

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF CAPPAMORE-KILMALLOCK HELD IN ARAS
MAINCHIN SEOIGE AND ON-LINE, ON THURSDAY 19th SEPTMBER
2024 AT 3.00PM.**

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor M Ryan, An Cathaoirleach

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councillors Carey, Conway, O'Sullivan, E. Ryan, Stokes and Teefy

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Services, Transportation & Mobility (Mr B. Kennedy); Senior Executive Engineer, Roads Traffic & Cleansing (Mr T. McKechnie); Meetings Administrator (Ms K. Butler); Clerical Officer (Ms H. O'Neill); Staff Officer, Property Services (Ms D. Ruth); Senior Engineer, Strategy and Non LA Housing (Mr B. Kidney); Senior Executive Engineer, Roads Traffic & Cleansing (Mr S. O'Reilly); Senior Executive Technician, Roads Traffic & Cleansing (Mr P. O'Rourke) and Senior Planner, Forward Planning & Public Realm (Ms Maria Woods).

1. Adoption of Minutes

(i) Circulated copy of draft Minutes of Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock held on 18th July, 2024.

(Copies Enclosed)

Proposed by: Councillor E. Ryan

Seconded by: Councillor Teefy

And Resolved:

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

(ii) Circulated copy of draft Minutes of Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock regarding Disposal of Property at Foxhall West, Colmanswell held on 5th September, 2024.

(Copies Enclosed)

Proposed by: Councillor Carey

Seconded by: Councillor E. Ryan

And Resolved:

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

2. Matters Arising

3. Declaration of Interests

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.

There was no interest declared.

4. Property Disposal

(a) Circulated, report of the Head of Property Management dated 4th September, 2024 setting out proposals for the disposal of property acquired under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 at 4 Glenosheen, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to Full Council for approval.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

(b) Circulated, report of the Head of Property Management dated 2nd September, 2024 setting out proposals for the disposal of freehold interest in property at Knocklong West, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

5. Traffic and Transportation

Members welcomed Seamus O'Reilly, Senior Executive Engineer (Road, Traffic & Cleansing) to the meeting who proceeded with his presentation on the proposed 60kph

default speed limits due to be introduced on the local roads network in November 2024 explaining these measures aim to improve safety on the road network for all users. Seamus O'Reilly (SEE) explained to members that surveys had been undertaken in the District to determine which local roads met the criteria to retain a 80kph speed limit and added however that none of those assessed met the qualifying criteria, therefore all Local roads in the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District will default to the new 60kph speed limit.

Members raised concerns around enforcement of the new speed limits. Seamus O'Reilly assured members a number of advertising campaigns would be undertaken in the lead up to implementation of the new speed limits and also advised members his Department was awaiting delivery of new signage to coincide with same.

Members agreed the logistics involved to implement the new signage was considerable. All members welcomed the introduction of the new speed limits which they hoped would lead to improved safety and a reduction in road fatalities.

Councillor Conway (G) requested if traffic calming measures could be introduced in the vicinity of Effin GAA club in the interests of road safety. T.McKechnie (SEE) agreed to examine the location queried in line with the new LCCC Traffic Calming Policy and revert to Councillor Conway in due course. It was noted that the new default speed limits on local roads would reduce the speed at Effin GAA Club to 60kph.

Councillor O'Sullivan (T) raised an issue with the new periodic speed limit sign which appears to be on permanently near the national school in Ardpatick. T McKechnie (SEE) advised this would be investigated as the periodic speed limit applied only during school drop off and pick up times.

6. Forward Planning

The elected members welcomed Maria Woods, Senior Planner, (Forward Planning and Public Realm) to the meeting to provide a briefing to consider the Mayors Report and resolve to extend the life of the Kilmallock Local Area Plan 2019-2025 a further three years to coincide with the Limerick City and County Council Dev. Plan.

Maria explained the same issues in the current Local Area Plan would still apply with the next Local Area Plan for Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District due next year. Members queried what the position would be in the interim should an amendment be required to the Plan before 2028.

Maria Woods, Senior Planner informed Members an amendment to the existing plan between now and 2028 could be looked at once it aligned with planning criteria set out the County Development Plan. Members agreed with the explanation given by Maria Woods in requesting extension of current local area plan until 2028.

Proposed: Councillor Ryan (M)
Seconded: Councillor Conway (G)

NOTICES OF MOTION

7. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor O'Sullivan

"I will move at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District that Limerick City and County Council arrange a presentation/workshop to this Municipal District from the Housing Directorate with a focus on dereliction in the Area."

REPLY:

The Property Management Department of the Rural, Community and Culture Development Directorate will give a presentation to the October meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District.

Proposed: Councillor O'Sullivan

Seconded: Councillor M. Ryan

8. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Conway

"I will move at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District that the footpath be extended from Abbeyowney Estate, Murroe to the village for the safety of all road users and pedestrians."

