

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 10th September 2013 in the Mall House, Youghal at 10.00 a.m.

**Present:**

Mayor Sammy Revins presided.

Cllrs. Hennessy, O'Connell, Burke, Flanagan, O'Sullivan & Beecher.

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Linehan Foley & Murray.

**Officials Present:**

Mr. Maurice Manning, Town Manager.

Mr. Liam Ryan, Town Clerk.

Mrs. Helen Mulcahy, Staff Officer.

Mr. Ger Lupton, Town Foreman.

**Opening Prayers:**

The members and officials recited the opening prayers.

The Members unanimously welcomed Maurice Manning, Town Manager to his first meeting. The Manager informed the Members that whilst it was his first meeting as Town Manager it would also be his last as he was being re-assigned to a group which had been established to oversee the transition of the 9 Towns to Cork County Council. The Members wished the Manager well in his new post.

**Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 9th July, 2013:**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 9th July, 2013 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Beecher, seconded by Cllr. O' Sullivan and unanimously adopted by the Members.

**Report of the Town Clerk on matters arising since the Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 19th July, 2013.**

**1. McDonalds Slipway & Quay:**

Stephen Byrne Plant Hire and Civil Engineering Contractors from Wexford have been appointed to undertake a schedule of works on McDonalds Slipway & Quay adjacent to Buttimer's Dock. The value of the works in the Slipway amounts to €33,303.83 with a further €35,000 of works identified for the Quayside. Works are due to commence on site within the next two weeks and will be completed by the end of October. These works will greatly enhance the structural integrity of the Slipway and Quay for many years to come. The project is 75% funded by the Department of Agriculture & Fisheries.

**2. Town Walls Project 2013 – Section F:**

Newcourt Construction Ltd. have been appointed to undertake remedial works on Section F of the Town Walls adjacent to St. Mary's Collegiate Church. The value of the contract excluding VAT amounts to €27,636 and the works will commence shortly on the project. This area of the walls is very significant as it contains a section of the archers walkway with archers openings. The works will be completed by the end of October and is 90% funded by the Heritage Council.

**3. St. Mary's Church Roof:**

David O' Riordan Building Contractor has been appointed to undertake remedial works on a section of the roof of St. Mary's Church. The value of the works identified is €17,497.00 ex. Vat and works commenced on Monday 9th September. This project is 75% funded under the Structures at Risk

Scheme operated by the Department of the Environment. The works will be completed by the middle of October next and should preserve the integrity of the Church's roof for many years to come.

#### **4. Footpath Replacement at Emmet Place:**

McMahon Underground Services Ltd. have been appointed to undertake footpath replacement works at Emmet Place. The works commenced on the 26th August last and will mirror the works undertaken previously on the northern section of Emmet Place in the use of limestone materials and public lighting etc. as set out on the Council's Public Realm Plan. These works should be completed within 6 weeks with the contractor then moving on to the footpath replacement works on O' Rahilly Street.

#### **5. Nealons Quay Project:**

Stephen Byrne Plant Hire and Civil Engineering Contractors have been appointed to undertake the drainage works and civil works attached to the installation of the bases for the tulip umbrellas on Nealons Quay. The value of these works are as follows:

- a) Drainage Works - €41,835.00
- b) Bases etc. - €32,650.00.

When the bases are installed and the limestone kerbing put in place the entire car park will be resurfaced the third week of this month. The tulip umbrella's are due on site in early October prior to erection. SECAD and Youghal Chamber of Tourism & Commerce are funding this section of the project. The Quay Wall together with the new limestone paving walkway and footpaths will be completed after that. This is a very exciting project for Youghal and will transform this area of the town for visitor and native alike.

#### **6. Historic Towns Initiative:**

The bulk of the works on this project are nearing completion such as;

- a) The repaving of the Market Square area.
- b) The works on Nealons Quay.
- c) The Painting Scheme for 2013.
- d) The Maritime Signage (manufactured awaiting installation).
- e) The Internal Church Trail Signage (manufactured awaiting installation).

