

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 9th July, 2013 in the Mall House, Youghal at 10.00 a.m.

**Present:**

Mayor Sammy Revins presided.

Cllrs. Hennessy, Linehan-Foley, O'Connell, Burke, Flanagan, O'Sullivan.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Beecher, Paul Murray and Ger Lupton.

**Officials Present:**

Mr. Liam Ryan, Town Clerk.

Mrs. Helen Mulcahy, Staff Officer.

**Opening Prayers:**

The members and officials recited the opening prayers.

**Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 11th June, 2013 :**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 11th June, 2013 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Murray, seconded by Cllr. O' Sullivan and unanimously adopted by the Members.

**Minutes of the AGM Meeting held on 11th June, 2013:**

The minutes of the AGM meeting held on 11th June, 2013 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Revins, seconded by Cllr. O' Sullivan and unanimously adopted by the Members.

**Report of the Town Clerk on matter arising since the Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 11th June, 2013:**

**1. Derelict Sites Notice:**

Three derelict site notices were issued on the following last month:

- a) Glendruid Ltd. in respect of the former Hilltop Hotel Site.
- b) J & S Property Ltd. in respect of the Strand Palace Apartment.
- c) Office of Public Works in respect of the Old Court House, Market Square.

**2. Public Realm Works;**

Four public realm projects are due to commence shortly, namely;

- a) McMahon Underground Services Ltd. have been appointed to carry out public realm works (new limestone footpaths) on O' Rahilly Street.
- b) Newcourt Construction have been appointed to carry out public realm works (new limestone paving) around the Tourist Office in Market Square.
- c) Stephen Byrne Plant Hire and Civil Engineering Contractors have been appointed to carry out public realm works (seawall & paving) at Nealons Quay.
- d) McMahon Underground Services Ltd. have been appointed to carry out public realm works (new limestone footpaths) on the southern end of Emmet Place.

**3. Social Housing Works;**

2 social housing projects are due to commence shortly namely;

- a) Michael Foley has been appointed to carry out refurbishment/energy efficiency works to house nos. 2, 4 & 8 Seaview Place, Windmill Hill.
- b) Hill Construction have been appointed to carry out refurbishment works to No. 1 Priory Court, Youghal.

**Tenders:**

Tenders will be opened today under Mayors Business for drainage and paving works at Nealons Quay. The projects at the Town Walls and St. Mary's Collegiate Church are currently out to tender.

**Local Government Fund;**

Since 2008 the Governments Local Government Fund (Governments contribution to Youghal Town Council) has decreased as follows:

| 2008      | 2009      | 2010      | 2011      | 2012    | 2013    |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|
| 1,293,513 | 1,124,131 | 1,090,963 | 1,072,343 | 878,642 | 834,709 |

This fund which is used by Councils to provide services such as street cleaning, grass cutting, housing repairs, litter picking etc., has decreased by €458,804 over this five year period. This means that Youghal Town Council is spending €8,823 less per week in providing services than it did 5 years ago. The biggest reduction in this fund took place in 2012, which is the year in which the Household Charge was introduced. So when the Government were informing the public that the Household Charge was going to be used to "Enhance" local services they cut the Local Government Fund Allocation which is used to provide those services, by a whopping €193,701 that same year. This year the Local Property Tax was introduced to again "Enhance Local Services" and again they have cut this years fund by a further €43,933. The public are under the misconception that Youghal Town Council is receiving monies from the Household Charge and the Local Property Tax, in fact our funding from Government has been cut by €237,634 since the introduction of these charges.

The General Public need to be aware that Youghal Town Council cannot provide services to the standard attained previously due to these savage cuts. These taxes are not being used to "Enhance Local Services". Youghal Town Council would love to be in a position to provide services to the standard attained previously but that is currently not feasible and practical. Consequently the frustrated public should raise these matters with the elected representatives of the Government Parties who have introduced these savage cuts and not the Council staff who are endeavouring to do their best for the town in these difficult times.

**Votes of Congratulations:**

1. To the crew of the Order of Malta on successfully completing the recent course.
2. To Comhaltas on their recent successful trip to Luxemburg.
3. To Shane Harnedy who was made 'man of the match' for Cork.
4. To Youghal Town Council and Youghal Tidy Towns on the fantastic displays of flowers around the Town.

**Town Foreman's Report:**

The Town Foreman's Report on works carried out from the 11th June to the 9th July, 2013 was brought to the attention of the Members and noted. Arising from the report the following items were raised:

1. Weeds on side streets.
2. Overgrowth at the Jail Steps.
3. Weeds at Ashe Street.
4. Additional signage for Church Street.
5. Overhanging tree at Windmill Hill.
6. Potholes at Raheen Park & Sarsfield Tce.
7. Potholes at McCurtainstown Car Park.

**8. Public lighting at The Estuary.**

The Town Clerk advised the members that this Estate had not been taken in charge by the Council and remained the responsibility of the Developer.

**9. Public lighting at Oakhill.**

The Town Clerk advised the members that this Estate had not been taken in charge by the Council and remained the responsibility of the Developer.

**Cork County Council Items:**

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

**1. Lighthouse Hill Wall Stabilisation Works:**

Cumnor Construction have commenced work on site. Work is expected to take three to four months.

