

Minutes of Meeting of the Killaloe Municipal District

held on Wednesday, 14th July, 2021 at 11.15 a.m.

Meeting held in Council Chamber, Áras Chontae an Chláir

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
Ms. Pauline Costelloe, Staff Officer

Members of the media attended

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Joe Cooney, chaired the meeting.

Item 1 Minutes of Killaloe MD Meeting, held on 19th May, 2021.

The minutes of Killaloe Municipal District Meeting held on 19th May, 2021 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes and seconded by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan.

Item 2 Minutes of Special Meeting of Killaloe MD, held on 24th June, 2021.

The minutes of Killaloe MD Special Meeting held on 24th June, 2021 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. P. Burke and seconded by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan.

Item 3 Minutes of Killaloe MD AGM Meeting, held on 24th June, 2021.

The minutes of Killaloe MD AGM Meeting held on 24th June, 2021 were adopted having been proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes and seconded by Cllr. P. Burke.

Item 4 Matters Arising:

Referring to Item 8, Cllr. P. Hayes requested an update on works at Cranagher junction, N. Madden advised hedges have been cut and line-marking will be carried out in the coming weeks. Discussions have also taken place with Road Design to examine if junction can be included in the safety improvement scheme.

Cllr. T. O'Brien, referring to Item 7, complimented all involved in the Killaloe Ballina Mobility Plan and encouraged public feedback on the plan.

Item 5 Set date for next Killaloe MD meeting

It was agreed the next Killaloe MD meeting be provisionally arranged for Wednesday, 15th September, 2021. Members agreed morning meeting time of 10am preferable for the next 12 months and councillors will submit two notices of motion for the next meeting.

Item 6 Killaloe General Municipal Allocation 2021 – Programme of Works

Report presented for allocation of 2021 GMA funds. Proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. P. Burke and agreed.

Item 7 2021 Community Supports scheme Town Village Paint Works – Nomination of town/village in Killaloe MD

Cllr. J. Cooney advised Killaloe MD councillors had discussed this issue and agreed Tulla be put forward for the scheme. Proposed by Cllr. P. Hayes, seconded by Cllr. A. O'Callaghan and agreed.

Item 8 Notices of Motion from Cllr. T. O'Brien

“That the footpath between St. Anne's school and Clarisford in Killaloe be cleared of the over grown bushes and weeds.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Reply from Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer:

I can confirm that a member of the Killaloe Municipal District's outdoor crews has been appointed to undertake the task of clearing the overgrown bushes and weeds in this area. This will be carried out as soon as possible.

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

“That discussions would be instigated with Tipperary County Council with a view to having a shared partnership in the provision of services to our community of Killaloe and Ballina.”

Proposed by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Reply from Morgan Lahiffe A/ Senior Executive Officer

Clare County Council acknowledges the fact that Killaloe & Ballina form two towns but one community. Many services are currently provided to the Communities from one side of the Shannon or the other. An example of this being the provision of Library services which is located in Killaloe whilst the provision of Swimming pool facilities is located in Ballina. Through a collaboration with Tipperary County Council, the Killaloe-Ballina Town Enhancement and Mobility Plan has been drafted and is on public display since July 9th 2021. The Draft Plan outlines a coordinated approach from both Local Authorities to public realm enhancements within Killaloe and Ballina, providing a clear vision for Killaloe and Ballina as linked settlements in the context of the changing transport and mobility profile of the towns.

The outcomes of this Plan will set specific objectives for both Councils to deliver on. This will require both Councils working collectively towards the provision of more services for both towns. The motion has merit in the form of exploring any efficiencies that can take place in relation to items such as localised litter management, the possible provision of equipment to serve both communities. Clare County Council will examine this through our engagements with Tipperary County Council.

Cllr. T. O'Brien added the establishment of shared services, for example litter collection and street sweeping on a daily basis should be examined.

Item 10 Notice of Motion from Cllr. P. Hayes

“I am asking for an update into the proposed works at Clooney in relation to a new footpath and pedestrian crossing and when this work will commence.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Reply from Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer:

This project went through both a Part VIII planning process and procurement process in recent months. The Killaloe Municipal District is pleased to confirm that a contractor for the works is due to be appointed imminently and the project is scheduled to commence within the coming weeks. The MD will liaise with the community group in Clooney again once the exact start date has been confirmed.

Item 11 Notices of Motion from Cllr. P. Hayes

“I am asking that new traffic calming measures be put in place on the approach roads to Tuamgraney as present measures are not fulfilling their requirements.”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Reply from Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer:

The Killaloe Municipal District will conduct speed surveys and assess the approaches to Tuamgraney. The outcome of this investigation will determine any future potential works that may be required and will form the basis of any funding applications that may need to be progressed in this regard.

