

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 8th February, 2010 in the Mall House, Youghal at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Sandra McLellan, presided. Cllrs. Linehan Foley, Revins, Daly, Coyne, Hennessy, Beecher and Murray. Apologies were received from Cllr. Burke.

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.

Presentation By Eric Gordan Kingsley & Eric Trihy gave a lengthy and detailed Trihy on Youghal presentation to the Members on the Youghal Community Community Based Drug Based Drug Initiative Project. Initiative Project. The Members unanimously thanked both Gordan Kingsley and Eric Trihy for a very helpful and informative presentation.

Minutes of Monthly The minutes of Monthly meeting of Youghal Town Meeting held on 11th Council held on the 11th January, 2010 were adopted January 2010: on the proposal of Cllr. Revins , seconded by Cllr. Beecher, and unanimously adopted by the members of the Council.

Minutes of Budget The minutes of Monthly meeting of Youghal Town Meeting held on 11th Council held on the 11th January, 2010 were adopted January 2010: on the proposal of Cllr. Beecher, seconded by Cllr. Hennessy , and unanimously adopted by the members of the Council.

Minutes of Special The minutes of Monthly meeting of Youghal Town Meeting held on 18th Council held on the 18th January, 2010 were adopted January 2010: on the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley, seconded by Cllr. Beecher, and unanimously adopted by the members of the Council.

Report of the Town Clerk:

INCOME STREAM REPORT 2009.

A) COMMERCIAL RATES:

The Youghal Town Council Revenue Budget for 2009 amounted to €4.189m. Projected rate income from the commercial sector was anticipated at €1.368m or 32.65% of overall budget income. The following is a breakdown of the outturn for 2009. Opening Arrears: €140,114.39 Rates Levied: €1,393,275.54

Total Warrant For Collection: €1,533,389.93

Amount Collected: €1,003,821.31 Closing Arrears: €529,568.60

Amounts struck off By Town Manager: €337,435.80 (Strike off provision in 2009 Budget €185,000).

Arrears carried forward: €192,132.80.

The amount of arrears struck off at year end was substantially over the sum provided in the Budget by €152,435.80 and will have a considerable negative effect on the Council's Accounts for 2009.

The bulk of these strike offs, centres on vacant factory sites such as Indian Point (Mill Road), Couristan Carpets (Store Street), Artysen (Springfield) and Seafield (Killeagh Road). Two of these sites were the subject of planning applications in the recent past for substantial development. Youghal Town Council granted planning permission for both developments which would have given an enormous boost to the local economy both in jobs and rate income for the town.

Regrettably both potential developments were opposed locally for varying reasons and subsequently refused permission on appeal by An Bord Pleanala.

Both developments in my opinion would have reduced considerably the shopping drain to neighbouring towns who have similar type developments.

Going forward the development of all of these sites must be prioritised to provide necessary jobs, income for the local economy and provide the migrating customers with more choice and competition thus keeping that money in town. Not to move forward will certainly result in stagnation, further retail decline and further job losses in the local retail sector. Nationally the commercial sector contributes between 40% and 45% on average to local Council Budgets. The

outturn figure for Youghal in 2009 was 23.94% which is significantly lower than the national average. The Town Council grant aided painting scheme for the Town Centre Area which was a tremendous success. The Council have spent €21,414.54 on the scheme in 2009 with a further €22,000 approved for the Spring of 2010. The scheme will be extended to cover the South Main Street area later this year.

B) RENTAL INCOME: Youghal Town Council currently administer 326 local authority houses and apartments, a net increase of 10 over the 2009 figure. The 2009 Budget provided a figure of €825,000 or 19.69% of the overall budget for rental income. Due to the increase in the number of houses provided and the quick turn around in casual vacancies throughout the year the approximate rental income outturn for 2009 is €908,420 or 21.67% of budget income. This increase over budget of €83,420 will help considerably to offset the substantial deficit in rates.

C) PLANNING FEES & DEVELOPMENT INCOME: The Town Council provided a budget income figure of €15,000 for 2009 in planning fees. The outturn for 2009 is €8,174.65 compared with €59,859.52 in 2008, this represents 13.65% of the 2008 figure and 54.45% of the 2009 budget provision. Development levies which do not impact on the Revenue Budget but impact directly on the Council's Capital Budget fell substantially to €46,303.82 or approximately 12.5% of the 2008 figure. This will impact considerably on the Council's ability to undertake substantial Capital Projects for some time.

