Minutes of January Meeting of West Clare Municipal District, held on 30th January, 2019 at 3 p.m. in West Clare MD Offices, Ennistymon

Cathaoirleach sa Cathair:

Cllr. I Lynch,

I Láthair:

Cllr. P.J.Kelly, Cllr. R. Nagle, Cllr. M.Hillery, Cllr. G. Keating, Cllr. C. Curtin, Cllr. B. Chambers, B. Slattery,

Officials present:

Mr. Leonard Cleary, Area Co-Ordinator & Director of Service Mr. J. O'Malley, A/Senior Executive Engineer ,West Clare Municipal District Mr. M. Lahiffe, A/Senior Executive Engineer ,West Clare Municipal District Mr. J. Corry, Administrative Officer & Meetings Administrator.

Cllr. Lynch convened the meeting & welcomed those in attendance.

1. Minutes of Meeting of West Clare Municipal District held on 30th November 2018

The Minutes were proposed by Cllr. Chambers & seconded by Cllr. Curtin & agreed.

Cllr. Hillery sought an update as to when the proposed Taking in Charge of the Clonbony Gardens estate in Miltown Malbay would be back on the Agenda having been deferred at the November meeting pending the relocation of the Pumping Station. J. Corry indicated that he would follow up with Planning re same.

Cllr. Slattery sought an update on the remedial works that he had requested needed to be carried out to the Cliff Walk from Hags Head to the Cliffs of Moher. L. Cleary indicated that he had sought an update from CLDC on the matter and that he would revert back to the Members as soon as same was received. He further added that Clare Co Council were engaging with local farmers who owned lands being used for the Cliff walk for 2km adjacent to the Cliffs of Moher. He added that Clare Co Council wanted to work closely with the farmers. Cllr. Nagle indicated that it was essential that a basic maintenance programme commenced on the walk as a matter of urgency.

Cllr. Slattery referred to the attendance of Ms. Caroline Kelleher from Shannon Group at the November meeting and he added that he was of the opinion that Minister Shane Ross had never been to Shannon Airport and he suggested that Minister Ross be invited to visit Shannon Airport in his capacity as Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport and that an invitation be extended to him by the West Clare MD. This was agreed.

2. West Clare MD GMA Allocation 2018

The list of projects submitted relating to community, recreational and infrastructural projects to benefit local communities throughout the West Clare MD area was approved by Cllr Keating and seconded by Cllr. Curtin and unanimously agreed.

3. Section 183 Disposal of Property at Ballybreen, Kilfenora, Co. Clare. – to Martin and Kathleen McMahon, Ballybreen, Kilfenora, Co. Clare.

The disposal was approved by Cllr Slattery and seconded by Cllr. Nagle and agreed.

4. Section 183 Disposal of Property at Lisdooney West, Kilfenora, Co. Clare. to Gerard Griffey, (c/o Ms. Elaine Casey, Elaine Casey & Co, 1st Floor, 13 Abbey St, Ennis, Co. Clare)

The disposal was approved by Cllr Slattery and seconded by Cllr. Nagle and agreed.

5. Section 183 Disposal of Property to the rear of House Numbers 26 and 27 Kilcornan, Ennistymon, Co. Clare- to John Blackwell, 27 Kilcornan, Ennistymon, Co. Clare

The disposal was approved by Cllr Slattery and seconded by Cllr. Nagle and agreed. Cllr. Curtin noted the excessive legal costs being the same as the proposed purchase price.

6. Proposed Civic Reception for Lahinch Beach Rescue Group.

Cllr. Lynch proposed that a Civic Reception be afforded to Lahinch Beach Rescue Group. This proposal was seconded by Cllrs Slattery and Nagle. It was agreed that the Members would revert to the Meetings Administrator with further details as to when the proposed event would take place and as to what format it would take.

7. Property Marking Equipment – Telesis Dot Peen Machine

L. Cleary outlined that it was proposed that Clare Co Council would purchase a Telesis Dot Peen Machine for the purpose of marking property and that this equipment would be shared by each of the Municipal Districts to allow the public access the equipment at scheduled workshops supported by a staff member operating the equipment. It was agreed that each member of the West Clare MD would contribute \in 200 from their 2019 GMA allocation towards the cost of this equipment and it was hoped that all 28 Members of Clare Co Council would allocate \notin 200 each towards the cost of acquiring this equipment.

