

**Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District held on Wednesday, 17th May, 2017
at 3.00 p.m. in the offices of the Municipal District at Mountshannon Road, Scariff.**

In attendance: Cllr. Joe Cooney
Cllr. Pat Hayes
Cllr. Michael Begley
Cllr. Pat Burke
Cllr. Tony O'Brien
Cllr. Alan O'Callaghan

Officials: Mr. Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, Administrative Officer
Mr. Sean Lenihan, A/ Senior Executive Officer

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 29th March, 2017.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 29th March, 2017 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. J Cooney and seconded by Cllr. T O'Brien

Item 2 Date for next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on the 20th July, 2017 at a time and location to be agreed.

Item 3 Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 – Traffic Calming at

- (a) The Crossroads, Killaloe**
- (b) Main Street, Kilkishen**
- (c) Killaloe Road, Tuamgraney.**

Report dated 12th May, 2017 from John Corry, Administrative Officer, Transportation was circulated with the agenda. The report states that it is proposed to carry out the following Traffic Calming measures in the Killaloe Municipal District in accordance with Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994:

1. The Crossroads, Killaloe, Co. Clare.

One-Way system with associated traffic management signs and road markings.

It is proposed that traffic will be permitted to travel south one-way along the L-7086, the lane to the rear of Cross Street Houses, from Thomas Street (L-3078) to the junction of the L-3090 at Cross Street and one-way northbound from the L-3076 to the junction with the L-7086, the lane connecting to Cross Street, as indicated on drawing number 17-1001-001.

2. Main Street (R462), Kilkishen, Co. Clare.

Two pedestrian crossings with associated traffic management signs, kerbs and road markings.

It is proposed that the traffic calming will include two pedestrian crossings located on the main street with associated traffic management signs, kerbs and road markings, as indicated on drawing number 17-1002-001.

3. Killaloe Road (R463), Tuamgraney, Co. Clare.

Pedestrian crossing with associated traffic management signs, kerbs and road markings.

It is proposed that the traffic calming will include for a pedestrian crossing located on the Killaloe road, R463, with associated traffic management signs, kerbs and road markings, as indicated on drawing number 17-1003-001.

Plans and particulars of the proposed works were publicly advertised and available for inspection from 14th March, 2017 at the Offices of Clare County Council, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis and the Killaloe Municipal District Office of Clare County Council during Office hours and online at www.clarecoco.ie.

Two submissions were received from Tuamgraney Development Association and Kilkishen Development CLG.

The submission from Tuamgraney Development Association was in relation to the proposed pedestrian crossing at Tuamgraney and it welcomed the proposed works which it felt would improve safety for all pedestrians in the village, crossing what can be a very busy road.

The submission from Kilkishen Development CLG referred to the proposals for Kilkishen and also welcomed in principle the proposals for traffic calming measures but recommended that the proposed pedestrian crossing at lower end of the village be moved by approximately 25 metres

The members agreed that further consideration of the proposals for Crossroads, Killaloe would be deferred.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan

“That traffic calming measures in accordance with Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 at Main Street (R462), Kilkishen, Co. Clare be approved.”

It was then proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan

“That traffic calming measures in accordance with Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act 1994 at Killaloe Road (R463), Tuamgraney, Co. Clare be approved.”

Item 4 Schedule of Municipal District Works.

The members welcomed the additional €500k which had been set aside for the maintenance and upkeep of local and tertiary roads in 2017 and which was to be divided between the Municipal Districts based on the length of the road network in each MD. The members praised Cllr. B. Slattery and Cllr. P. Hayes for their role in delivering this additional funding.

Sean Lenihan, A/Senior Executive Officer gave a detailed summary to the members on the housing maintenance programme for 2017. The Council was also committed to introducing a planned maintenance programme and loan funding of €10 million had been secured. He also outlined the progress made on the proposed new housing schemes at Feakle and Clonlara and briefed the members on new properties purchased by the Council throughout the Municipal District.

The members welcomed this detailed update. They requested that additional funding would be provided in future years for Estate Management and they highlighted the need to maintain footpaths, roadways and green areas in Council estates to a high standard.

The members also highlighted the number of vacant dwellings in the towns and villages in the Municipal District and the possibility of the Repair and Leasing Scheme being used to bring these properties back into the rental market.

The Schedule of Municipal District Works for 2017 was adopted by the members following the proposal of Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

Item 5 Fix date for A.G.M.

It was agreed that the A.G.M. will take place on Friday, 23rd June, 2017 at 2.00 p.m. in Conference Room 316, Áras Contae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis.

