

Minutes of Youghal Town Council held on 13th September 2011 in the Mall House, Youghal at 10.00 a.m.

Present:

Mayor Eoin Coyne, presided.

Cllrs. Revins, Linehan Foley, Flanagan, Beecher, Burke, Hennessy & Murray.

Officials Present:

Mrs. Patricia Power, Town Manager.

Mrs. Helen Mulcahy , A/Town Clerk.

Mrs. Geraldine O' Connell, Clerical Officer.

Mr. Paul Murray, Executive Engineer.

Opening Prayers: The members and officials recited the opening prayers.

Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 12th Meeting held on 12th July 2011:

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 12th July 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Hennessy, seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley and unanimously adopted by the Members.

Minutes of Special Meeting held on 25th August 2011:

The minutes of the special meeting held on 25th August 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Hennessy, seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley and unanimously adopted by the Members.

Minutes of Special Meeting held on 30th August 2011:

The minutes of the special meeting held on 30th August 2011 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley, seconded by Cllr. Hennessy and unanimously adopted by the Members.

Report of the Town Clerk on Matters Arising since the Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 12th July, 2011.

Retirement of Cllr. Tomas O' Conaill:

On Friday the 9th September last I received the following letter from Cllr. O' Conaill: "A Chairde, It is with very sad regret that I have to inform you that I have decided to retire from Youghal Town Council. As most of you know I have recently suffered a medical set back and due to ongoing health issues I feel that I am unable to serve the people of Youghal with the diligence and care that I had intended when returning to the Council. It has been an absolute honour and a privilege to get the opportunity to work for the people of Youghal again after so many years. I have enjoyed getting to know, and working with, all members of this Town Council, who I would like to thank for all their help and support, and especially for all their good wishes over the past couple of months.

I would like to say a very special thank you to the Town Clerk, Liam Ryan who, since my return

has shown me the utmost courtesy and respect, giving generously of his time, his help and advice, and believe me I made the most of it. I have really enjoyed working with you Liam, thanks. Thanks also to all the Council staff for all their hard work and support including the Assistant County Manager, Town Manager and Assistant Town Clerk. I have always prided myself in taking seriously the role of Councillor and I hope that whoever succeeds me will also see this as a great opportunity to have a part in making, and keeping Youghal a great place. I wish you all the very best in the future, and don't worry I won't be back in another 20 years!!."

Cllr. Tomas O'Conaill

I have written to the General Secretary of "The Labour Party" seeking a nomination to fill the casual vacancy which has arisen. On behalf of myself and all the staff of Youghal Town Council I would like to wish Cllr. O' Conaill a very happy retirement and good fishing.

The Manager & Members of Youghal Town Council wished their Fellow Councillor Tomas O' Conaill every good wish and good health for the future.

"Last Days. The End of Carpets at Youghal" – Photographic Exhibition.

The homecoming of this enthralling photographic exhibition 'Last Days. The End of Carpets at Youghal' opens on Friday 23rd September 2011 in the Mall Arts Centre, in accordance with Cork Culture Night.

This photo exhibition is steeped in the history of Carpet Production in Youghal and is monumental to the community. Tremendous pride was taken in the production of these high quality carpets and this exhibition honours the skill and workmanship involved in this process.

This exhibition was compiled by Marcella Reardon and Derek Speirs who witnessed and documented the final days of the factory's operation in December 2006 - the exhibition was originally displayed in May 2007 in the Triskel Arts Centre. This launch marks the homecoming of the exhibition; as the collection is returned to Youghal on a permanent basis. There are over 30 photographs within the collection – some which are 6ft by 6ft in size!

The official launch of the exhibition takes place at 7 p.m. in the Mall Arts Centre on Friday 23rd September, Una Whyte, the talented concert Harpist and Vocalist will perform a recital at the opening of the exhibition. Previous factory workers as well as those involved in compiling the exhibition will be present to mark the homecoming of the collection. All are very much welcome!