The value of the entire package is approx. €110,000.

The Town Clerk also circulated to the Members the results of the 2013 Tidy Towns Competition. Youghal achieved Bronze Medal Status and gained 8 points on last year. The Town Clerk congratulated the Tidy Towns Group and indeed the outdoor staff of Youghal Town Council for their tremendous work and dedication.

#### **Votes of Congratulations:**

1. To the Medieval Festival Committee on organising a fantastic Medieval Day which was a huge success and attended by thousands.
2. To Youghal4All on their very successful 'Mackerel Festival'.
3. To the Terry/Healy Families on the very successful 'Run for Phil'.
4. To Amanda Crotty for her participation in the 2013 Special Olympics.
5. To the organisers of the Queen of the Sea Festival on a very successful event again this year.

#### **Town Foreman's Report:**

The Town Foreman's Report on works carried out from the 5th July to the 5th September, 2013 was

brought to the attention of the Members and noted. Arising from the report the following items were raised:

1. Potholes at the top of Windmill Hill, Raheen Park, Cork Hill.
2. 'No Parking' signs for the roadway across from the Millennium Park Playground.
3. Fr. O'Neills Statue – update in relation to vandalism. The Town Foreman said that the cleaning of same would be done in the next week or so.
4. Re-surfacing of top section of Raheen Park. The Town Clerk advised the Members that the NNR Grant for 2013 had been allocated in full but the members could consider to include Raheen Park as part of the 2014 Programme.
5. Potholes Lower Windmill Hill and Sarsfield Tce.
6. Footpath repairs to be carried out by Cork County Council Area Office: The Engineer informed the Members that he is trying to find some money from the Budget and will update the Members at the next meeting.
7. The Mayor thanked the Town Foreman on the works that had been carried out on the McCurtainstown Car Park.

#### **Cork County Council Items:**

##### **ENGINEERS REPORT ON ITEMS RAISED AT THE JULY MEETING.**

1. Lighthouse Hill Stabilisation Works.

Cumnor are 7 weeks in to a 14 week contract. Programme is on schedule.

2. Youghal Main Drainage:

A Contractor has been recommended for the Network Drainage Contract Works. The Design, Build & Operate contract for the treatment plant is being finalised. Once both Contractors are agreed a recommendation will go to the Department for approval.

3. Beaches:

Lifeguards have finished up for the season for the Front Stand & Claycastle. Regular maintenance of the beach area will continue as necessary.

#### **County Council Items:**

1. Stabilisation Works at the Lighthouse Hill: Cllr. Burke said that whilst scaffolding etc. was in place as part of the works perhaps there was an opportunity to consider creating a viewing area here. The Engineer stated the works here were stabilisation works only but agreed to look into same.
2. Potholes Summerdale Lawn.
3. Parking problems at Lower Raheen Park.
4. Roadway between Copperally & Greenloyne – reflectors at Junction.

#### **Managers Orders:**

Managers Order no's 143/2013 to 195/2013 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

#### **Planning Applications:**

The Members were informed that P 13/58005, 6 & 7 had been received.

#### **Further Information Received:**

The Members were informed that no further information had been received.

#### **Disposal of Properties:**

There were no disposals.

#### **Mayors Business:**

1. The Mayor congratulations all those involved in the organisation of the three very successful festivals which had been held during the summer months, namely The Queen of the Sea Festival, The Mackerel Festival & The Medieval Day.

2. The Mayor thanked the Irish Naval Service for the invitation to the Annual Passing Out Ceremony.

**Housing (Amendment) Act, 2013:**

This was circulated to the Members for their information and noted. Traveller Accommodation This was circulated to the Members for their Programmes 2014 – 2018: information and noted. The Town Clerk reminded the Members that the closing date for submissions is the 27th September, 2013.

**Walking & Cycling Strategy For Youghal Active Travel Town:**

This was circulated to the Members for their information and noted.

