

**Minutes of the Shannon Municipal District Meeting held on  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March, 2022 at 9.45am at the Inn at Dromoland, Dromoland, Co. Clare.**

**Councillors Present:** Councillors Michael Begley (Leas-Cathaoirleach), PJ Ryan, Pat McMahon, Gerard Flynn, Donna McGettigan and Pat O’Gorman.

**Apologies:** Councillor John Crowe (Cathaoirleach)

**Officials Present:** Liam Conneally Director of Service, Jason Murphy Senior Executive Officer (Meetings Administrator), Cyril Feeney Senior Engineer, John Leahy Senior Engineer, Tom Mellett Senior Executive Engineer, Conor McDonagh Executive Engineer, Liam O’Connor Administrative Officer, and Patricia O’Neill Staff Officer.

In the absence of Cathaoirleach John Crowe, Leas-Cathaoirleach Michael Begley presided over the meeting.

1. Minutes of the Shannon Municipal District Meeting held on 18th January 2022 proposed by Cllr. Gerard Flynn and seconded by Cllr. PJ Ryan and agreed by all.

*Matters Arising*

*Cllr. Michael Begley requested an update on the Meelick Sewerage Scheme and the consequences for the progression of this scheme in light of the recent appointment of Receivers to Roadbridge Construction Company who are involved in the construction of the Limerick Northern Distributor Road. Cyril Feeney, Senior Engineer, Environment and Water addressed this in the following item.*

**2. Environmental updates - Cyril Feeney, Senior Engineer, Environment and Water Department**

Mr. Cyril Feeney informed the members that Norah Murphy, Environmental Community Warden has been reassigned to the West Clare Municipal District and has been replaced in the Shannon Municipal District by Ciara Daffy.

In addressing the issue of green waste, which was raised at previous MD meetings, Mr. Feeney stated while the recycling facility in Shannon accepts green waste, there is an ongoing issue with the illegal dumping of this waste in the district. Funding has been sought under the Anti-Dumping Initiative and the Environment Section continue to work with the Shannon MD office in addressing this, including the clean-up of areas, as a result of illegal dumping.

Mr. Feeney further outlined the various initiatives and projects undertaken by the Environment Section.

- Ongoing social media campaigns to heighten awareness of litter and waste issues.
- Composting workshops will also take place in the Recycling Centre’s throughout the County over the coming weeks.
- April is Spring Clean month, whereby volunteers carrying out a clean-up of their area must register with An Taisce. An Taisce arrange to send out a clean-up kit and when the clean-up is complete contact can be made to Local Authority for free disposal of the waste at an amenity site. In 2021, 160 groups participated in clean-ups.

- Environmental Awareness Officer also works closely with schools and in particular Transition Year Students, who assist with litter picking and by also creating a greater awareness of Environmental care within their local community.
- The remediation of Ballyduffbeg Waste management facility continues – Closure, Restoration and Aftercare Management Plan.

The Elected Members raised the following:

- All the Members expressed their gratitude to Norah Murphy during her time in the Shannon MD and wished her well in her new post in the West Clare MD and looked forward to working with the new Environmental Community Warden, Ciara Daffy.
- An update on the use of CCTV in the prosecution of offenders of illegal dumping.
- The provision of mobile bottle banks near the Town Centre or the Shannon MD Office on a trial basis.
- Concern was also raised about the amount of litter generated from takeaway.
- Update requested on the upgrade of the Westbury Watermain – the total length of this upgrade. Will it include the network past Larkins Cross.
- Update on Meelick Sewerage Scheme.

In relation to the issues raised by the Members, Mr. Cyril Feeney responded as follows:

- The Circular Economy Bill is currently going through the House of the Oireachtas. It is expected that this will pave the way and provide the necessary legislative basis for use of CCTV to detect and deter illegal dumping and littering.
- Consideration will be given to the provision of bottle banks near the Town Centre.
- Takeaway waste – all non-recyclable packaging generated pays a levy to Government. This levy is passed on to Local Authorities via Repak who oversee recycling carried out by Local Authorities. Other legislative requirements include the provision of recycling receptacles outside takeaway outlets and a ban on single use plastics.
- Upgrade to the Westbury watermain – First section from Athlunkard to Larkins Cross covering a distance of 1.1km is currently underway. The next 1.15km to Larkins Cross is at design stage. The second section will commence in quarter 3 of 2022 and is currently at design stage.
- In relation to the Meelick Sewerage Scheme and the implication for this scheme following the appointment of Receivers to Roadbridge, it is considered premature to comment at this stage and not aware of anything contrary to the issue.