Item 12 Notices of Motion from Cllr. J. Cooney

“That Clare County Council make an application for funding to put traffic calming measures in the village of Ogonnelloe and at the Twomilegate in the interest of road safety.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. T. O'Brien

Reply from Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer:

In relation to Ogonnelloe, Clare County Council will be meeting with the community group towards the end of the summer with a view to putting together a safety scheme or Active Travel scheme that could potentially be funded in the future. Regarding Twomilegate, Clare County Council recognises that there will be growth in this amenity area over the next few years. This means that the Council will need to review the current situation. Any traffic calming scheme at this location will require a reduction in the speed limit and we hope to further this through the next countywide speed limit review.

Item 13 Notices of Motion from Cllr. J. Cooney

“I call on Clare County Council to explore what options can be looked at to improve safety measures as you exit from the L8132 on to R352 as you head towards Scariff.”

Proposed by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Burke

Reply from Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer:

Works to the junction of the L8132/R352 do not form part of the 2021 roadworks programme. However, Clare County Council undertakes to assess this location and the outcome of this assessment will determine any required measures that need to be carried out. This assessment will also form the basis of any funding applications that may need to be progressed in this regard.

Cllr. J. Cooney asked that some measures be taken at this junction in the short term. Cllr. P. Burke requested if the nearby junction of Carrowmore/Ducey's could also be examined.

Item 14 Notice of Motion from Cllr. P. Burke

“Calling on Clare County Council to consider a south bound Bus shelter in Crusheen at a site adjacent to the railway bridge on publicly owned lands with ample space for parking”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. P. Hayes

Reply from Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer:

Clare County Council is committed in its endeavours to find a site for the southbound bus shelter in Crusheen. The Council was unable to reach an agreement in relation to land adjacent to the existing south bound stop. As a result, an alternative site was proposed within the village centre and its location was approved by both Bus Éireann and the National Transport Authority (NTA). The Council was unable to get consensus in relation to this proposed location.

Killaloe Municipal District can look at the feasibility of providing a bus shelter adjacent to the railway bridge. However, the Municipal District would have concerns in relation to the distance from the village centre and the need to cross the road at the bridge. However, the possibility of locating the shelter there can be explored.

Cllr. P. Hayes acknowledged much work has gone into this project over the years and added an overall view of development in the village must be looked at. He supports the location of the bus shelter adjacent to the railway bridge with a possible crossing further up the street. Cllr. P. Burke was also in support of this location. M. Lahiffe replied it may not be possible to reach wide consensus on the identification of a site and that Clare County Council will have to make a call on the best location.

Item 15 Notice of Motion from Cllr. P. Burke

“Calling on Clare County Council to give a commitment to continue the footpath from the bottom of Raheen hill into Tuamgraney”

Proposed by: Cllr. P. Burke

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Reply from Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer:

Clare County Council has no funding available currently to continue the existing footpath into Tuamgraney. However, the Killaloe Municipal District will endeavour to identify the appropriate funding stream and make an application for same in the hope that we can secure finance for this project in 2022.

Item 16 Notice of Motion from Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

“Ask this council to carry out remedial works on the road between school in Kilkishen and Enagh cross as it’s deteriorating to a dangerous level.”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. J. Cooney

Reply from Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer:

The L-7008 is not on the current roadworks programme but will be assessed and based on the outcome, may be considered for inclusion in a future roadworks programme. In the meantime, the Killaloe Municipal District undertakes to carry out essential maintenance on this road in 2021.

Item 17 Notice of Motion from Cllr. Alan O’Callaghan

“Ask this council to carry out a speed survey and traffic claiming on the Mountrice Road Truagh off the R471 in the interest of safety”

Proposed by: Cllr. A. O’Callaghan

Seconded by: Cllr. T. O’Brien

Reply from Niamh Madden, Senior Executive Engineer:

The Killaloe Municipal District will assess this location and carry out a speed survey as requested. The outcome of these assessments will determine any future measures that may need

to be undertaken and will form the basis of any funding applications that may need to be progressed in this regard.

Item 18 Any other business.

Cllr. P. Hayes requested an update on works to the derelict building in Tulla. N. Madden replied Fire Services (Building Control) have given notice to the owner and if works do not commence within a short period of time Building Control will assign a contractor. Cllr. P. Hayes emphasised the need for a quick resolution to be sought in these cases and expressed concern regarding dereliction in all village/town centres. Cllr. P. Burke referred to a recent Part 8 for social housing in Tulla and added that there is a need to look at the development and use of existing vacant dwellings in the centre of the village. M. Lahiffe replied the Derelict Sites Department are currently working on a number of vacant/derelict sites in the municipal district.

A. Haugh referred to the Department's current focus on buy and renew and advised a number of sections in the council are currently identifying properties within each municipal district which could be developed to deal with dereliction and deliver social housing. A. Haugh also informed members of schemes/incentives for property owners not involved in the provision of social housing and a flyer is being developed for social media to invite owners to engage with Council.

Cllr. T. O'Brien asked if the sequencing of the traffic lights on bridge at Killaloe/Ballina could be examined.

Cllr. J. Cooney requested council to contact landowners in August regarding their obligations to cut back hedges, particularly on local and minor roads, and to advise landowners of the council's hedge cutting grant scheme.

The meeting then concluded.

Morgan Lahiffe

A/ Senior Executive Officer

4th August, 2021