

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on the 10th of September 2007 at the Mall House, Youghal at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mayor David Savage presided.

Cllrs. Linehan Foley, Revins, Casey, McLellan, Burke, Hennessy, Beecher and Murray.

Officials Present:

Mr. Liam Ryan, Town Clerk, Ms. Geraldine O'Connell, Clerical Officer, Mr. Ger Lupton, Town Foreman, Mr. Paul Murray, Executive Engineer and Ms. Patricia Power, A/Divisional Manager.

Opening Prayers:

The members and officials recited the opening prayers.

Presentation by Aileen Aherne, Tourism Development Officer:

Aileen Aherne, Tourism Officer appointed for Youghal by the Socio Economic development Group, gave a detailed presentation to the members on her work to date and the objectives in relation to the development of the tourism potential of the town.

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 09th July 2007:

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on 09th July 2007 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. McLellan, seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley and unanimously adopted by the members.

Minutes of Special Meeting held on 16th July 2007:

The minutes of the Special Meeting held on 16th July 2007 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley, seconded by Cllr. Hennessy and unanimously adopted by the members.

Town Clerk's Report on Matters arising from the Minutes of the Meeting held on 09th July 2007:

The Town Clerk gave a report to the Members based on the minutes of the meeting held on 09th July 2007.

HOUSING & BUILDING:

1. It is anticipated that the Parklands Turnkey Housing Scheme consisting of 23 Local Authority Houses will be completed by the end of November with all houses allocated prior to the end of the year. The delay is due to the construction of 12 apartments which is happening adjacent to the Local Authority Houses. Under Health & Safety it would not be practical to accept the houses until these building works have been completed as they would be a potential danger to the public and tenants using the area.

2. The Social Housing Scheme namely the construction of 24 houses at Seafield, Youghal is well underway and is anticipated to be completed by Easter 2008. The Housing Officer is currently compiling allocation lists for both this development and Parklands.

3. The tendering process on remedial works for 32 houses at Blackwater Heights has commenced. Public advertisement of this tender was placed on e-tenders and the Irish Examiner last week. It is hoped that we will be in a position to open tenders at the October meeting of the Council. Tender documentation is currently being prepared in relation to remedial works on the remaining houses in Dermot Hurley Estate. It is hoped that we will be in a position to proceed to tender for these houses before the end of the year. It should be noted however, that Government directives in relation to new tendering procedures are proving problematic and are resulting in delays nationwide in relation to projects. Hopefully, these delays will not affect this scheme.

4. Contracts were signed last week between Youghal Town Council and Tourig Homes Ltd. for the construction of three houses on a Brown Field Site at Ashe Street. It is anticipated that works on these houses will commence before the end of September.

ROADS & FOOTPATHS:

1. A new footpath and landscaping has been constructed at Keane Park on the Quarry Road under RAPID funding sought by Youghal Town Council for 2007. This footpath should add to the infrastructure in the area and prove to be very beneficial to the residents of the area over time.

2. The resurfacing works scheduled for Magners Hill and Sweetfield Estate are scheduled to be undertaken by Whelan Contracts Ltd. at the end of this month. The delay has been due to Broadband Cabling Works at Magners Hill.

WATER & SEWERS:

1. The reservoirs are at full storage capacity with the average daily demand now falling to between 600,000 and 610,000 gallons per day for a summer high.

2. I am currently unaware of any problems with the Waste Water System and all pumphouses are operating satisfactorily.

3. The summer season is now drawing to a close, I would like to thank all the residents of Youghal for their help during the summer period in relation to water conservation.

PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT:

1. The grant of permission issued to McInerney Homes Ltd. for the construction of 298 residential units consisting of three no. detached, 122 no. semi-detached, 101 no. terraced, 38 no. apartments, 34 no. duplex units on the provision of a 675m² crèche including the construction of a vehicular access and associated roadworks at Upper Cork Hill, Youghal has been appealed to An Bord Pleanála. A decision on this matter should issue from the Bord within a period of 4 to 6 months.