Item 6 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council give an update on the Village and Town Renewal Scheme for Scariff and when it is hoped works will commence.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney
Seconded by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Details for the Scariff TVR scheme are being finalised following consultation with the local community. The next stage involves determination of which elements of the desired works will best meet the needs of the scheme and community alike given the funding available. We expect to finalise this in the coming weeks and agree a work schedule, with works expected to commence in the late summer\early autumn.”

Item 7 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney

“That Clare County Council put a public light outside the Culture Centre in Kilkishen in the interest of road safety.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney
Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Details of the upgrade of lighting at this location have been referred to our contractors. We expect to carry out these works provided funding is available and value for money is achieved.”

Item 8 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council install a pedestrian crossing in the village of Tuamgraney on the Scariff to Bodyke road at a location to be decided in conjunction with the one that is going in the Killaloe road in the interest of road safety.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney
Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Such a proposal can be considered at the next opportunity provided such funding is available and having consideration for all such proposals within the Municipal District & Local Authority functional area.”

The members requested that consideration would be given to include the installation of this crossing with the contract to install the crossing approved in Tuamgraney on the Killaloe road.

Item 9 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"Calling on Clare County Council/Irish Water to provide a backup supply to the water main which serves the villages of Mountshannon and Whitegate which are currently experiencing water shortages."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke
Seconded by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

Duane O'Brien, Water Above Ground Lead – Asset Operations (Southern Region), Irish Water replied as follows:

“Irish Water acknowledges that there was a supply outage affecting the Mountshannon water supply scheme in recent weeks.

This outage was a result of an unforeseen pump failure which was repaired at the earliest opportunity. Some customers may have experienced some loss of pressure while the repairs were taking place.

The issue has now been resolved and, while we will continue to monitor the scheme, a back-up supply is not required.

Irish Water apologises to customers for the inconvenience caused and thanks them for their patience.”

Cllr. P. Burke expressed disappointment with the response and felt that a back-up supply was necessary to protect the domestic, tourism, agriculture and business communities in the area.

Cllr. T. O'Brien advised the members that similar issues had been experienced in Killaloe in recent weeks.

Item 10 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"To ask Clare County Council, how many submissions were received from the public following the launch of the Draft Inis Cealtra Visitor Management and Sustainable Tourism Development Plan and to outline what the next steps are in the process."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke
Seconded by: Cllr. A. O'Callaghan

Brian McCarthy, Senior Planner replied as follows:

“As you are aware Solearth Architecture was appointed by Clare County Council in 2015 to prepare the *Inis Cealtra Visitor Management and Sustainable Tourism Development Plan*. Since their appointment extensive research and community consultation has been undertaken to ensure the plan, when finalised, represents an agreed way forward to realising the true potential of Inis Cealtra as a unique tourism product whilst also protecting its spiritual and archaeological significance through sustainable development and visitor management.

Community consultation has been a key component in the preparation of the plan. To date 3 community consultation meetings have been undertaken, including the most recent meeting on 23rd March in Mountshannon Community Hall, when the Draft Plan was presented to over 80 members of the public.

The *Draft Inis Cealtra Visitor Management and Sustainable Tourism Development Plan* went on public display from 24th March and public consultation concluded on 21st April. In total 18 written submissions were received by members of the public and statutory authorities. Submissions were made to the Draft Plan and the associated Strategic Environmental Assessment, the Habitats Directive Assessment and the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment.

The process of reviewing and considering these submissions is now underway. Once this process is complete, the draft plan will be amended to become the final plan. It is intended that the *Inis Cealtra Visitor Management and Sustainable Tourism Development Plan* will be presented to the local community in July 2017, thus concluding the plan making process.”

Item 11 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"Calling on Clare County Council to open the new service facilities at both Mountshannon and Dromaan harbours as a matter of urgency."

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke
Seconded by: Cllrs. J. Cooney and P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The newly refurbished Mountshannon service block was re-opened to the public on Friday, 12th May following a handover from Waterways Ireland as the lead authority for the Lough Derg Canoe Trail.

The new Dromaan Service block is substantially complete. It is expected that this block will open by the end of May.”

Item 12 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“I propose that improvement works be carried out on the junction of the L82113 Ballnahinch, Bodyke joining the main Ennis - Scariff road, at present the sight lines are very poor and extremely dangerous exiting on to a very busy regional road.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is accepted that many junctions such as the L82113\R352 at Ballynahinch could benefit from improved visibility. Where sightlines improvements can be achieved with the good will of landowners and where such improvements are achievable at value for money proportional to improved safety we would be positively disposed towards such improvements.”

