

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS AT MONTHLY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF
ADARE-RATHKEALE HELD IN ÁRAS SEÁN FINN, NEW LINE ROAD, RATHKEALE, CO.
LIMERICK AND ONLINE ON TUESDAY, 10TH JUNE, 2025 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:

Director of Service, Planning and Place-Making (Mr. V. Murray), Meetings Administrator (Ms. K. Butler), Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. G. O'Connor), A/Senior Executive Officer, Municipal Districts (Ms. K. White), Administrative Officer, Property Management (Ms. T. Knox), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Lenihan).

1. Adoption of Minutes

(a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 13th May, 2025.

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 Special Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 27th May, 2025.

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

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

Following the adoption of the Minutes the Cathaoirleach extended his best wishes to John O'Keeffe in his new role as Senior Executive Engineer adding Mr. O'Keeffe did great work during his seven year role as Executive Engineer in the District and queried if an Executive Engineer for the District had been appointed. All Members expressed their well wishes to Mr. O'Keeffe and agreed with Councillor Teskey's sentiments.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing commended Mr. O'Keeffe for his tremendous work as Executive Engineer for the District advising Members he left the District Roads Department in a very healthy state. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing went on to say his replacement is critical to ensure no disruption to the current District schedule of works. The Director of Service, Planning and Place-Making also advised Members he had a number of conversations with John Gannon, Senior Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing who has agreed the appointment of an Executive Engineer for the District is essential without delay and agreed to follow up with Mr. Gannon, Senior Engineer and revert in due course to Members.

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 interest was declared.

3. Disposal of Land

Circulated, report of the Head of Property Management dated 29th May, 2025 setting out proposals for the disposal of Property, acquired compulsorily under the Derelict Sites Act, 1990 at Ballyvogue, Askeaton, Co. Limerick and the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to Full Council for approval.

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

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

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

I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council bring to the market any property in their possession for a period of more than 12 months that has not secured funding for the maintenance and utilization of same. This is to include vacant or derelict properties, commercial or residential.

Following discussion Councillor O'Donoghue withdrew his motion.

4. Transport and Mobility Directorate

District Engineers Report

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing dated 10th June, 2025 outlining details of proposed works, projects and future projects planned for the District.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

5. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

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

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

- €1,000 to Askeaton Ballysteen Active Retirement Group.
- € 350 to ABK Bord na nÓg.
- € 500 to Pallaskenry Old Burial Ground.
- € 500 to Kilconran Burial Ground.
- € 400 to ABK LGFA.

On the proposal of Councillor Hartigan, seconded by Councillor Teskey, it was agreed €1,000 which was nominated to Pallaskenry Playground at the May Municipal District Meeting be amended to €4,000 to Pallaskenry Community Council.

On the proposal of Councillor O'Donoghue, seconded by Councillor Teskey it was agreed to allocate €2,000 to Croom Tidy Towns.

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

- €1,000 to Askeaton Ballysteen Active Retirement Group.
- €4,500 to Rathkeale Tidy Towns.

On the proposal of Councillor Teskey, seconded by Councillor Keary it was agreed €27,500 which was nominated to Adare-Rathkeale Roads Maintenance at the March Municipal District Meeting be reduced to €22,000.

On the proposal of Councillor Ward, seconded by Councillor Teskey it was agreed to allocate €1,000 to Askeaton Ballysteen Active Retirement Group.

QUESTIONS

6. Question submitted by Councillor J. O'Donoghue

I will ask at the next Meeting for a list of all derelict and vacant properties in Council ownership for a period of 12 months or more in the Adare-Rathkeale District, residential or commercial.

REPLY: The following properties come under the remit of the Property Management Services:

Rathkeale:

- Gas Works site and Old Wine Bar.
- Two on main street – with Housing for a cost / rental report.
- Bank Building – with Karen Burke, Town Centre first.
- Ballywilliam – subject to Arbitration.
- Clooncagh Creamery – discussions ongoing regarding transfer to Irish Water.

Askeaton:

- Abbeyview – gone to Sports and Recreation.
- The Quay Building – works complete to make safe and watertight, awaiting water services infrastructure upgrade.

7. Question submitted by Councillor J. O'Donoghue

I will ask at the next Meeting for a full report on all noise complaints relating to wind turbines in Co. Limerick, to include dates reported, actions, resolutions and any reports pending.

REPLY: The tables below relate to noise complaints made to the Council related to wind farms in County Limerick.