The exhibition will then run for a week and is free of charge for all to view in the Mall Arts Centre. It is open during the following period:

Friday 23rd September 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. (official opening at 7 p.m.).

Sunday 25th September 3 p.m to 6 p.m.

Monday 26th September to Friday 30th September 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Tidy Towns Report on Youghal:

Tidy Towns Competition 2011

Adjudication Report

Centre Youghal Ref: 600

County: Cork(South) Mark: 284

Category: E Date(s) 24/06/2011

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2010	Mark Awarded 2011
Overall Development Approach	50	46	45
The Built Environment	50	37	37
Landscaping	50	40	40
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	30	33
Litter Control	50	33	33
Waste Minimisation	20	10	9
Tidiness	30	12	14
Residential Areas	40	30	30
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	33	35
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK:	400	279	284

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition 2011. It was a great pleasure to be back walking the streets of this beautiful town. If only the weather has been a little better, but that was not to be. The rain did not detract from the marvellous built heritage and scenery that makes this town so atmospheric. Thank you for a most detailed entry. Please look hard at how much you submit and ask if its all relevant. Less can be more and the really important details can get lost in reams of reports. Your entry was detailed where required, however and comprehensively discussed and illustrated. Was all of your submission fully up to date?. The maps were a great deal more manageable than of yore. Sincere thanks. The adjudicator was impressed by the long-term and structured approach that your group has shown.

The Built Environment:

There is so much to see and appreciate in this fascinating town. The adjudicator will give some examples that illustrate the findings of this years assessment. The Methodist Church looks really well. The flowers and work on the railings were admired. There are some really beautiful shop fronts. Suil Eile caught the eye. Excellent use of empty premises is made with the bike-trip event. There are many, many examples of good up-keep and restoration and 'retro'-made traditional signs. The pubs are generally very good but one venerable establishment is in definite need of repair. The Walter Raleigh looked very well and the mural on the west gable was admired. The Towers, Shalom House, Alms Houses - are just a few of the buildings that contribute to the just

status of Heritage Town. There are many lovely private houses of all ages that share the medieval streets and laneways. The college was admired- such a wonderful building and well decorated with flowers. The adjudicator was very impressed with the use of shop fronts for public information and how busy and vibrant this makes the town centre. Some of the more modern establishments (e.g. the amusement arcade) were admired for their quality of upkeep. South Abbey national school has a lovely setting. The Garda Station was very, very neat. The fire station was also neat but had empty hanging basket brackets. The civic offices are beautiful but had information missing from the board outside. Bunscoil Mhuire was very neat and well-presented. The railings and walls were well-painted. The RNLI building is excellent and the tourist information office is surely one of Ireland's best. The Post Office has a 'retro' charm and the leisure centre was neat on day of visit.

Landscaping:

Some of the pieces of work seen are really excellent. E.g. the hospital junction and on the Y-junction which features a statue of Our Lady. The college gardens are superb, well done to all involved. Most of the non-native species seem to have escaped the frost. There are lovely planters at Barry's Place and one clever restaurant owner is growing herbs in one of these. There is beautiful work on Chapel Lane and the adjoining laneway- fantastic! Green Park is beautiful, well done to all though it was absolutely deserted on the day. There are some lovely examples of work on the Killeagh Road.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Youghal is certainly not short of natural assets. The Wildlife Wonders Trail is excellent. The signage is very good. This is based on sound local knowledge. Well done on the biodiversity events. Good luck with the extension of the trail.

Litter Control:

Some litter was seen on day of visit. There was some fly-tipping of domestic waste on the walled walk. Well done on the litter-control plan. It is an unfortunate fact that the 'stick' must also be used against this form of pollution but it is good to hear that prosecution instances are falling. Not many towns have their own full-time litter warden so you are fortunate. Keep up the anti-litter awareness work. Your overall approach is good. Results will follow.

Waste Minimisation:

Please inform future adjudicators as to how the removal of town centre bring centres can be included as waste minimisation projects for the year, unless it means that there is no longer any recycling to be done. Does the new centre mean more car-trips? Please elucidate on your awareness measures. Well done to students and staff of Bunscoil Mhuire: the work will be worth it.

