

Minutes of Youghal Town Council held on 13th October 2008 in the Mall House, Youghal at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mayor Oliver Casey presided.

Cllrs. Linehan Foley, Savage, Revins, Burke, Beecher, McLellan and Murray.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Hennessy.

Officials Present:

Mrs. Patricia Power, Town Manager.

Mr. Liam Ryan, Town Clerk.

Mr. Ger Lupton, Town Foreman.

Mr. Paul Murray, Executive Engineer.

Ms. Katherine Donoher, Staff Officer.

Opening Prayers:

The members and officials recited the opening prayers.

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 8th September 2008:

The minutes of the monthly meeting on 8th September 2008 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Beecher seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley and unanimously adopted by the members.

Minutes of Special Meeting Held on 24th September 2008:

In relation to the Special Meeting held on 24th September 2008 Cllr. Linehan Foley required an amended as both herself and Cllr. Savage had left the meeting prior to the voting taking place on Cllr. Burke's proposal in relation to the proposed link road at Quarry Road.

Following this the minutes of the Special Meeting held on 24th September, 2008 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. McLellan and seconded by Cllr. Murray.

Town Clerk's Report On Matters arising from Held on 8th September, 2008:

Minutes of the MeetingThe Town Clerk gave a report to the Members on the matters arising since the meeting held on 8th September.

I would like to take the opportunity this month to discuss with you the topic of finance and the preparation of the 2009 Budget. As you are only too aware the National Economic Crisis is going to have an enormous impact on the Council's finances next year, the knock on effects of which locally will be seen in the detail of our own Town Budget.

The Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government have already informed the council that we are required to implement a 3% reduction in payroll costs based on the 2008 baseline figure. This effectively means that a 3% reduction on this figure will equate to between 5% & 6%. To meet this requirement, the range of measures to be deployed will include curtailing or suspending staff recruitment with immediate effect, whether for replacement or for additional staff. It is not open to the Council to substitute non pay savings to meet the obligation to effect this 3% reduction. The first casualty of this policy will be the loss of the three seasonal workers (six months contract) for the summer season of 2009, coupled with the non replacement for whatever reasons of staff throughout 2009. This will have definite effects on our response and planned maintenance programmes next year.

Other expenditure areas under pressure are Public Lighting (15% increase) and other energy related areas, Council Insurance etc. The Public Lighting bill for 2009 is anticipated to be in the region of €135,000 with the Council's insurances estimated to cost approx. €262,000 next year.

The problems however do not just stop at expenditure, our various income streams are under serious pressure such as:

Falling rental income due to decreases in differential rent as more people sign on locally.
Planning application fees are greatly reduced due to the lack of development proposals.
Development Contributions contributed €659,000 towards the 2008 Capital Budget, this figure now stands at a much reduced €110,000 for the 2009 capital budget.
A 5 - 10% drop in the Local Government Fund, supplied by the Department.

Problems such as the ones we are currently facing, demand strong collective leadership. This always proves difficult in a local election year, however these differences must be set aside so that we can collectively focus on the problems associated with the current financial problems. It is important that we continue to provide the best service delivery that we can under the circumstances. In this regard it must be noted and generally understood that only items included in the 2009 Budget can be delivered in 2009. It will be pointless raising other issues during the course of the year which require funding because they simply cannot be delivered.

It is important locally that we rise to the challenges that face us, that we do our utmost to protect local jobs in retail and in industry by maintaining our charges at realistic and manageable levels. This will not be easy but must be given every consideration. Demanding times such as these, require brave, collective, decisions for the betterment of our town and all its citizens. I look forward to working with you all throughout the difficult times ahead.

Votes of Sympathy:

The members passed a vote of sympathy to the following:

- 1. Mrs. Joan Hegarty on the death of her husband Mr. Sean Hegarty.

Votes of Congratulations:

The Members passed a vote of congratulations to the following:

- 1. Congratulations to the Youghal Celebrates History Committee on their recent successful conference held in the Mall Arts Centre.
- 2. Congratulations to Minister O Caoimhe on his recent announcement on Rapid Funding which saw Youghal securing €120,000 over the next five years.
- 3. Cllr. Revins requested that the members remember Cllr. Denis Murphy who's 5th Anniversary was today.

Town Foreman's Report:

The Town Foreman's Report on works carried out from September 4th 2008 to 9th October, 2008 were brought to the attention of the members and noted. Arising from the report the following items were raised:

- 1. Sarsfield Terrace and Raheen Park residents requesting a meeting with Town Council before any works commence on the widening of the road at the top of Raheen Park/Sarsfield Terrace. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that public consultation would take place before any works commenced.
- 2. Traffic calming measures for Bayview Grove Estate.
- 3. Traffic calming measures for Strand Street.

