

Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District held on Wednesday, 4th July, 2018 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: Ms. Anne Haugh, Director of Service.
Mr. Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, Administrative Officer

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 23rd May, 2018.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 23rd May, 2018 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. M. Begley and seconded by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

Matters Arising.

- It was agreed following the proposal by Cllr. T. O'Brien and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney that the discussion on the Taking in Charge of Ballyvally Estate would be deferred until the September meeting.
- Cllr. P. Hayes noted the ongoing problem of traffic and parking in the Burren area and requested that hedge cutting take place in order to alleviate the problem. H. McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer advised that as the route in question was not a regional road, it did not meet the criteria under the current policy.

Item 2 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District A.G.M. held on 22nd June, 2018.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 22nd June, 2018 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan.

Item 3 Date for next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on the 19th September, 2018 at 3:00 p.m.

Item 4 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

“That safety barriers be erected around the footpaths outside the Anchor Bar at Royal Parade, Killaloe and that the stop line at the traffic lights be moved a few metres back on Royal Parade.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Safety Barriers are not considered an appropriate option at this location.

The road markings that are in place currently are necessary for operation of the junction traffic lights and therefore cannot be relocated without a significant justification for such a measure.”

Cllr. T. O'Brien stated that he was disappointed with the response. He felt that on health and safety grounds, it was not appropriate to have the stop line for traffic directly outside the Anchor bar. He also raised issues with the timing of the lights. Cllr. P. Burke also requesting that the stopping point on the Scarriff road be moved back a few metres to allow for the movement of large vehicles at that location. The members spoke in favour of these proposals and H. McGrath agreed to review the locations of the road markings and the timing of the lights having had regard to the comments of the members.

Item 5 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

“That the senior executive planner give an update on the plans for Bane field Killaloe.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Funding and progress on the initial phases of this project are partially dependent on development associated with Tennis Club proposed redevelopment.

Once key elements of the Tennis club development are determined Clare County Council will advance the initial upgrade works for the New Road element of the project.”

Item 6 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

“That road repairs take place on royal parade Killaloe to raise the utility covers which are currently causing serious problems for drivers.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is merit in this proposal and we will address this at the next available opportunity.”

It was agreed to take Items No. 7 and 10 together.

Item 7 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

“Calling on Clare County Council to provide an update on the plans being developed for Holy Island.”

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

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

“I am asking for a progress report into the development plan for Holy Island, and the implementation dates for it, Clare County Council have this island in its ownership for four years now and it is imperative that it be developed to support the tourism industry.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes
Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Monica Meehan, Senior Executive Officer, Rural Development replied as follows:

“The Inis Cealtra Visitor Management and Sustainable Tourism Development Plan was published in July 2017. A re-structuring of functions within the Council was finalised a few months ago and resulted in the tourism function of the Council coming in under the remit of the Rural Development Directorate since May 2018. We have since established a tourism unit and a Tourism Officer has recently been appointed.

We are now at the stage where we can progress the implementation of the plan and will be reviewing it with a view to setting out the next steps in the process. The Property Unit of the Council has confirmed that the island has been stocked with sheep in order to manage the

grasslands and vegetation growth etc. We will provide an update to the Municipal District meeting in September.”

The members outlined the importance of this project to the development of tourism in the region and requested that Leonard Cleary, Director of Services would attend the September meeting to give a further progress report.

Item 8 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

“Calling on Clare County Council to provide an update on the proposed Killaloe bypass and bridge crossing.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Begley

Sean Lenihan, Senior Engineer, Physical Development replied as follows:

“Arising from the confirmation of the CPO, the Land acquisition process is ongoing. This may continue into the New Year but crucially, doesn’t prevent other works from happening in parallel. To this end, we are in the handover process following a recent competition from ROD Consultants who brought the project through the planning and CPO phase to RPS Consultants who will bring it through the detailed design and Tender preparation and Construction stages. We are liaising with the DTTAS Inspector to ensure the project advances at the optimum pace through the various stages remaining.

I would be happy to further brief the Killaloe Municipal District Members at a future meeting if they so wish.”

Cllr. P Burke requested that a meeting be arranged between Sean Lenihan and the members for a detailed update on this project.

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

“Calling on Clare County Council to enforce the 'No camping or overnight parking' at three lakeside locations namely, Mountshannon Harbour, Dromaan Harbour and Meelick Bay.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke
Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Where there is evidence of breaches of the bye-laws enforcement procedures can be considered.”

The members noted the importance of providing camping tourists with areas to park and highlighted the lack of facilities in the area during busy periods. They highlighted the need for additional facilities and designated camping spaces to be provided in the County Development Plan.

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

“I am asking that Clare County Council and An Garda Síochána come together to try and resolve the ongoing problem of antisocial behaviour in terms of boy-racing cars doing donuts and speeding on our roads and in particular the Gort - Ennis road in the Crusheen/Barefield area.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Clare County Council’s Road Safety Officer has been in contact with An Garda Síochána in recent weeks to discuss and highlight these concerns.”

Cllr. P. Hayes requested that a formal letter be sent to the Gardai on the issue.