Liam Conneally, Director of Service added that a submission will be made by Irish Water to Government on the upgrade of the sewerage system and the Members will be informed of such submissions. The progression of the Strategic Development Zone and the LNDR will remain a priority for Clare County Council.

### 3. Schedule of Municipal District Works 2022 – presented by John Leahy, Senior Engineer, Transportation.

Mr. John Leahy highlighted the main points of the Schedule of Municipal District Works 2022 (SMDW)

Total funding allocation for the Road Network in Clare is €48,361,374. This accounts for an increase of 12.4% on 2021 figures. The following table provides a breakdown of the 2022 allocations.

	2022 (€)	% change from 2021
Transport Infrastructure Ireland (National Roads)	€ 5,982,840	+12.6%
Department of Transport (Non-National Roads)	€34,917,364	+38.2%
National Transport Authority	€ 5,298,000	New grant
Own Resources – Roads Element	€ 1,563,170	+19%
Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance (IPB)	€ 600,000	-25%
<b>Total</b>	<b>€48,361,374</b>	

Mr. Leahy added that while the increase in funding is welcomed, the total allocation to fund the maintenance and upkeep of the extensive network in Clare remains low. It is intended that 7% of the network will be improved this year from the 2022 allocation of funding. It is considered that 10% is the optimum funding level for the maintenance of a road network.

Mr. Leahy referenced appendix 3 – Shannon SMDW 2022.

The total allocation of funding for 2022 is €3.8m, an increase of 19% on 2021 figures.

Restoration Improvement Grant	€1,753,820
Restoration Maintenance Grant	€ 420,221
Discretionary Grant	€ 200,000
Drainage Programme	€ 103,564
Bridge Rehabilitation Works	€ 53,500
Safety Improvement Works	€ 80,000
Non-National Road Maintenance	€ 318,000
National Roads -N19 Shannon Airport Access Rd	€ 500,000
Street Cleaning	€ 244,000
Parks, Pitches & Open Spaces	€223,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>€3,896,105</b>

Mr. Conor McDonagh, Executive Engineer, Transportation updated the Members in relation to the allocation of funding under Active Travel. The total allocation of €5.9m is part of the National Transport Authority 5 year rolling programme of which over €4m is available for delivery of Active Travel projects across the County in 2022.

Mr. McDonagh outlined a number of schemes that have been completed and scheduled to commence in the Shannon MD.

- Shannon Banks River Walk complete.
- Clonmoney scheme almost complete.

- Meelick village new footpath- preliminary design stage, MD office have written to the landowners and are in consultation with the relevant landowners.
- Ballycasey Close Green Area -Shannon Footpath to advance this year.
- Ardnacrusha to Athlunkard Bridge including Clancy's Cross – feasibility/design in 2022.

The Members responded with the following points in relation to the SMDW

- Consideration be given to the completion of a section of road in Bunnabinnia, Cratloe under the forthcoming Local Improvement Scheme.
- Strand Road, Rineanna – not included in the schedule of work. The road is currently in a bad state and work needs to be carried out on this road.
- Enhancement of the footpath from Shannon Town to the Airport
- Road to Craughaun to be maintained by Clare County Council. Land was provided by a local landowner to provide access to the burial ground on the condition that the road would be maintained by Clare County Council.
- Road in Brickhill, Cratloe to be surfaced and drained. Currently there is a query as to whether this road is taken in charge by Clare County Council.
- Allocation of €500k for the N19 Shannon Airport Access – what works will this cover.
- Level of funding made available from Local Property Tax income.
- Consideration be given to taking in charge of roads if they could be funded by the Community Involvement Scheme.

