

**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, 9<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2024 AT 9.30 A.M.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:** Councillor A. Teskey, An Cathaoirleach.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Collins, Keary, O'Brien, O'Donoghue and Sheahan.

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director, Rural, Community and Culture Development (Mr. S. Duclot), Meetings Administrator (Ms. K. Butler), Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. G. O'Connor), Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. J. O'Keeffe), Director, Housing (Ms. C. Curley), Senior Executive Officer, Strategy & Non LA Housing Construction (Ms. S. Newell), Senior Engineer, LA Housing Construction & Housing Maintenance (Mr. B. Kidney), Staff Officer, Property Services (Ms. D. Ruth), Administrative Officer, Corporate Services and Governance (Mr. M. Leahy), Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance (Ms. E. Cousins), Administrative Officer, Rural Development (Ms. E. Humphreys), Senior Executive Officer, Rural Development (Mr. S. O'Connor), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Lenihan).

**1. Adoption of Minutes**

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2024. Councillor Collins stated she would not be in a position to adopt the minutes as per draft presented as her questions in relation to the Foynes to Limerick Road (including the Adare Bypass) Project on the Agenda of that meeting had not been recorded as discussed on the day.

Following discussion, the Cathaoirleach requested Councillor Collins forward her questions asked on the day for inclusion in the March minute record to the Meetings Administrator. Councillor O'Brien further requested the amendment be circulated to Members in advance of forwarding to the Meetings Administrator.

Proposed by Councillor O'Brien;

Seconded by Councillor Collins;

And Resolved:

“That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read, adopted and signed, subject to an amendment which Councillor Collins would submit to the Meetings Administrator for inclusion on the record”.

Following the adoption of the Minutes Councillor Teskey made reference to the details of a private briefing to all forty Elected Members of Limerick City and County Council regarding Askeaton Pool and Leisure DAC which was subsequently released to the media and members of the public. The Meetings Administrator advised the tendering process is not yet complete and approval is awaited from the Department of Sport at the present time. Discussion ensued and Councillor Teskey proposed the Meeting be adjourned to allow the Executive prepare a press release from Limerick City and County Council on the current situation with Askeaton Pool and Leisure DAC. This was seconded by all Councillors and agreed.

## **2. Declaration of Interest**

The Meetings Administrator stated that, in line with Part 15 of the Local Government Act, 2001, as amended, and the Code of Conduct, she was inviting those present to notify the Cathaoirleach of any declaration of interest in any item due for discussion at the Meeting.

No such interests were declared.

## **3. Disposal of Land**

- (a) Circulated, report of the Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2024 setting out proposals for the disposal of Freehold Interest in property at 9 Boherbue, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to Full Council for approval.

Councillor Teskey proposed this item be adjourned until the May Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting and requested a Member of staff from Housing Support Services attend to discuss this item. This was seconded by Councillor Sheahan and agreed.

- (b) Circulated, report of the Head of Property Management, Rural, Cultural and Community Development Directorate dated 26<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 setting out proposals for the disposal of 0.00099 acres (0.0004ha) of land at Camoge Park, Skagh, Croom, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to Full Council for approval.

The report, as circulated, was proposed by Councillor O'Donoghue, seconded by Councillor Collins and agreed.

It was agreed Item 8 on the Agenda would be taken next.

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

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

- €1,000 to Adare Ladies Football Club.
- €2,500 to Scoile Mhuire, Pallaskenry.
- €2,000 to St. Senans GAA Club.
- €2,000 to Limerick Ladies Gaelic Football Association.

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

- €3,000 to Scoile Mhuire, Pallasknery.
- €2,104 to Rathkeale Men's Shed.
- €5,000 to Croagh/Kilfinny Community Walkway.

On the proposal of Councillor Sheahan, seconded by Councillor Keary it was agreed to allocate €2,000 to Scoile Mhuire, Pallasknery.

On the proposal of Councillor O'Brien, seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue it was agreed to allocate €5,000 to Scoile Mhuire, Pallasknery.

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

- €1,000 to Askeaton Active Retirement Group.
- €21,500 to Rathkeale Roads Maintenance.
- €1,000 to Estuary Rugby Club.

On the proposal of Councillor O'Donoghue, seconded by Councillor Collins it was agreed the €500 nominated to Clever Clogs Childcare at the March Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting be amended to Croom Family Resources Centre.

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

## **5. Housing Strategy & Non-LA Housing Construction**

### **Social Housing Delivery**

Circulated, report of the Housing Strategy & Non-LA Housing Construction Directorate dated 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2024 setting out details in relation to the social housing delivery for the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District.

The Senior Executive Officer, Strategy & Non LA Housing Construction updated Members on the social housing progress in the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District to date.

