

Minutes of Youghal Town Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2012 in the Mall House, Youghal at 10.00 a.m.

Present

Mayor Michelle Hennessy presided.

Cllrs. Revins, O'Connell, Burke, Flanagan, O' Sullivan & Murray.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Linehan-Foley & Beecher.

Officials Present:

Mrs. Patricia Power, Town Manager.

Mr. Liam Ryan, Town Clerk.

Mrs. Helen Mulcahy, Staff Officer.

Mr. Paul Murray, Executive Engineer.

Opening Prayers:

The members and officials recited the opening prayers.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2012:

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> Sept 2012 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Revins seconded by Cllr. O' Connell and unanimously adopted by the Members

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Report of the Town Clerk on matter arising since the Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2012.

Active Travel Towns Scheme:

Cork County Council has been offered grants under the Active Travel Towns Scheme (Stream 1) for the development of Walking and Cycling Strategies for the towns of Bandon, Kinsale, Youghal and Fermoy. Value of the grant is €15,000 per town. Strategies have to be developed in the current year. These strategies will guide investment in walking and cycling in each of these towns in the future. Cork County Council is also developing a cycling strategy for the portion of Metropolitan Cork that is in the County Area Carrigaline /Ballincollig /Douglas /Blarney /Glanmire /Carrigtwohill /Midleton and Cobh), and this will also be complete this year.

These projects have been combined into a single project which has been advertised on the national procurement website e-tenders.

It is envisaged that each of these strategies would put forward measures so as to ensure;

A reduction in short distance car journeys through the availability of good quality information and alternative infrastructure.

The provision of safer routes for people to travel by bike or on foot;

Improved walking and cycling access to public transport and

Community involvement and tie-ins with schools/colleges and workplace plans both through existing programmes and new linkages.

The County Council intends to appoint a consultant to prepare these strategy documents and present draft strategy reports to the relevant Councils in November 2012. It is hoped to have these strategy documents completed in late November/early December this year.

Youghal 4 All, Youghaloween Spooktacular;

The following is the itinerary for the upcoming Halloween Festival being undertaken by Youghal 4 All between 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> October next.

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2012

7.00pm Lantern Walk - Take part in the opening of the Youghaloween Spooktacular by walking in the Lantern Parade, led by the historic Walter Raleigh. Bring a light! Leaves Devonshire Square at 7pm to Barry's Lane. At Barry's Lane a gathering of witches will perform a Samhain Healing Ritual. An Bhean Uisce will arrive to gather the requests of the living.

Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2012.

10am to 5pm Haunted Town Centre:

A unique and extravagant affair at Barry's Lane. Wander through the terrifying and eerie graveyard, avoid the cackling witches and ghoulish knights as they work their ghastly torture machines and watch out that you don't get caught in the giant spiders web! Leave a wish with an Bhean Uisce or find inner peace by following the Labyrinth.

11am to 4pm Tone and Tan Nail Painting.

Tone and Tan Beauty Centre at the Rivergate Mall would like to invite kids to have their nails painted for Youghaloween! Spooky colours to make your costume even scarier! Free!

12.00 Ghost Tours:

A ghost tour on foot around Youghal. Learn about Youghal's bloody past and ghost stories. Leaves from outside Youghal Visitor Centre at Barry's Lane.

12pm to 4pm Crazy Glazing Halloween Special:

Crazy Glazing are offering unique and Halloween themed items to paint. Prizes for best in each category. Cost €5, Crazy Glazing, South Main Street.

10.30am to 15.30pm Team-M Face Painting.

Free Halloween face painting by the Team-M Halloween Witch and her Witch's cat. Free for children!

2pm to 4.30pm Tarot Workshop.

An introduction to the world of Tarot. Find out the origins of the Tarot, the symbols on the cards, and much more. Community Hall, donations welcome. Join Ber O' Mahony with 20 years experience in Tarot.

3pm to 4pm Yoga on the Beach. (Mall Beach).

