

# **MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF NEWCASTLE WEST HELD IN ÁRAS WILLIAM SMITH OBRIEN, NEWCASTLE WEST, CO. LIMERICK, ON WEDNESDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> MAY, 2023, AT 10AM.**

## **PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:**

Councillor M. Collins, Cathaoirleach.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Foley, Galvin, Ruddle, Scanlan and Sheahan.

## **OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director, Community, Tourism and Culture (Mr. G. Daly), Meetings Administrator, Newcastle West (Mr. M. Curran), Senior Executive Engineer, Newcastle West Municipal District (Mr. J. Sheehan), Executive Engineer, Roads (Mr. P. Vallely), Administrative Officer, Property and Community Facilities (Ms. T. Knox), Clerical Officer, Newcastle West (Ms. A. Lenihan).

At the outset of the Meeting with the permission of the Cathaoirleach, on the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Sheahan, it was unanimously agreed that the Meeting would be adjourned for thirty minutes to allow for completion of the Briefing for the Elected Members regarding the Draft Newcastle West Local Area Plan 2023 - 2029.

Following discussion on the above, on the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Galvin, it was unanimously agreed that a further five minute adjournment would take place following the briefing, in accordance with Standing Orders, and prior to commencement of the Municipal District Meeting.

## **1. Adoption of Minutes**

- (a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of Meeting of Municipal District of Newcastle West, held on 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.

Proposed by: Councillor Sheahan

Seconded by: Councillor Scanlan

And Resolved:

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

## **2. Disposal of Land**

- (a) Circulated, report of Head of Property and Community Facilities, dated 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2023, concerning proposal to dispose of property at 16 Hawthorn Drive, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.

Members noted the proposal.

- (b) Circulated, report of Head of Property and Community Facilities, dated 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2023, concerning proposal to dispose of property at 30 Wingfield Orchard, Newcastle West, Co. Limerick.

Members noted the proposal.

### **3. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)**

On the proposal of Councillor Ruddle, seconded by Councillor Scanlan, it was agreed to allocate to €1,000 to Dromcollogher Festival.

On the proposal of Councillor Ruddle, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €500 to Tournafulla GAA.

On the proposal of Councillor Ruddle, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €500 to Castletown Hall for painting.

On the proposal of Councillor Ruddle, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €500 to Castletown/Ballyagran Active Retirement Group.

On the proposal of Councillor Galvin, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €500 to Fleadh by the Feale.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Collins, it was agreed to allocate €1,500 to defibrillator in Templeglantine.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Scanlan, it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Tournafulla Tidy Towns.

On the proposal of Councillor Foley, seconded by Councillor Scanlan, it was agreed to allocate €500 to Fleadh by the Feale.

## **QUESTIONS**

### **4. Question submitted by Councillor T. Ruddle**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for the installation of at least three ramps or raised platforms for Arraview Estate, Newcastle West. The Residents Association have contacted me and allayed concern with regards the volume of speeding cars in the estate, which is very dangerous.*

**REPLY:** When the estate is fully taken in charge, Limerick City and County Council will install 30km speed limit signage. Limerick City and County Council do not have the budgetary allocation to implement traffic calming at this stage.

**5. Question submitted by Councillor T. Ruddle**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for safety measures to be installed at the Glebe Estate in Monagea. Several surveys have been carried out at this location. This has been previously discussed with the conclusion that there would be a narrowing of the roadway at the entrance to the estate.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council will create build out's which will narrow the road at one or two locations near the entrance to the estate.

**6. Question submitted by Councillor T. Ruddle**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for the Council to explore options for extra parking in Newcastle West town. Due to increase in business footfall and increase in population over the past few years we need more options for parking.*

**REPLY:** We will discuss this with the forward planning section who have commenced the Local Area Plan for Newcastle West.

**7. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan**

*I will ask at the next Meeting when protective measures will be but in place at the junction of the Old Camas Road with the Ballyowen Road at Clounscherick.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council will reinstate the affected banks along the junction.

