

**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, 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2026 AT 9.30 A.M.**

**PRESENT IN THE CHAIR:**

Councillor G. Ward, Cathaoirleach.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Director of Service, Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District (Mr. V. Murray), Meetings Administrator (Ms. K. Butler), Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. K. Murphy), Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing (Mr. K. Carroll), A/Senior Engineer, Ryder Cup (Mr. T. McKechnie), A/Senior Executive Engineer, Travel and Transport Strategy Department (Mr. J. O'Leary), Executive Engineer, Active Travel (Mr. L. Kennedy), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Lenihan).

Apologies for her inability to attend were received from A/Senior Executive Officer, Municipal Districts (Ms. K. White)

At the outset of the Meeting Councillor Teskey requested an update on when monies he had proposed at the March Meeting of the Municipal District from his General Municipal Allocation (GMA) fund to Knockfierna Heritage Society would issue to this group. The Meetings Administrator advised the record of the previous meeting indicated the allocation had been suspended until mediation has taken place between the two Knockfierna entities with a view to resolving issues that have arisen between them. Councillor Teskey was of the view the Council should not be getting involved in how organisations run themselves and proposed the monies allocated by him from his GMA fund be allocated as requested at the March Meeting of the District. This was seconded by Councillor Ward. Councillor Keary proposed a counter motion the GMA funding not be allocated to Knockfierna Heritage until such time as both groups come together and resolve their differences. The Director of Service advised the issue go to a vote to decide on the outcome. The results of the voting to suspend the GMA payment until such time as the two groups come together to resolve their differences was as follows:

**For the proposal:**

Councillor Collins, Keary and O'Donoghue (3)

**Against the proposal:**

Councillor Hartigan, Teskey and Ward **(3)**

The voting result was tied with 3 for the proposal and 3 against the proposal, as there was an equality of votes the Chairman exercised his casting vote which resulted in allowing the payment of GMA monies to Knockfierna Heritage Group to proceed.

### **1. Minutes**

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 14<sup>th</sup> April, 2026.

Proposed by Councillor Ward;  
Seconded by Councillor Keary ;  
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.

No such interest was declared.

### **3. Transportation and Mobility Directorate**

#### **Part 8 Procedure – Adare Public Realm Project**

Circulated, Mayor’s Report, dated 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2026 setting out details in relation to the proposal for the Adare Public Realm Upgrade Project. The Report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179 of Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended).

Councillor Collins stated she would propose the Report with the following amendments:

- Street flower pots be included for planting.
- The scheduled works would be done with minimal disruption to local businesses in the village.
- The scheduled works would not disrupt the busy tourist summer season in Adare Village.

The A/Senior Engineer, Ryder Cup advised there would be an element of disruption involved with the project but assured the Contractor, when appointed, would be advised to ensure disruption be kept to a minimum.

Proposed by Councillor Collins;

Seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue;

And Resolved:

“That the Part 8 in relation to the Adare Public Realm Project be approved in accordance with Section 179 of Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended).

#### **4. District Engineers Report**

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

- Councillor Hartigan requested the Senior Executive Engineer communicate with Central Services requesting that they commence their 2026 grass cutting schedule in the County before the City Environs this year and alternate it each subsequent year.
- Councillor O'Donoghue queried if drainage works would be carried out outside Banogue GAA field or if funding would have to be applied for in the first instance to do this work. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised the first phase of the project would be carried out in late summer 2026 which would alleviate any serious flooding at this location during the winter months. The second phase of the project, which includes major drainage works is planned for 2027 when funding from the OPW under the Minor Works Programme is received and the final phase of the project will include road resurfacing works.
- Councillor Teskey requested the Director of Service seek additional funding to upgrade the community playground in Rathkeale town.
- Councillor Teskey further requested an undertaken be given by the District office to address the issue of weeds across all towns and villages in the Municipal District.
- Councillor Teskey requested an update on the following:
  - Traffic Infrastructure Ireland's junction survey at Reens Pike, Ardagh which was to include safety improvements at the junction, installation of a bus stop and improved lighting.
  - Footpath from Kildimo to the Beer Garden public house.

- Ballywilliam Estate, Rathkeale.
- Councillor Keary requested an update on the N69 Ballyengland Junction. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised he would follow up with Central Services Department, County Hall and revert.
- Councillor Keary queried if an application for funding under the CLAR scheme has been submitted to the Department for Loughill and Ballyhahill villages. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised funding has not been applied for and he agreed to follow up on this matter and revert.

## 5. **Active Travel Scheme, Adare**

The Executive Engineer, Active Travel provided Members with a presentation on the proposed Blackabbey Road Active Travel Scheme, which will comprise a kilometre of footpath along the L1422 from the Village Hall to the GAA pitch in Adare. The scheme is currently at Preliminary Design Stage and will address the following issues:

- High volume of HGV & agricultural vehicles using the L1422.
- Lack of safe connectivity with residential areas.
- Absence of controlled pedestrian crossing points.
- Substandard footpaths with 5m carriageway width.
- Parking overspill and pinch point at Broad St. Junction.
- Existing utility infrastructure causing obstructions.
- Blind bend on the village side of Adare GAA grounds.
- Sightline restrictions at driveways along the L1422.

The Active Travel team advised they are also engaging with impacted landowners before progressing to the Part 8 Planning stage and must also complete Road Safety Audit, Environmental Screenings, Public Lighting Design Report as well as Architectural Heritage Impact Assessments.