In response to points raised by the Members

Mr. John Leahy outlined that the criteria surrounding the Taking In Charge process is very stringent. Clare County Council cannot take on a liability for roads that are not up to a certain standard.

Mr. Liam O'Connor, Administrative Officer, Transportation informed the Members that there are currently 200 applications on hand at present under the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS), 3 of which are located in the Shannon MD. In 2021 funding in the sum of €828k was provided which enabled the completion of 20 roads under the LIS.

Mr. Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD responded in relation to the roads in Craughaun and Brickhill, Cratloe, stating there are no records to indicate commitments by Clare County Council to maintain the roads in question or stating that the roads are taken in charge of Clare County Council. The Shannon MD Office will continue to investigate this further.

It was also highlighted by the Members, that the road from Knocklisheen to Brennan's Cross, carries a significant volume of traffic and requested that measures be put in place to alleviate traffic congestions which will also facilitate the local community.

Mr. John Leahy responded that he is aware of the issues at Brennan's Cross. This area is not part of the current LNDR contract. There is no funding in place at present for works at this location but a meeting is being organised with Limerick City & County Council to see what can be done locally.

Liam Conneally outlined the sources of funding available to Local Authorities. Clare County Council, Executive and Elected Members will continue to lobby Government for more resources. A review by Government needs to be carried out due to a significant reduction in commercial rates for the County and the equalisation of funding (LPT redistribution) made available to Local Authorities. He added that the road network is extensive and comes at a cost in maintaining it.

Mr. Conneally concluded by thanking John Leahy and his team in the Transportation Department for their presentation to the meeting and acknowledged the work and commitment of the team in delivering the various projects.

The Schedule of Municipal District Works (SMDW) 2022 was proposed by Cllr. Gerard Flynn and seconded by Cllr. PJ Ryan and agreed by all.

It was agreed at this stage of the meeting to take item no. 22 – Notice of Motion from Cllr. Pat O’Gorman which was responded to by Mr. John Leahy.

## **22. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Pat O’Gorman**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Pat O’Gorman**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

I request this MD to provide information on the speed limit at Phayers road, Meelick L3110. I understand that this road has an 80km speed limit and I am requesting that speed limit signs would be put in place to indicate same. Also, that this road would be looked at under the speed limit review with the possibility of the speed limit being reduced to 60 km in the future.

**John Leahy, Senior Engineer, Roads & Transportation**

*The speed limit on the L3110 at Meelick has been confirmed to be 80km/hr. This road links the L3102 (60km/hr) to the Dual Carriageway (100km/hr). Signage will be installed on the L3110 to indicate the 80km/hr speed limit. The L3110 will be included for consideration for a speed limit reduction at the next speed limit review.*

Cllr. Pat O’Gorman welcomed this response.

## **4. Shannon Municipal District Small Community Grant Scheme 2022.**

Closing date for this scheme is Friday 5pm, 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2022. It was agreed that an email would issue to last years applicants informing them of the current scheme.

Proposed by Cllr. Donna McGettigan and seconded by Cllr. Pat McMahon.

## **5. Economic Development – update by Liam Conneally, Director of Services/Jason Murphy, Senior Executive Officer.**

Liam Conneally updated the Members on the following:

A total of 700 submissions were received during the public consultation period on the review of the Clare County Development Plan 2023 to 2029. The submissions will be included in the Chief Executives report. This report will then be made available to the Members for consideration. The large number of submissions indicates the level of active communication involved in the process by the Executive and Elected Members of Clare County Council. Mr. Conneally took this opportunity to thank Helen Quinn, Senior Planner and Candace Ingram, Executive Planner and the Planning Team on their work to date on the draft Co. Development Plan.

N19 Shannon Airport Access – This project is considered a priority piece of infrastructure for Co. Clare and the region. While concern maybe raised about the level of funding made available in the sum of €500k for 2022, this project is currently at design stage which will continue into 2023. The greatest expenditure of this project will be at construction stage when greater levels of funding will be required.