Tidiness:

Some informal signage is poorly maintained and improperly placed. Wire-scrape is an issue but this will surely be tackled in time. Traffic was heavy - it was teeming rain- but it didn't deter some brave cyclists. Parking seemed to be well-controlled. Look out for the state of repair of some handrails on back steps. Some older signage is in need of a touch-up.

Residential Areas:

There are some lovely Georgian and Victorian Terraces. The terrace opposite the national school was greatly admired. Some great use of colour was appreciated, even on a very wet day. Some really good efforts by householders on some of the little lanes and back streets were noted. Is

the Youghal in Bloom competition still in operation?, several likely winners were seen. Dun na Mara has lovely landscaping and greens at the front.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The streets, lanes and steps of Youghal are always a fantastic walking experience. However, the Heritage, Walls and Garden Trail has made this so much better. The adjudicator was very, very impressed with the clever and modern tri-corn signage as well as the more traditional finger posts. This is a really rewarding walking experience. Well done. The city walls are a delight, even in the wet - the adjudicator actually thought that the misty rain enhanced the medieval feel of the trail! The surface on Church Street looks brand-new. Gullet's Place was neat and tidy but could be decorated. The civic space at the Courthouse is a great piece of work. The approach from the Cork side is fantastic. Well done. The new sign is lovely and features good use of planting. There is a broken wall on this side and the Harris fencing looks poor. The approach from Killeagh is lovely too. There are many hanging baskets and planters, well done to all for the effort. This is a really nice sweep into the town.

General Impression:

This adjudication was a pleasure to complete. Although Youghal is facing many challenges- there does appear to be an air of real optimism in the busy streets. Well done to all for your work. This is a major contribution to your community.

The Members were unanimous in their praise and congratulations to the Tidy Town Committee and the staff of Youghal Town Council for the magnificent effort made this year.

Votes of Congratulations:

The Members proposed a vote of congratulations to the following:

1. Team Youghal on their success in race across America and on the Race around Ireland.
2. Cork County Council Engineering Department on the completion of the Mizen Footbridge.
3. Comhaltas Ceoltoiri Eireann on celebrating their 25 anniversary since their establishment.
4. Youghal Concerned Citizens on their recent successful Mackerel Festival.
5. Lee McCarthy & Killian Ansbro on their achievement on securing a place on the Munster Youth Squad.
6. The Epping Forest Band on their recent performance at St. Mary's Collegiate Church.
7. Cllr. Burke informed the members that a vote of congratulation had been passed by the pupils and staff of Pobalscoil na Trionoide to both Youghal Tidy Towns and Youghal Town Council Staff on receiving a bronze medal in the Tidy Town Awards.
8. To the Youghal Tidy Towns Committee on the very successful Tidy Towns Awards.
9. To Cllr. Liam Burke on achieving an A2 in Honours Leaving Certificate in Italian.
10. To Cllr. Liam Burke and all the members of the Heritage Committee on the great work carried out throughout the year.

Votes of Sympathy:

The Members proposed a vote of sympathy to the following:

1. Ms. Angela Pomphrett on the death of her husband, Mr. Tom Pomphrett.

Town Foreman's Report:

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

1. Speed limit signage for various housing estates.
2. Overgrown gardens in private properties in the Front Strand Area.

3. Potholes in Nealons Quay.
4. Broken slabs outside Tourist Office and C.Y.M.S.
5. Potholes on Raheen Road.
6. Hole in the road at Cherryvale.
7. Gulley in Hillview Estate.
8. Update on snag list for Springfield Court. The Acting Town Clerk informed the members that this list was initially passed onto the Developer who has now gone into receivership. The matter is being investigated by the Estates Department.
9. Derelict Sites around town. The Town Manager informed the members that it is extremely difficult to make progress through the Derelict Sites Act, but that Youghal Town Council have made significant progress with some buildings within the town by serving Derelict Sites Notices on the registered owners. The Manager suggested that this item be brought up at Council meetings every quarter to keep the members updated on this situation.

