

Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District held on Wednesday, 6th March, 2019 at 12.00 p.m. in the Boardroom, Áras Chontae an Chláir, New Road, Ennis.

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. John Leahy, Senior Engineer
Mr. Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer
Mr. John Corry, Administrative Officer
Mr. Kieran O'Donnell, Administrative Officer

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 23rd January, 2019.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 23rd January 2019 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney.

Item 2 Matters Arising:

There were no issues arising from the minutes.

Item 3 Date for next meeting.

It was agreed that the next meeting will take place on Wednesday, 1st May, 2019 at 3p.m.

Item 4 Lease of the Market House, Scariff

It was proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney and agreed by the members to approve the lease of the Market House, Scariff to Scariff Community Council for a fifteen year period subject to an annual rental of €30.00 per annum. The members noted that this proposal would be on the agenda for the April 2019 meeting of Clare County Council for formal approval.

Item 5 Disposal of property at 12 Dún an Óir, Kilkishen, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.

The following resolution was proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney, seconded by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan and agreed by the members:-

“Notice having been served pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Killaloe Municipal District approves pursuant to the powers vested on it by Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended, of the disposal of property at 12 Dún an Óir, Kilkishen, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 26th February, 2019.”

Item 6 Disposal of property at Caherhurley, Bodyke, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.

The following resolution was proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney, seconded by Cllr. T. O’Brien and agreed by the members:-

“Notice having been served pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Killaloe Municipal District approves pursuant to the powers vested on it by Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended, of the disposal of property at Caherhurley, Bodyke, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 26th February, 2019.”

Item 7 Disposal of Property at Corleamore, Flagmount, Co. Clare pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act 2001 and Section 211 of the Planning & Development Act, 2000.

The following resolution was proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. T. O’Brien and agreed by the members:-

“Notice having been served pursuant to Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Killaloe Municipal District approves pursuant to the powers vested on it by Section 211 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended, of the disposal of property at Corleamore, Flagmount, Co. Clare subject to the conditions as set out in the notice served on the members dated 26th February, 2019.”

Item 8 2019 Schedule of Municipal District Works

John Leahy, Senior Engineer, outlined the main elements of the Schedule of Municipal District works for 2019. The total fund available is €33,544,957 which represents an 18% increase on the 2018 allocation, or a 13% increase, if you exclude specific 2019 allocations. The sources of this funding are

- € 4,034,646 from the TII in respect of national roads
- €26,576,920 from the DTTaS in respect of Non-National routes
- € 2,933,391 from the Council's Own Resources

The Schedule provides for the following roads funding in the Killaloe Municipal District for 2019:-

- Restoration Improvement Grant € 2,966,040
- Restoration Maintenance Grant € 686,848
- Discretionary Grant € 254,430
- Drainage Works €248,000
- Regional Road Maintenance € 307,040
- Local Road Maintenance € 640,703
- Bridge Rehabilitation Works € 174,517

John Corry provided an update on funding available for the LIS and CIS schemes. An initial allocation of €480,811 was received in respect of the Local Improvement Scheme for 2019 with over 250 applications remaining following the re-advertising of the scheme in 2018. An allocation of €735,000 has been received to fund projects under the Community Involvement Scheme in 2019. The Council has a number of applications on hand and John advised that it was not envisaged that the scheme would be open to new applications in 2019.

The members welcomed the increase in funding provided in SMDW. They highlighted the need to increase funding in local roads and requested that applications for funding under the CIS Scheme should be invited from interested groups so that the Council would have sufficient numbers of applications should additional funding become available.

Anne Haugh, Director of Services outlined the funding available in 2019 for Housing Maintenance, Traveller Accommodation and Estate Management and also gave details of the planned maintenance programme which would require substantial loan funding as well as Central Government funding.

The members were critical of the Government's recent decision to suspend the Council from purchasing single houses.

The Schedule of Municipal District Works was proposed by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney and agreed by the members.

Item 9 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That urgent repairs be carried out on the deck of the footbridge between Clonlara and Castleconnell”

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Begley

Seconded by: Cllr T. O'Brien

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Killaloe Municipal District Office will make contact with Limerick City & County Council and Waterways Ireland to discuss this matter”

Item 10 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That suitable signage be put on the south side of the headrace bridge e.g. “Slow Narrow Bridge”.”

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Begley

Seconded by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Signs will be ordered and placed at appropriate locations on the approach to bridge”

Item 11 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. M. Begley.

“That a Cul-De-Sac sign be put near the “Lame Duck Pub” in Gillogue.”

Proposed by: Cllr. M. Begley

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O'Callaghan

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Signs will be ordered and placed at appropriate locations on to this road”

Item 12 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

“That road safety measures be put in place immediately at the junction of the R463 and the R466 at the O'Briens Bridge/Bridgetown junction.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Killaloe Municipal District will carry out an assessment of this junction to determine what measures may be required”

Item 13 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

“That road safety measures be put in place at the boys and the girls national schools in Killaloe”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There are unique characteristics to each of these locations and so each will need to be assessed separately.

A Survey of the area adjacent to the Boys National School has taken place to facilitate the provision of a footpath opposite the school. Discussions with the school highlighted the need for a crossing point from the school. This has been incorporated into our design.

The footpath will have a narrowing effect on the road and will lead to safer conditions at this location.

A Survey of the area adjacent to the Girls National School has taken place; a parking bay has been marked on the road adjacent to the school. There is no budget for further works at this point”

Item 14 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. T. O’Brien.