2. 2 large planning applications have been received over the summer period in relation to 1) an application from David & Louise Savage for the demolition of 2 no. cottages and the construction of 3 no. duplex town houses over three no. single storey apartments in one block and 14 no. apartments over 4 storeys in a second block with associated car parking and site works at Tides, McCurtainstown, Youghal and 2) From Balciveen Ltd. for the demolition of three existing domestic dwellings no. 35, 36 and 38 Upper Cork Hill with a view to constructing 33 residential units comprising 4 no. two storey 3 bed semi-detached houses, 5 no. two storey 2 bed town houses, 3 no. two storey 3 bed town houses with garage, 8 no. 2/3 storey 3 bed town houses with garage, 7 no. 2/3 storey 4 bed town houses, 6 no. three storey 4 bed town houses a new access roadway and connections to all relevant services at Upper Cork Hill, Youghal.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. The Estate Enhancement Works at Gallagher's Terrace/Gallagher's Mews have been completed at the entrance and looks very well. The Estate Enhancement Programme currently operating through Youghal Town Council has been very productive in upgrading dilapidated areas of the town into well maintained quality recreation areas.
2. Continuing on the Estate Enhancement Theme a new entrance layout is due to commence at Chestnut Drive this month with a view to being completed within three to four weeks of start. This will add greatly to the area and will provide a much needed upgrade on the entrance as it stands.
3. As the members are aware the new National Litter Fine for littering offences has been increased from €125 to €150 for an offence. This change in fine value took place on the 01st September last and is currently being implemented by Youghal Town Council.
4. Work has commenced on the opening of an old entrance from St. Mary's College Gardens onto Emmet Place adjacent to North Cross Lane. This entrance was blocked up and unused for a considerable number of years and when open to the public will add to the public's enjoyment of the gardens and the area as a whole.

Votes of Congratulations:

The members proposed a vote of congratulations to the following:

1. Eddie O' Sullivan & the Irish Rugby Team.
2. Wexford Ladies Camogie Team.
3. Nikita Savage, Sarah Ryan & Michael Healy of Youghal Athletic Club.
4. Liam Ryan, Town Clerk, Catherine Desmond & Town Council Staff on the recent success of the Medieval Day.

Votes of Sympathy:

The members proposed a vote of sympathy to the following:

1. The family of the late Joe Sherlock T.D.
2. Cllr. Michelle Hennessy & Family on the death of their mother Margaret Morrison.
3. The O' Brien Family on the death of their sister Eileen O' Brien.

Town Foreman's Report:

The Town Foreman's Report on works carried out from July 04th to September 06th were brought to the attention of the members and noted. Arising from the report the following items were raised:

1. Clean up of High Water Mark at Greenhole.
- 2. Restoration and replacement of Fountain at Greenpark.**
3. Taking in Charge of Shanavine.
4. Footpath at Windmill Hill.
5. Parking at Seaview Estate.
6. Removal of earth embankments in the centre of Seaview Estate to facilitate parking.
7. Taxi Rank for Youghal.
8. Pothole at Road at Upper Strand (near Clancy's Bar).
9. Pothole at Market Square.
10. Removal of bin at Blackwater Heights.
11. Removal of tree at Knockaverry.
12. Road restoration works at various locations after the roll out of Broadband..
13. Repair of bin at North Main Street.
14. Painting blue of remainder of Disabled Parking Spaces.
15. Direction sign for toilets at North Main Street.
16. Provision of toilet at Medieval Gardens.
17. Resurfacing & relining of Nealon's Quay Car Park.
18. Toilets at Market Square.
19. Provision of Disabled Parking Space at Sherry Fitzgeralds, North Main Street.

County Council Items:

Report by Cllr. Murray:

Cllr. Murray informed the members that the Youghal Library is going extremely well and would be holding a children's book festival and craft workshop in October. She also informed the members that the former Collins Bakery is being used by Cumann na Daoine to advertise Community & Enterprise issues on the window. Cllr. Murray informed the members that there was a proposal for a Disability Services Unit which would be located in either Midleton or Youghal.