Cork County Council Items:

Engineers Report:

1. Overlay work on North & South Main Street is due to commence on 26th September. This work is expected to take approximately 2 weeks and will be done between the hours of 8 p.m. and 8 a.m.
2. Ponding at Ballyvergan is as a result of drainage/ducting being laid along the side of the road by a Developer for a nearby new housing estate. Cork County Council have referred this to the Estates Department for clarification.
3. Youghal Town Council have given the go ahead for work on the lowest road in Knockaverry Estate in front of house nos. 84 to 95 to be overlaid along with part of Raheen Road. This will be done in conjunction with the Main Street.

County Council Items:

1. Gulley at Raheen Road. The Engineer informed the members that this item had been dealt with.
2. Start date of works on North & South Main Street. The Engineer informed the Members that this work is due to commence on the 26th of September next.
3. Ponding at Ballyvergin. The Engineer informed the members that this item has been referred to the Estates Department of Cork County Council.
4. Update on painting of front of Collins on North Main Street. The Engineer informed the members that a contractor has been appointed and is ready to commence shortly. Cllr. Linehan Foley requested that a report on the Library Building at Collins North Main Street be presented to the Members at the next meeting.
5. Possible tidying up of area around Meadow Valley and St. Corans Well.
6. Replacement of grid outside Bank of Ireland, North Main Street.
7. Condition of old approach road to Youghal from the Killeagh side. The Engineer informed the members that he will investigate this item.
8. Damaged bollards at the island at Mill Road Roundabout.
9. Remains of an old toilet, a section of which is leaning out onto the road on the Lighthouse Hill. The Engineer informed the members that he will investigate same.
10. Update on the Diving Rocks. The Town Engineer informed the members that he had received prices for both the civil works and metal works which was approximately €21,000. The Engineer informed the members that once he had discussed the matter of funding with the Town Clerk he would then revert back to the contractors.
11. Contingency plan for freezing conditions regarding burst pipes etc. The Manager informed the members that there is a severe weather plan in place in each Local Authority. The manager also stated that advice will be posted on the website and local newspapers on household care

needed during these conditions.

Managers Orders:

Managers Order no's 92/11 to 154/11 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted. Cllr. Hennessy raised the issue of Managers Order no. 117/11 in relation to the laying of the concrete footpath at Spa Hill. The Engineer informed the members that contractors were ready to commence works.

Cllr. Hennessy raised the issue of managers Order no. 119/11 for the relaying of 100m² of tarmac footpath at North Abbey Cemetery. The Engineer informed the members that contractors were ready to commence works.

Planning Applications:

Planning application nos. 58006/11 & 58007/11 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Further Information Received:

The Members were informed that no further information was received.

Mayors Business:

1. The Mayor raised the issue of the concerns recently highlighted in relation to the Eras Eco Plant Planning Application and informed the members that he had spoken with some of the members of the BEAG committee who requested a delegation attend the October meeting. The Acting Town Clerk informed the Members that this item could not be discussed at the moment as it is a live planning application.

2. The Mayor congratulated the various voluntary group around town in organising various festivals during the summer months.

Unresolved Motions

The unresolved motions report was adopted on the Report: proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley, seconded by Cllr. Beecher and unanimously adopted by the Members.

Grant Allocation to Youghal Town Council from Department of Transport & Tourism:

The Acting Town Clerk circulated to the Members correspondence from the Department of Transport & Tourism in relation to a grant of €400,000 awarded to Youghal Town Council for the upgrade of Youghal Leisure Centre. This item was marked as read.

Irish Business Against Litter – National Results:

The Acting Town Clerk circulated to the Members correspondence and results in relation to the Anti Litter League. This item was marked as read.

Draft Development Contributions Scheme 2012:

The Acting Town Clerk circulated to the Members the Managers Report in relation to the Draft Development Scheme 2012. Cllr. Murray requested that this item be deferred to the October meeting. The Members were in agreement with this.