“That resurfacing works be carried out on Royal Parade, Killaloe as this road has deteriorated to a very unsafe state of disrepair.”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The Royal Parade has been included in the 2019 Roadworks programme”

Item 15 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

“I am calling on Clare County Council to provide an extra street light on the approach road into Whitegate between two existing poles, No.'s 1 & 7.”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“It is proposed to improve lighting at this location during 2019. Works will include upgrading of the existing lighting standards and provision of additional lampposts. These will be located along the boundary of the GAA grounds and will illuminate both sides of the road”

Item 16 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"I am calling on Clare County Council to provide lighting in the new car park off Main Street, Tulla."

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

"Discussions have taken place with the owners of the car park facility; upgraded lighting featured as part of those discussions and this work will take place upon successful completion of those talks"

Item 17 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Burke.

"I am calling on Clare County Council to include the L 40361 at Dereney, Whitegate for surface dressing in the Roadworks Programme going forward and to strengthen the bridge on the road."

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

"Due to the limited funding available we were unable to include this road in the 2019 schedule. If further funding was to become available, this road will be considered for inclusion"

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

"That Clare County Council carry out improvement works at "Pappys Cross" on the R352 where it exits onto the L4082 for the town of Tulla in the interest of safety. "

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

"A survey and traffic count will be carried out at this location to determine what measures may be appropriate for the junction and its approaches"

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

"That Clare County Council carry out upgrading works on the footpaths in Beechwood Lawn Housing Estate, Bodyke as they are in poor condition."

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“An assessment of the footpaths will take place at the earliest opportunity. Works will be carried out once resources allow”

Item 20 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. J. Cooney.

“That Clare County Council extend the footpath on the Doonane Road, Tulla to the entrance of the Tulla Union A.F.C. pitch in the interest of safety. “

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“A survey and design for this proposal can be carried out, however, there is currently no funding available to advance works on the ground”.

Item 21 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

“I am asking for an update into what agreements are in place with Coillte and private forestry owners when harvesting takes place, in order to protect our investment in our road network.”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Tree felling licenses are applied for through the Planning Department. Killaloe Municipal District comment on each application in relation to the road conditions and in order to protect any public roads being used as haulage routes”

The members expressed their ongoing concern about the damage being caused to the road network in the district by forestry operators. John Leahy agreed to review the issues with Tom Mellett and to examine what options were available to the Council.

Item 22 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

"I propose that as part of a recent announcement to build Social Housing in Tulla that Affordable Housing be included in this proposal. It is important that this section of people who are not entitled to Social Housing and that are finding it difficult to get a mortgage be given an opportunity to find a home.”

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

Siobhán McNulty, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“At the time of this reply there is no affordable housing scheme under which this proposal could be considered although we are informed that such an announcement is imminent. From the limited information which is available at present it would appear that for a development to qualify as affordable there must be negligible land costs and this is not the case on this site.

We will continue to work with the Tulla community to advise on and consult with them in relation to the proposed development”

The members outlined the concern of the local community about this proposed development and requested Anne Haugh to prepare and submit a proposal for this site that would include Affordable Housing. They argued that this scheme could be pursued as a pilot project in the country. Members also requested the Housing Department to hold a consultation meeting with locals so that the Council could allay any fears that they may have. Anne Haugh advised that the Council would be happy to meet with the local community. She added that the Council would welcome the launch of a new Affordable Housing Scheme. Given that there was no scheme currently in place, she expressed her concern that any delay in waiting for a new scheme would impact on the Council meeting the Department’s strict timeframes for the development of the social housing scheme in Tulla. She agreed to convey the view of the members to the relevant officials in the Department.

Item 23 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. P. Hayes.

"I propose that Clare Co Council contact Eir to remove dangerous poles in Dromindoorra village area. These are extremely dangerous on a very busy regional road.

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“A review of the poles in question will be scheduled with a follow-on letter from Killaloe Municipal District to be sent to Eir where the situation merits”

Item 24 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

“I ask this Council to carry out repair works on the R470 between Oatfield and Truagh at “Hourigan’s house” where bad dips have developed and are dangerous.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan
Seconded by: Cllr. M. Begley

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“There are currently no plans to upgrade this section of the R470. Any improvements will be dependent on funding being made available”

Cllr. A. O’Callaghan requested the Council to provide temporary signage to advise road users of the condition of the road.

Item 25 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

“In the interest of safety, I request embankments works to be carried out on the Ballysheen Graveyard road as the O’Garney River runs very close to the road.”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“An assessment of the section of road running adjacent to the O’Garney River at this location will be carried out. There is currently no funding available to carry out works here and so any works identified will be dependent on funding being made available”

Item 26 Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. A. O’Callaghan.

“Where a wild animal is killed on the road e.g. badger, fox, dear etc, I ask this Council to clarify who is responsible for removing and disposing of same?”

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

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“Where the Council is made aware of a wild animal carcass on a public road, arrangements are made with a licensed contractor to remove the carcass”

Item 27 Any other business.

Cllr. P. Hayes requested an update on the footpaths in Scarriff. Tom Mellett advised that the contract documents were being finalised and it would be advertised on eTenders in the following week.

Cllr. J. Cooney welcomed the new pedestrian crossing in Tuamgraney and enquired when the lights would be working. Tom Mettett advised that that he expected all works to be completed within two weeks.

Cllr. M. Begley raised the issue of the damage caused to the abutments of the bridge in Gillogue and Tom Mellett advised that an examination of the damage caused to the bridge would be carried out.

The meeting then concluded.

Kieran O'Donnell
Meetings Administrator

8th March, 2019.