8. Election Posters

J. Corry referred to a previous Motion which had been raised by the West Clare MD in 2017 regarding preparing Bye Laws to abolish posters for Local Elections, General Elections, European Elections, Presidential Elections as well as Referenda etc. He added that in accordance with S21 of the Litter Pollution Act 1997 that you could not prepare Bye Laws to prevent such posters being erected. He mentioned that he had previously referred the matter to the Physical Development SPC but that they had not been in favour of abolishing posters but rather enforcing the legislation surrounding having them put up and taken down on time. He further added that a Voluntary Charter could be agreed by the Members to prevent such posters being erected in the Municipal District as had recently been agreed by Newcastlewest Municipal District. Cllr. Kelly proposed that all sitting Members of the West Clare MD agree to such a Voluntary Charter that they would not put up any posters of themselves for the upcoming Local Government Election. He accepted that there was nothing to prevent new candidates from putting up posters. This was seconded by Cllr.

Keating and agreed. J. Corry indicated that he would update the Physical Development SPC on the agreement reached by the West Clare MD members.

9. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Chambers

"That Clare Co Council would provide public lighting at Seafield, Quilty, Co. Clare"

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating

Reply

I have looked at the public lighting in the Seafield Quilty area and there is a considerable amount of lighting already provided for the residents in this area more than other rural areas.

There currently is no plan or budget in place to add additional lighting in Seafield Quilty. Also the Roads department have more urgent requirements for public lighting in urban towns and villages in Clare which would be ahead of proposed further lighting at this location.

Response Ends Pat Lynch, EE, Transportation

10. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Chambers

"That Clare Co Council would provide public lighting at the Community Centre, Cree"

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating

Reply

There is existing public lighting from the village to the Community Centre. The Community Centre has external lighting also. Adding additional lighting to this area is currently not in the Municipal District budget. The area from the bridge at the Cree river to the Lui na Greine entrance is currently being considered for public lighting in this area.

Response Ends

John O' Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

11. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Chambers

"That Clare Co. Council include the L20741-0 in the Surface Dressing Programme for 2019."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating

Reply

The need for this repair work relates to forestry work in the area. The contractor has been contacted by the Municipal District and a programme of works is to be agreed.

Response Ends John O' Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

12. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Slattery and Cllr Nagle

"While welcoming the decision of Irish Water to provide funding for the replacement of the water mains at Main Street Ennistymon, and Dereen Liscannor. We are requesting that Clare Co Council liaise with Irish Water to ensure that the works are completed on time and that both Main Street Ennistymon from Blakes Corner to the Kerry Co Op and at Dereen Liscannor from the Rock Shop to the Visitor Centre at the Cliffs of Moher are strengthened and Black Topped before the tourists season begins."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Curtin

Reply

Irish Water have a programme of works due to start in March 2019 in Ennistymon Main St. These works are scheduled to last approximately one month. Irish Water will then carry out watermain works at Derreen, Liscannor. Clare County Council will resurface the Main Street, Ennistymon and the R478 at Derreen after these watermain works are completed.

1.3km of the roadway between Liscannor and the Rock Shop was upgraded in 2018. A further 1.2km of road from the Rock Shop to Considines Bar will be upgraded in the SMDW 2019. The council will engage with the Department of Transport in relation to further funding to enable continuation of resurfacing works towards the Cliffs of Moher centre for the 2019 roadworks season. Otherwise, the 1.4km stretch from approximately Considines Bar to the Cliffs of Moher centre will be funded in the 2020 SMDW.

Response Ends

Morgan Lahiffe, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

Morgan Lahiffe indicated that the proposal was to have the proposed works carried out by the end of May.

Cllr Nagle queried if there was any way that works could be carried out to stretch of road all the way to Cliffs of Moher centre in 2019.

Leonard Cleary indicated that it was posing a challenge from a funding point of view but that the Council would try and progress all the works in 2019 in the knowledge that funding might be provided for same in 2020.

13. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Slattery

"I am requesting Clare Council that the public car park on the Miltown Malbay road Lahinch be extended as near as possible to the adjoining landowner on the south side and nearer to the cliff wall on the west side, and that new fencing and public lighting be provided, blacktopped and relined"

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Nagle

Reply

Clare County Council will consider the feasibility and the cost benefit of such a project. A funding stream will need to be identified as well as addressing both Environmental & Planning obligations.