Discussion ensued and Members requested an update in relation to the proposed social housing development for Adare. The Director, Housing advised the housing department have entered into negotiations to connect to the existing drain and are awaiting a decision on the planning application from An Bord Pleanála. Councillor Keary requested a copy of

the planning permission associated with the proposed development and Councillor Collins requested a briefing or meeting on-site to discuss the proposed development. The Director, Housing agreed to facilitate a meeting with the Elected Members once the surface water drainage issue for the site is resolved.

Councillor O'Donoghue requested an update on the fire damaged house in Glenma Estate, Croom and also requested this house be secured. The Senior Engineer, LA Housing Construction & Housing Maintenance advised they are currently in discussion with the insurance company and have made contact with the property owner next door to have the house secured.

Councillor O'Donoghue also requested an update in relation to the storm and sewer connections for Camoge Park, Croom. The Director, Housing Maintenance requested Councillor O'Donoghue contact her after the Meeting regarding this matter.

Councillor Sheahan requested an update on the former public house purchased by Limerick City and County Council on Church Street, Askeaton. The Senior Engineer, LA Housing Construction & Housing Maintenance advised a contractor has been appointed for the property and it is hoped they will be on site at the end of April.

Councillor Teskey requested an update in relation to the remuneration for the owners of properties in Ballywilliam Estate, Rathkeale. The Director, Housing advised this is currently with the arbitrator and a decision is still pending.

## **6. Corporate Services**

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Mark Leahy, Administrative Officer, Corporate Services and Governance and Edel Cousins, Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance to the Meeting.

The Staff Officer, Corporate Services and Governance gave Members a presentation on the electoral register ahead of the local elections on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 2024. She advised Members of the key points for checking the Register of Electors and also outlined the deadlines for Postal Vote applications and the online register.

A discussion subsequently ensued amongst the Members and several queries raised by Members were addressed by the representatives from Corporate Services and Governance.

## **7. Roads, Traffic and Cleansing**

### **District Engineers Report**

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing dated 9<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 outlining details of proposed works, projects and future projects planned for the District.

Following discussion the following issues were raised by Members:

- Councillor O'Donoghue requested an update on drainage works at Banogue GAA, Croom. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised consultants had been appointed and Council staff were on site carrying out general maintenance works.
- Councillor O'Donoghue stated that current road conditions in the District are substandard and asked if Central Government could provide additional resources to rectify the situation. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised this is a National issue and the Director of Service, Transportation and Mobility had already written to the Department seeking additional funding.
- Councillor Collins requested to see drawings for the funding received for proposed works at Murphy's Cross, Adare. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised the works entail junction tightening and will be carried out by the Mid West National Road Design Office.

It was agreed Item 4 on the Agenda would be taken next.

#### **4. Community Development**

##### **Local Economic and Community Plan 2023 – 2028**

Circulated, Pre-Final Draft of the Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) 2023 – 2028.

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Seamus O'Connor, Senior Executive Officer, Rural, Community and Culture Development and Eileen Humphreys, Administrative Officer, Rural, Community and Culture Development to the Meeting. The Administrative Officer, Rural, Community and Culture Development advised the Plan comprises a six year plan to incorporate local economic development and local community development in urban and rural Limerick. The Local Economic and Community Plan was prepared in consultation with an LECP Advisory Steering Group, Local Community Development Committee and the Economic Strategic Policy Committee as well as public consultation and input from Municipal Districts and Regional Assembly. The plan includes a Socio-Economic analysis of Limerick City and County Council based on the Census 2022 covering population, education, employment and unemployment and general health.

Following the presentation the Administrative Officer, Rural, Community and Culture Development advised the plan would now go to Full Council for approval. Members complimented the Administrative Officer, Rural Development for the presentation and welcomed the Local Economic and Community Plan.

## **NOTICES OF MOTION**

### **9. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor A. Teskey**

**I will move at the next Meeting that this District write to Irish Rail to ask them to refurbish or reinstate the road surface at all level crossings on the rail line between Adare and Foynes as a matter of urgency due to their immense poor condition.**

The Motion was proposed by Councillor Teskey, seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue and agreed.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised he had been in direct contact with the Irish Rail appointed contractor, Sisk who advised they will be working to improve the surface of all level crossings between Adare and Foynes as a temporary measure and full permanent reinstatement of the road surface at these level crossings to be carried out in the coming months.

### **10. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor J. O'Donoghue**

**I will move at the next Meeting a motion of no confidence in the Chair of the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District.**

At the request of Councillor O'Donoghue this Motion was withdrawn.

### **11. Correspondence**

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

### **12. A.O.B**

- The Meetings Administrator requested confirmation of attendance at the Shannon Foynes Port Company for a presentation of future plans for the port due to be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2024 at 11:00 a.m. All Members were in agreement that this would be deferred to a future date to be agreed in the near future.
- It was agreed the May Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting would be held on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2024 at 9.30 a.m.
- Councillor Teskey congratulated Minister Patrick O'Donovan on his recent appointment to Minister of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science and requested a letter of congratulations be forwarded to Minister O'Donovan from the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
**Cathairleach**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_