**Petition from the Residents Of North Cross Lane:**

The Town Clerk circulated the Members with a petition from the residents of North Cross Lane in relation to the traffic arrangements and their concern at the danger to pedestrians and motorists. The Town Engineer agreed to investigate the matter further and consider, if necessary, under the NNR Programme for 2014.

**Poison Bush Lane:**

This item was held in committee. The Members unanimously agreed that the public right of way would not be considered by the Members of Youghal Town Council at this time.

**AMAI Official Report 2013:**

This was circulated to the Members for their information and noted.

**Taking in Charge of Millfield Abbey:**

The Members unanimously agreed to commence the taking in charge process in respect of Millfield Abbey.

**Unresolved Motions Report:**

The Town Clerk stated that it was not realistically conceivable that any of the unresolved motions which were on this report would be resolved prior to the abolition of Youghal Town Council and that perhaps it might be more appropriate to send the report to the head of the new district next year when this structure was in place.

**Annual Financial Statement 2012:**

The Town Clerk circulated the Members with copies of the Draft Annual Financial Statement for 2012 and sought their approval in relation to same and to the over/under expenditure/income as per Note 17. On the proposal of the Mayor Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. Hennessy the Members unanimously approved of the Draft AFS 2012 and the over/under expenditure as per Note 17.

**Correspondence September 2013.**

1. Notice of Motion received from Kilkee Town Council:  
“That Kilkee Town Council calls on the Minister of State Jan O’ Sullivan to give special consideration to the social houses that remain under the control of former Town Commissioners when considering applicants under the ‘Energy Efficiency Investment”
2. Thank you letter from Peter & Barbara Murray in relation to a recent fundraising night for their grandson Killian Murray.
3. Notice of Motion received from Macroom Town Council: “That Macroom Town Council calls on Minister Phil Hogan to write to all Town Councils explaining the breakdown of exact savings that are to be made by the abolishment of Town Councils”.
4. Notice from Mirage Superior in relation to a Contemporary Art Exhibition for Youghal Rebel Week

26th October, 2013.

5. Notice from Tgr Seminars in relation to a seminar on Poverty in Ireland Today.

6. Notice from The Institute of Professional Training on "The Defining Document on the New Local Government Structures for June 2014.

7. Notice from Tgr Seminars in relation to a Seminar on Accessing Funding for Community Programmes Relevant to Councillors.

8. Notice of Motion received from Leixlip Town Council:

"Leixlip Town Council writes to the Minister of Social Protection and the Minister of Education expressing our disgust and rejects the proposed cuts to special education needs in our school which target some of the most vulnerable in society".

9. Notice of Motion received from Tipperary Town Council:

"That this Council calls on the Minister for the Environment, Community & Local Government in the context of his proposed reform of Local Government, to devolve to Cashel and Tipperary Municipal District Council (MDC), the representation, powers and resources to enable it to function effectively as a proper local council and representative body for the Municipal District. In particular, to ensure that the elected representatives in the MDC have control over the expenditure of property tax, commercial rates and other income, raised in this area to ensure they are spent on local public services in this area".

10. Notice of Motion received from Clones Town Council:

"That Clones Town Council calls on the Minister for Health Dr. James Reilly, TD to confirm that discretionary medical cards will not be withdrawn from cancer patients who are not considered terminally ill.

I would ask that the Minister make a clear unambiguous statement on this matter. Is the criteria being changed or is to not? Are the rules on the discretion by which medical cards will be issued being changed or are they not? The fact that we are getting mixed messages is causing cancer patients further distress. In recent days I have listened to the genuine and extreme distress of people suffering from cancer and this situation needs to be clarified immediately so that patients can concentrate on getting better and not have to worry about how they are going to afford treatment. I propose that this Motion be forwarded to the Minister for Health and circulated to each Town and County Council".

