathkeale, which had been discussed at a private workshop, however he felt as there were no minutes to reflect the discussion that took place in this forum and requested the item be revisited and discussed at a public meeting. Councillor Teskey agreed with these sentiments stating there are no records kept of decisions made at private meetings and requested that all meetings should be held publically going forward.

Councillor Sheahan proposed to call on the Mayor to convene a Special Meeting of the Full Council to discuss Planning issues in relation to rural Ireland. This was seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed. Councillor Teskey added the Minister for the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government as well as the Planning Regulator should also be in attendance at this Special Meeting.

Councillor O'Brien proposed we correspond with the Editor of the Limerick Post newspaper that Journalist Alan Jacques be invited to attend future meetings of the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District. This was seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue.

Following discussion between Members the proposal was put to a vote. The results of the voting was as follows:

For the proposal:

Councillors O'Brien, O'Donoghue and Teskey **(3)**

Against the proposal:

Councillor Keary **(1)**

Abstain:

Councillor Sheahan

The Meetings Administrator declared the proposal agreed.

Councillor Teskey referred to a Motion passed recently at the Full Council Meeting for the proposal to use the Bank of Ireland premises in Askeaton as a facility to house 22 no. Ukrainian refugees. Councillor Teskey felt the money to transfer the bank premises to temporary housing units would be better spent on bringing derelict properties in the District back into housing stock and the bank be left as a community building. Councillor Sheahan proposed Members support him to have the library in Askeaton upgraded and transferred to part of the bank building. This was seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed.

1. Adoption of Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 14th February, 2023.

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

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

2. Disposal of Land

Circulated, report of the Head of Property & Community Facilities, Community, Tourism and Culture dated 31st March, 2023, setting out proposals for Land Disposal of 2.9 acres at Gortnadroma, Ballyhahill, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring to Full Council, for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

It was agreed Item 5 on the Agenda would be taken next.

5. Deputation from Kiltteery Pier Group

The Cathaoirleach welcomed representatives from Kiltteery Pier Group to the Meeting. The Deputation consisted of Mr. Michael Finucane, Mr. Gerard Griffin and Ms. Joan Mullane.

Mr Finucane thanked Members for allowing the group the opportunity to address the Meeting and also thanked Limerick City and County Council for the considerable improvements they have made to Kiltteery Pier to date. He proceeded to outline the main areas which need further enhancement at the pier and its environs.

These include:

1. Safety measures at the junction entrance road off the N69.
2. Relocation of the barrier from the entrance of the pier to the entrance from the N69.
3. Create more laybys to enable the traffic flow more easily and make it safer for motorists.
4. The removal of an embankment at the entrance to the pier.
5. Inspection of the eroding road surface near the barrier due to tidal flooding.
6. The erection of dog foul bins at the pier.
7. As the Lifeguard hut is only available during the Summer months could changing facilities be provided at the pier for members who swim all year round, similar to facilities at Glin Pier.

The Cathaoirleach thanked the Deputation for their presentation and advised a response to their request would be provided in due course. The Deputation then withdrew from the Meeting.

3. Road Traffic and Cleansing

2023 Development Fund Allocations

The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing recommended to Members the 2023 Development Fund would be allocated as follows:

Don Bosco Road, Pallaskenry	€ 25,000	Footpath and boundary wall
Woodlawn Area, Loughill	€ 25,000	Footpaths

Total	€ 50,000	

The recommended allocations were proposed by Councillor O'Brien, seconded by Councillor Sheahan and agreed.

4. District Engineers Report

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing dated 11th April, 2023 outlining details of proposed works, projects and future projects planned for the District.

Following discussion the following issues were raised by Members:

- Councillor O'Brien requested an update on the Kildimo Community Centre building and also include this request as an item on the Agenda for the May District Meeting.
- Councillor Teskey requested an update on the Adare Public Realm Plan and also to have this included as an item on the Agenda for the May District Meeting.
- Councillor Teskey proposed a motion be sent to Full Council that Limerick City and County Council change its policy in relation to its stance on non-national tertiary roads and include a minimum of two per year in the schedule of Municipal District works for reconstruction to start the process. This was seconded by Councillor O'Brien and agreed.
- Councillor O'Donoghue requested a representative from the Planning Department attend the May District Meeting to discuss the Taking in Charge of estates in the District. This was seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed.

6. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

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

- €3,000 to Kilcornan National School (reallocation from 2021 GMA for Kilcornan Carpark €10,000).
- €3,000 to Pallaskenry National School (reallocation from 2021 GMA for Kilcornan Carpark €10,000).
- €3,000 to Ferrybridge Water Sports Club (reallocation from 2021 GMA for Kilcornan Carpark €10,000).
- €2,000 to Pallaskenry Tidy Towns.

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

- €3,000 to Ferrybridge Water Sports Club.
- €1,000 to Pallaskenry Senior Citizens.

On the proposal of Councillor Keary, seconded by Councillor Sheahan, it was agreed to allocate €2,000 to Ferrybridge Water Sports Club.

On the proposal of Councillor Teskey, seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Rathkeale Boxing Club.

On the proposal of Councillor O'Donoghue, seconded by Councillor Teskey, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Rathkeale Boxing Club.

NOTICE OF MOTION

7. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. O'Donoghue

I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council start the process of linking Croom National School to the distributor road at the rear of the school.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor O'Donoghue, seconded by Councillor Sheahan and agreed.

In proposing the motion, Councillor O'Donoghue referred to the huge investment in excess of €2.5 million provided for the upgrade of the school, however, vehicle access is limited and advised the landowner has agreed to provide the land to make the connection.

Reply: The applicant has yet to identify the footprint, and associated landholdings involved, for a potential link at the rear of the National School to the existing distributor road.

In principle, the Council favours the development of such an access. In order to progress the planning process for the new school access, permission will be required from the landowners involved.

The Department of Transport has indicated that they are not in a position to fund any further sections of the distributor road.

As the link to the school is to facilitate school development, the applicant should make an approach to the Department of Education to fund/part fund the road construction.

The Council will also seek a funding contribution from the National Transport Authority under the Safe Routes to School programme.

Once the above funding possibilities have been investigated, the Council will then review the matter.

Note the indicative cost of building a road of this nature is on the order of €1m per 200m length. (Exact length required for the new connection to the National School is to be identified by the applicant.)

The members requested that the Council investigate further the possible funding streams for this project.

8. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

9. A.O.B

- Councillor O'Donoghue congratulated the Limerick Senior Hurling Team on their recent victory over Kilkenny to win the 2023 Hurling League final.
- Councillor O'Donoghue also congratulated Elaine Houlihan from Athlacca for becoming president of Macra na Feirme.
- Councillor O'Donoghue also congratulated the Dromin/Athlacca U12 team who were playing in Croke Park 11th April, 2023.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____