

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 12th July, 2010 in the Mall House, Youghal at 10.00 a.m.

Present: Mayor Mary Linehan Foley presided.

Cllrs. McLellan, Revins, Coyne, Burke, Hennessy, Beecher Murray and O' Conaill.

Officials Present: Mrs. Patricia Power, Town Manager.

Mr. Liam Ryan, Town Clerk.

Mrs. Katherine Ansbro, Clerical Officer.

Mr. Paul Murray, Executive Engineer.

Opening Prayers:

The members and officials recited the opening prayers.

Presentation by Youghal Tidy Towns Group

The presentation by Youghal Tidy Towns Group was postponed due to work commitments.

Traffic Management Eileen Coleman, Traffic Engineer, Cork County Council Plan for Ashe Street, circulated the members with an update on the plan.

DeValera Street, Emmet Place and Church Street:

Proposals for improving traffic management on Church Street, Emmet Place and Ashe Street.

Objective:

The objective of these proposals is to improve the amenity and safety on Ashe Street, Emmet Place, DeValera Street and Church Street while maintaining access to services and residences.

The main elements of this objective include:

- Remove cut-through traffic, allowing access for residents and access to services in the area while reducing non local traffic. To direct non-local traffic along more appropriate traffic routes.
- To preserve the road pavement at Church Street.
- To enhance the pedestrian environment in what is a valuable tourist amenity in the town.
- Ensure that a Church Street closure does not negatively impact on other areas.
- To ensure a better quality of life for the residents of Ashe Street, Church Street, DeValera Street and Chapel Lane.

History:

Traffic congestion on Main Street has had the effect of drivers seeking alternative routes to expedite their journey.

Ashe Street runs parallel to Main Street and became a cut through route with traffic re-joining Main Street at Church Street and DeValera Place.

Construction works in 2009 have necessitated the closing of Church Street to all but local traffic and therefore must use DeValera Street to access the Main Street.

A submission from residents of Church Street to maintain this situation after construction is

complete.

However, this would put additional pressure on DeValera Street which is not a desirable position. Therefore instead of examining Church Street in isolation, a traffic system for Church Street, DeValera Street, Emmet Place and Ashe Street has been assessed.

Proposal:

- Church Street local access only, no through road.
- Ashe Street two way operation.
- DeValera Street to become one-way from Main Street to Ashe Street.

Potential Gains:

- Improved residential amenity for residents with less through traffic.
- Improved pedestrian environment in the area due to reduced traffic volumes.
- Enhanced environment in the historic core of the town and preserves the recent investment in the road infrastructure.
- Removal of cut through traffic by the de facto a one way system.

Potential Losses:

- Slight additional journey time for vehicles travelling in an eastern direction.

Considerations:

In the event of funerals, would it be possible for the Gardai to comment on traffic management for the hearse accessing the Main Street and the viability of having adjustable bollards on Church Street to accommodate funeral traffic.

Procedure:

- Draft proposals presented at March Town Council Meeting and members to approve for public consultation.
- Following an announcement in local newspapers, proposals to be made available for public consultation for a period of one month.
- Consultation with Garda Siochana.
- Submissions and representations to be considered and a Manager's Report to be prepared for the May Town Council Meeting.
- Members to vote on proposals. Public consultation during June and July and proposals were on display in Town Council.

Submission Received:

An Garda Siochana:

Overall they are happy with the proposal and expect any problems to iron themselves out. Ensure adequate signage and advance notice. Cal Flavin Ltd: Concerned that too much traffic will use Windmill Hill and increase dual traffic on Ashe Street. Also increase traffic on North Main Street. Thinks closing Chapel Lane is a good idea but recommends that the exit from Priory Court should be made safe.

Residents Committee, DeValera Street:

Broadly welcome the proposals. They have recommended the implementation of traffic calming measures and a walkway, consult with resident re. same and review after a six month period.

David & Mae Clarke, Quarry Road:

Also writing on behalf of their parents. Concerned about the increase in u-turns and think a safe turning area is provided, especially for commercial vehicles. Foresee an increase in traffic travelling east to west on Ashe Street. Concerned about conflict at end of church services. Recommend restricting Ashe Street to one-way from Cross Lane to Windmill Hill.

Caroline Newell, 3 Coastguard Station, Youghal:

Objects to the proposals. Not in favour of the cut through route being removed. States that traffic can access Ashe Street from three points but can only exit from one. Concerned about the Windmill Hill/South Main Street junction. Ashe Street will be a no-go area at mass time. Concerned about the junction exiting Priory Court Car Park and accessing the doctor's office.