Strategic Development Zone (SDZ) application was submitted to government 2 months ago. All responses to further information required will be jointly responded to by Clare County Council and the University of Limerick.

The Clare economy is providing jobs and is close to full employment. Foreign Direct Investment has been considerable between 2019 and 2021. Across the board in terms of foreign direct investment, indigenous businesses and micro businesses supported by Clare County Council, there is considerable job creation. Clare County Council has been working closely with the IDA and Enterprise Ireland and the Local Enterprise Office is working with micro enterprises.

In response to the above, the Members raised the following:

- At the next meeting with the University of Limerick in relation to the SDZ, that an information leaflet be made available setting out the originality of the proposal and the progress to date. – Liam Conneally has agreed to provide this information leaflet.
- Strategically located with direct access to the Wild Atlantic Way, provides a major opportunity for Shannon Airport and the County.
- Due to the recent queues at Dublin Airport with the vast majority of passengers travelling through Dublin Airport an effort should be made to divert some of the passenger numbers via Shannon and Cork airports. A balance for a proper regional development strategy is called for.
- As a result of the growth in the economy, the county needs to be the hub for community living. Including access to housing.

Liam Conneally acknowledged the need for the various types of housing to meet the economic growth in the County. Zoning lands for future housing growth, stimulating the construction of private houses and the provision of social and affordable housing will form part of the future Co. Development Plan 2023 to 2029.

In relation to Shannon Airport, Mr. Conneally stated that he would not comment in relation to the governance and management of the Airport but that it is fundamental to Clare and the Mid-West. Recent expenditure on security measures should facilitate more traffic through the airport.

At this stage of the meeting Mr. Liam Conneally excused himself from the meeting.

Jason Murphy provided the following update to the Members

- The planting scheme under the Shannon In Bloom initiative is now coming to fruition with displays of spring flowers, daffodils and tulips in bloom throughout the MD. The support from the Members and communities was acknowledged and it is intended that this initiative will run again in the autumn.
- Grass cutting of 130 hectares throughout the MD has commenced.
- Green Flag – Preparation on the Green Flag application for the Shannon Town Park is underway, with particular emphasis on the recommendations and guidance on last year's results.
- Basketball hoops have now been put in place in Shannon Town Park
- Gardening section have completed a landscaping and planting scheme to the front of the Shannon MD office.
- The Bunratty 'Town & Village Renewal' project is progressing through Stage 1 Design Works and the team are consulting with the local development association.
- The MD is working with the Housing Department in identifying accommodation facilities to address the need for temporary accommodation supports for those fleeing the Ukraine crisis.
- The MD Team is working with elected members and a project team in the Planning Department to initiate the 'Town Centre First' master-planning process in Sixmilebridge.

6. **Road works programme** – update by Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer.

- The footpath maintenance contract is now substantially complete.
- The MD roads crew have been engaged in road preparation in anticipation of the 2022 SMDW.
- We have completed a number of footpath repairs through our own crews.
- Parteen TVR - Letters have issued to landowners, which has been followed by meetings with landowners.
- Meelick Active Travel - Letters have issued to landowners which was subsequently followed up with meetings with relevant landowners.
- Electrical upgrade to the Westbury stormwater pumpstation has been complete.
- The bus stop in Newmarket On Fergus is now 50% complete.
- Drumgeely Outdoor Recreation Initiative – contracts signed last week and it is anticipated that works will commence in May.

In response to the above the Members raised the following:

- Coaches exiting from the junction at Dirty Nellies, Bunratty are restricted when turning in the direction of Limerick.
- Upgrade of the public lighting next to the bus stop in Newmarket On Fergus and replanting of tree which was removed last year to facilitate the new bus stop.
- Drumgeely TVR – specifics of what works will be carried out under this scheme.

Tom Mellett responded to queries raised by the Members

- A design plan to upgrade junction at Dirty Nellies will be carried out.
- An assessment of the public lighting within the vicinity of the bus stop in Newmarket On Fergus will be carried out. This will form part of the Public Lighting Energy Efficiency Project within the region to upgrade public lighting. In relation to the tree that was removed last year, this was carried out to facilitate the new bus stop and an alternative location to plant a tree will be identified.
- TVR Drumgeely is at the initial stages and there will be substantial consultation with all stakeholders in this process.