D) PARKING FEES GENERAL: Income received from parking in general is set out as follows and is compared with the various budget provisions as follows: Outturn 2009 Budget Provision 2009
Operation of Street Parking: €112,426.72 €120,000.00 Residents Parking: € 8, 480.00 € 9,000.00
Parking Enforcement: € 26,347.00 € 16,000.00 (National fine increased from €19 to €40) Totals:
€147,253.72 €145,000.00 The shortfall in locally generated income together with reductions in the Local Government Fund provided by the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government have resulted in major expenditure cuts across all services. This is most reflected in the reduction of staff from a high of 20 in the summer of 2008 to the current level of 13, cuts which from a service provision prospective are not sustainable in the medium to long term.

E) COUNCIL LOAN REPORT: The Council currently have three Department approved loans in operation as follows: Original Amount Amount due Amount Owed 1/1/09 Paid in 2009 31/12/09 a) Swimming Pool Loan: €1.5m €1,302,887 €59,691 €1,243,196 b) Catherine St. Car Park Loan: €634,869 €380,221 €45,321 €334,900 c) Mall Arts Centre Loan: €380,291 €266,171 €19,020 €247,151 Total Loans €2,515,160 €1,949,279 €124,032 €1,825,247 The challenges facing the Council in 2010 will be even more considerable than those experienced last year as the current economic difficulties have not bottomed out on the ground yet. The Members unanimously congratulated the Town Clerk on the report.

Votes of Congratulations: The following Votes of Congratulations were unanimously passed by the Members: 1. To John Stack, Kilcoran Road on the publication of his 2nd book - "Captains of Rome" 2. To David O'Callaghan for representing Ireland on the Under 20's Rugby Team. 3. Aura Leisure/Youghal Town Council on winning the Zurich LAMA 4. Youghal & District Nursing Home on winning an award.

Votes of Sympathy: The Members unanimously passed a vote of sympathy to the following: 1. Cllr Liam Burke and his wife Sheila on the death of her Brother.

Town Foreman's The Town Foreman's Report on works carried out from Report: 7th January, 2010 to the 3rd February, 2010 was brought to the attention of the members and noted.

Arising from the report the following items were raised:

1. Provision of a disabled persons parking space outside Cumann Na Daoine.
2. Provision of a pedestrian crossing at Cork Hill.
3. Potholes at the bottom of Cork Hill.
4. Illegal dumping at The Spa
5. Potholes at Ballyclamasy
6. Illegal dumping at Bayview Grove.

7. Resurfacing of Magners Hill
8. Broken public lights at Kennys Lane
9. Potholes no road markings at Nealons Quay Car Park.
10. Rats at the rear of the Spinning Wheel Bar
11. Derelict Sites update.
12. Illegal dumping at Dermot Hurley Estate
13. Roadway at Island View, Ballyclamasy.
14. Anti-social behaviour in the Graveyard
15. Problem with heating in Alms Houses.

Cork County Council Items: Engineers Report:

1. Repairs to the Urban Roads has commenced. The area at Magners Hill by the New Church is partially complete. The contractor has commenced overlay work at Cork Hill and will follow on with Raheen Road and The Spa.
2. Work on completing the Claycastle footpath has re-started.
3. Work on the disability paths will recommence once staff are not required for emergency work.

Cork County Council Items Raised

1. Emptying of Doggie bins and litter bins at Claycastle.
2. Update regarding establishing ownership of land at Rifle Range and writing to owner re litter.
3. Update regarding €3 charge for entering Landfill Site.
4. Potholes on Cork to Fermoy Road.
5. Yellow Box outside Gael Scoil Coran.
6. Marking of car park spaces up Cork Hill
7. Lack of Plastic Recycling facility at Youghal Civic Amenity Site.
8. Provision of Fairtrade signs.

Managers Orders: Managers Orders nos. 04/10 to 13/10 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Planning Applications: Planning application reference no. P58001/10 was brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Further Information No Further information was received Received:

Mayors Business: The Mayor informed the Members that she had received a Petition in relation to the Closure of Mall Lane. The Mayor informed the Members that she had recently attended the Midleton & District Garda Benevolent Fund Function. The Mayor said it was a great success and congratulated all those involved.

Disposal of Properties: There were no disposals of properties.

Cork Airport Special The Town Clerk circulated to the Members details of the Local Area Plan. Cork Airport Special Local Area Plan. Public Consultation The Town Clerk informed the Members that any Member process. Wishing to make a submission could do so by and they would be passed on by him to the relevant department.