Oliver JJ Broderick, Ashe Street:

Happy in general with plans. Cars using the church will have to turn around to get back to Windmill Hill. Increase in traffic using narrow section of Ashe Street. Difficulty for cars passing due to parking on Emmet Street. Proposes making Ashe Street one-way south towards Windmill Hill.

Response to submissions:

Access to the church for mass/funerals/weddings:

While there is parking provision on Ashe Street and Emmet Place, this is limited and cars can park and turn in the Priory Court Car Park. As locals will become familiar with the layout they may access the church from DeValera Street. A turning area should be provided somewhere along Emmet Place to allow for vehicles turning and this will be addressed at implementation stage. Signage and road markings are proposed for the scheme. Prior to implementation drawings will be submitted to the Gardai for approval.

There will be additional traffic volumes on Windmill Hill/South Main Street but the roadway has sufficient capacity to accommodate this traffic. This is a more appropriate route for traffic that Ashe Street which is very narrow. There are proposed changes for accessing Priory Court Car Park. Traffic calming measures are not proposed at this stage. However, this proposal will result in reduced through traffic volumes in the area.

This should have benefit of reducing speeds, motorists will in general be residents or have business in the area and will not be concerned with travelling along Ashe Street as fast as possible. This should improve the environment in this part of the town. Ashe Street will be accessible from three points and will have only one exit. However, one of the objectives of this proposal is to remove the cut through along Ashe Street and have traffic use the Main Street as would be intended.

Recommendations:

The proposal as detailed for the public consultation broadly seems to be welcome except some

small concerns. An addition to this proposal would be the provision of a turning area which would compliment the scheme and this will be addressed with the town engineer. Co-Option Procedure to In accordance with Youghal Town Council Standing Fill the Vacant Position Orders and the Local Government Act, 2001 Tomas O' On Youghal Town Council Conaill was co-opted to Youghal Town Council as a Resulting from the Labour Party replacement for former Cllr. Donie Daly Resignation of Cllr. Donie who resigned on 13th September, 2010.

The Mayor and Daly:

Members welcomed Cllr. O' Conaill to the chamber. Cllr. O Conaill commented on the resignation of Cllr. Daly and vowed to work as his replacement for the betterment of all the citizens of the town. Minutes of Monthly The minutes of Monthly meeting of Youghal Town Meeting held on 14th Council held on the 14th September 2010 were adopted on September 2010: the proposal of Cllr. Revins seconded by Cllr. McLellan and unanimously adopted by the members of the Council. Minutes of Special meeting

In relation to the Draft Minutes minutes of the Special held 24th September, 2010: Meeting relating to the Road Traffic and Car Park Bye- Laws 2010 Cllr. Murray informed the meeting that a correction needed to be made to these matters. Cllr. Murray stated that it was agreed that Nealon's Quay car park would become a short stay car park and that Priory Court car park would remain long term car park. This correction was unanimously agreed by the members of the Council. Following this amendment the minutes of the Special Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 24th September, 2010 were unanimously adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Coyne, seconded by Cllr. McLellan. Report of the Town Clerk on matters arising from the Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 14th September 2010.

Housing at Seafield, Youghal I have spoken with the Architects Dept. of Cork County Council who are responsible for delivering the above mentioned housing scheme. They have advised that the houses will be available for occupancy within the next four weeks as the roadway is currently being laid and final snagging almost complete. In the meantime al allocated tenants will have completed tenancy courses.

Knockaverry Roads:

I have forwarded a detailed proposal to the members of Youghal Town Council estimating the cost of resurfacing Knockaverry at €152,342. I have suggested how the Council could achieve this over a three to four year period commencing in the Spring of 2011 with the area most in need i.e. the bottom section. This of course is dependant on the availability of funding through the Non-national Road Grant allocation from the National Roads Authority.

Phase A €25,047 (1,380m²) Possible 2011

Phase B €24,067 (1,326m²)

Phase C €47,780 2012 (2,632m²)

Phase D €55,448 2013 (3,055m²)

Total €152,342

Social Housing available in Killeagh/Ladysbridge:

Cork County Council have written to one hundred and forty two eligible Town Council housing applicants to see if they were interested in being allocated housing in Killeagh or Ladysbridge. A deadline of the 19th October has been set for interested parties to reply.

All queries should be made directly to the Housing Department, Cork County Council, Floor 4, County Hall, Cork.