- 4. Ongoing problems with cars entering and exiting Galvin's costcutters, Upper Cork Hill.
- 5. Mooring bollard on the quay at the new apartments on Catherine Street.
- 6. Disabled parking space at 38 Raheen Park.
- 7. Car parking spaces in the middle section of Raheen Park.
- 8. Any update on when the Council will be taking over Shanavine, Seafield, Youghal.
- 9. Trees on Kilcoran Road.
- 10. Pebbles in Blackwater Heights near new car parking spaces.
- 11. Collection of Wiser Bins on the Main Street.

Cork County Council

The Town Engineer submitted the following report:

Items

1. Parking on double yellow lines at Quarryvale is an enforcement issue.
2. A substantial amount of Disabled Parking Spaces have been renewed & some Double Yellow Lines have been installed around the town. No further work is proposed this year.
3. Footpath repairs are currently being carried out at Catherine Street . The areas identified by the members as being in need of repair are being examined and & if funding is available it can be expended in these areas if required.
4. Due to funding issues it is not proposed to do any overlays/improvements to the road surfaces in the town other than essential repairs this year.
5. Odours at the Landfill Site are being dealt with by the Environment Department in the County Hall.
6. Tenders have been received for an extension to the outfall pipe at the Front Strand and it is proposed to open same at the Youghal Town Council meeting of the 10th November. It should be noted that due to funding constraints and following consultations with our Consulting Engineers prices have been requested for a 20m extension to this outfall pipe.
7. The review of the Cork Hill Junction regarding the installation Traffic Lights has been dependant on the impact of the traffic proposals for Galvin Developments Ltd at Mill Rd. Engineers for the development have submitted a Traffic Study for the proposal which includes the affect on all junctions in the immediate area. This study has now been referred to the Senior Executive Engineer for Traffic in County Hall for analysis and comment. A report will be provided to the Members in due course.
8. As stated at the October meeting a comprehensive review of the Boola Water Treatment has taken place by Frank Harvey of HRA Ltd and work has commenced on implementing his recommendations.

The Members raised the following issues:

- 1. Footpath survey required throughout the town.
- 2. Entrance to Quarryvale.
- 3. Yellow box at the exit of Pobal Scoil Na Trionaide.
- 4. Disabled parking space at 1 Gallagher Terrace.
- 5. Edge of road repairs beginning at Windmill Hill, in particular outside Sean Twomey Butchers.
- 6. Footpath at Fairfield Car Park.
- 7. Road lining at Sruthain Na Saille. The Town Engineer informed the meeting that it was not currently on their schedule of works.
- 8. Why have double yellow lines been put at South Abbey when the centre line was supposed to be moved.
- 9. Condition of the road surface at Market Square to the Grotto at South Abbey.

- 10. Condition of the road surface from the main road down to the landfill site.
- 11. Odours at the landfill site.
- 12. Any update on start date for the Front Strand outfall.
- 13. Traffic management plan for Cork Hill.
- 14. What is the current status with aluminium levels in the Water Supply in Youghal. According to report issued by Cork County Council 3 out of 6 tests failed. The Town Engineer informed the meeting that a comprehensive review had taken place in Boola Waterworks and that the recommendations made by the expert who undertook the review were currently being implemented.
- 15. Surface water at Quarry Road.
- 16. Derelict site at Railway Station needs to be addressed.
- 17. Continuous white line from Golf links Road to Colaiste Eoin.
- 18. Footpath opposite Maggie Mai's on South Main Street.
- 19. Open Beucon trap on Strand Street.

Managers Orders:

Managers Orders nos. 184/08 to 195/08 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Planning Applications:

Planning application reference nos. P58043/08 to P58048/08 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Further Information Received:

The members were informed that further information was received in relation to planning application nos. P58028/08, P58006/08, and P58013/08.

Mayors Business:

1. The Mayor proposed a civic reception for Bree Rosney, Matron Youghal hospital to be held on Friday 24th October at 8.00pm. This was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley.
2. Opening of tenders for repairs to the collapsed section of Youghal Town Walls. The Town Clerk informed the meeting that four tenders had been received. The following were the list of tenderers:
 - a) Aherne Bros. Ltd.
 - b) Stone Mad Ltd.
 - c) Cornerstone Construction Ltd.
 - d) Newcourt Construction Ltd.

The amounts of tenders received ranged from €91,196.12 to €163,456.17. The Town Clerk expressed his gratitude to the Heritage Council for the funding received.

Tidy Towns Task force:

Cllr. Linehan Foley presented her report on the Tidy Towns Task Force. She informed the meeting that the task force was made up of Tidy Towns members, Town Council members and Chamber of Tourism and Commerce members. Cllr. Linehan Foley detailed some of the issues that had been discussed and agreed at the most recent meeting. Cllr. Linehan Foley thanked the Tidy Towns Committee for their continued work throughout the town.

Community based CCTV For Youghal Town:

The Town Clerk circulated the members with details of the proposed Community based CCTV for Youghal Town. A steering committee has been set up consisting of representatives of Youghal Town Council, An Garda Siochana, Chamber of Commerce and a number of local organisations with an interests in the scheme. Stage I funding has been acquired. A survey of the town has been carried

out and the location of 9 no. dome shaped camera's have been approved. The pictures from the cameras will be simultaneously relayed to the monitoring and equipment centre located at the Council offices in a designated secure location, and the local Garda Station where dual facilities will be available to view live images and to record and retrieve live video images. Cllr. Murray requested that the videos are linked to the Midleton Garda Station as the station in Youghal closes at 10.00pm. Cllr. Revins enquired whether or not this would decrease the chances of the Youghal Station being reopened.