Projects Update: a) Mall Lane b) Eco Boardwalk c) Town Walls Project

The Acting Town Clerk informed the members that contractors have been appointed in relation to the Mall Lane Project and the Town Walls Project and were ready to go on site.

In relation to the Eco Boardwalk Project the Acting Town Clerk informed the members that as the tenders that had been received were over the threshold for the amount of grant aid available, the

Technical Staff were looking into the possibility of a different type of “pile” being used to bring down the cost of this project. This matter will be finalised in the coming week.

Report on the Heritage Municipal MPC by Cllr. Burke:

Cllr. Burke gave the following report on the Heritage Policy Committee to the Members:

Town Walls:

A grant of €60,000 has been received for further restoration works to the Town Walls. This sum represents 90% of the total national town walls budget for 2011. The works will involve removal of vegetation, cleaning, repointing, strengthening and repair works to the section of walls between the Jail Steps and Sarsfield’s Terrace. A contractor has been selected and works will start immediately for completion before the end of the year.

Public Realm Plan:

Youghal Town Council’s Public Realm Plan continues to be rolled out with the latest phase completed at Emmet Place. These works together with Church Street represent a considerable enhancement to the most important heritage area of our town.

Graveyard Wall:

The repair of the collapsed section of Graveyard Wall between St. Mary’s Collegiate Church and St. Mary’s College Gardens has been completed and new railings have been installed resulting in a considerable visual improvement on the old.

Clock Gate:

Following the KPMG Feasibility Study and Conservation Report, 2011 has seen the completion of a Business Plan. The building has been leased to YSEDG who are now in a position to apply to SECAD for funding for all necessary building works. The restoration of the Clock Gate and its reopening to the public is one of the most important policy objectives of Youghal Town Council and a successful application for funding would bring this prospect closer to reality in the not too distant future.

Medieval Day:

This year’s Medieval Day held in reasonably good weather conditions on Sunday 21st August was another outstanding success attracting an estimated attendance of approx. 6,000, probably again the highest attendance of any participating town in Ireland. Prizes for the raffle were sponsored by local traders who deserve praise and appreciation for their wonderful support. The event was organised by a very hard-working voluntary committee including the Mayor Cllr. Eoin Coyne, Cllr. Barbara Murray and Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley. Gratitude is expressed to all who assisted in the organising, all who helped on the day, also to the participating stall-holders and to the media for their interest in the event.

Report on Claycastle Leisure Company by Chairperson:

Cllr. Linehan Foley gave the following report to the Members:

Cllr. Linehan Foley informed the members that Claycastle Leisure Company Ltd. has extended the Management Licence with Aura Leisure Co. for a further period of 4 years and 11 months to the 11th July, 2016. Cllr. Linehan Foley also informed the Members that on 26th August last the Minister of State for Tourism & Sport, Michael Ring announced a grant of €400,000 to Youghal Town Council for Youghal Leisure Centre. The grant will be used to improve access for people with disabilities as well as a Green Swimming Pool initiative to make the pool more energy efficient.

Report on Youghal Enterprise Centre by Chairperson:

Cllr. Hennessy informed the Members that she would have a report on Youghal Enterprise Centre for the October Meeting.

Report on Youghal Socio Economic Development Group by Chairperson:

Cllr. Murray informed the Members that the Youghal Socio Economic Development Group had set up a meeting with the Minister for Tourism & Sport, Michael Ring and had discussed with him what the town has to offer. She also informed the Members of Minister Ring's announcement of the grant of €400,000 to Youghal Town Council for Youghal Leisure Company.

Cllr. Murray informed the Members that a new Events Manager, Joyce Hosford had been appointed as Manager of the Mall Arts Centre and had recently worked with Franc, (Brides of Franc) on the organising of a local wedding (on which a drinks reception was held on the Mall Arts Centre), which will be aired on TV next January. Cllr. Murray informed the Members that Joyce Hosford was at present working on a photographic exhibition on "Last Days, The End of Carpets at Youghal" which opens on Friday 23rd September in the Mall Arts Centre.