Application to the Dept. of Environment to resurface South Main Street and North Main Street in 2011:

I have made the following project justification to Cork County Council who have now applied to the Department for funding in 2011. Regional Road R634, Youghal (Responsibility of Cork County Council) Project Justification The proposal is to realign and overlay a 850m section of the R635 within the town of Youghal (South Main Street, North Main Street) from its junction with Windmill Hill (Local Road) to its junction with Cork Hill (Local Road). The strength and condition of the existing surface is critically deficient and is deteriorating further week by week. The average width of both streets is approximately 8m, producing a total project area of 6300m². This proposal is part of a programme of road improvements on roads which will be required to take substantial traffic loads during the Youghal Main Drainage Scheme which is due to commence in 2012.

The current main thoroughfare serves a winter population of approximately 6,400 (current census figures) and a summer population of between 12,000 and 14,000 depending on weather conditions during the summer period.

Tourism:

Youghal is a major centre of both Heritage and Maritime Tourism in East Cork. It has one of the highest proportions of the workforce engaged in tourist activities in County Cork. Youghal is a member of the Irish Walled Towns Network (All Ireland body) and also the international Walled Towns Friendship Circle. The hospitality industry was greatly expanded under the Seaside Resorts Scheme which allows for such population surges during the summer months. Youghal is strategically located on the N25 (bypassed in 2004) which is the main European/Killarney tourism gateway.

St. Mary's Church:

Together with St. Mary's College and Medieval Gardens are substantial heritage tourist destinations. Youghal is one of the most attractive holiday destinations in Ireland with two blue flag beaches and a wealth of other heritage and natural gems.

Port Facility:

The Port of Youghal is used for the importation of timber and steel and averages between 60,000 and 100,000 tonnes annually. Youghal was one of sixteen ports recently examined in a report commissioned by the Department of the Marine, entitled "A Review of State Regional Ports and Harbours". The report recognizes the uniqueness of Youghal Port as it caters for many different types of marine activities including commercial shipping, commercial fishing and marine leisure.

Industry:

Youghal has two IDA Industrial Sites, one on the western side of the Town and one to the north of the Town. Together they accommodate five diverse large scale industrial factories.

The town and environs also serve as a residential base for people working in Cork City and in particular Little Island.

Main Drainage Scheme:

The Main Drainage Project for the town is due to commence in early 2012. With that in mind significant areas of the Town where works will not take place have been identified for improvement prior to this project commencing.

The R634 was identified for re-surfacing in 2005 after the Bypass opening as it had been the old N25 and suffered considerable distress. Regrettably no such resurfacing works took place. Consequently this project is now fundamental to preserving the road integrity of the R634 prior to the Main Drainage Project commencing.

Votes of Congratulations:

The Members passed a vote of congratulations to the following:

1. Aura Youghal on achieving the 'Overall National Award for Safety in the Service Sector' at the recent National Irish Safety Organisation's Annual Occupational Safety Awards.
2. To the Tidy Towns Committee of Youghal on winning the annual Cork County Litter Challenge.
3. Youghal Camogie Club on securing the double.

Votes of Sympathy:

The members passed a vote of sympathy to the following:

1. Mrs. Peg Crowley on the death of her husband, Eamonn.
2. Mr. Danny Coughlan on the death of his father, Jack.
3. Ms. Geraldine Walsh on the death of her brother, Robert.
4. Mrs. Anne De La Cour on the death of her husband, Sean.

Town Foreman's Report:

The Town Foreman's report on works carried out from 9th September 2010 to 14th September, 2010 were brought to the attention of the council and noted. Arising from the report the following items were raised:

1. Fencing and Signal Cabin at CIE site at the Front Strand.
2. Update requested on the current status with the Youghal Retail Strategy.
3. New road surface at the junction with Kilcoran Road and Seafield needs to be revisited. The Town Engineer informed the members that the new layout was in place to accommodate cars coming up from Seafield turning right onto Kilcoran Road.
4. Weeds on footpath at North Main Street.
5. Illegal dumping in bins around the town.
6. Additional pooper scooper bins in particular for the Lighthouse Hill.

7. Fly tipping around the town area.
8. Council's insulation scheme.
9. Stubbi purses for cigarettes. Can it be discussed that the Council would give them out as they do with the pooper scoopers.
10. Bin for outside Pobal Scoil.
11. Children at play sign for Duncoran/The Rise. The Town Foreman informed the members that this was put in place.
12. Library site at North Main Street.
13. Flower pots and bollards at Dr. Kennedy Place.
14. Provision of a yellow box for Fitzgerald Terrace to prevent residents being blocked into their drives.

The Town Clerk informed the members that he would speak to the traffic warden and request additional patrolling of the area.

County Council Items:

Engineers Report:

1. Work has been carried out at the Rifle Range in compliance with the Dangerous Structure Notice.
2. Road overlays at Ballyclamassey are due to start in two weeks time.
3. The outfall at the Front Strand was fitted during week ended 10/10/2010. This pipe was cleared out prior to fitting.