Item 13 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“I propose that the level of the road at Keoghs Cross on the road leading towards Clogher be raised in order to support the recently improved works on the R352 Ennis - Scariff road in the interests of safety on this very busy junction.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Improvement works are proposed on the R352 and in the vicinity of this junction (R352\R467) at Keoghs Cross in 2017. These works will address any temporary reinstatements that are in place at present.”

Item 14 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“I propose that improvement works be carried out on the link road between Crusheen and Ruan villages with particular emphasis on passing bays and overhanging trees as this link road has become extremely busy over the last number of years.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes
Seconded by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is accepted that the L-4126, a local primary road connecting Ruan and Crusheen would benefit from the provision of passing bays. Where such improvements can be achieved with the good will of landowners and where the improvements are achievable at value for money proportional to improved safety we would be positively disposed towards such improvements. In this regard we would welcome any landowners who have lands bounding the L-4126 to make contact with this office if they are amenable to the provision of such a setback to an existing boundary in the interests of road safety.”

Item 15 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

“That footpaths be put in place from the cross at upper Ardnataggle on the R463 to the new park at O Briens Bridge/Bridgetown cross on the same road and also from the O’ Briens Bridge cross to the bridge entering O Briens Bridge to connect with the path already in place.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O’Brien
Seconded by: Cllr. J Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“While there is merit in provision of such a path, specific funding would need to be sought in order to complete such works.”

Hugh McGrath further advised the members that the local community should investigate the availability of assistance for these projects from Leader or from Tourism Ireland.

Item 16 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

“That signage be erected at the entrance to Clonboy estate in Bridgetown warning motorists that children are at play in the area.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O’Brien
Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Where residents are concerned that motorists are driving at excessive speed in residential areas this concern should be addressed in the first instance to An Garda Siochana with details of the offending motorists. Where such motorists are residents of the estate or visitors to the estate the Residents Association is also an appropriate forum within which to highlight such concerns. Residents & visitors to the estate should refrain from parking on the footpaths in order to prevent damage to the paths as well as to ensure safe pedestrian passage and visibility for motorists using the road to see children.”

Item 17 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

“That the bend on the canal bank in Killaloe on the R463 at the area known as the grotto be realigned to make it safe.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The concerns regarding this location are noted. Consideration can be given to potential improvements to safety at this location as well as enhancement of the pedestrian environment in conjunction with the Bane Field/Tubbermurry development. In any event, sightline improvements that may be achieved from trimming vegetation will be carried out at the next opportunity.”

Item 18 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That remedial works be carried out on a section of the Derryfadda Road L-3062-13 to protect a deep roadside drain.”

Proposed by: Cllr T. O’Brien in the absence of Cllr. M. Begley

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is merit in this proposal and the works will be considered at the next opportunity.”

Item 19 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That the Council correct the drainage system at Powels house area of Roo West which was damaged by the laying of the water pipe line from the reservoir.”

Proposed by: Cllr T. O’Brien in the absence of Cllr. M. Begley
Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“An on-site assessment will need to be carried out at the next appropriate opportunity to determine the extent of remedial works required if any.”

Item 20 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That hedgecutting be carried out at the next appropriate time on the L-7026.”

Proposed by: Cllr T. O’Brien in the absence of Cllr. M. Begley
Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The L-7026 is a local Secondary road connecting Soreeny & Castlecrine.

Hedgecutting is carried out by Clare County Council in accordance with the adopted Hedgecutting Policy (2011). The legal responsibility for maintaining hedges and overhanging trees to ensure that they are not or do not become hazard lies with the Landowner and/or Occupier under Section 70 of the Roads Act 1993.”

Item 21 Any Other Business

- The members extended a vote of sympathy to the family, friends and colleagues of Betty Devanny on her recent sad passing, to Tommy Bleach on the death of his father and to Cllr. A. O’Callaghan on the death of his aunt.

Many members spoke of their shock in hearing of Betty’s passing and they recalled fondly the enormous contribution she had made in the Council. They recalled her willingness to find a solution to any problem that arose and spoke of her outstanding ability to work with community groups during her various roles with the Council.

Hugh McGrath thanked the members for their comments and also offered his sympathy and the sympathy of the staff of Killaloe Municipal District to those being remembered at the meeting.

- As this was the final meeting before the Annual General Meeting, Cllr. T. O'Brien thanked the members, officials and the media for their assistance to him during his year as Cathaoirleach.

The meeting then concluded.

Kieran O'Donnell
Meetings Administrator

18th May, 2017.