Response Ends

Morgan Lahiffe, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

14. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Slattery

"I am requesting that Clare Co Council take in Charge the housing estate known as Radharc Na Mara on school Road Lahinch and liaise with the developers to switch on the public lights that have been switched off with the last two to three years"

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Nagle

Reply

The Planning Authority made a claim on the bond in relation to Radharc na Mara on 10th April 2017. The bondholders have refuted the claim and are unwilling to engage with us on the grounds that an active developer exists. In order to recover any monies from the bond the Council would have to sustain liquidated damages in the first instance.

Contact was made with the developer in June 2017 and in July 2017 requesting that he submit a Taking in Charge application as he previously expressed an interest in applying to have the estate taken in charge. Importantly he was also requested to arrange to carry out repairs to the public lighting and was reminded of his responsibility that the public lighting to the development be kept active and maintained by the developer until taken in charge by Clare County Council.

A further letter issued to the developer in November 2017 in relation to the public lighting and again in October 2018 the developer was requested to confirm if it was his intention to address the issues on site, while reminding him to address the public lighting issue. A further letter issued again to the developer on 4th January 2019 regarding the public lighting.

It is clear from the above that the Planning Authority have made significant efforts to ensure the developer resolves the outstanding issues on the development at Radharc Na Mara. We recognize the difficulties the situation has for residents and property owners but trust that the developer will see a way to work with the Local Authority to satisfactorily resolve the outstanding works required for the benefit of all.

Response Ends

Brian McCarthy, Senior Planner, Planning Department

Cllr Slattery said it was essential that enforcement be further progressed so that a resolution could be found to the lack of public lighting in this estate.

15. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Nagle

"I am requesting that Clare Co Council would blacktop and line the car park at Kilnaboy which serves the church, school and the community centre "

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Slattery

Clare County Council has no Department of Transport funding stream to facilitate the resurfacing of this Car Park. However, other sources of funding should be explored including CLÁR, MD funding, Community Support Grant etc.

Response Ends

Morgan Lahiffe, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

Cllr Nagle said it would be very important that funding be secured to carry out this work because of its importance to the local community.

16. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Nagle

"I am requesting that the Ballingaddy road leading in to Ennistymon would be strengthened and surface dressed and passing bays put in place as it will be one of the main routes leading in to Ennistymon during the Irish Open"

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Slattery

Reply

Sections of the L-1050 Ballingaddy Road are on the SMDW for 2019. We will be looking at passing bays as one of the issues when assessing the works required. It is envisaged that this road will be local access only during the Irish Open.

Response Ends

Morgan Lahiffe, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

17. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Hillery

"I am requesting that Clare County Council would contact the O.P.W. requesting them to carry out an inspection of the bridge leading to Kildimo graveyard and any necessary remedial works would be undertaken as soon as possible in the interest of safety"

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Curtin

Reply

The bridge in question is located on a private road and on private property. The council can ask the OPW if they have any interest in this bridge, however the likelihood is that they do not. Clare County Councils Road Design section can view the bridge to assess its condition. However, the responsibility to fund and remediate the bridge does not lie with the Local Authority.

Response Ends Morgan Lahiffe, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

The bridge at Kildeema South townland is not on a public road and Clare Co Council is therefore not responsible for maintaining the bridge. The OPW have no responsibility for the bridge.

In order to be of assistance following on from the notification in the NOM above (and another representation), an Engineer from the Road Design Office has reviewed the bridge (during high river levels). It was found to be in good overall condition but could benefit from some minor works however this is

the responsibility of the landowner/landowners. Clare County Council has no safety concerns based on the recent visit.

Response Ends

Ann Cronin, SEE Road Design, Transportation Department

It was suggested that this bridge might qualify for Heritage funding and that the extent of the works required be costed.

18. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Hillery

"I am requesting that Clare County Council would give a start date for the commencement of work on Hill's Lane and drainage of Church Street, Miltown Malbay."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Curtin

Reply

Works on Hills Lane will commence early to mid February and will last 2 weeks.

Response Ends

Morgan Lahiffe, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

Cllr. Curtin referred to the fact that GMA monies had been put forward by both Cllr Hillery and himself to help finance these works

19. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Hillery

"I am requesting that Clare County Council would install measures at the car park in front of Spanish Point Golf Club to prevent illegal parking in the interest of safety."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Curtin.

Reply

Clare County Council will erect signage at this location indicating that No Overnight Parking is allowed.

Response Ends

Morgan Lahiffe, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

Morgan Lahiffe added that with the reduced speed limit being introduced in June 2019 at this location that consideration could be given to further measures to prevent illegal parking.

20. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Curtin

"That, arising from the on-going programme of Streetscape Improvement Works in Miltown Malbay, the Senior Executive Engineer outline the schedule and timeframe for the uncompleted road and footpath restoration on Church Street, Spanish Point Road and Main Street."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Hillery

Works have been completed to multiple areas of footpath in Miltown over the last 3 years. Works were completed in December 2018 on 200m of footpath between Spanish Point and Miltown Malbay along with ongoing footpath remediation to the Ballard Road .We will continue to seek funding from the TII to progress more footpaths that abut the National Route in Miltown Malbay. No further road works are envisaged on Church Street until the Miltown Malbay Flood Relief scheme is constructed.

Response Ends

Morgan Lahiffe, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

Cllr. Curtin commended M. Lahiffe and the Council for the works carried out.

21. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Curtin

"That the Senior Executive Engineer confirm the timeframe for the Mains Replacement on the Public Water System at the 5 Designated locations in the West Clare Municipal District as discussed with Irish Water on the 10th January 2019."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating

Reply

Irish Water confirmed at a meeting with Clare County Council Water Services staff on Jan 10th, 2019 that the programme for construction by Healy-Rae Plant Hire Ltd., working on behalf of Irish Water, is as follows (all dates are in 2019 unless otherwise noted):

1. Bealaha Watermains Rehab –.....February 11th – May 24th

2. Mullagh/Miltown Malbay Watermains RehabMay 24th – January 26th, 2020.

Shareridge, working on behalf of Irish Water, have provided the following programme works for projects in West Clare Municipal District.:

1. Doonbeg Watermains Rehabilitation......March 4th – April 11th

2. Ennistymon Main Street Watermains Rehabilitation...... March 4th – April 5th

3. Dereen to St Brigid's Well Watermaions Rehabilitation:..... April 8th – April 26th

Response Ends

Anthony McNamara, Senior Executive Engineer, Water Services

22. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Curtin

"That a Pedestrian Crossing be provided in Doonbeg Village and that the Senior Executive Engineer and his staff extend consultation with the Local Development Association on the necessity for same and allied road improvement measures within the village."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating

Meetings have taken place with Doonbeg Local Development Association and a programme of works agreed. Included in this is the request for a pedestrian crossing and traffic calming in the village. Consultations are ongoing currently with the Road Design Section of Clare County Council re this and this will have to be submitted to the TII for decision once agreed as this is a National Road.

Response Ends

John O'Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

23. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Lynch

"That additional safety measures be installed on the N67 and N68 entry points to Kilrush to include Interactive Speed signs at entry points on the Killimer and Kilkee roads, rumble strips at each entry point and a realignment of the filter lane/ traffic island at Shannon Heights "

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating

Reply

Consultations are ongoing currently with the Road Design Section in relation to this. Realignments relating to National Roads require TII approval.

Clar funding is currently being sought for Interactive Speed Limit Signs for a number of locations. These additional locations will also be considered once there is an announcement re funding.

Response Ends

John O'Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

24. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Lynch

"A full review of traffic calming measures be carried out on the approach to and within the council owned estate of John Paul Estate with a view to ensure maximum protection for all tenants. This review should be completed in consultation with residents and established groups within the development."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating

Reply

There are numerous speed ramps within John Paul Estate. Assessments using speed cameras have been carried out throughout the estate and currently there are no plans to install additional ramps. If it is considered that there are ongoing issues with speeding in the estate this is a matter for the Gardai. There has been ongoing discussions with residents in the estate with the Rural Development Officer, Municipal District and Housing staff. This dialogue will continue so that any further issues that residents may have can be discussed and dealt with if possible.

Response Ends John O'Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

25. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Lynch

"The installation of additional public lighting at the following locations in Kilrush:

• along the N67 from Mowlam Nursing Home to the GAA grounds,

- Soldiers Hill, Cappa
- at the Fort Cappa, near the intersection of the N67
- Shell Shock Road from the N67 to Gort Na Coille

I also seek an update on the connection of the lights on the N67 at Woodfield drive and the requested lighting review from Kilrush town to Cappa pier."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating.

Reply

I wish to reply as follows:

- There are plans to install lighting in 2019 from Mowlam Nursing Home to the junction of the N67 with Fort Road. Funding is not currently available to continue this onto the GAA grounds but plans to extend lighting in this area will be considered.
- Funding is currently not available to carry out additional public lighting at Soldier's Hill, Cappa but it will be considered for future funding.
- As part of the of the public lighting project from Mowlam Nursing Home to Fort Road there will be improvements carried out to existing lighting near the junction of the Fort Road and the N67.
- Funding is currently not available to carry out additional public lighting on the Shell Shock Road from the N67 to Gort Na Coille but it will be considered for future funding

Response Ends John O'Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

The public lighting at Woodfield Drive has been taken in charge.