**2. Youghal Main Drainage Update:**

Contractor for Design, Build and Operation of the Waste Water Treatment Plant has been recommended. Contractor for the network has also been recommended. Both must be approved by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government. Consultants RPS have been appointed to carry out pre-contract structure on all buildings along the route of the network. RPS have commenced structural surveys along the route of network.

**3. Claycastle:**

All signs have been erected and bins are being attended to as necessary.

**County Council Items:**

1. More frequent emptying of bins in the Strand area.
2. Signage for toilets at Claycastle & Redbarn.
3. Overgrowth on roadway near the Railway Bridge.
4. 'No Left Turn' sign for the Front Strand Car Park.
5. Update on Phase II of the Boardwalk. The Manager informed the Members that the Property Section were working on the land acquisition.
6. Footpath repairs in general – The Town Clerk said that the Town Engineer had informed him that some monies would be available shortly to carry out some works.

**Managers Orders:**

Managers Order no's 102/2013 to 143/2013 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

**Planning Applications:**

The Members were informed that P 13/58004 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 thanked the crew of the 'Irene' for their visit to Youghal.
2. The Mayor congratulated all those who received Order of Malta Awards and thanked all concerned for a great night.
3. The Mayor sent well wishes to all those involved in the opening of the 'DAWG' Charity shop.

4. The Mayor thanked Pdraig Hennessy & his wife of Clancys Bar for their very generous sponsorship of the painting of the public toilets at the Front Strand.
5. The Mayor complimented the owners & management of the Walter Raleigh Hotel on the beautiful work done on the renovation of the hotel and wished them well for the future.

**Retirement of Patricia Power:**

The Mayor wished Patricia Power well on her retirement and thanked her for her years of dedication to Youghal.

Patricia said that she was honoured to have held the position of Town Manager for the past six years and to have been a part of so many wonderful projects such as the Board Walk, The Enterprise Centre and now the Clock Gate. She extended a special thank you to The Mayor & members, Liam Ryan & staff and Ger Lupton and the outdoor staff.

**Report on Hatherton Ltd:**

Cllr. Hennessy reported that the AGM had been held on the 29th June and that the Company was doing very well. It was hoped that the Artisan units would be completed by September.

**Report on Tidy Towns Taskforce:**

This item was deferred to the September meeting.

**Regional Homelessness Action Plan 2013 – 2018.**

This was circulated to the Members for their information. The Action Plan was proposed by Cllr. Linehan Foley, seconded by Cllr. Revins and unanimously adopted by the Members of the Council.

**LG 03 13; Representational Payment for Councillors:**

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

**Cork Planning Authorities Joint Housing Strategy:**

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

**Draft Tramore, Lismore & Portlaw Local Area Plans:**

This was circulated to the Members for their information and noted

**AMAI Centenary Annual Conference “September 2013”:**

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

**Correspondence July 2013.**

1. Thank you letter from the Mayor of Limerick.
2. Notice of Motions received from Monaghan Town Council:
  - (a) “That this Council write to the Minister for Social Protection, Joan Burton to rescind her intention to make people of retirement age (65) sign on at the dole office for one year in order to obtain their State pension which will be reduced by €42.30 per week”. (b) “That this Council calls on the Minister for Justice to review the criteria involved in assessing applicants wishing to enter the state to live to ensure that they do not have a criminal record in the country of origin or any other country”.
3. Letter from Cork County Council in relation to Culture Night September 20th 2013.
4. Thank you letter from Lydia Mossop, on behalf of McCurtainstown Resident Association for their recent grant.
5. Notice from Greystones Town Council in relation to the 2013 La Touche Legacy Seminar.
6. Notice of Motion received from Dundalk Town Council:

“That this Council calls on the Government to implement the National Epilepsy Care Programme in full, in particular the critically needed Epilepsy Monitoring Units as a matter of urgency, and that this

motion be sent as a resolution to other authorities". 7. Notice of Motion received from Dundalk Town Council:

"That this Town Council call for the expedition of the passage through Dail Eireann of the Poor relief Ireland (Amendment) Bill 2013, in an effort to boost commerce and regeneration. That this call is made upon the Ministers for Finance, for Public Expenditure and Reform, for Jobs, Enterprise, and Innovation and for Environment, Community and Local Government. And should this Motion be passed, that a copy thereof be forwarded to the above-mentioned".

8. Letter from the Irish Wildlife Trust.

9. Notice from LAMA in relation to their Autumn Seminar.

10. Notice from TGR Seminars in relation to accessing funding for community programmes relevant to Councillors On the proposal of Cllr. Hennessy which was seconded by Cllr. Revins the members unanimously approved of Cllr. Flanagan's attendance at a conference in Donegal.

On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. O'Connell the members unanimously approved of Cllrs. Burke & Hennessy's attendance at the forthcoming LAMA Conference.

On the proposal of Cllr. Burke which was seconded by Cllr. Revins the members unanimously approved of Cllr. Linehan Foley's attendance at the forthcoming Conference in Letterkenny.

On the proposal of Cllr. Burke which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the members unanimously approved of Cllr. Hennessy's attendance at the forthcoming Conference in Letterkenny.

On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. Revins the members unanimously approved of Cllr. O'Connell's attendance at the forthcoming Conference in Kenmare.

#### **Any Other Business.**

Cllr. O'Sullivan expressed his concern at the growing levels of anti-social behaviour around the Town which was being carried out by the same individuals all of the time. This concluded the business of the meeting.