Soft sand, soothing waves, crisp ocean air divine experience. All levels welcome, €10. With Teresa Parker. If raining this session will be held in Sunset Tan Studios on Friar Street.

11am to 3pm Angel and Spirit Workshop.

Find out about angel readings and contacting spirits with the Angel and Spirit Workshop. Cover charge applies. Community Hall.

2pm Treasure Hunt:

Register at the Community Centre and figure out the clues! Latest entries must be returned by 4pm. Winner with the fastest time announced on Sunday at the Walter Raleigh Spooky Halloween Party.

3pm Pumpkin Carving Competition:

Submit your carved pumpkin at the Community Centre. Winner announced on Sunday at the Walter Raleigh Spooky Halloween Party.

3pm Story Telling.

Join us at the Coffee Pot for spooky children's stories with Margaret Winser and Kieran Groeger. Free.

8pm Tales of the Supernatural.

Presentation by Kay Donnelly on ghosts and demons in Ireland. Community Centre, approx. 1 hour. Free entry.

9.30pm Paranormal Investigation:

Lose yourself in a unique and eerie setting! Exclusive screening of the results of paranormal investigation in East Cork and West Waterford, in association with Cork Paranormal Investigators. Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October.

10am to 6pm Mind, Body, Spirit Fair at the Community Hall. Unique and alternative market. Free entry.

10am to 6pm Have your fortune told with Fortune Tellers (tarot cards, crystal, palmistry???) at the Community Hall. Special discounted rates for festival!

2pm Ghost Tours.

A ghost tour on foot around Youghal. Learn about Youghal's bloody past and ghost stories. Leaves from outside Youghal Visitor Centre at Barry's Lane.

3.30pm Halloween Parade.

Take part in the Youghaloween Spooktacular parade! Leaves Dolphin Square at 3.30pm and proceeds along back street. Returns via Main Street to The Red Store for Walter Raleigh's Spooky Halloween Party! If its raining, bring a black umbrella!

4.30pm Walter Raleigh's Spooky Halloween Party at The Red Store.

Join one of Youghal's historic mayors for the children's party. Live music and traditional Halloween games! Free face painting! Prizes for the best fancy dress. Winners of Pumpkin Carving Competition and Treasure Hunt announced.

5.30pm to 6pm An Bhean Uisce Returns to the Underworld!

An event not to be missed. The Funeral Procession makes its way from Dolphin Square to the Mall Beach where an Bhean Uisce will be brought out to sea.

Vandalism to Bandstand at Green Park:

Last Friday night 19 ornamental pieces were violently kicked off the Bandstand at Green Park. It was nothing more than mindless vandalism on behalf of the perpetrators. Under Health and Safety Youghal Town Council have had no option but to close the Bandstand to the public until such time as replacement pieces can be firstly sourced (which will be difficult) and then replaced. The Gardai have been notified and are investigating the matter.

Report of the Town Clerk on matters raised under the Town Foreman's Report Section at the Monthly Meeting of the Council held on 11th September, 2012.

1. Loose Railing on Jetty at Nealons Quay:

This item has been viewed by the Town Foreman and will be repaired shortly.

2. Deteriorating Footpaths at the Promenade, Front Strand, Youghal:

I have viewed this area with the Town Foreman, the area of deterioration is quite large and would be quite expensive to replace. The deterioration has only just commenced so the area is not a major priority at this stage. Funding will have to be provided for these works unless funding for the next 100m of promenade/seawall replacement is received from the Department. Equally this type of work is only possible during weak tides and should possibly be looked after the next spring equinox.

3. Steps at the Town Walls:

These will be monitored over the winter period and steps repaired on an individual basis over that period.

4. Steps at Pope John Paul Place:

I have viewed these steps with the Town Foreman. Certainly areas of concrete are deteriorating in various spots. I will endeavour to obtain an engineering report on same and then determine a possible cost of the implementation of the engineering recommendations. In the meantime there is no imminent danger to the public and the steps can continue to be used in the short to medium term.