Taking in Charge of Meadow Valley. On the proposal of Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the members unanimously agreed to the proceed with the taking in charge process in relation to Meadow Valley.

Taking in Charge of Harbour Glimpse. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. Revins the members unanimously agreed to the proceed with the taking in charge process in relation to Harbour Glimpse.

Allocation of Budget Funding to Residents Associations and Sporting Groups 2010. The Town Clerk presented the members with the following proposals to allocate funding to local residents and sporting associations. On the proposal of Cllr. Beecher which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the Members unanimously agreed to the proposed allocations.

Contributions to Residents Associations.

Dysart Grove €300

Knockaverry Estate €300

McCurtainstown €300

Raheen Park €300

Crestfield €300

Bayview Grove €600

Woodview Court €300

Dermot Hurley Estate €300

Blackwater Heights €600

Dun Coran €300

Hillview €300

Gallaghers Mews €300

Woodland Grove €300

North Road Residents Association €300

Kilcoran Park €300

Ard na Mara €300

Sweetfield Estate €300

Ridgewood €300

St. Annes Rise €300

Contributions to Sport Groups Youghal Tennis Club €300

Youghal Pigeon Club €300

Youghal Bowling Club €300

Youghal CYMS €300

Youghal Boy Scouts €300

Youghal Karate Club €300

Youghal Bay Bridge Congress €300

Youghal Vintage Club €300

Youghal Badminton Club €300

Youghal International Volleyball Club €300

Cllr. Linehan Foley asked if funding was available to give to a local group fundraising for Haiti.

The Town Clerk stated that the Group would have to make an application in writing for consideration under the 2010 contingency fund.

Motion in the name of Cllr. Daly : "That Youghal Town Council proceed with the pedestrianisation of Mall Lane, once the viability of alternative access onto the Main Street has been reviewed by the County Traffic Management Engineer". Cllr. Daly asked that this motion be deferred to the March Meeting as Cllr. Burke was absent and he felt that it was a matter which required all members of the Council to be present.. Cllr. Hennessy proposed that the motion be dealt with on the night. This was seconded by Cllr. Coyne. A Vote was taken on deferring the motion as follows: Cllr. McLellan For Cllr. Beecher For Cllr. Coyne Against Cllr. Daly For Cllr. Murray For Cllr. Revins For Cllr. Linehan Foley For Cllr. Hennessy Against The motion was consequently deferred by 6 votes to 2.

Correspondance:

1. Letter from Youghal Pipe Band in relation to the 2010 Patricks Day Parade.

2. The following motion was received from Killarney Town Council: "That Killarney Town Council calls on the Minister for Enterprise and Employment to ensure the retention of the minimum wage".

3. Letter from DeValera Street Residents in relation to Traffic Issues.

4. New Year Card from Lamour Plage.

5. The following motion was received from Castlebar Town Council: "That the Members of Castlebar Town Council call on the Government to indict for the act of treason the Politicians and Bankers who were grossly responsible for the undermining of the economy over the past ten years".

6. A letter from Youghal Cycling Club requesting sponsorship.

7. A letter from Cork County Council in relation to the increase of the landfill levy. 8. A letter from the Youghal Socio Economic Group requesting funding.

9. A notice from Recycling & Waste World in relation to the forthcoming conference.
10. A letter from the Department of Transport acknowledging letter from Youghal Town Council requesting Roads Repair Funding
11. A letter from Ned O' Keefe T.D. acknowledging letter from Youghal Town Council requesting Roads Repair Funding.
12. A letter from Michael Ahern T.D. acknowledging letter from Youghal Town Council requesting Roads Repair Funding.
13. A letter from Ned O' Keefe T.D. acknowledging letter from Youghal Town Council requesting Roads Repair Funding.
14. A letter from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government acknowledging letter from Youghal Town Council requesting Roads Repair Funding.
15. A letter from Youghal Chernobyl Aid Group requesting funding. On the proposal of Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. Hennessy the members unanimously agreed to give €200 to the Chernobyl's Children Fund.
16. A brochure from Celticbogwoods in relation to Framed Ogham plaques.
17. A letter from Sean Sherlock T.D. acknowledging letter from Youghal Town Council requesting Roads Repair Funding.
18. A letter from Cork County Council in relation the Joint Housing Strategy. 19. A notice from LAMA in relation to their Annual Conference.

Any Other Business: Cllr. Murray asked if there was any update in relation to a start date for Mall Lane. The Town Clerk stated he was still in the process of getting prices.
This concluded the business of the meeting.