**8. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan**

*I will ask at the next Meeting when speed indicators will be put in place on (i) The Southern approach to Feohanagh Village (ii) The Ballymackessy approach to Knockane Road, Newcastle West.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council will install the infrastructure for speed indicators on the Southern approach to Feohanagh Village and relocate the indicator on the Ballymackessy approach to Knockane Road. As you are aware, the indicators are mobile and it is our intention to relocate them from time to time.

**9. Question submitted by Councillor J. Scanlan**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on car parking arrangements to complement our Greenway Facilities at Newcastle West.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council have Part 8 planning for a car park at the Limerick Greenway trailhead at Station Road, Newcastle West. The design is being finalised and a funding submission has been made to TII for the project.

**10. Question submitted by Councillor M. Collins**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the feasibility study for a new playground at The Demesne, Newcastle West.*

**REPLY:**

The Council has prepared a draft masterplan for the Demesne Parklands which includes play and other recreational uses. The purpose of the masterplan is to maximise the potential of the Demesne parklands. A site has been identified for a significant playground/play space as part of the masterplan. It is intended to have a workshop with the Newcastle West Members at the earliest opportunity on the proposed draft plan. The purpose of the workshop is to seek input from the Members in relation to the play space and overall plan.

**11. Question submitted by Councillor M. Collins**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for that Limerick City and County Council will pipe the stream and replace the dangerous and broken down railing at Glenmore, Strand in the interest of safety.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council will carry out the required works this year. This is in the schedule of Municipal District works 2023.

**12. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on the footpaths at the Hill Road, Abbeyfeale.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council are awaiting a date from the ESB and Eircom to relocate the poles. 900 diameter surface water drainage pipeline will need to be installed before the footpath can continue.

**13. Question submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

*I will ask at the next Meeting for an update on traffic calming for Athea village particularly the road down from Upper Athea and going out over the bridge at the junction.*

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council have included this traffic calming measure as part of the NTA works which is due to commence shortly.

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **14. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor T. Ruddle**

*I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council consider installing a bus shelter below the Object Shop on the N21, Newcastle West. People travelling by bus are getting wet while they are waiting for the bus, this is a very busy bus stop so an application for funding this is a priority.*

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Collins.

**REPLY:** We will assess the feasibility of providing a bus shelter near the Object Shop on the N21, Newcastle West and discuss with the National Transport Authority.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Ruddle requested that a bus shelter be installed below the Object Shop on the N21. During discussion, it was noted that this matter was raised previously and that private lands would be required for these works which was not forthcoming at the time.

### **15. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Collins**

*I will move at the next Meeting that traffic calming measures be introduced at Knockaderry village to make the area safer for pedestrians, cyclists and all road users.*

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Scanlan.

**REPLY:** Limerick City and County Council will carry out a speed survey at this location. Funding has not been allocated for Knockaderry Village for 2023.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Collins acknowledged the drainage and road surfacing works carried out at Knockaderry village previously and requested that traffic calming measures be put in place at the village. In replying, the Senior Executive Engineer stated that traffic calming measures would prove expensive at this location due to the width of the roadway and that funding is not available at present for these works.

Following discussion, it was agreed however that a Costing and Plan would be prepared for the proposed works.

### **16. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Collins**

*I will move at the next Meeting that public areas in the Municipal District of Newcastle West are policed by the Dog Warden and dog owners made aware of their responsibilities to keep their dogs secured on leads when in a public area.*

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Scanlan.

## **REPLY:**

The Dog Wardens carry out patrols in Newcastle West as resources allow. Enforcement activity is driven by complaints received through CRM and the capture of stray dogs.

Owners are required under the Dog Control Act to have their dogs under “Effectual Control”. Dogs are only required to be on leads if they are restricted breeds as defined in the Act.

All dog licence holders are sent a reminder on the duties as a dog owner when they renew their dog licence. This includes highlighting their responsibilities on Dog Control and on cleaning up after their dog.

A joint operation between the Gardaí and Dog Wardens has been organised to target the Newcastle West Greenway entrance to both enforce and raise awareness of Dog Control responsibilities along the route. We intend to repeat this a number of times a year.