The Executive Engineer, Active Travel concluded by informing Members a workshop would be held with Elected Members prior to the Part 8 Planning submission in Q3 of 2026 along with an information evening for residents of Adare during the Part 8 consultation period. Subject to Part 8 Planning approval a funding application would be prepared for the National Transport Authority for 2027 funding allocation to progress the detailed design, tender & evaluation and construction stages.

Members welcomed the scheme, however, discussion ensued in relation to the number of large agricultural vehicles travelling through the village of Adare and queried if the six metre carriageway could extend to the three metre shared space. The Executive Engineer, Active Travel advised as there is a 50km speed limit on this carriageway the Active Travel Department are governed by recommended guidelines on road width. The

Director of Services also added that pedestrians and cyclists were identified as the most vulnerable road users and design is based on these factors. He asked the Executive Engineer, Active Travel to discuss carriageway width concerns raised by Members with the National Transport Authority to ascertain if any extra width can be accommodated.

Councillor Teskey welcomed this scheme, however, asked for a list of other towns and villages in the District that are being looked at for proposed similar Active Travel Schemes. He felt the town of Rathkeale deserved the same considerations especially to alleviate the dangerous pinch point going from Castlematrix Slí na Sláinte towards the N21. The Executive Engineer, Active Travel advised specific Active Travel Scheme recommendations requests are forwarded from the Senior Executive Engineer in the local area. He further advised he would engage Sean McGlynn, Senior Engineer in Active Travel discuss with Members how Active Travel Scheme priorities are funded.

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

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor Ward it was agreed €4,000 which was nominated to Limerick Ladies Football Club at the February 2026 Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting be amended to Adare Ladies Gaelic Football Club.

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

- €4,000 to Shanagolden SDCC.
- €500 to Askeaton Civic Trust.
- €500 to Kilcornan 40 year Anniversary Celebration.
- €1,000 to Pallaskenry CFR Group.

Councillor Hartigan further proposed €1,000 which was nominated to Crecora National School at the April 2026 Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting be amended to €2,000. He also proposed €3,000 which was nominated to Pallaskenry Muintir na Tíre at the October 2025 Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting be amended to €4,000 (from his 2025 Allocation). This was seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue and agreed.

Councillor Keary proposed €3,000 which was nominated to Loughill Community Development at the March 2026 Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting be amended to €2,000. This was seconded by Councillor Collins and agreed.

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

- €2,000 to Croom Development Association
- €500 to Askeaton/Ballysteen Active Retirement Group (from his 2025 allocation).

- €3,500 to Road Maintenance Adare-Rathkeale (from his 2025 allocation).

Councillor O'Donoghue further proposed €1,000 which was nominated to Crecora/Manister GAA Club at the April 2026 Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting be amended to €3,000. He also proposed €400 which was nominated to Banogue National School at the April 2026 Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting be amended to €1,500. This was seconded by Councillor Hartigan and agreed.

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

- €2,000 to Rathkeale AFC.
- €1,000 to Transplant Support Ireland.
- €500 to Cappagh LGFA.
- €3,000 to Knockfierna Heritage Society.

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

- €1,000 to Transplant Support Ireland.
- €1,000 to Deel Boat Club.
- €1,000 to Pallaskenry Community Council.
- €500 to Cappagh LGFA.

Councillor Ward further proposed €1,000 which nominated to Ballyhahill Residents Association at the January 2026 Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting be amended to Ballyhahill Development Association (from his 2025 allocation). This was seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed.

## **7. A.O.B**

- Discussion ensued in relation the Junior Ryder Cup that will take place in Ballyneety Village. Councillor O'Donoghue advised a meeting had been held in Ballyneety in recent weeks and a number of issues that need to be addressed in the village prior to the event had been raised. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised Kevin Carroll, Executive Engineer had met with representatives from Ballyneety Golf Club regarding works required throughout the village and works would be progressed for this event when funding is made available.

- Councillor O'Donoghue requested an update on the proposed bus stop for Ballyneety Village. The Senior Executive Engineer, Roads, Traffic and Cleansing advised to follow up with the relevant department and revert.
- Councillor Collins raised concerns that the G4D, Golfer with a disability, competition being held in Ballyneety Golf Club as part of the Ryder Cup is not getting the publicity it deserves and was of the view the Ryder Cup should be heralded as an inclusive event.
- Councillor Keary advised he had been contacted by members of the Coolcappagh Action Group regarding submissions in relation to the proposed wind turbine project for the area. The group had expressed disappointment that Limerick City and County Council to date have not made any submission to An Bord Pleanala regarding the proposed project and felt it would strengthen the case for the local community if the Council were to do so. The Director of Service advised he would follow up the matter with the Planning Department, however, he added the Planning Department may not be permitted to make observations. Councillor Collins added Members had been sent emails from the group also in relation to noise and shadow flicker complaints at Kilmeedy wind farm and asked that this be followed up and requested the specific information be made available to the group member. Councillor Teskey asked if it was possible as District Elected Members to make a formal submission either singularly or as a combined group submission to An Bord Pleanala. The Director of Service advised that he would have to discuss same with the Planning Department and revert.
- Councillor Hartigan request briefings for the following issues:
  1. Public lighting schedule for the Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District.
  2. Update on the newly installed bus stop in Pallaskenry.
  3. Discussion in relation to the Junior Ryder Cup and the Ryder Cup G4D (Golfer with a disability) competition being held in Ballyneety Golf Club.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Cathaoirleach**

Dated:

\_\_\_\_\_