5. Vandalism to Ponds at Millennium Garden:

The Town Foreman is having any necessary repairs carried out to the ponds.

6. Youghal Joint Burial Board (Kerbing Issues):

A meeting has been set with the Mayor for 10.30 a.m. on the 13th November next. The Joint Policing Committee will commence at 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m., Burial Board Meeting 10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. and the Monthly Meeting from 11.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.

7. Update on the Main Drainage Scheme:

This update is included separately on the Town Council Agenda for October.

#### 8. 2 Boards on the Boardwalk:

Both these boards have been reattached where they had sprung.

#### 9. Potholes on Copperally Road:

These will be filled again next week, but is an area that the Members should consider for overlaying in 2013.

#### 10. Boardwalk Phase 2 Update:

This update is included separately on the Town Council Agenda for October.

#### Votes of Congratulations:

The Members proposed a vote of congratulations to the following:

1. Youghal 4 All on their hard work and success in organising festivals over the year.
2. Cork Senior Ladies Football Team on their All-Ireland success.
3. Youghal Under 14 Girls Football Team on winning the East Cork Title.
4. Orla Barry on her Olympic Success – it was agreed by the Members that Orla would be honoured at the Awards Night.
5. Team Youghal on their participation in the Around Ireland.
6. Youghal Celebrates History on the success of the recent Conference.

#### Votes of Sympathy:

The members passed the following Votes of Sympathy :-

- 1) To Jimmy Revins on the death of Rita Burke.

#### Town Foreman's Report:

The Town Foreman's Report on works carried out from 8th September to the 4th October was brought to the attention of the Members and noted. Arising from the report the following items were raised:

1. Potholes at the bottom of North Cross Lane & Greencloyne.
2. Misuse of Disabled Parking bay outside Supervalu by Hackney Buses.
3. Cleaning of slipway at Buttimmers Dock.
4. Closure of Port Security Gates at Greens Quay.

#### County Council Items:

ENGINEERS REPORT ON ITEMS RAISED AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING.

1. Tenders are back for both the Youghal Main Drainage & the Design, Build & Operate Treatment Plant Subject to funding this is expected to go ahead in January 2013.
2. Fairfield Car Park is currently being overlaid as part of the Urban Road Grant.
3. The Diving Rocks are complete except for signage.
4. The Boardwalk extension has passed the Part VIII approval phase.

The following items were also raised:

1. Condition of footpaths from Tailors Lane to Windmill Hill.
2. Dumping of rubbish in Pumping Station at Green Park.

3. Condition of footpaths Tallow Street, South Abbey, South Main Street.

The Town Clerk stated that it was becoming increasingly frustrating that no funding is being provided to the maintenance and repair of the footpaths around the Town by Cork County Council.

The Town Clerk stated that footpaths on urban thoroughfares must be prioritised and also suggested that the Councillors who were Members of the Area Roads Committee should push for funding for 2013 at Budget time.

The Manager stated that she was also concerned about the conditions of the footpaths and informed the Members that no money comes through the Road Grants for footpaths – it comes directly out of the Area Engineers Budget and she had requested, on a number of occasions, that money be specifically allocated for these works. The Manager will review the situation over the coming weeks and endeavour to put a programme of works in place before Christmas.

4. Update on works on Lighthouse Hill. The Town Engineer informed the Members that works were 50% complete and the Contractors would be off site and works complete by mid-November. The members expressed their concern that the traffic lights system would remain in place for the foreseeable future. Cllr. Revins said that the situation with the traffic lights could not continue and it was totally unacceptable that businesses in the Strand Area would continue to be affected and possibly face closure. The Town Clerk suggested that a senior engineer from Cork County Council would brief the members on the situation and hoped that this would happen at the December meeting.

5. Update on Fairfield Car Park – The Town Engineer informed the Members that the Fairfield Car Park would be finished within the week.