REPLY:

The extension of the footpath from the Abbeyowney Estate to the village in Murroe has been a priority for the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District Office. Land acquisition is required and securing agreement on this matter has not been achieved to date. The Cappamore- Kilmallock office in conjunction with the Limerick Active Travel Office are examining the possibility of making the road from Abbeyowney to the village a shared space which would give equal priority to all road users.

Proposed: Councillor Conway

Seconded: Councillor M. Ryan

9. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Carey

“I will move at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District for safety measures to be undertaken on all approaches to Bruff RFC grounds on the R516.”

REPLY:

The Roads Engineer for the Municipal District will review the R516 on the approaches to Bruff RFC to determine what safety measures, if any may be required. Any safety improvement measures that may be determined necessary would be submitted to the relevant funding authority for their consideration.

Proposed: Councillor Carey

Seconded: Councillor M. Ryan

10. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor M. Ryan

“I will move at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District that Limerick City and County Council investigate the Hedge Cutting Grants of Councils like Clare and Leitrim for example to see if such a scheme would work for our council in encouraging the proper maintenance of Roadside Hedgerows in our county to improve Road Safety for all road users ie Pedestrians, Cyclists and Vehicles.

REPLY:

Limerick City and County Council will review the Hedge Cutting Grants of other Local Authorities to determine if a similar scheme would be beneficial to encourage landowners to carry out improved maintenance of roadside boundaries across Limerick. Any potential scheme would have to be considered within the constraints of the Roads, Traffic and Cleansing budget.

Proposed: Councillor M. Ryan

Seconded: Councillor Stokes

11. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Teefy

“I will move at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District that a survey be carried out on the R512 road at Brackvoan, Bruff to help with safety measures on that road when entering and exiting Brackvoan Estate.”

REPLY:

The Municipal District Office is currently assessing vehicular speeds on the R512 in the vicinity of the Brackvoan Estate, Bruff. Should the analysis of the traffic speeds determine the current speed limit is being violated, the Roads Engineer will determine what appropriate traffic calming measures may be required and a submission would be made to the relevant funding authority for their consideration.

Proposed: Councillor Teefy

Seconded: Councillor Carey

QUESTIONS

12. Question submitted by Councillor O’Sullivan

“I will ask at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District for an update on proposals to replace footpaths in Ballyorgan and what funding source may be used to carry out the works.”

REPLY:

The Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District office propose to replace 300m of existing footpaths and to construct 900m of new footpaths, drainage and public lighting in Ballyorgan. A submission has been made previously to the Limerick Active Travel office for submission to the National Transport Agency (NTA) to consider the provision of funding for the works. Approval to proceed with the proposed works has not be sanctioned to date. The works in Ballyorgan will remain on the Municipal District’s programme of proposed Active Travel projects and will continue to be submitted for consideration by the NTA.

13. Question submitted by Councillor O'Sullivan

"I will ask at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District for an update on the proposal for a footpath in Anglesboro to connect the National School to the crossroads in the village and if there are any plans to construct a footpath from the Cluaindara Estate to the same junction."

REPLY:

The Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District office had proposed previously to construct a new footpath connecting Anglesboro National School to the main crossroads junction in the village. The works required land acquisition which could not be agreed. With respect to a footpath from the Cluaindara Estate, there are no plans or funding in place to deliver this infrastructure. The Roads Engineer can explore if a footpath could be delivered, but it should be noted that land acquisition would be required at this location as well.

14. Question submitted by Councillor Conway

I will ask at the next Cappamore-Kilmallock area meeting for an update on a considerable development contribution in respect of the proposed childcare facility in Bruff since planning permission has been granted for 74 houses to Ballygrennan Homes Ltd.

REPLY:

The Limerick City and County Councils Development Contribution Scheme 2022 was developed based on the Council's projected Capital Programme, and no creche facilities were included in the list of identified projects, as set out in Appendix B. Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended specifically states that "*the basis for the determination of a contribution shall be set out in a development contribution scheme made under this section*".

Therefore, while the Council recognises the need for childcare facilities, the current Limerick Development Contribution Scheme does not provide for the construction or funding of a creche in Bruff. It is suggested that alternative funding sources should be sought, such as the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth 'Building blocks Capital Grant'.

15. Question submitted by Councillor Conway

I will ask at the next Cappamore-Kilmallock area meeting if signage can be erected in green areas and parks in Kilmallock, advising dog owners that these areas are also children's play areas and this is a Public Health issue and also be advised of the penalties attached under Section 22 Litter Pollution Act 1997. Also the erection of dog fouling combi bins.

REPLY :

Breaches of the Litter Pollution Act, including Dog Fouling, can result in an on-the-spot fine of €150 or a fine of €5,000 may be imposed if legal proceedings are initiated.