There is a new Dog Control Working Group which has been established by the Minister of Agriculture, Food and Marine and we await their final recommendations and anticipate that there will be many positive changes recommended which will help Local Councils in enforcing dog control in their functional areas.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Collins referred to a dangerous breed of dog which was roaming freely on the Limerick Greenway at Newcastle West and requested that dog owners be made aware of their responsibilities to keep dogs on leads when in a public area. A brief discussion followed and reference was also made to dangerous breeds of dogs being kept in Local Authority housing which is of concern to residents. It was agreed that the Meetings Administrator would revert to the relevant Directorate on this matter.

### **17. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

*I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council would place the new playground in Tournafulla on the list to be insured under its property portfolio.*

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

**REPLY:** The Council will engage with Tournafulla Community Council to advise re the requirements to be met in advance of adding a community playground to the Council’s Schedule of Public Liability Insurance with Irish Public Bodies (IPB).

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin stated that the new playground is at the rear of the car park and that access to the new playground is through the car park. He requested that the playground be insured under the Council’s portfolio and that clarification be sought

on having the car park insured also. It was agreed that the Meetings Administrator would seek clarification on this matter from the relevant Directorate.

## **18. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor L. Galvin**

*I will move at the next Meeting that the NTA provide funding for the following bus stops:*

- (i) A second stop for Templeglantine village*
- (ii) Devon Road Cross*
- (iii) Killarney Road, Abbeyfeale*

The Motion was seconded by Councillor Foley.

**REPLY:** We will assess the feasibility of providing bus shelters at Templeglantine village (second location), Devon Road Cross and Killarney Road, Abbeyfeale and discuss with the National Transport Authority.

In proposing the Motion, Councillor Galvin requested that funding be provided by the National Transport Authority for bus stops at the above locations. A brief discussion took place on the proposed locations of the bus stops and reference was also made to the size of the signage which is in place for the bus stop at the Killarney Road, Abbeyfeale.

The following items were also raised.

An update was sought on when a contractor would be on site for the demolition of O’Riordan’s pub in Abbeyfeale as part of the Abbeyfeale Traffic Management Plan. It was agreed that the Meetings Administrator would seek a further update from the relevant Directorate on this matter.

An update was sought on the cleaning of the grass and weeds around the cobbles and slabs at the Square in Newcastle West. In replying, the Executive Engineer stated that works have been carried out at this location and a further follow up will take place shortly.

Reference was made to a number of street lights not working in the town of Newcastle West and Broadford and in replying, the Executive Engineer stated that he is liaising with the relevant Directorate on a regular basis with regard to this matter. The Senior Executive Engineer also agreed to continue to liaise with the Members on the current status of street lights not working in the District.

An update was sought on dereliction at the unfinished housing development at The Glebe in Monagea.

The Executive Engineer, Roads, gave an update to the Members on the proposed installation of double yellow lines at Gortboy, Newcastle West, and to drawings which have recently been prepared.

Reference was made to the turning count survey on Dore’s Cross and to a feasibility report which is being prepared for submission to Transport Infrastructure Ireland. Reference was also made to the current design of the junction at Devon Road Cross. It was agreed that the Meetings Administrator would seek an update from the relevant Directorate on these matters.

An update was sought on a one way system for Scanlan’s Lane, Newcastle West, and it was agreed that the Senior Executive Engineer would consult with the residents and businesses in the area.

The maintenance of the public lane way linking the Glebe, Monagea to the Gardenfield Road was referred to and in replying the Senior Executive Engineer agreed to follow up on the proposed taking in charge of this laneway.

An update was sought on the final layering of the Athletics Track in Newcastle West and in replying, the Director stated that this work is weather dependent and will be completed at the earliest opportunity.

The Meetings Administrator referred to the parking meter at the Church Street car park in Newcastle West which has gone into disrepair and to the proposal to replace this meter with a combination of the application “park magic” and disc parking. In replying, the Members agreed to the replacement of the parking meter but requested that advance notice be given to members of the public prior to replacement being undertaken.

It was agreed to hold the June Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2023, at 10.00 a.m., at Áras William Smith OBrien.

It was also agreed to hold the Annual Meeting of the District on Wednesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2023, at 12.00 noon, Áras William Smith OBrien.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

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**Cathaoirleach**

Dated:

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