

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF CAPPAMORE-KILMALLOCK HELD IN ARÁS MAINCHÍN SEOIGE AND ON-LINE, ON TUESDAY, THE 17TH JUNE 2025 AT 3.00PM.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:

Councillor G. Conway, Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Meetings Administrator (Mr. M. Leahy); Senior Executive Engineer (Mr. T. McKechnie); A/ Senior Executive Officer (Ms. K. White); Clerical Officer (Ms. Helen O'Neill); Administrative Officer, Property Disposals (Ms. T. Knox); Executive Architect, Housing (Mr. M. Farrell); Senior Executive Quantity Surveyor, Housing (Mr. C. Cooney); Administrative Officer, Housing (Mr. J. Hayes); Executive Engineer, Housing (Ms. M. Sayers), City & County Librarian, Culture (Mr. D. Brady); Senior Executive Librarian, Libraries (Ms. N. O'Neill).

Apologies: A/Director of Services (Mr. H McGrath)

At the outset, the Cathaoirleach and Members extended their sympathy and condolences to the family of Kathleen Cunningham, Galbally, and in particular her sons Joe and Gerard and son in law William Sheahan, who are employees of Limerick City & County Council, on her sad passing. Condolences were also expressed to the family of Annette Higgins, formerly City Hall, who had also recently passed away.

Members also noted that Breed Sheedy, Clerical Officer, Kilmallock District Office had recently retired. They noted their appreciation for her work and in particular on housing grants in the District, and the help and advice she had provided to so many people over the years, and they wished her well in her retirement. They also extended their sympathy and condolences to her on the recent passing of her uncle John Downey.

1. Adoption of Minutes

- (i) Circulated copy of draft Minutes of Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Cappamore-Kilmallock held on **15th May, 2025.**

Proposed by: Councillor Carey

Seconded by: Councillor Stokes

And Resolved:

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

2. 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, he 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.

3. Friars Gate Theatre Presentation

The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Ciara Moloney from Friars Gate Theatre to the Meeting and thanked her for attending. She proceeded to give a PowerPoint presentation to the Elected Members on the activities of the Friars Gate Theatre.

She outlined how the theatre was a 130 seat venue and was the only full time theatre in the County Limerick/North Cork area. The theatre hosted many events, including workshops, drama classes, art exhibitions, drama camps and screened movies and documentaries. She explained that the theatre was once a cinema and had been converted in to a theatre by the local drama society in the late 1990's.

She also confirmed that the theatre was non-profit and that its annual turnover was approximately €200k (€196,917.67 in 2024). The primary support to the theatres activities came from Pobal (CSP 2023-2027 for Wages & DAF & CCIF Projects), Limerick City and County Council (Projects & GMA), Creative Ireland (Projects), Ballyhoura Development (Projects – Leader (in the past), the Arts Council (Annual activities funding up until to 2024).

She thanked the Members for the GMA funding received previously from the Elected Members of the Cappamore-Kilmallock District and she looked forward to continued support from the District and Limerick City & County Council in the future.

The Members thanked Ms Moloney for her presentation and on the work carried out to date. They expressed disappointment at the Arts Council lack of funding in 2025 and agreed to support any proposals to meet the Minister and officials in the Dept. to advocate for Arts Council funding support, given the important role the theatre played in County Limerick.

4. Property Disposal

- a) Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Officer, Property Management dated 6th June, 2025 setting out the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to Full Council for approval:

Disposal of Site comprising of 0.79 Acres/0.32 hectares situate at Site F, Kilmallock Business Park, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- a) Circulated, report of Senior Executive Officer, Property Management dated 6th June, 2025 setting out the intention to bring the Section 183 Notice to Full Council for approval:

Disposal of derelict property comprising of 0.641 Acres/0.259 hectares situate at Grange, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick.

Proposed by: Cllr Carey

Seconded by: Cllr E. Ryan

And agreed:

To adjourn the Meeting for 15 minutes, so that the Members could discuss the proposed disposal at Grange with the officials involved.

On resumption of the Meeting, the report, as circulated, was noted by Members, so that it could proceed to the Agenda for the Full Council Meeting in July. However, the Members advised that there were some queries raised with them, by the former property owners, which needed to be clarified to the satisfaction of the Members in advance of the Full Council Meeting in July.

It was agreed to flag this issue with Property Disposals so that clarification could be provided to the Members before the Full Meeting would take place in July.

5. Deputation from Hospital Family Resource Centre

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the members of the Delegation from Hospital Family Resource Centre to the Meeting. They outlined how the Mayor, following a recent visit to their Resource Centre, had advised them to give a presentation to the Elected Members of the District to update them on their activities.

They outlined that the Resource Centre was established in 2003, and serves the rural communities & towns of Hospital, Ballylanders, Galbally, Knockainey and Killeely primarily. Current staff numbers comprise 13 full time staff as well as 60 volunteers. They are one of 121 Family Resource Centre's which form a national community development and family support programme throughout Ireland.

They explained how their primary asks under the Mayoral Programme included:

Social inclusion and partnership working: Training support in softer skills and wellbeing; Community hub and rural amenities supports; digital connectivity.

Mental Health initiatives: On the spot counselling and support; support for organisation's and community groups supporting better mental health.

Grow peer support networks: Use the Mayoral Social Entrepreneurship Fund to finance mental health project.