6. Nealons Quay: The Town Clerk informed the members that the work on the Nealons Quay Car Park would commence in the next week or so but the bulk of the project would be done in 2013 and will be part funded by the 2013 Non National Roads Grant.

7. Loose paving stones outside the Court House.

#### Managers Orders:

Managers Order no's 114/2012 to 136/2012 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

#### Planning Applications:

The Members were informed that planning applications P. 12/58007 to P. 12/58009 were received.

#### Further Information Received:

The Members were informed that no further information was received.

#### Disposal of Properties:

The Members were informed that there were no disposals.

#### Mayors Business:

The Mayor informed the Members of the following:

1. Update in relation to the East Cork Meeting of the Gathering 2013.
2. 90th Anniversary Mass in the Republican Plot.
3. Update in relation to the recent Culture Night.
4. Vintage Car Club Visit.
5. Festival of Choirs – Friday 26th October.
6. Civic Reception for Maimie O'Sullivan – 9th November.

#### AMAI Report by Cllr. Linehan Foley:

This item was deferred to the November meeting.

#### Proposed Amendment to The Carrigaline Electoral Area Local Area Plan 2012:

The Town Clerk circulated the Members with details of the Proposed Amendment to The Carrigaline Electoral Area Local Area Plan 2012 and informed them that the closing date for submissions, if any, was Friday 9th November, 2012.

#### An Bord Pleanála Appeals:

The Town Clerk circulated to the Members copy letter which he had sent to An Bord Pleanála in relation to appeals which had yet to be decided by the Bord. The Town Clerk also circulated a copy of the Bord's reply.

The Members requested that the Bord be written to again and asked to indicate a date as to when the applications might be decided. They also asked that the Bord should be requested to give commercial applications priority in the current climate.

#### Reply from Minister Phil Hogan:

The Town Clerk circulated the Members with a copy of Minister Hogan's reply to his recent letter on their behalf in relation to the Local Government Fund. The Members asked the Town Clerk to write to the Minister once again and ask him to address the issues raised in the first letter as his response did not adequately deal with these.

#### Irish Public Bodies Insurance Dividend:

The Town Clerk informed the members that IPB had notified him of a dividend of €33,673.71 which would be paid to Youghal Town Council in the coming weeks. This dividend would be used to fund, in part, the shortfall of €100,000 in the 2012 Budget – as agreed at the September meeting of the Council.

#### Twinning - New Bedford:

The Town Clerk circulated the Members with a draft Town Twinning Agreement for the proposed twinning with New Bedford. The Town Clerk suggested that a Town Twinning Committee be set up to progress the matter and consideration must be given to making a funding provision in the 2013 Budget. On the proposal of Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. Murray the members unanimously agreed to establish this Committee and suggested former Cllr. Casey as the Chairperson.

#### Joint Retail Study – Metropolitan Cork:

The Town Clerk circulated the Members with details of the Joint Retail Study for Metropolitan Cork. He said the previous retail studies encompassed Cork County Council, Cork City Council and the 9 Town Councils. The new draft Strategy allows for retail studies specific to Youghal to be contained in Youghal Town Council's new Development Plan from 2015 onwards development plan.

#### Festival Research Results:

The Town Clerk circulated the members with statistics in relation to the Youghal Medieval Festival and the Queen of the Sea Festival 2012. He stated the reports gave very interesting and valuable information in relation to visitor numbers and the financial benefits of such Festivals to the local economy. The Members unanimously agreed that all of the Festivals were a huge success and a credit to all those involved.

#### Tidy Towns Report:

This item was deferred to the November meeting.

#### Budget 2013:

The Town Clerk circulated the Members with funding applications received to date and for consideration in the Budget 2013.

Boardwalk Phase II:

The Manager gave a detailed report to the Members in relation to progress on Phase II of the Boardwalk – the report was prepared by Vincent Florish of Cork County Council.

The Town Clerk said that there was a huge opportunity here to put Youghal on the map and every effort must be made to see this project to fruition.