I am not aware of any request for a review of the public lights from Kilrush town to Cappa Pier. The regional public lighting upgrade project which is to commence in 2020 will not improve the deficiencies in the public lights on this section of road and to my knowledge there is no plans in place that we will be carrying out any improvement works to the public lights either.

Response Ends Pat Lynch, EE, Transportation

Cllr Lynch referred to an open manhole on the Shell Shock Rd which was posing a hazard.

26. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Keating

"That Clare County Council carry out necessary resurfacing on the L6096/0 Shragh rd as same is in need of repair."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Lynch

Reply

Works to carry out repairs on this section of road are included in the 3 Year Roadworks Programme 2019-2021

Response Ends

John O' Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

27. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Keating

"That Clare County Council carry out a design and resurfacing works to the Wells Road Car park in Kilkee which includes connectivity to the beach etc through proper walkways/footpaths and provide modern signage detailing its ideal location for tourists accessing the beach"

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Lynch

Reply

The Well Road car park is being considered for improvement works currently as part of an overall plan of works within Kilkee and its surrounds.

Response Ends John O' Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

28. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Keating

"That Clare County Council carry out resurfacing on the L6038/0 at Doonaha/Querrin and also on the L60771/0 to Lisdeen Burial Ground."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Lynch

Reply

Repair works are currently being carried out to the L6038-0. The road to Lisdeen burial ground, L-60481-0, is included in the current 3 years Roadworks Programme.

Response Ends

John O' Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

29. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Kelly

"That a public light be erected in front of Clondrinagh NS, Lissycasey. "

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating

Reply

There are no funds currently available to install public lights in this area. An assessment will be carried out to consider the need for this light and results of this will be made available.

Response Ends John O' Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

30. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Kelly

"That repairs be carried out to the road between Cranny village and the junction leading to the N68."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating.

Necessary repairs will be carried out in this area subject to available resources.

Response Ends

John O' Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

31. Notice of Motion submitted by Cllr. Kelly

"That sections of road (L6540) leading to Clare Spring be repaired by inclusion in the 2019 Roadworks Programme."

This Motion was seconded by Cllr. Keating.

Reply

Plans are in place to carry out repairs to a significant portion of this road in 2019.

Response Ends John O' Malley, A/SEE, West Clare Municipal District

32. A.O.B.

Cllr Kelly proposed a Vote of Sympathy be extended to the Melican family Lisseycasey following the death of Michael Melican R.I.P.

Cllr Chambers proposed a Vote of Sympathy be extended to the Clohessy family Cooraclare following the death of Paddy Clohessy R.I.P.

Cllr Keating proposed a Vote of Sympathy be extended to the Talty family Lisseycasey following the death of Hugh Talty R.I.P.

Cllr. Slattery referred to a proposal from the Vintners in Lahinch to close the Main St in Lahinch during the upcoming Irish Open to help create a carnival atmosphere in the town. He suggested that if a full day closure could not be obtained could a part day closure be secured.

L. Cleary indicated that Clare Co Council would arrange to meet with the Vintners. He said that in order to consider a road closure that consultation would also need to take place with the Gardai and that matters such as traffic flows, health and safety and indeed the running of the event would need to be considered. He added that he wanted to acknowledge the very progressive partnership approach between all the agencies organizing the staging of the Irish Open in Lahinch. He singled out Morgan Lahiffe for his work in planning and co-ordinating the civil works as well as engagement with the local community etc.

Cllr. Curtin referred to the recent meeting with the Burren Eco Tourism.

Leonard Cleary acknowledged that it was a very useful meeting and he added that a further meeting was scheduled with them within the next 10 days.

Cllr. Lynch thanked C. Greene for securing land in Kilrush for the Irish School which he said was very welcome news.

Leonard Cleary referred to four tourism locations in the West Clare MD which had been nominated for a national tourism award namely:

- Ailwee Cave
- Kilkee Town
- Cliffs of Moher
- Loop Head

He added that the West Clare MD was very progressive on a tourism front.

This then concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed :

Cllr. I Lynch Cathaoirleach

Signed :

J. Corry Meetings Administrator

Dated this the 5th day of March 2019.