Cllr. Murray informed the Members that the Youghal Socio Economic Development Group are working together with Sean O' Sullivan of SECAD on the Funding Project for the Clock Gate.

Update by Mayor on Ambulance Delegation To HSE and Subsequent Meetings:

The Mayor circulated to the members a copy of the minutes from previous meetings with the Youghal Ambulance Committee and the HSE. Cllr. Coyne informed the Members that the ambulance is still in situ, talks are ongoing and the situation is likely to remain the same for the foreseeable future. Cllr. Coyne wished to commend the Youghal Ambulance Committee on their trojan work on this project.

Main Street Resurfacing Works: Update by Town Engineer:

The Town Engineer informed the Members that this work was due to commence on 26th September next and is expected to take approximately 2 weeks.

Costing for Diving Rocks Refurbishment; Update By Town Engineer:

The Town Engineer informed the Members that he had received a figure of approximately €21,000 for this project, but would provide a more detailed breakdown of this figure for the Members at the next meeting of the Council.

Tidy Towns Group Report by Cllr. Linehan Foley:

Cllr. Linehan Foley informed the Members that no meeting has taken place to date as the committee has been taken up with the Tidy Towns and IBAL Competition. Cllr. Linehan Foley informed the Members that she would have a report for the Members for the October or November meeting.

Correspondence:

1. Motion received from Fermoy Town Council.
2. Motion received from Trim Town Council.
3. Motion received from Kells Town Council.
4. Motion received from Clare County Council.
5. Motion received from Kerry County Council.
6. Notice on Conference on Domestic Water Meters for Ireland.
7. Letters from the HSE and the Department of Health in relation to the downgrading of Youghal

Ambulance Service.

8. Notice in relation to Conference on Developing Leadership - 21 Ways to Win With People. On the proposal of Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. Coyne the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Linehan Foley attend this meeting

9. Notice in relation to Conference on Getting a Grip- Substance Misuse. On the proposal of Cllr. Beecher which was seconded by Cllr. Murray the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Linehan Foley attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. Murray the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Beecher attend this conference.

10. Notice in relation to Conference on the Role of the Council in Encouraging and Supporting the Development of Enterprise through Tourism and Sport.

11 Notice on revised conference programme on Domestic Water Metering.

12. Motion from Kilkee Town Council.

13. Notice of Conference on Victims of Crime – The Cost to the Community.

14. An appreciation card from the family of Bobby Walsh.

15. A brochure from Greystones Town Council on their forthcoming conference on Local Democracy.

16. Brochure from Clare County Council on their National Tourism Conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Hennessy which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Coyne attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. Coyne the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Burke attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. Coyne the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Hennessy attend this conference.

17. Brochure in relation to the Irish Ports Conference 2011.

18. Brochure in relation to Housing Ireland 2020 Conference.

19. A letter from Sean Sherlock in relation to a meeting with the Members of Youghal Town Council.

20. Notice of Motion from Cobh Town Council.

21. Thank you letter from the Irish Water Safety in relation to a contribution from Youghal Town Council.

22. Thank you letter from the “Queen of the Sea” Committee in relation to sponsorship received from Youghal Town Council.

23. Reminder notice from LAMA in relation to their Autumn Seminar 2011.

24. Letter from Cunnane Stratton Reynolds in relation to an application to An Bord Pleanála by Mr. Binman.

25. Letter from Cork County Council in relation to the EU Floods Directive.

26. Letter from the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport in relation to Transport Access for All.

27. Notice from TJK Conferences in relation to Local Government & Planning Seminar for Councillors. On the proposal of Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. Coyne the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Burke attend this conference.

Correspondence for Viewing:

1. Report of Directors of Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurance.

2. IPA Local Authority Times Volume 15.

3. Council Review.

Any Other Business:

1. Cllr. Burke asked if the Town Engineer could provide an itemised report on the costing of the Diving Rocks.

That concluded the business of the meeting.