

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, 9TH JUNE, 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), Town Regeneration Officer, Rural Development (Ms. K. Burke), Executive Architect, Rural Development (Ms. J. Kissane), Senior Executive Engineer, Environment, Rural Water and Climate Action (Ms. A. Mellett), Clerical Officer (Ms. L. Lenihan).

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

1. Minutes

Circulated, copy of draft Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale held on 12th May, 2026.

Councillor O'Donoghue referred to Item 5 in the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of 12th May, 2026 and requested the record show he had requested the proposed carriageway be widened to six metres and be installed side by side with the three metre Active Travel shared space.

Proposed by Councillor O'Donoghue;

Seconded by Councillor Keary;

And Resolved:

"That the draft Minutes, as circulated, be taken as read, adopted and signed, subject to the amendment outlined above to the Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of 12th May, 2026".

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. Regeneration, Community, Sports & Rural Development Directorate

Part 8 Procedure - Kiltteery

Circulated, Mayor's Report, dated 21st May, 2026 setting out details in relation to the proposal for the development at Kiltteery Pier. The Report had been prepared in accordance with Section 179 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 (as amended) and Part VIII of the Planning and Development Regulations, 2001 (as amended).

The Town Regeneration Officer, Rural Development addressed the Meeting and advised Members the report as presented requires to be either approved, amended or rejected. Councillor Teskey proposed a five minute adjournment to allow Members a private discussion on this item. This was seconded by Councillor Collins and agreed.

On resumption of the Meeting Members raised the following issues with the report, as presented:

- Councillor O'Donoghue asked if it was possible to relocate the proposed structure to an alternative area within the pier and also expressed concern in relation to future maintenance costs for the upkeep of this proposed structure. He further stated that he would like to see a public convenience operational for the three months of the year that the lifeguards are present at this site.
- Councillor Keary expressed reservations on the proposed project and requested additional funding be sought to amend the Part VIII plans to include the installation of a wheelchair accessible self cleaning toilet unit.
- Councillor Collins asked what the spend to date for this project has been and expressed concern that if this report was rejected the funding might not be available to bring a new Part VIII procedure before Members in the future.
- Councillor Teskey requested the costings associated should a new Part VIII project be sought to include Members amendments and concerns.

The Town Regeneration Officer, Rural Development advised Members the toilet facilities provided for the lifeguards is universally accessible and this facility could be examined with a view to allowing public access on a trial basis, however, this request would also come with additional operational costs. Members queried what costs would be involved. The Town Regeneration Officer, Rural Development advised the toilet facility

would have waste storage capacity which would be cleaned and removed to a waste water treatment plant facility and would require a financial budget to maintain the waste facility. Discussion ensued in relation to public lighting at the location and the Executive Architect, Rural Development advised as part of the current proposal public lighting is not included due to the facility being used during day light hours. Further discussion ensued and some Members were in agreement that the report would be supported if there were amendments to the Part VIII to include the provision for public lighting, public toilet facilities, CCTV camera and a controlled access barriers. The Town Regeneration Officer, Rural Development advised any amendments to the current Part VIII would come at a significant additional cost.

Councillor Ward asked if this item could be deferred and a Special Meeting arranged to discuss this matter further. The Town Regeneration Officer, Rural Development agreed to defer the matter advising however a decision would have to be made by the 1st of July, 2026.

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 O'Donoghue referred to overgrown grass at junctions, in particular Chawke's Cross, Granagh and was of the opinion grass cutting should commence earlier in the year throughout the District. Councillor Keary added that all junctions onto the N21 also have impaired sightlines currently and grass cutting is needed at these locations. Discussion ensued and it was agreed a request for additional funding be sought. The Director of Service, Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District advised this request be referred to the Director of Service, Transportation, Mobility and Public Realm who would in turn correspond with the National Transport Authority to seek additional funding to address Members concerns.

5. General Municipal Allocation (GMA)

On the proposal of Councillor Collins, seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue, it was agreed to allocate €400 to Banogue National School.

Councillor Hartigan proposed €500 which was nominated to Kilcornan 40 year Anniversary Celebration at the May 2026 Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District meeting be amended to Marathon Team Event c/o Terrance Madigan. This was seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue and agreed.

Councillor Ward proposed €2,000 which was nominated to Kildimo National School at the April 2026 Adare-Rathkeale Municipal District Meeting be amended to €2,332.50. This was seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed.