7. **Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

I am calling on this MD to look at extending the footpaths along Bóthar Sioda.

This is a popular area for walkers and when the pitches are in use it can become quite congested.

The footpaths can also be looped in and around the crematorium as this walk from Bóthar Sioda continues on as part of the Shannon Loop.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*Shannon Municipal District Office is currently preparing an application under the National Transport Authorities Active Travel Program for this location. We propose to introduce a 2m wide footpath from the Crematorium to the Tullyvarraga road roundabout. On Bóthar Sioda this path would be on both sides of the road and increase to 4m, correcting an infrastructure deficit on the Northern side of the carriageway. The aim is to have a 4 m wide shared surface for cyclists and pedestrians creating a complete link along Shannon's southern corridor from St. Caiman's to the Tullyvarraga road roundabout.*

**8. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

I am calling on this MD to look at the steps either side of Tullyvarraga Hall with the view of finding funding to make these steps safer. In particular, the smaller set of steps as these become mossy and slippery. The provision of a handrail would be great to making these steps a lot easier and safer to use.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*Shannon Municipal District Office has approached a contractor to commission handrails at this location.*

**9. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Pat O’Gorman**

That this MD would work with our local Order of Malta to help them acquire a space they can call home. This year they celebrate 50 years in Shannon and yet have no place to store equipment or have meetings. It would be great if during their 50th year we could help them achieve a home.

Also, in order to acknowledge their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary I am calling on this MD to host a civic reception for the Order of Malta.

**Jason Murphy, Senior Executive Officer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*The team in Shannon MD recognises the valuable contribution the Order of Malta has made to the town and surrounding areas over the last 50 years. Shannon MD will work with the local group and explore available avenues to assist them in identifying suitable space*

Cllr. Flynn added that since the abolition of the Town Councils in 2014 the budget for hosting Civic Receptions now comes under the remit Clare Co Co. It was proposed by Cllr. PJ Ryan and seconded by Cllr. Gerard Flynn that a Civic Reception be hosted by the full Council of Clare County Council.

**10. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Pat McMahon**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Pat McMahon**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

I am requesting this MD to extend the exiting barrier outside Newmarket On Fergus National School towards the post box on the supermarket side.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*Works to improve pedestrian safety at this location have been carried out by this office, this involved extending the barriers opposite the school on the side of the shop.*

**11. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Pat McMahon**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Pat McMahon**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. PJ Ryan**

Due to the lack of parking spaces for cars from house no.’s 1 to 10 Glencragga, Newmarket On Fergus, I am requesting this MD to investigate the possibility of creating a new opening onto the Ennis/Limerick Road in order to alleviate the problem for residents of this estate.



**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*Shannon Municipal District Office has considered the issue of parking for this estate. It would not be advisable to introduce a new access at this location due to the proximity to the Glencragga road junction, the impact on parking, pedestrians and existing traffic using the R458.*

*Householders have access to the rear of their properties via an access road running inside the wall parallel to the R458.*

**12. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Pat McMahon**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Pat McMahon**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Michael Begley**

That this MD would put measures in place at the junction to Lough Gash, due to motorists parking at this junction which is creating a hazard for road users turning towards the village.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*Shannon Municipal District Office has completed design alterations for this junction to improve sightlines for motorists emerging from the junction and turning into the town. This will involve improved line marking and bollards along the village side.*

**13. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. PJ Ryan**

**Ar molagh Cllr. PJ Ryan**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Pat McMahon**

That this MD would install flashing speed signs on Phayers Road, Meelick, L3110 between the junction with the N18 and White's Cross.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*The existing speed limit along this road is 80kph, this equates to the national speed limit for this class of road. Driver feedback signs would normally be used to reinforce locations where the speed limit is lower than the upper limit for that class of road. The Transportation Dept have provided an assurance that the speed limit along this road will be included in the next countywide speed limit review. It would be appropriate to revisit the issue of driver feedback signs depending on the outcome of the review.*