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

“I am asking that Clare County Council consider raising a loan in order to progress the building of a new sewerage treatment plant and associated works for Broadford Village.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Cyril Feeney, Senior Engineer, Water Services and Environment Section replied as follows:

“As advised under a Motion at the May Municipal District meeting, we have been advised by Irish Water that funding allocation for this type of project is not available under the current (2017 – 2021) Programme. However Irish Water has agreed a growth fund for rural towns and villages with the Department for which Broadford Village Sewerage Scheme can be considered. Further details are to be available later this year

Consideration for the raising of a loan to progress such works would have to be considered by Clare County Council in the context of the annual budget.”

All the members spoke of the need for a new sewerage treatment plant in Broadford. Cllr. J. Cooney advised that some progress was being made on this issue and that discussions were

ongoing between Irish Water, Clare County Council and the Department. Cllr. T. O'Brien proposed that the motion be deferred for a couple of months.

Cllr. P. Hayes agreed to defer this item until September although he noted he would be raising a similar issue at the July Council meeting.

Item 13 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan.

“Ask this Council to carry out works at Kilkishen school to slow traffic, in the interest of the health and safety of children.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O'Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is accepted that there are safety concerns at this location relating to traffic in the vicinity of the school. We are to carry out improvement works to the road surface at this location in the coming months. In advance of such works it is proposed to give consideration to any safety measures that may improve road safety at this location in consultation with School Management, and to implement any improvements deliverable as part of the works.”

It was requested that the improvement works be carried out prior to September. Cllr. A. O'Callaghan advised that a petition had been handed into the Municipal District Office earlier that day by concerned parents.

Cllr. J. Cooney also noted that funding was available for footpaths and that there were plans to acquire land to provide footpaths in the area which would also alleviate the problem.

Item 14 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan.

“Ask this Council to carry out works on the L3000 that services Cragganowen Castle where the landowner has given verbal agreement to offer a piece of land.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O'Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There is merit in this proposal. At any locations such as this where lands are being made available to Clare County Council to facilitate safety improvements we are favourably disposed towards prioritising such works where resources permit.”

Item 15 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

“Ask this Council to take in charge Teernonea Estate in Kilkishen where a Section 180 has been submitted.”

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

Siobhan O’Reilly, Administrative Officer, Planning Department replied as follows:

“The Planning Authority are in receipt of bond monies in relation to Teeronea (Tir na Fhia) and it is our intention to carry out a site inspection to identify the necessary remedial works required to be carried out subject to available funds. It is the Planning Authority’s intention to prepare tender documents in the coming months in consultation with Irish Water. We hope to initiate the taking in charge of this development in advance of carrying out any works.”

Item 16 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“I call on Clare County Council to request Irish Water to immediately replace the seriously defective water main in Clonlara Village.”

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Begley
Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Cyril Feeney, Senior Engineer, Water Services and Environment Section replied as follows:

“I have forwarded the Notice of Motion to Irish Water and I am awaiting a response. We will inform the members in due course of any update from Irish Water.”

Item 17 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“Can Clare County Council provide an up-date on the current funding status for upgrading section of road at Cloonyconry, Broadford/Bridgetown Road which subsided over the winter months.”

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

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is accepted that repairs are required at this location. While we have not secured a specific grant for such works we are hopeful that this issue can be resolved provided sufficient resources are available and the necessary lands can be acquired.”

Item 18 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“Can Clare County Council clarify when they envisage works to the new pedestrian crossing in Tuamgraney Village on the R352 will commence?”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is anticipated that once the normal planning and procurement process is complete that works will commence on this in the late summer.”

H. McGrath, S.E.E., advised that the exact location for the pedestrian crossing had not been finalised.

Item 19 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“Can Clare County Council give an up-date on the progress for both CIS and LIS Schemes in the Killaloe Municipal District? Can it also be clarified if there will be further funding available in 2018?”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. M. Begley

Hugh McGrath, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) 2018\2019

Funding was approved in June 2018 for all (12 No.) CIS applications as submitted from Killaloe Municipal District. The funding provides for a 2 year programme with 2018 priorities to be confirmed once compliant and paid up applications have been certified. We are advised that there will be an opportunity to apply for funding for additional projects (to be funded in 2019) before the end of October 2018.

Local Improvement Schemes (LIS) – 2018

We received approval for 3 No. Schemes in Killaloe Municipal District for 2018. These works are to be complete by the end of July. There is a possibility of additional projects receiving grant approval on completion of the approved works.”

The members expressed concern that a number of applicants had not been informed of the status of their application and requested that all applicants would be contacted and given up-to-date information in respect of their application.

Item 20 Any Other Business

- The members paid tribute to Pat Henchy on his work for Clare County Council and acknowledged the significant contribution he had made to the Municipal District in his role as Executive Engineer.
- Cllr. P Burke acknowledged recent improvement works carried out in Mountshannon.
- Cllr. P. Hayes referred to the current restriction in water supply and the need for Irish Water to inform the public in a managed way.

The meeting then concluded.

Kieran O'Donnell
Meetings Administrator

5th July, 2018.