Preventative Health: Support for community based volunteer organisation's conducting activities which lead to better health outcomes in their communities.

They also confirmed that the annual Make Way Day initiative was scheduled to take place again on the 22nd September 2025. This initiative is aimed at addressing the impact physical obstacles have on the day to day lives of people with disabilities, older people and parents with buggies, etc. The main issue identified previously was parking on footpaths, across all communities.

They finished their presentation by thanking the Elected Members and Council staff for their support to date, and looked forward to this support continuing in to the future.

The Members thanked the Delegation for their presentation, and commended them on the work carried out in their area in recent years. They agreed that support for the Hospital Family Resource Centre would be very deserving, given the range of supports and services provided by them.

Proposed by: Cllr M. Ryan

Seconded by: Cllr T. O'Sullivan

And resolved:

"That the PowerPoint Presentation be forwarded to the Mayor, with the request from the Elected Members of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District, that the Mayor include the Hospital Family Resource Centre in his funding provision under the Mayoral Programme, given the important services provided by Hospital FRC in the Municipal District area and beyond"

6. Housing Directorate

Part 8 – Proposed Development at Crawford Street, Bruff, Co. Limerick

To consider the Mayor's Report pursuant to Section 179 3(a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) in relation to the proposed housing development at Crawford Street, Bruff, Co. Limerick.

The report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179 3(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended) and noted that it was proposed to proceed in accordance with Section 8 of the report.

The Members welcomed the proposed development and the provision of additional housing in Bruff.

Proposed by: Councillor M. Ryan;

Seconded by: Councillor B. Teefy;

And Resolved:

“That the Part 8 in relation to the proposed housing development at Crawford Street, Bruff, Co. Limerick, be approved in accordance with Section 179 3(a) of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended)”.

7. Housing Delivery Update

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the Administrative Officer, Housing to the Meeting and he proceeded to give an update to the Members on housing delivery in the Municipal District, which was noted by the Members.

8. 2025 National Famine Commemoration Ceremony

The Cathaoirleach welcomed the City and County Librarian and the Senior Executive Librarian to the Meeting. The City and County Librarian proceeded to give a PowerPoint presentation to the Elected Members to update them on the outcome of the 2025 National Famine Commemoration Ceremony which had taken place in Kilmallock on the 17th May, 2025.

The ceremony was attended by President Michael D. Higgins; Patrick O'Donovan, Minister for Arts, Culture, Communications, Media and Sport; John Moran, Mayor of Limerick, along with other dignitaries and invited guests and was very well received.

The Members noted that the Ceremony had been a resounding success and very well organised. They agreed that it was a significant honour for the District, and Limerick, that the ceremony was held in Kilmallock, and that the weather helped as it was so good on the day. They thanked all involved in Limerick City & County Council, and the various Government Departments, along with local groups, who had all worked so hard and contributed to what had been a very successful national ceremony.

9. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

Proposed by: Councillor E. Ryan

Seconded by: Councillor PJ. Carey

And Resolved:

“That an allocation of €3,000 each, under the General Municipal Allocations (GMA) 2025, be approved for the Mague River Trust & the Friars Gate Theatre”

Questions

10. Question submitted by Councillor Conway

I will ask at the next Monthly Meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District if a one-way traffic system is being considered by Limerick City & County Council for Millmount Estate, Kilmallock.

Reply:

The Municipal District does not have any proposals to revise the existing traffic management arrangements in the Millmount Estate. If the residents collectively have a request for the introduction of a one-way system, the Roads Engineer will review the request and determine an appropriate course of action.

11. Question submitted by Councillor Conway

I will ask at the next Meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District for an update on flooding issues at Maiden Hall, Effin, Kilmallock, Co. Limerick.

Reply:

The Cappamore-Kilmallock Road Maintenance Team has assessed the existing drainage network, and has determined that the network is clear and operating adequately. There is an adjacent drainage network within the functional area of Cork County Council that should be examined to determine if this is having an impact on Maiden Hall. The Roads Engineer for the Cappamore-Kilmallock MD is liaising with his counterpart in Cork County Council to resolve the drainage issues in Maiden Hall.

Notice of Motions

12. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Conway

I will move at the next Meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District that the National Transport Authority/Limerick City & County Council consider placing a pedestrian crossing in the centre of Bruree village.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr Conway, seconded by Cllr M. Ryan, and agreed.

Reply:

The Roads Engineer for the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District will assess the need for a pedestrian crossing in Bruree village.

13. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor Carey

I will move at the next Meeting of the Cappamore-Kilmallock Municipal District that signage, road markings and whatever other measures deemed necessary by Limerick City & County Council be installed at Knocksauna, Kilbreedy, Co. Limerick.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr Carey, seconded by Cllr Conway, and agreed.

Reply:

There are existing road markings and signage at Knocksouna. The Roads Engineer will, however, review the junction and all approaches to it, to determine if the existing road markings and signage can be enhanced.

14. Date of Next Meeting

Proposed by: Councillor Conway

Seconded by: Councillor O'Sullivan

and Resolved:

"That the July Monthly Meeting take place on Thursday 10th July 2025 at 3pm"

15. Any Other Business

The A/ Senior Executive Officer outlined to the Members the details of the Shop Front Minor Repair & Paint Scheme, which was available in the three Municipal Districts. She also confirmed that the closing date was the 27th June 2025 for any eligible business interested in applying.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____