Main Drainage Scheme:

The Town Clerk circulated the Members with the following update in relation to the Main Drainage Scheme:

**YOUGHAL MAIN DRAINAGE SCHEME UPDATE**

Tenders for the Waste Water Treatment Plant Design Build Operate Contract will be returned in October, 2012. Tenders for the Collection Network Contract have been received and are currently being evaluated by our consultant, Atkins. Subject to availability of funding, and provision of necessary approvals, construction contracts can commence in 2013.

Water Services Projects are reviewed on a case by case basis by the Senior Management of Cork County Council to determine where available funding is allocated. As contracts have not been signed for Youghal, funding is not currently committed. Decisions relating to funding the Council's share of the construction contracts in Youghal will be made following completion of the analysis of returned Tenders.

The current Budget approved for the Construction Stage of the scheme is €18.2m. Cork County Council is required to fund in the region of €5.7m. The split in funding is determined by the current Water Services Pricing Policy, which is set by the Department of the Environment, Community & Local Government. Cork County Council is actively engaged in discussion with the Department of the Environment, in an attempt to renegotiate the local authority funding requirements and examine alternate funding routes.

Noel O' Keeffe, County Engineer & Director of Water Services.

Correspondence:

1. Notice from TGR Seminars in relation to Conference for Councillors on LEADER Funding and the Councillor.
2. Notice from Superior Training in relation to Constitutional & Political Reform and the Councillor.
3. Brochure from IPI on Unlocking Town Centre Potential – New Developments in Retail Planning & Town Centre Management.
4. Letter from Cork County Council in relation to the Proposed Amendment to Carrigaline Electoral Area Local Area Plan 2011 – Amendment No. 1: Carrigaline.
5. Boardwalk Phase 2 Project Status.
6. Thank you card from the Presentation Convent Sisters in relation to the Display Boards on the Boardwalk.
7. A thank you note from the Queen of the Sea Festival Committee on their recent contribution received from Youghal Town Council.
8. A thank you note from Sal Tivy in relation to the Vintage Rally.
9. An appreciation card from the family of the late Tomás O' Connell.
10. An appreciation card from the family of the late Alma Aoife Mahon.

11. A thank you letter from John Aher in relation to the Remembrance Mass for the Irish Volunteers from Youghal.

12. Motions received from Donegal County Council:

a) "A halt in reductions to basic standards of living for people with disabilities who need social welfare support".

b) To ensure funding for services needed by people with disabilities are sustained.

c) To show leadership on the implementation plan for the National Disability Strategy. 13. Motions received from Monaghan town Council:

i. "That Monaghan Town Council calls for the immediate release of Gerry McGeogh, Marion Price and Martin Corey. Everyone is entitled to due process and these Irish citizens have been denied this. Their continued detention without trial is an infringement of their human rights and clearly undermines the justice system on this island. Their imprisonment is unjust and is in defiance of rulings by the Courts in both cases. Both have been granted bail by the Courts and yet remain in prison".

ii. "That this Council call on the Minister for Finance to rescind his decision to withdraw tax relief for first time buyers from January 2013".

iii. "Write to the Minister for the Environment regarding his proposal to change the rules that cars over 10 years old would have to be tested every year instead of the present 2 years.

14. Motion received from Castlebar Town Council: "That the Members resolve, in keeping with the will of the Irish people as emphatically expressed in the referendum of 1983, to oppose any form of legalisation of abortion under any circumstances". 15. Letter from Boyle Town Council in relation to a letter sent to Minister Reilly in relation to changes to the medical card scheme regarding food for coeliacs.

16. Motion received from Donegal County Council: "In keeping with the will of the Irish people as emphatically expressed in the referendum of 1983, Donegal County Council opposes any form of legalisation of abortion in any circumstances"

#### Any Other Business:

The Mayor informed the Members of an upcoming event being organised by the Youghal Midleton Branch of the Irish Guide Dogs Association - a Triathlon is being run in Aura.

This concluded the business of the meeting.