Establishment and Operation of Joint Policing Committees:

The Town Clerk circulated the members with details of the establishment and operation of Joint Policing Committees in all Local Authority areas. The Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government have now issued guidelines for the implementation of these committees. Local Authorities are now required to establish a Joint Policing Committee. Membership of Joint Policing Committees will include members of the Oireachtas and community representatives in addition to local authority/garda representatives. The members of Youghal Town Council unanimously agreed that this scheme would be a great benefit to the Town as a whole. The members agreed that the first meeting should be held possibly as early as next Spring.

Youghal Main Drainage Scheme:

The Town clerk informed the meeting that he was not satisfied with receiving an acknowledgement letter from the Department of Environment, Heritage and Local Government. The Town Clerk told the meeting that it was up to each political party to push the matter further for the sake of Youghal and its blue flag status. Cllr. Burke informed the meeting that the Heritage Committee would be issuing an invitation to Minister Gormley to come to Youghal to launch the Youghal Town Walls Conservation and Management Plan and this could provide a window of opportunity for each member to lobby on the issue.

Youghal Public Realm Plan:

In relation to the Youghal Public Realm Plan Cllr. Burke requested that a Special meeting be held to go through the plan in detail. This was unanimously agreed by the members of the Council.

Motion in the name of Cllr. Burke seconded by Cllr. Casey:

"That this Council calls on the Department of Marine to provide further funding for the refurbishment of the sea wall and promenade at the Front Strand".

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Casey and unanimously agreed by the members.

Motion in the name of Cllr. McLellan seconded by Cllr. Hennessy:

"That Youghal Town Council together with Cork County Council as a matter of urgency erect pedestrian awareness signs in Youghal where there are no footpaths."

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley in Cllr. Hennessy's absence and unanimously adopted by the members of the Council. The motion was to be relayed to the Finance Sub Committee of the Council for funding.

Correspondence:

1. A letter from Pat Lynch regarding the erection of the Iron Gate at the Adoration Chapel. Cllr. Linehan Foley requested that the sign is put back on the door.

2. The following motion was received from Monaghan Town Council:

"That Monaghan Town Council, in recognition of the important social service involved and the voluntary participation of those engaged in the distribution of Meals-on-Wheels, approves the issuance of a display disc or discs to the Managers of the Scheme motor vehicle display purposes

while engaged in active distribution of meals to recipient citizens of our town, thereby excusing the vehicle owner/driver from the requirements of our pay and display pay parking regulations and, if adopted, agrees to circulate this motion for the attention of all City, Corporation and Town Councils throughout the State".

3. AOIFE 2008 conference details.

4. CD and letter from the Department of Transport in relation to their Annual Report 2007.

5. A letter from Brendan Aherne in relation to the Kathleen & May. Cllr. Linehan foley informed the meeting that there was still money in the Kathleen and May fund and that this would probably help towards the costs. Cllr. Burke requested that the Council write to Brendan Ahern requesting a private viewing for the Council. The Town clerk informed the meeting that he would write and request exact details of what was required, the amount of sponsorship etc.

•6.2008 All Island Public Consultation Conference Brochure.

•7.Notice from Kadenza Consultancies in relation to Anti Social Behaviour and Associated Health and Safety Issues. Mayor Casey informed the members that they were all eligible to attend this conference.

•8.Notice from Kadenza Consultancies in relation to a seminar on "The Good Friday Agreement - 10 years on.

•9.A notice in relation to a conference on "Public Relations and Communication Skills for Councillors".

•10. A notice from Roscommon County Council in relation to the Douglas Hyde Conference 2008.

•11. Letter from Cork County Council in relation to the Planning & Development Act 2000 and Planning & Development (Strategic Environmental Assessment) Regulations 2004.

•12. A letter from the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government acknowledging receipt of letter in connection with the Draft Cork County Development Plan - Annaghmore Public Consultation Period.

•13. The following motion was received from Bantry Town Council:

•14. "That this Council calls upon the Department of

•15. Tourism, the Department of Transport, and all other

•16. relevant Government Departments and Agencies to

•17. deploy all resources necessary to guarantee the

•18. return of the Cork Swansea Ferry Service to the

•19. 2009 season".

•20. The following resolution was received from Bandon Town Council:

•21. "That the proposed development of Annaghmore is

•22. at variance with both the cork county Development

•23. Plan and the Cork Area Strategic Plan and is

•24. generally inconsistent with proper planning and it is

•25. not a sustainable or environmentally desirable

•26. development within the county".

•27. A notice from Mayo County Council in relation to a change of date for the LAMA Annual Winter Seminar 2008.

This concluded the business of the meeting.