

**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> JULY, 2024 AT 9.30 A.M.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:**

Councillor A. Teskey, An Cathaoirleach.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Councillors Collins, Hartigan, Keary, O'Donoghue and Ward.

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

A/Director Rural, Community and Culture Development (Mr. S. O'Connor), 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), Executive Engineer, Planning Enforcement (Mr. S. McGrath), Senior Executive Planner, Planning Development (Mr. B. Henn), Graduate Engineer, Development Management and Place Making (Mr. E. Hannon), Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services (Mr. J. McDonald), Staff Officer, Property Services (Ms. Denise Ruth), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Lenihan).

**APOLOGIES:**

Director, Rural, Community and Culture Development (Mr. S. Duclot)

**1. Adoption of Minutes**

- (a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2024.

Proposed by Councillor Keary;  
Seconded by Councillor Collins;  
And Resolved:

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

- (b) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 25<sup>th</sup> June, 2024.

Proposed by Councillor Keary;  
Seconded by Councillor Collins;  
And Resolved:

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

## **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.

Councillor Collins declared her interest in the Private Workshop, following the Municipal District Meeting, as member of the Board of Adare Heritage Centre DAC.

Councillor Hartigan declared his interest as a contractor who works for Uisce Éireann.

## **3. To Adopt Standing Orders for the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District**

The Meetings Administrator advised Members Standing Orders are being finalised and are not available to adopt at the moment. It was agreed to defer this item until the September Municipal District Meeting.

## **4. Disposal of Land**

- (a) Circulated, report of the Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 setting out proposals for the disposal of Freehold Interest in property at Cloontemple, Ballingarry, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to Full Council for approval.

The report, as circulated, was proposed by Councillor Keary, seconded by Councillor Collins and agreed.

- (b) Circulated, report of the Senior Staff Officer, Housing Support Services dated 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2024 setting out proposals for the disposal of Freehold Interest in property at Cloontemple, Ballingarry, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to Full Council for approval.

The report, as circulated, was proposed by Councillor Keary, seconded by Councillor Collins and agreed.

- (c) Circulated, report of the Head of Property Management dated 21<sup>st</sup> June, 2024 setting out proposals for the disposal of Garage at 16 Main Street, 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.

- (d) Circulated, report of the Head of Property Management dated 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2024 setting out proposals for the disposal of 2.72 acres (1.1 ha) of Land at Skagh, Croom, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to Full Council for approval.

Discussion ensued in relation to the lands being situated on a flood plain and whether a material change would be required to the Local Area Plan given the land would be utilised to install a carpark. Members also referred to the lack of a bus stop beside the Hospital. The Staff Officer, Property Services advised the Health Service Executive are aware of the flood plan issue and they plan to expand the Hospital campus overall and added these plans may allow for a bus stop to be installed.

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

## **5. Planning, Environment and Place-Making**

### **Taking in Charge of Estates – Declaration of Road to be Public Roads**

Circulated, report of the Senior Planner, Planning, Environment and Place-Making dated 22<sup>nd</sup> June, 2024 seeking approval to the taking in charge of Ros Choill, Pallaskenry, Co. Limerick.

Following discussion Councillor Keary requested a timeline for when works would be complete on this estate and also queried the source of funding for same. The Executive Engineer, Planning Enforcement advised the project would be referred to the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Office for a schedule of works to be completed for the estate. He further advised the funding will be allocated from the Development Fund. Councillor Collins stated works on the public lighting need to be included on a separate schedule of works. The Executive Engineer, Planning Enforcement advised the public lighting in this estate would only require minor upgrade works.

Proposed by Councillor Collins;  
Seconded by Councillor Hartigan;  
And Resolved:

“That Ros Choill be taken in charge in accordance with Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act, 1993”.

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

### **District Engineers Report**

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing dated 9<sup>th</sup> July, 2024 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 driver feedback signs be provided at Chawkes Cross, Granagh to improve safety at this junction. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised the funding provided for this junction is for

reconstruction works only and further advised the speed limit at this location is due to be reduced to 60 km/h by the end of 2024.

