

Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District

held on Wednesday, 13th January, 2021 at 11.00 a.m.

Meeting held remotely on MS Teams due to Covid 19 Restrictions

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

Officials: Ms. Anne Haugh, Director of Service
Mr. Morgan Lahiffe, A/Senior Executive Officer
Ms. Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Pat Hayes chaired the meeting.

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 11th November, 2020.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 11th November, 2020 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan and seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney.

Item 2 Minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Budget Meeting held on 11th November, 2020.

The minutes of the Killaloe Municipal District Budget Meeting held on 11th November, 2020 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney and seconded by Cllr. P. Burke.

Item 3 Matters Arising:

None.

Item 4 Set date for next meeting

It was agreed the next meeting be provisionally arranged for Wednesday, 24th March, 2021, confirmation of venue and time to follow.

Item 5 Update of Killaloe Municipal District Standing Orders.

The Draft Standing Orders, as circulated with the Agenda, were proposed by Cllr. J. Cooney, seconded by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan, and agreed by the members.

Item 6 Proposed Section 183 Disposal of Lands relating to Killaloe Bypass Project.

Sean Lenihan, Senior Engineer outlined details of the proposed disposal of lands at Shantraud, Killaloe.

The matter was discussed and it was proposed by Cllr. T. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. J. Cooney and agreed by the members that it was in order to go forward to the full Council meeting on 8th February 2021 for decision. Cllr O'Brien noted championing the bypass project over a number of years whilst Cllr J Cooney stated it would be great for East Clare. Cllrs O'Callaghan, Burke and Hayes complimented the Project Management Office on their work and stated that they were looking forward to continuing progress.

Item 7 Nominee for Tourism Advisory Forum

The members considered the correspondence issued by Deirdre O'Shea, A/Head of Tourism, Rural Development in which she sought one representative from the Municipal District to sit on the Clare Tourism Recovery Taskforce.

Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Cathaoirleach of Killaloe Municipal District would sit on the Forum and represent the Municipal District during his term.

Item 8 Community Supports Scheme 2021

Correspondence from Bernadette Haugh, A/Senior Executive Officer, Rural Development was circulated outlining details of the Community Supports Scheme 2021.

Cllr. P. Hayes suggested extending the deadline for applications due to current Covid 19 restrictions this was supported by Cllr. T. O'Brien.

Item 9 Notices of Motion from Cllr. T. O'Brien

"That Clare County Council designate a disabled parking bay at the lower end of Killaloe town. This would enable people with disabilities to have access to do business at the lower end of the town."

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

Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“While there are a number of existing public accessible car parking spaces which facilitate access to the lower end of the town, the Killaloe MD will investigate the possibility over the next number of weeks of providing an additional accessible space.”

Cllr O Brien stated that parking at the lower end of Killaloe needs to be looked at specifically disabled bays. He praised the introduction of bollards in the town also.

N. Madden added that the Killaloe/ Ballina Plan will also inform decisions on parking in the town.

Item 10 Notices of Motion from Cllr. P Hayes

"I propose that a review of the Winter Gritting Programme be undertaken with a particular emphasis on key link roads that are not being gritted at present. The Feakle-Scariff road and the Gort-Tulla road along with other key routes are currently excluded from the programme. These roads need to be included in the Winter Gritting Programme as a matter of urgency for the safety of motorists.”

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

John Leahy, Senior Engineer, Transportation replied as follows:

'Currently Clare County Councils winter maintenance plan is operating at capacity, covering almost 700km of the road network from Beechpark per treatment. We will be inviting Elected Members to make submissions in the spring in advance of the next winter maintenance review. The roads listed as part of this motion will be considered as part of the next winter maintenance review which is scheduled for June 2021.'

Cllrs Hayes stated that key link roads in the area need to be kept open during prolonged frost and that he feared for non locals driving on these untreated roads. He stated that perhaps signage should be utilised in these areas. Cllrs O’Callaghan, Cooney and Burke wished to see more routes treated and welcomed the forthcoming review.

Item 11 Notice of Motion from Cllr. A. O’Callaghan:-

“I ask that the Killaloe MD Area Engineer meet with the Shannon MD Area Engineer and put a proposal together to get works done on a road at Ballycar North Sixmilebridge, where this road is divided between both MDs and in need of a lot of repair.”

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

Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“As this road is located within two municipal districts, Killaloe and Shannon, I have spoken with Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer in the Shannon Municipal District. Although this road is not on the current roads programme, it will be considered for inclusion in the future roadworks programme. In the meantime, the Killaloe Municipal District undertakes to carry out essential maintenance on this road in 2021. Tom Mellett has indicated that he is agreeable to carrying out same on the section located in the Shannon Municipal District.”

Cllr Alan O Callaghan stated that a lot of patching is done but more needs to be done. He stated he had received complaints from Taxis.

Cllr. J. Cooney requested certain roads not be divided between Municipal Districts and that they be dealt with junction to junction. N. Madden stated she would examine.

Item 12 Notice of Motion from Cllr. J. Cooney:-

“I am calling on Clare County Council to include the L7000 road in Broadford in the 2021 roads program as the road is in a very poor condition and is in need of passing bays in the interest of road safety”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“This road will be considered for inclusion in the 2021 Killaloe Municipal District schedule of works, pending an inspection over the coming weeks. A number of passing bays are already in existence on this road and the municipal district will look to improve these passing bays in 2021.” Cllr Cooney noted that more passing bays are required towards the Broadford Limerick regional road.

Item 13 Notice of Motion from Cllr. P. Burke:-

“Calling on Clare County Council to introduce traffic calming measures including the possibility of speed ramps on the L 41341, Tuamgraney that leads to Reddan’s Quay”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer replied as follows:

“The Killaloe Municipal District will carry out a speed survey and assessment of this road, the results of which will determine the most appropriate course of action to mitigate any excessive speeding on this road.”

Cllr Burke stated that residents contacted him about speed and anti social behaviour on this road. Cllr Burke suggested speed ramps.

Cllr Cooney also raised issue of speed at Kilkishen and stated more speed ramps were necessary. Niamh Madden stated there would be a speed survey carried out and that would be on a 24 hour basis.

14. Any other business.

The Councillors joined with Cllr. J. Cooney in thanking Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer for his work in the Killaloe MD and wished Niamh Madden luck in her new role.

Cllr. P. Hayes stated it was necessary for all in the Killaloe MD to support the fight against COVID 19. All Councillors agreed with this sentiment.

The meeting then concluded.

Morgan Lahiffe
A/ Senior Executive Officer

3rd February, 2021