**14. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. PJ Ryan**

**Ar molagh Cllr. PJ Ryan**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

That this MD would install marker bollards on the edge of the footpath at Minister's Cross on the R471 across from Crowe's shop.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*The Municipal District office will make arrangements to install appropriate measures to protect pedestrians at this location.*

**15. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. PJ Ryan**

**Ar molagh Cllr. PJ Ryan**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

That this MD would carry out drainage works on the R463 at O'Donoghue's Bridge, Cratloe and Guerin's Bridge Sixmilebridge to relieve water ponding in the interest of safety.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*Shannon Municipal District Office have responded to water pooling at these locations and carried out measures to alleviate the situation.*

**16. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

I am calling on Clare County Council to clean out all the storm water infrastructure in Shannon. The lack of necessary maintenance is causing a lot of flooding issues throughout Shannon and the current Council policy seems to be reactionary and I believe a more proactive approach is necessary to improve this policy as a lot of necessary gullies and slit channels are restricted and are less effective due to the lack of regular maintenance.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*Recent weather events have highlighted what is an ongoing concern for this office. In relation to drainage works the Shannon Municipal District Office is responsible for maintaining the public storm water network. The Office is proactive in this role. During November 2020 a specialist contractor working alongside our own crews investigated and cleared the drains in urban areas of the Municipal District. In addition to this throughout November, December and January our own crews engaged in clearing drains associated with public roads in rural areas of the District.*

*Drainage issues are a key concern of this office and we will continue to be pre-emptive in this area.*

**17. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

I am calling on Clare County Council to remove all the grass verges situated around the internal green areas in Boyne Park/ Lee Park/ Moy Park/ Slaney Park/ Allen Park/ Carragh Park & Foyle Park in the Drumgeely area. This is the older part of Shannon Town and needs some attention as a lot of the residents in these areas are the pioneers of the development of the Shannon community and their area needs enhancement.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*The Municipal District Office will have crews 'edging' public footpaths throughout the District in the coming month. The aim is to restore the paths to their original widths. The paths you have nominated will be assessed and included where necessary.*

**18. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Donna McGettigan**

I am calling on Clare County Council to revise their policy in relation to the overgrowth of trees and hedges growing from private property on to public footpaths throughout the Shannon Municipal District. The current policy of writing to property owners and requesting action is a long process and in the meantime the public cannot walk safely on footpaths and this is bringing huge inconvenience to many people and especially those people with disabilities.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*Clare County Council as a Roads Authority must act within the confines of the Roads Act 1993. This Act places the onus on property owners to keep public roads free from vegetation. It specifies how a Local Authority must approach this issue and the responsibilities of a Roads Authority in this regard.*

*The Wildlife (Amendment) Act, 2000 also governs periods in which it is possible to cut.*

*In relation to the District Office, we have cut back vegetation along a number of key routes in the past 12 months, where the overgrowth is public in origin.*

In the absence of Cllr. John Crowe, Cllr. Crowe's motions were proposed by Cllr. Pat O'Gorman.

**19. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. John Crowe**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Pat O'Gorman**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. PJ Ryan**

I am requesting an update on the flooding under the bridge on the Rossmanagher Road, Sixmilebridge. This is causing a major disruption to people leaving in the Rossmanagher and Cappagh South area as the road has been closed due to the flooding.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*Recent heavy rainfall resulted in the Rosmanagher Rd being impassable for some road users. Shannon Municipal District Office responded to this by allocating a crew to attempt to clear the drains locally. However due to the nature of the road and surrounding ground levels it was not possible to alleviate the situation as the water had nowhere to run off. The Office had cleared this drain in advance of the winter in order to maximise existing drainage capacity here. There is no straight forward resolution to this issue but the Municipal District will seek a positive outcome.*

**20. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. John Crowe**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Pat O'Gorman**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

That this MD would install a footpath from O'Garney Heights to the GAA grounds in Sixmilebridge for the safety of children attending the National School on the R470.

