

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, 8th JULY, 2025 AT 9.30 A.M.

PRESENT IN THE CHAIR: Councillor G. Ward, An Cathaoirleach.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

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), Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. B. Barrett), A/Senior Executive Officer, Municipal Districts (Ms. K. White), Administrative Officer, Property Management (Ms. T. Knox), N/M20 Project Coordinator, Mid West National Road Design Office (Mr. J. Howard), Senior Executive Officer, Strategy and Non LA Construction (Ms. S. Newell), Senior Engineer, LA Housing Construction and Maintenance (Mr. B. Kidney), Administrative Officer, Strategy and Non LA Housing Construction (Mr. J. Hayes).

1. Adoption of Minutes

- (a) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 10th June, 2025.

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

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

- (b) Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 27th June, 2025.

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

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

Following the adoption of the Minutes discussion arose pertaining to General Municipal Allocation Grant Scheme and administration of same. Councillor Teskey was of the opinion General Municipal Allocation monies should be reimbursed to the Local Authority when an asset in community group ownership is disposed by way of property sale for monetary gain.

Councillor Teskey requested the General Municipal Allocations application form be amended going forward to include a claw back clause to ensure monies revert back to the Local Authority when a community group decides to dispose of the asset for which they have received GMA funding.

Following further discussion on the matter by Members, Director Vincent Murray, Director of Service, Planning and Place-Making advised Members details of the issues outlined by Councillor Teskey in relation to General Municipal Allocations be forwarded to Corporate Services Department, City Hall for clarification.

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

- (a) Circulated, report of the Head of Property Management dated 24th June, 2025 setting out proposals for the disposal of 0.0098 acres of land at Fairhill, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (b) Circulated, report of the Head of Property Management dated 23rd June, 2025 setting out proposals for the disposal of property at Main Street, Ballingarry, Co. Limerick.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

- (c) Circulated, report of the Head of Property Management dated 20th June, 2025 setting out proposals for the disposal of 0.0019 acres of land together with wayleave at Main Street, Adare, Co. Limerick.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

4. Mid West National Road Design Office

N/M20 Cork to Limerick Project

Members welcomed Jari Howard N/M20 Project Coordinator, Mid West National Road Design Office and Demitrios Paraskevakis, N/M20 Project Manager from WSP Consultants to the meeting. It was agreed Item 8 on the Agenda would be taken in connection with this item.

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

I will move at the next Meeting that we receive a presentation from the N/M20 office on the latest update on the proposed project from the Cork/Limerick boundary to Patrickswell.

The N/M20 Project Coordinator, Mid West National Road Design Office gave Members a presentation to update them on the current status of the N/M20 Cork to Limerick motorway project. Following the presentation Councillor O'Donoghue agreed the new road system is warranted however was of the opinion of the following:

- The new motorway section from Atyflynn to Charleville would be of no benefit to the local population due to the number of tolls and local access options which would divert the local motorist back on to the old N20 road.
- The inclusion of the Active Travel Route element of the project was not necessary and he queried the upkeep and maintenance costs of same.
- The old N20 would still require significant maintenance due to usage by local population.
- Noise factors would have implications on the local population due to proximity of properties to the new motorway.
- Local land quarrying and haulage for the duration of the project construction would cause significant disruption to local homeowners and land owners.
- Proposed route will introduce significant traffic both vehicular and agricultural to the town of Croom.

The N/M20 Project Coordinator, Mid West National Road Design Office advised the Active Travel element of the Project is government policy and five per cent of the cost of all new motorway projects is provided for an Active Travel greenway element.

Following further discussion The N/M20 Project Coordinator, Mid West National Road Design Office agreed to take consideration of Councillor O'Donoghue's observations.

5. Housing Strategy & Non-LA Housing Construction

Social Housing Delivery

Circulated, report of the Housing Strategy & Non-LA Housing Construction Directorate dated 9th May, 2025 setting out details in relation to the Social Housing Delivery for the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District.

The Senior Executive Officer, Strategy & Non LA Construction updated Members on the social housing progress in the District to date and advised it is estimated 53 per cent of the Limerick City and County Council social housing target will be achieved by end of 2025 and 70 per cent be achieved by the end of 2026 due to lack of capital funding and also inadequate waste water services currently hindering development. Members were disappointed with the proposed outturns for social housing in the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District given the number of people currently in need of housing.

Councillor Teskey raised the issue of proposed social housing for Adare and where this project stands at the present time. The Senior Engineer, LA Housing Construction & Maintenance advised that tender for 13 units in Deerpark will commence by the end of July 2025 and be complete by the end of 2026 with negotiations ongoing with three landowners to enable land transfer to allow for access to local services for this development. He further advised drainage issues for these units which has not been straightforward also has to be resolved by the end of July.

6. Social Housing in Pallaskenry

The Senior Executive Officer, Strategy & Non LA Construction updated Members on the social housing development in Pallaskenry advising a funding strategy has been identified and Limerick City and County Council would be taking over the development due to certification and warranty difficulties the Approved Housing Body, Focus Housing, could not resolve with the Housing Finance Agency. She further advised Members that her Department is confident of closing out the first phase of eight housed by mid to late August 2025 with the second phase to be allocated by December 2025.

Following discussion Members requested a Special Meeting be convened to discuss:

- Social Housing issued in Adare.
- Properties acquired in the Adare-Rathkeale District under Compulsory Purchase Order.
- Properties acquired in Adare under the Derelict Sites Legislation.

The Meetings Administrator agreed to liaise with the relevant Departments on this request and to revert to Members with an agreed date and time for the Special Meeting.

It was also agreed the LA Construction Department would provide updates to members every three weeks going forward.

7. Transport and Mobility Directorate

District Engineers Report

Circulated, report of the Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing dated 8th July, 2025 outlining details of proposed works, projects and future projects planned for the District.

The report, as circulated, was noted by Members.

8. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

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

- €300 to Ballingarry Community Park.
- €200 Shanagolden National School.
- €500 West Limerick 102.

On the proposal of Councillor Teskey, seconded by Councillor Keary, it was agreed to allocate €4,500 to Rathkeale Tidy Towns C/O Rathkeale Community Council.

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

- €3,000 to Foynes Cemetery.
- €2,000 to Kildimo Pallaskenry GAA.
- €2,000 to Dromore United.
- €3,000 to Foynes and District Community Council.

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

- €3,000 to Ballingarry Community Park.
- €2,000 to Croom Tidy Towns C/O Croom Development Association.

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

- €1,000 to Askeaton Genealogy.
- €1,000 to Alliance Française Limerick (Sarsfield Homecoming Project).

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

- €2,500 Pallaskenry National School.
- €3,000 Ballingarry Community Park.

10. Correspondence

Correspondence was noted and taken as read.

11. A.O.B

- Members requested a presentation on the opening of Tenders and procurement for the September District Meeting .
- Members requested Mayoral Orders be circulated to Elected Members in advance of Full Council Meetings similar to all other Director General/Approved Officers Orders.
- Councillor Collins wished the Limerick Footballers well in the Tailteann Cup Final including Barry Coleman, Eoin Collins and Darragh Murray on Sunday 13th of July in Croke Park. All members wished to be associated with these remarks.
- Councillor Keary requested lighting be installed on the new road configuration at Smithfield Croagh on the N21.
- Councillor O'Donoghue requested the attendance of Simon Jennings, Executive Scientist, Environment and Climate Action Department to provide a presentation on the Development Plan wind energy policy relating to noise at the September Meeting of the District.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Dated:
