

Minutes of East Cork Municipal District Held on 1st September, 2014 at 11.00 a.m. at The Mall House, Youghal, Co. Cork.

I LATHAIR:

Mayor Noel Collins presided.

Cllrs. Hegarty, O' Sullivan, McCarthy, Linehan Foley & Buckley.

Ag Freastal:

Joe McCarthy, Municipal District Officer.

Dave Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer.

Christy Ring, Senior Executive Engineer.

Paul Murray, Executive Engineer.

Mary Flynn, Assistant Engineer.

Maurice Manning, Senior Executive Officer.

Helen Mulcahy, Municipal District (Youghal Office).

Geraldine O' Connell, Municipal District (Youghal Office)

1. Minutes of Meeting Held on 7th July, 2014:

The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th July, 2014 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Hegarty, seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley and unanimously adopted by the Members.

2. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations:

None

3. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Order or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for transaction at Meeting:

Cllr. Hegarty nominated Cllr. McCarthy and Cllr. O' Sullivan nominated Cllr. Linehan Foley to sit on the board of the Youghal Socio Economic and Development Group. This was unanimously agreed by the Members.

Other Business set forth in the Notice convening the Meeting:

Cllr. Collins expressed his frustration and disappointment that representatives from Irish Water and Atkins Construction failed to give an update on the progress of the Youghal Main Drainage Scheme. Cllr. Hegarty described the non attendance as both unsatisfactory and shambolic and stated that both companies seemed to dictate as they wish.

Cllr. Linehan Foley requested that another meeting be arranged with Irish Water/Atkins as a number of issues need to be discussed and clarified. Paul Murray, Executive Engineer agreed to arrange same.

Cllr. Collins vented his frustrations at the lack of Local Government Services and Procedures as he had made numerous representations to engineers, secretaries and council officials which he stated all went unanswered. Cllr. Collins stated that he considered terminating his term as Chairman but would not do so due to the fact that he has forfeited his Chairman's Allowance to a family in financial difficulty with their housing mortgage. Cllr. Collins raised the issue of the road L 7657 in East Ferry, Midleton which he stated is almost impassable at present. Cllr. Collins informed the Members that this roads facilitates residents, school travel and in particular wheelchair bound pupils. Christy Ring, Senior Executive Engineer informed the Members that he had inspected the road in question and had also spoken to one of the residents and informed her that he would be

looking after the road in question.

Cllr. Hegarty stated that the new municipal district scenario was new to all the Members and how the Members would have to work the system to the best of their ability to deliver the best service possible to the public. Cllr. Hegarty stated that there is frustration and contact may be difficult at present but the Members must try their best to get things done. Cllr. Hegarty informed the Members that Mr. Tom Stritch, Roads Director had been on sick leave which was followed by holiday leave since last July.

The Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Maurice Manning informed the Members that even though the Town Councils of Youghal and Midleton have been abolished road structures remain in place and stated that any issues where correspondence has not been answered can be investigated. He also stated that any correspondence which is not answered should be brought to his attention, but that this problem could be due to the fact that it is holiday period at present.

Cllrs. Linehan Foley, McCarthy & Buckley concurred with Cllr. Hegarty's comments. Cllr. Buckley stated that the system seems to be diluted at present, but paid thanks to the Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke for his responsiveness.

The Senior Executive Officer Mr. Maurice Manning informed the Members that Cork County Council was still operating on the 2014 Roads Budget and that the Members could possibly have roads with a specific interest to them which might not be on the 2014 Road Budget but could be put forward in the 2015 Budget.

Cllr. McCarthy raised the issue of emergency works and asked if there was any provision for same. The Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray informed the Members that once planned works are complete discretionary funding may become available.

Cllr. Collins raised the issue of the L7657 once again and stated that he had received a letter from a resident on this road with a wheelchair bound child complaining of potholes on this road. The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Christy Ring informed the Members that he was unaware of this situation. The Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray agreed to investigate same.

5. Notices of Motion:

5.1.1 Cllr. Noel Collins received on 7th July, 2014:

“Progress Report from Cork County Council and NRA re: road and footpath infrastructure in Rocky Road and adjoining roads plus slip road from Rocky Road, and CCTV cameras at underpass in Rocky Road”.

Action: The Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray agreed to refer this matter to the Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Dave Clarke.

5.1.2 Noel Collins received in 7th July, 2014:

“Public Lighting requested by residents from Waterrock Cross – N25 to Healy's Golf Course and Restaurant, Lower Bailick Raod and Old Youghal Road, Midleton and Upper Scartleigh, Saleen, Cloyne”.

Action: The Executive Engineer, Christy Ring informed the Members that this item was not a matter for the East Cork Municipal District as this area extended into the Glanmire area. Cllr. Buckley informed the Members that Cork County Council no longer repaired public lighting as it was costing €2m per year.

5.1.3 Noel Collins, received on 7th July, 2014:

“When will road safety measures be put in place at Coolbawn Corner, Broderick Street, Midleton”.

Action: The Municipal District Officer, Mr. Joe McCarthy informed the Members that these works were part of the town centre improvement works plan and is in the process of going to tender with an eventual successful contractor awarded. The Municipal District Officer informed the Members that the primary issues addressed in this item is improvement of the roadway for pedestrians.

Cllr. Buckley stated that €1.2m had been set aside for flood relief but Midleton was not included as part of this project. The Municipal District Officer informed the Members that this funding was allocated to far larger projects and would be concentrating on areas such as the harbour etc.

Cllr. Hegarty requested a written account of what contract and projects have been entered into by the two former Town Councils to avoid duplication of motions.

5.1.4 Noel Collins, received on 7th July, 2014:

“Need for dredging and improvements to river banks to the two rivers – Roxborough and Owenacurra that flow through Midleton town”.

Action: The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Christy Ring agreed to investigate same and prepare a report for the October meeting.

5.1.5 Pat Buckley, received on 9th July, 2014:

“That this Council cut the grass at Avoncore Place, Midleton in the square and give the area a general clean up:.

Action: The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Christy Ring informed the Members that no funding is available at present for grass cutting at this area. However the Engineer informed the Members that a community grant is available for residents to acquire machinery to cut the grass at this location and that he would also assist in the removal of grass cutting etc.

5.1.6 Cllr. Mary Linehan Foley received on 11th August, 2014:

“That provision is made in the 2015 East Cork Municipal District Budget for the resurfacing of Kilcoran Place and Prospect Hill, Youghal

In relation to Kilcoran Road Cllr, Linehan Foley thanked the Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray for the filling in of the potholes at this location but stated that the whole road needs to be resurfaced. Cllr. Linehan Foley stated that the wall at Prospect Hill was in danger of collapsing and she had received numerous calls from residents of the area who have concerns in relation to access for emergency vehicles, should the need arise at this location.

Action: The Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray agreed to investigate both roads.

5.1.7 Cllr. Noel Collins received on 12th August, 2014.

“Road leading to Woodbrook Estate, Mill Road, Midleton, has major potholes for filling”.

Action: The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Christy Ring informed the members that a lot of resurfacing works are due to take place here.

5.1.8 Cllr. Noel Collins received on 12th August, 2014.

“Many of the grill covers on water shores, incorporated in the footpaths on Main Street, Midleton are choked and broken, resulting in flooding in bad weather. One such case to hand – “Cali” Ladies Wear, 78 Main Street, Midleton”.

Action: The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Christy Ring agreed to investigate same.

5.1.9 Cllr. Noel Collins received in 12th August, 2014.

“Attended meeting in Saleen, on Thursday last, parents, teachers and residents anxious to have footpath reconstructed from Scartleigh Upper to Saleen National School, before the school reopens in September. Funding approved therefor”.

Action: The Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. Christy Ring informed the Members that this matter is on a programme of a list of works which are due to be completed in the next month.

5.1.10 Cllr. Susan McCarthy received on 25th August, 2014.

“That Council undertake to resurface road L7657 to Jamesbrook. Resurfacing of the adjoining road heading to Saleen (passing Garranekinnefeake graveyard) has already been addressed. However, the L7657 has been left in its current state, it is very uneven and riddled with potholes. There are two families with children with special needs who cannot use the road as it is in such disrepair it is entirely unsuitable for wheelchair access. CIE are currently reviewing whether the road is suitable for collection of both children who start school this September”.

Action: The Executive Engineer informed the Members that he was not aware of any wheelchair users at this location but reassured the Members that if any discretionary monies become available this area will get first preference.

5.1.11 Cllr. Susan McCarthy received on 25th August, 2014.

“That Council seek to install traffic calming measures on the R630 between Ballinacurra and the entrance to the Dark Road similar to that already in place from the Dark Road to Lakeview Roundabout. In the event that this is too costly, that road markings be upgraded in the interim”.

Cllr. Buckley informed the Members that he had spoken to the Senior Executive Engineer, Mr. David Clarke in relation to the provision of warning lights due to excessive speeding on this road.

Action: The Executive Engineer, Mr. Christy Ring agreed to investigate this matter.

5.1.12 Cllr. Susan McCarthy received on 25th August, 2014.

“That Council endeavour to install a recycling facility in the Aghada/Whitegate area as soon as possible. There is currently no recycling facility available to the residents of this heavily populated area, who have to travel to Cloyne or Midleton to access such facilities”.

Cllrs. Hegarty and Buckley stated that they fully supported this motion.

Action: The Executive Engineer, Mr. Christy Ring agreed to investigate same.

5.1.13 Cllr. Susan McCarthy received on 25th August, 2014.

“That the hole in the green at Midleton Downs be filled as this is a hazard and general nuisance. Although barriers have been put up in the interests of health and safety, many residents have complained that it is an eyesore and should be addressed”.

Action: The Executive Engineer informed the Members that there were major sinkholes in the adjoining estate which had been repaired, He stated that he did not consider the hole in question a danger at this stage but he would investigate same.

5.1.14 Cllr. Susan McCarthy received on 25th August, 2014.

“That the trees at Castleredmond Estate bordering the residences on the R630 be cut back to a safe level. It appears that some of these may need to be removed”.

Action: The Executive Engineer informed the Members that this estate was not in the charge of the Council but he would investigate same.

5.1.15 Cllr. Pat Buckley received on 25th August, 2014.

“I propose that the East Cork Municipal District hold a Civic Reception for Sean Buckley and James Colbert as a token of respect for what these people have achieved – Endurance Challenge 2068, which has be a world record and has never been done before and it was basically 22 triathlons in 22 days”.

Action: The Municipal District Officer, Mr. Joe McCarthy agreed to arrange same.

Information 5.2

Cllr. Pat Buckley

“Bun Scoil, South Abbey, Youghal opposite the Garda Barracks.

“Is the gentlemen who is acting as a lollypop man at the school a council employee? If so is it possible to equip him with proper gear such as a proper stop sign and proper florescent gear as confusion with the workers on the drainage scheme is an issue. Is he covered by insurance?”

Ms. Helen Mulcahy, Staff Officer, East Cork Municipal District, Youghal Office gave the following statement to the Members:

Due to the long term absence of the school warden at Bun Scoil a council employee carries out the duties of school warden. This employee always wears a high visibility jacket which clearly identifies the employee as an employee of Cork County Council. All employees, when carrying out duties assigned to them by their employer, are covered by insurance. The employee has been instructed to use the lollipop – effective immediately.

The Municipal District Officer, Mr. Joe McCarthy stated that the sensible response for any person is to stop or slow down at any junction if they witness the presence of a garda, council worker or road worker.

Any Other Business:

A) Cllr. Hegarty raised the issue of Clasheen Bridge and queried as to when work would commence on damage inflicted by storms and also when would the road be re-opened. The Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray informed the Members that a contractor had been appointed and was on site.

B) Cllr. Hegarty raised the issue of the road repairs on the approach road into Cloyne, The Executive Engineer, Mr. Christy Ring informed the Members that these works are completed.

C) Cllr. Hegarty raised the issue of the manhole cover at the entrance to Castlemartyr Resort. The Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray informed the Members that this item had been referred to the relevant contractor.

D) Cllr. Hegarty raised the issue of the layout of distribution pipes on the pier at Ballycotton. Cllr. Hegarty informed the Members that the public had access to water taps at Ballycotton Pier for

which the Fisherman's Association was being billed for. Cllr. Hegarty stated that there are also public toilets at this location also and queried if the design of the distribution pipes be made available to indicate who is responsible for what so the Fisherman's Association will not be billed for public usage.

E) Cllr. Hegarty raised the issue of traffic calming at Mullin's Cross. The Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray informed the Members he would investigate same and report back at the October meeting.

F) Cllr. Linehan Foley raised the issue of Killeagh Road, Mogeely and Gleann Fia Estate and queried if funding could be provided for footpaths and traffic calming measures at these estates. Cllr. Linehan Foley also informed the members that the developer of Gleann Fia Estate had not paid any contributions towards lighting at this area and stated that it was an extremely busy road where speed is used excessively. G) Cllr. Linehan Foley raised the issue of lighting at Spa Hill, Oakhill and Ardan Na Mara. The Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray will investigate same.

H) Cllr. Linehan Foley proposed that a civic reception be held to honour Sean Coleman, Patrick Plante and Sandra Egan all who won gold, silver and bronze medals at the recent Special Olympics which were held in Limerick and also for Maurice Walsh in recognition for his 30 years of voluntary service to boxing in Youghal and East Cork.

I) Cllr. Linehan Foley requested the provision of dog fouling signs for Blackwater Heights and Dr. Kennedy Place.

J) Cllr. Buckley raised the issue of the Boardwalk and asked if funding had been approved. Mrs. Helen Walsh, Municipal District Staff Officer informed the members that the design stage had been reached and was ready to go to tender.

K) Main Drainage Scheme:

The Executive Engineer, Mr. Paul Murray informed the Members that Irish Water will provide a spokesman for the next meeting of the Council. Cllr. Hegarty stated that it was unacceptable that no representative was present at today's meeting. The Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Maurice Manning stated that it needs to be clarified why no representative was present as he was informed the County Engineer that someone would be attending today's meeting.

Cllr. Linehan Foley raised the issue of the works due to take place in Strand Street during the school period and stated that a plan of action needed to be discussed due to the large volume of children attending the Gaelscoil.

Cllr. O' Sullivan informed the Members that he was informed the works would take place in Strand Street during the mid-term break in October.

The Executive Engineer informed the Members that works here had been deferred until October due to unsuitably during the summer tourist season.

L) Cllr. O' Sullivan on a point of information raised the issue of the unsightly condition of the roads at South Main Street from the Mall Lane to the Clock Gate but stated that it was no reflection on council employees due to lack of resources.

Votes of Sympathy and Condolences:

Cllr. Michael Hegarty proposed a vote of sympathy to Mr. Dave Clarke and his family on the death of his father Mr. Leonard Clarke.

The Members agreed that the next meeting of the Municipal District Council take place on October 6th at 11.00 a.m. at the Midleton Office.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.