6. Annual Meeting

It was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting of the Municipal District of Adare-Rathkeale at 11.00 a.m. on Tuesday 30th June, 2026.

NOTICE OF MOTION

7. Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor S. Keary

I will move at the next Meeting that on the grounds of Public Health and Safety that Limerick City and County Council would immediately conduct a structural survey on the protected structure known as Riddlestown Park at Riddlestown, Rathkeale, Co. Limerick. Record of Protected Structures Record Number 665. National Inventory of Architectural Heritage 21901919 with a view to having same removed from the said registers.

The Notice of Motion was proposed by Councillor Keary, seconded by Councillor Teskey and agreed.

In proposing the Motion Councillor Keary stated this property is in an extremely dangerous condition and the owner of the property has been prohibited from reroofing it and reinstating the windows as well as been constrained from carrying out work on farm buildings in the vicinity of the property. He added the owner should be allowed to demolish the house as the cost to repair it would be in excess of €2.5 million.

The Senior Executive Engineer, Environment, Rural Water and Climate Action advised as her department are working within the confines of the Sanitary Services Act they are very limited in what they can do as there is no immediate risk to public safety. She further advised that she would speak to Shona O'Keeffe, Conservation Officer, Limerick City and County Council to have the building delisted.

The Meetings Administrator advised she had received correspondence from Maria Woods, Senior Planner, Limerick City and County Council stating that there is no basis at this time for the removal of Riddlestown Park from the Record of Protected Structures. The Conservation Section are happy to engage with the owners in relation to any structural or conservation assessments required, the identification of appropriate works, and any available conservation grant supports.

Councillor Teskey added that the owners of this property are financially unable to carry out the works required to bring this property back into a habitable state and felt that the existing laws around the upgrading of listed building needed to change to prevent this from happening to owners of listed properties in the future.

Councillor Collins asked what the process is for de registering a building. The Director advised the officer in charge of this process is responsible for determining if a building should be de registered, if it is recommended it must then be referred to Full Council for a vote. Councillor Keary asked that this Motion would be forwarded to Full Council for consideration. The Director advised that the Motion should be forwarded to Shona O’Keeffe, Conservation Officer for her recommendation in the first instance.

Reply: The Dangerous Structures Team carried out an inspection of Riddlestown House on 15th October 2025. At the time of inspection, the external fabric of the structure was generally in good condition. While there has been a partial internal collapse of the roof structure, this appears to be due to a lack of maintenance and weatherproofing and has not impacted the stability of the external supporting walls. The property is located approximately 450 metres from the nearest public road, and therefore the potential risk to public health and safety arising from its current condition is considered to be extremely low.

The Council can request the owner to undertake a structural survey where there are concerns about the integrity of the structure or a risk to the public. This is not the case here.

Based on the findings of the inspection, there is no identified requirement to carry out a structural survey or to pursue demolition of this protected structure.

8. Correspondence

Councillor Teskey referred to correspondence received in relation to Ballywilliam Estate, Rathkeale and requested Jayne Leahy, Department of Property Management, Limerick City and County Council attend a future Meeting of the District to discuss this matter further.

9. A.O.B

- The Meetings Administrator referred to a request from Councillor Hartigan at the June Municipal District Meeting for a briefing on public lighting schedule for the District and advised correspondence was received from Matthew Clarke, Executive Engineer, Central Services, Limerick City and County Council advising

the public lighting team are due to brief all Councillors on a public lighting related topic at the Full Council Meeting in July. Councillor O'Donoghue stated that it would be preferable the Adare-Rathkeale Members be briefed at the July Municipal District Meeting.

- Councillor O'Donoghue stated that he had requested an update on the bus stop and shelter in Ballyneety Village at the last Municipal District Meeting. The Meetings Administrator advised she had not been furnished with a reply to this query and advised the A/Senior Engineer, Ryder Cup would be attending the Private Workshop following the Municipal District Meeting and would address this.
- Councillor Collins wished the Republic of Ireland women's soccer team well against France in the FIFA World Cup Qualifier.
- Councillor Collins requested an update on upgrades to public realm and safety in Foynes Village and asked if the community group from Foynes could attend the July Municipal District Meeting to give a presentation on road safety concerns on the N69.

This concluded the Meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____