As part of these works, I am requesting that the existing footpath on the GAA side be widened.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*The Shannon Municipal District Office is currently preparing an application to the National Transport Authorities Active Travel Programme to introduce a footpath from O'Garney Gardens to the existing footpath infrastructure within the town. This would link the estate to local schools via the GAA grounds. We also proposed to widen the path adjacent to the GAA grounds.*

**21. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. John Crowe**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Pat O'Gorman**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. PJ Ryan**

I am requesting this MD to arrange for the road sweeper to clean the road from Clancy's Cross to Larkins Cross due to concerns over blocked shores on this stretch of road.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*The Municipal District Office will arrange for the road sweeper to visit this area at the earliest opportunity.*

22. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Pat O'Gorman was dealt with earlier in the meeting.

**23. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Pat O'Gorman**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Pat O'Gorman**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Michael Begley**

That Clare County Council provide public lighting on the 50km stretch of road from Clancy's Cross to join up with the existing lights on the R464 as you approach Parteen Village. Also, that

driver feedback signs on the three approach roads to Parteen village, R464, both ways and the School road. I am requesting these provisions as a matter of health and safety.

**Anne O'Sullivan, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads & Transportation replied as follows:**

*This request for lighting provisions from Clancy's Cross towards Parteen Village will be examined and a design and cost estimate will be prepared for consideration.*

**Tom Mellett Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:** *In relation to the request for driver feedback signs, a traffic and speed survey of the road will be carried out to determine the most appropriate action.*

**24. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Pat O'Gorman**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Pat O'Gorman**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. PJ Ryan**

That Clare County Council would liaise with the TII with the view of installing lights under the dual carriageway at Ballymorris Cratloe in the interest of safety.

**Anne O'Sullivan, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads & Transportation.**

*This request has been forwarded to TII for their consideration & response.*

Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer clarified that the location is the responsibility of the TII.

**25. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Michael Begley**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Michael Begley**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

I am requesting that the sunken manhole cover near the Meelick roundabout on the N7 be raised.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*This has been repaired by the responsible utility company following representation by the Shannon Municipal District Office.*

Cllr Michael Begley requested that the following Motion be withdrawn as the response referred to another location. Cllr. Begley to provide clarity to the Senior Executive Engineer in regard to the correct location.

**26. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Michael Begley**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Michael Begley**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr.**

That a 2m section of footpath outside No. 1 Derryvinna, Clonlara be lowered to provide safer access to the house.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*The location of this property in relation to the recently upgraded pedestrian crossing rules out the possibility of the Municipal District lowering the kerb line. It would lead to a conflict and a false sense of safety with pedestrians potentially crossing the road before the official crossing point and so risking collision with vehicles.*

*The anti-skid surface will be placed on the approaches to this pedestrian crossing in the next three weeks.*

**27. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Michael Begley**

**Ar molagh Cllr. Michael Begley**

**Cuidithe ag Cllr. Gerard Flynn**

I am requesting an up-date on discussions with Irish Water re condition and repair of Wooden Bridge over Errina Canal at Springfield, Clonlara.

**Tom Mellett, Senior Executive Engineer, Shannon MD replied as follows:**

*A meeting had been arranged between Clare County Council and Waterways Ireland in 2021 to consider this bridge. The meeting was postponed due to Covid regulations at the time. I will seek to reconvene this meeting at the earliest opportunity.*

**28. AOB**

- Cllr. Donna McGettigan requested an update regarding Westbury/Shannon. Jason Murphy agreed to provide an update in relation to this.
- Carmel Greene, Senior Executive Officer, Economic Development circulated documentation regarding the disposal of lands containing a telecommunications mast at Bunnabinna South (Woodcock Hill), Meelick, Co. Clare. It was outlined to the Member that the mast was active up until 2019 for fire services and emergency communications and the property is now surplus to requirements. Following a public tender process one tender was received from Hibernian Cellular Networks Ltd for a purchase price of €32,700.

Following a discussion in relation to this it was proposed by Cllr. PJ Ryan and seconded by Cllr. Gerard Flynn that the lands could be disposed of subject to the agreement containing conditions regarding any development of the site would be subject to planning permission.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cathaoirleach**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Meetings Administrator**

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_