Athea

Date of complaint	Actions taken	Resolutions	Reports pending
02/02/2012	Operator contacted and investigation undertaken.	Corrective actions implemented.	Case closed (no reports pending)

Grouselodge

Date of complaint	Actions taken	Resolutions	Reports pending
22/02/2012	Operator contacted and investigation undertaken.	Planning undertook enforcement action to ensure compliance with noise planning conditions.	Case closed (no reports pending)

Mauricetown

Date of complaint	Actions taken	Resolutions	Reports pending

02/11/2020	Operator contacted and investigation undertaken.	Sound levels complied with Planning Conditions. However, the operator undertook some mitigation actions to ameliorate tones.	Case closed (no reports pending)
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Rathcahill

Date of complaint	Actions taken	Resolutions	Reports pending
10/02/2014	Operator contacted and investigation undertaken.	Compliance with planning was determined.	Case closed (no reports pending)

NOTICES OF MOTION

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

I will move at the next Meeting that Limerick City and County Council give us the presentation that was previously given at a briefing on Development Plan wind energy policy relating to noise.

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

In proposing the Motion Councillor O'Donoghue requested the presentation given to Full Council Members recently by Simon Jennings, Executive Scientist, Environment Department be presented at a meeting of the Municipal District. Discussion ensued and it was agreed this would be an item on the Agenda for the September Meeting of the District.

Councillor Collins requested the presentation be made available on Limerick City and County Council's website for members of the public to view should they so wish. She also added that the briefing presentation was based on draft legislation with the current draft recommendations in place since 2006 and request an update on the implementation of the legislation and when the Government intends to deliver it should form part of this Agenda item.

REPLY: The "energy policy relating to noise" presentation will be presented to the September meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale.

10. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

11. A.O.B

- Councillor Teskey proposed the new Parklet in Askeaton be renamed Ruttles View in memory of the Ruttle family who had lived in the area for generations. He added he had spoken with Askeaton Civic Trust in relation to the renaming and they were supportive of this proposal to uphold the heritage of the past and preserve it for future generations. This was seconded by Councillor Ward.

Councillor Collins stated several members of the Community Council had made contact with the District Elected Members regarding community engagement to allow the community to submit suggestions for the proposed Parklet and requested the wishes of the community be respected and the renaming be brought before the protocol committee. This was seconded by Councillors Hartigan and O'Donoghue. Discussion ensued and Councillor Teskey felt the current statutory process for Elected Members is the renaming of areas such as the Parklet and added there is already a protocol in place in Limerick City and County Council that names are submitted to the Protocol Committee for consideration. Councillor Keary stated he wished to abstain from any renaming in Askeaton and added the matter be addressed through the Protocol Committee. Councillor Collins asked the Director, Planning and Place-Making to revert to Members at the July District Meeting with the correct process for community groups to come together and submit suggestions for naming and sought clarity on whether they needed to be proposed through the Municipal District before going forward for consideration by the Protocol Committee.

- Councillor Teskey asked if the Askeaton Swimming Club can be communicated with regarding the sale of the facility they own at Gurt, Askeaton as there seems to be uncertainty around its disposal. Councillor Teskey stated there is a moral duty for the owners of this facility to return public monies back to the local community if they profited from the sale of the building.
- Councillor Collins requested the September Meeting be changed to the first Tuesday in September. Councillor Ward also asked if the District Meetings going forward could be changed to Mondays. It was agreed this would be discussed when the new Cathaoirleach is elected at the Annual Meeting.
- Councillor Teskey asked if the Annual Meeting could be held the same day as the briefing to discuss the 2027 Ryder Cup in Adare. The Meetings Administrator agreed to revert to Members when a date is agreed.
- Councillor Collins requested a Private Briefing to receive an update on the Deerpark site in Adare.

- Councillor O'Donoghue asked for the Districts support at the upcoming briefing in relation to the N/M20 Cork to Limerick Road. He stated the road will be a motorway which will see agricultural vehicles having to travel through the towns of Croom and Patrickswell.
- The Meetings Administrator advised Limerick City and County Councils Data Protection Officer would like to convene an online private workshop with Members prior to the July Municipal District Meeting in relation to Councillors Reps regarding Housing. Councillor Collins requested a physical briefing instead. The Meetings Administrator agreed to discuss with the Data Protection Officer and revert to Members.
- Councillor Teskey advised Civic Receptions previously proposed would take place in Áras Seán Finn, Rathkeale on Friday 13th June at 4.00 p.m.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____