The valve will be monitored to see how it is functioning over the next few months. Cllr. Burke requested clarification on this matter. On a recent visit to the outfall Cllr. Burke noticed a new valve had been placed on the outfall. Cllr. Burke enquired if this would be sidetracking the extension of the outfall. The Town Engineer informed the members that if this valve didn't work that he would be applying for an extension at this stage.

4. Youghal Reservoir is currently being cleaned using underwater robotic cleaning by WCS. This is one of the recommendations of the Frank Harvey report on Youghal Water.
5. Work on the replacement of filter sand at Boola Waterworks is to commence shortly in Filter no. 4.
6. The roadworks contractor who carried out the work on Raheen Road is due to repair the section that was dug in error in the next week or so.

County Council Items Raised:

1. The members requested an update on Cork County Council areas being included in the CCTV Scheme.
2. Metal grid outside the League of the Cross Hall needs to be addressed.
3. Provision of a footpath from Aura Leisure Centre to Summerfield Cross.
4. Pothole at Ballyclamassy.
5. Manholes on Raheen Road.

The Town Engineer informed the meeting that this would be addressed in the coming weeks.

6. Odour from the landfill. The Town Clerk informed the members that this was an issue for the environmental department of Cork County Council.
7. Buses parking at Mistletoe Grove.

8. Road surface outside Island View.

9. Condition of footpaths around the town. The Town Engineer informed the meeting that he has contractors lined up for work on footpaths on the back street. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that Youghal is very far down on the Council's funding priorities and that it is the County Councillors that need to push the issue. Cllr McLellan informed the members that they would be submitting a motion at the next area roads meeting.

10. Yellow box for rear of Devon View. The Town Clerk informed the members that this area would be dug up under the Main Drainage Scheme in 2011.

Managers Orders:

Managers Orders nos. 180/10 to 201/10 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Planning Applications:

Planning application reference no's P58022/10 and P58023/10 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Further Information:

The members were informed that no further information was received.

Disposal of Properties:

There was no disposal of properties.

Mayors Business:

1. Opening of tenders for window and door replacement at no. 5 Windmill Hill, Youghal. One tender was received from Munster Joinery in the amount of €4500 plus VAT.

2. The Mayor informed the meeting that she has been very busy in her role as Mayor. If she is unable to attend anything her vice Cllr. Coyne goes in her place. Report on the Tidy Towns Mayor Linehan Foley informed the meeting she is still a Task Force: member of the Tidy Towns Taskforce. Unfortunately the presentation had to be postponed due to work commitments. It was anticipated to have the presentation at the November meeting of the Council. Proposed Variation to the The proposed Variation to the Cork County Development Cork County Development Plan 2009 was noted as being read. Plan 2009.

Wind Energy Policy:

Budget Sub Committee On the proposal of Mayor Linehan Foley which was Meeting: seconded by Cllr. Coyne the 02nd November was agreed to hold the first budget sub committee meeting.

Correspondence:

1. Motion received from Clones Town Council.

2. Brochure from Ballyhoura Development Ltd on their upcoming conference on "The Future of Rural Areas to 2031".

3. AMAI Newsletter.

4. Motion form Clonakilty Town Council.

5. Motion received from Monaghan Town Council. Mayor Linehan Foley informed the meeting that she had received a letter from the National Women's Council of Ireland in relation to Justice for Magdalene's Campaign. Mayor Linehan Foley informed the meeting that this was an issue that was very close to her personally and requested the members support her in offering what support the Council could in order to secure a formal apology that has to date not issued.

Circularised 1. Regional Planning Guidelines for South West Region. Correspondence 2. Public Sector Times June, 2010. 3. Public Sector Times September 2010.

Any Other Business:

1. Cllr. McLellan sympathised with Mayor Linehan Foley on the recent death of her uncle.
2. Cllr. Coyne informed the meeting that he was finding it difficult to keep his commitments to the Youghal Community Alert Group and informed the meeting that he would be handing in his resignation from the group. He informed the meeting that there were 3 members on this committee already and requested that Cllr. Beecher become the public official representative assigned to same. This was unanimously agreed by the members of the Council. Cllr. Beecher informed the meeting that he would prepare a quarterly report for the monthly meetings of the Council.
3. Cllr. Revins enquired if there was any update on the Diving Rocks report. The Town Clerk informed him that the report was imminent.
4. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that Cllr. Donie Daly had been the Council's representative with IPBMI, needed to be replaced and informed the members he would place same on the agenda for the November meeting.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.