11. Notice of Motion received from Ballina Town Council:

"That this Council calls on the Minister for the Environment to use the opportunity of the Referendum on the future of the Senate to consult the relevant people on the abolishment of the Town Council; That this motion is circulated to all Town Councils for their support".

12 Notice of Motion from Carrickmacross Town Council:

"That Carrickmacross Town Council notes that a significant piece of immigration reform legislation is currently due to come before the US House of Representatives. This has the potential to positively transform the situation for the estimated 50,000 to 70,000 undocumented Irish people on the United States.

That we hereby agree to write to Congressman John Boehner, Speaker in the US House of Representatives commending this legislation and encouraging its approval by Congress.

That we circulate a copy of this motion to each local authority on the island of Ireland and to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr. Eamonn Gilmore".

13. Notice of Motion received from Monaghan County Council:

"In light of the Government's improved financial situation that this Council calls on the Minister for Social Protection to increase all Old Age Pensions to match the inflation rate over the last three years".

14. Letter from Kerry County Council on Higher Education Grant Scheme 2013.

15. Notice of Motion received from Bandon Town Council:

"Bandon Town Council calls upon the Taoiseach, Minister for the Environment and Oireachtas Members to immediately amend the legislation with regards to rates/rate valuations.

The process involved with regards to valuation needs to be amended to take into account the ability to pay rather than the physical building and the location of the business. Also the current practice of arrears of rates being passed on to a new business owner who has taken over an existing business unit needs to be amended as this affects economic growth”.

16. Notice from Parnell Summer School 2013 in relation to their forthcoming Conference.

17. A thank you letter from the Irish Water Safety regarding the Council’s contribution of €1500.00

18. Notice of Motion received from Dundalk Town Council:

“That this Council calls on the Government to give official recognition status to Irish Sign Language which would improve the lives and well being of our deaf and hard of hearing citizens”.

19. Notice from Omagh District Council in relation to the Benedict Kiely Literary Weekend 2013.

20. A letter from Lorraine Hogan, Rapid Co-ordinator seeking funding for various estates.

21. A thank you letter from the Irish Blood Transfusion Service.

22. Notice of Motions received from Monaghan Town Council:

(a) “Monaghan Town Council calls on the Minister for Education and Skills, Ruairi Quinn, TD to reverse his decision relating to the reduction on support hours to children with special educational needs”.

(b) “That the Minister would look at EU Directive Regulation 56, Sub-Section 7 of the European Communities Regulations 2007 to insert a clause that any company that has gone into receivership or liquidation cannot tender for public contracts for a period of 5 years under a new company name when that new company is relying on technical or professional abilities of the old company”.

23. A letter from Michael Lee, Youghal Coast Guard in relation to speeding in the harbour.

24. Notice from the Rattoo Heritage Society in relation to the Annual Environmental, Cultural and Heritage Conference.

25. Notice in relation to the Westport Experience Conference.

26. Notice from the Institute of Professional Training in relation to a Training Seminar on Local Authority Budgets 2014.

27. Notice from the Institute of Professional Training in relation to a Training Seminar on:

1) Seanad – The Results.

2) C.D.B.’s out – S.E.C.’s in.

28. A notice in relation to a conference on Internet Elections.

On the proposal of Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. Burke the members unanimously approved of Cllrs. O’Connell & Hennessys attendance at the recent conference on Community Development, Arts & Sport in Killarney.

On the proposal of Cllr. Burke which was seconded by Cllr. Revins the members unanimously approved of Cllrs. Hennessy’s attendance at the forthcoming AMAI Conference.

On the proposal of Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. Beecher the Members unanimously approved of Cllr. Murrays attendance at the forthcoming seminar on 1) Seanad – The Results. 2) C.D.B’s out – S.E.C.’s in.

### **Any Other Business.**

Cllr. Flanagan asked if there was any update in relation to the Midleton to Youghal Cycle Path. The Town Clerk said that he was not aware of any but would bring it to the attention of the Members if he had any update.

This concluded the business of the meeting.