- Councillor Teskey proposed a Special Meeting be convened with the Mid West Road Design Office to receive an update on the proposed Limerick to Cork NM20 Motorway. This was seconded by Councillor Collins and agreed. Councillor Collins also requested an update on the Foynes to Limerick Motorway from the Mid West Road Design Office. Councillor O'Donoghue added the NM20 Office, which is separate to the Mid West Road Design Office, also be in attendance at the proposed meeting. Councillor Keary requested the three Limerick Oireachtas Members also be invited to attend when a date for this meeting is scheduled.
- Councillor Teskey requested communication be forwarded to the Minister of Transport requesting funding be made available to complete the Adare to Foynes Motorway project as a whole.

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

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Teskey it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Croagh Community Council.

Councillor Collins further proposed €1,000, which was previously allocated to Captain Tim Madigan Park c/o Shanagolden Community Council in February, 2024 be increased to €1,200. This was seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed.

On the proposal of Councillor Teskey, seconded by Councillor Ward it was agreed to allocate €1,500 to Killeedy GAA Club.

On the proposal of Councillor Keary, seconded by Councillor Collins it was agreed to allocate €2,000 to Ballingarry Soccer Club.

## **QUESTIONS**

### **8. Question submitted by Councillor B. Collins**

**I will ask at the next Meeting if a request for funding for a General Operative for the village of Adare has been forwarded to the relevant departments of Limerick City and County Council.**

**Reply:** With the current restraints on both financial and Human Resources there are currently no plans for a dedicated General Operative for Adare.

**9. Question submitted by Councillor B. Collins**

**I will ask at the next meeting if an update on the speed limit legislation which is due to come into effect from the end of 2024 can be presented to the Members of the Adare-Rathkeale Electoral Area.**

**Reply:** A recent circular from the Department of Transport included the following:

‘As part of the rollout of the new Speed Limits, further seminars/training will be provided to wider staff and Elected Members in the coming months’.

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

**10. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor B. Collins**

**I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council writes to the Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications to request that NBI and Eir work together to share information and resources to ensure that all housing units are supplied with High Speed Broadband as is legislated for in the Gigabit Infrastructure Act which aims to eliminate digital exclusion.**

The Motion was proposed by Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed.

In proposing the Motion Councillor Collins stated there are issues with some houses within estates, as well as in the countryside, that are not being supplied with fibre broadband. As this is a country wide issue it was agreed the Motion would be referred to the next Meeting of Full Council. Discussion ensued in relation to the condition of the Eir buildings on New Line, Rathkeale and Broad Street, Adare and requested details of these premises be forwarded to the Council Dereliction Team with a view to resolving these issues.

**11. Correspondence**

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

**12. A.O.B**

- Councillor Collins raised the issue of a recent spate of burglaries in Adare village and requested the Gardaí attend a future meeting to discuss. Councillor Teskey suggested a Joint Policing Committee meeting be convened following the September Municipal District Meeting to discuss policing plan for the Christmas period in the District and incorporate spree of crimes in Adare into the Agenda.

- Councillor O'Donoghue raised the issue of fluoride usage in water treatment plants in the County and asked in what areas fluoride is being used and what the benefit was for adding same. Councillor Teskey requested a Special Meeting with Uisce Éireann to discuss the fluoride usage and also to receive a further update on the ongoing boil water notice at the Foynes Shannon Estuary Water Treatment Plant.
- Councillor Teskey requested an update on Ballywilliam Estate, Bank of Ireland building and Dohyle Lake in Rathkeale. The A/Director of Service, Rural, Community and Culture Development advised there is currently no update on the Ballywilliam unfinished estate as the matter continues to be in arbitration and added the Rural Development team are still exploring various opportunities for the Bank of Ireland building in Rathkeale. Regarding Dohyle Lake, a feasibility study was carried out and costings to complete the project are estimated at €1.3 million. Various funding options are currently being looked at to fund the project.
- Councillor Collins added that Elected Members need to be part of the process and master plan for the Ryder Cup 2027.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

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**Cathaoirleach**

Dated:

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