The Council will review the green areas in Kilmallock town and will request the Litter Warden to schedule some patrols of the area. Stencils can be considered on the walkway itself if appropriate and the possibility of signage at the entrance to the green areas can also be considered. The Council operates an 'Any Bag, Any Bin' Policy, Dog Waste should be deposited in any public bin or brought home by dog owners for disposal.

16. Question submitted by Councillor Carey

I will ask at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District meeting for an update on my motion from last March regarding the Railway Station in Kilmallock and if Iarnród Eireann have been contacted by Property and Community Facilities.

REPLY :

The Property Management Section are in the process of calculating estimated costs in relation to the connection of services such as water, sewer and power to the building. It is anticipated that these costs would be substantial.

Contact has also been made with Iarnród Eireann to ascertain if they have a structural survey undertaken on the building. If not, the Council would need to engage a Structural Engineer to review the condition of the building and likely costs involved in the restoration. (Funding to be identified). Any work done to the building will need to preserve and protect the integrity of the structure.

If in the event the Council were to enter into a lease agreement with Iarnród Eireann at some stage in the future, an Expression of Interest for possible uses of the building would be advertised and interested parties could apply to the Council.

Funding would need to be identified to progress any works prior to taking on any such lease.

17. Question submitted by Councillor Carey

I will ask at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District for an update on my motion from March 2023 regarding the audit and inspection of doors and windows at Radharc na Coille Estate, Kilmallock

REPLY:

Housing Maintenance is currently working through an inspection programme for windows and doors in Radharc na Coille and Glenfield Estates in Kilmallock in accordance with the Guidelines for Housing Authorities in Implementation of Standards in Rented Accommodation. 5 properties have had windows and doors replaced to date and a further property is due to have windows and doors replaced in the coming weeks.

18. Question submitted by Councillor Ryan

"I will ask at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District for a current list of housing application numbers for the Cappamore Area including breakdown of preferences."

REPLY:

Cappamore - 85 (Total)				
Beds	Number First Choice - 27	Number Second Choice - 35	Number Third Choice - 23	
1 Bed	9	16	11	
2 Bed	9	13	6	
3 Bed	8	5	6	
4 Bed	1	1	0	
5 Bed +	0	0	0	

19. Question submitted by Councillor Ryan

“I will ask at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District do Limerick City and County Council have plans for safety improvement works at the Cross of 5 roads in Murroe.”

REPLY:

The Roads Engineer has compiled a cost estimate of €35,000 for the replacement and improvements to existing road markings, signage and anti-skid surfacing at the Cross of 5 roads junction. A submission will be made to the Dept. of Transport for their consideration in allocating grants under their Safety Improvement Programme for 2025. The Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District also intend to explore the possibility of securing a Specific Improvement Grant from the Department for more advanced works such as road(s) realignment at the junction.

20. Question submitted by Councillor Teefy

“I will ask at the next meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District are there plans to replace the batteries on the Driver Feedback signs in the Municipal District that are not working at present.”

REPLY:

There are a number of driver feedback signs across the Municipal District not in operation at present due primarily to vandalism and theft. Some units were repaired/replaced, but were subject to further vandalism and theft. While batteries in each installation need to be replaced, there are also significant repairs to internal wiring required for most units. It is the intention to bring the units back in operation on a phased basis. The Municipal District is also liaising with suppliers on improved security of the units.

The Questions were taken as read.

Any Other Business

Councillor Conway (G) queried the public lighting on the Railway Road in Kilmallock which is out of order for a number of weeks without repairs being carried out.

Trevor McKechnie explained to Members that the Council's maintenance contractor had left the market in July and that a new contractor will be appointed in early November. In the interim, a temp contractor is in place to deal with public lighting repairs on a priority basis. The lights on Railway Road are due to be dealt with before the end of September. Trevor McKechnie advised members should there be any particular issue with lighting clusters to make him aware of same.

Councillor Stokes (N) referred to two lights out in Mullally Grove in Cappamore (one repaired the other still out of order) and also lights out in Old Pallas.

Councillor Teefy (B) proposed a vote of sympathy for the family of Nonie Ward, Cappanahana, Murroe who passed away at the age of 104 years

Councillor Teefy (B) and all the elected members of the District wished Joe Ring, Assistant Staff Officer well on his retirement from Limerick City and County Council after forty two years service.

All elected members wished Dara O'Brien Senior Staff Officer well on her new position in the Cappamore-Kilmallock District office.

Trevor McKechnie SEE advised elected members Mobility Plans for Gotoon, Doon and Cappamore will be advertised for public consultation shortly.

The elected Members requested an update on General Municipal Allocation expenditure for year to date.

Trevor McKechnie advised members work would commence on these projects once all the Department grant works are complete.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

The next meeting of the Cappamore Kilmallock Municipal District is to be held on Thursday 17th October at 3pm.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Date: _____