County Council Items:

1. Progress on blue Flag Status for Youghal. The Manager informed the members that she will investigate same and will revert back in due course.
2. Emergency access at Struthain na Saili.
3. Strengthening of Sea Wall at Moll Goggins corner. The Town Clerk informed the members that John O' Donovan & Associates have been appointed to undertake the works and that he was awaiting their report and recommendations. Once these reports were received the technical staff at Cork County Council would examine same and take action.

4. Footpaths at South Abbey/Strand Street & Tallow Street.
5. Speed limit on the new line.
6. Update on Waste Water Treatment Plant. Disabled parking space at O' Reilly Terrace. The Engineer informed the members that further road lining was to take place and once the road liners were in town this job would be completed.
7. Cllr. Beecher expressed his thanks to the Engineer on the moving of signs at Quarry Road.

Managers Orders:

Managers Orders nos. 126/07 to 176/07 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Planning Applications:

Planning application reference nos. P58040/07 to P58056/07 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. P58007/07, P58008/07, P58013/07, P58022/07, P58026/07, P58028/07, P58031/07, 58032/07, P58033/07 & P58008/07.

Mayors Business:

1. The Mayor opened the following tenders on behalf of Youghal Joint Burial Board for the Drainage Improvement Works at North Abbey Cemetery:

1. Martin O' Callaghan Ltd: €145,847.50
2. Parker Utilities: €143,833.00
3. Edward Long & Co. Ltd: €148,833.00
4. McGinty, O' Shea Ltd. €118,153.50

2. The Mayor proposed that a civic reception be accorded the Youghal Athletic Club for all the great accolades they have achieved in their own right. This was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley and unanimously agreed by the members.

3. The Mayor informed the members that in light of the fact that a number of shops had closed in town recently he would like to meet with the Chamber of Tourism & Commerce to discuss encouraging businesses into town.

4. The Mayor raised the issue of the recent negative press article on the Disabled Toilets and informed the members that items should be addressed through proper channels and that the press should not be used as a first line of attack. The Mayor informed the members that there was a need to get out positive issues to promote the town as part of East Cork.

Unresolved Motions:

1. Cllr. Revins raised the issue of the motion in relation to a pedestrian crossing at Cork Hill and asked if there was any movement on this motion. The Town Clerk informed the member that a new traffic count would have to take place as the new school has opened since the last unproductive traffic count took place.
2. Cllr. Linehan Foley raised the issue of the motion in relation to works at Kilcoran Road. The Town Clerk informed the member that this motion would be reviewed at the next budget meeting.
3. Cllr. McLellan raised the issue of the motion in relation to the provision of a roundabout at the junction of Windmill Hill/Golf Links Road. The Town Clerk informed the member that there was no update on this matter at the moment.
4. Cllr. Linehan Foley raised the issue of the motion in relation to Anti Social Behaviour on estates throughout the summer months. Cllr. Linehan Foley asked if when a complaint is made to the Gardai they can then revert back to the Council as landowners. The town Clerk informed the member that public order offences are a matter for the Gardai. Cllr. Revins complimented the Town Clerk on his initiative in relation to the 12 month probation period for tenants on allocation of houses and stated it was the way forward in curtailing anti social behaviour.
5. The Town Clerk requested that the 5 motions detailed in Section D be removed. The members unanimously agreed to delete motions 2, 3, 4, 5 and to leave motion 1 for the moment.

Report on Harbour M.P.C.:

This item was deferred to the December meeting.

Report on Heritage M. P. C.:

Cllr. Burke circulated to the members a copy of the minutes of the last Heritage M.P.C. meeting and outlined to date the objectives and aims of the group. Cllr. Burke informed the members that the opening of the Sally Ports in the Town Walls have enhanced the heritage trail of the Town Walls and stated that the residents of Raheen Park & Sarsfield Terrace can now access North Main Street by means of a 5 minute walk. He also informed the members that the new interpretive signage in six languages has been erected at the Town Walls, St. Mary's College and The College Gardens.

Cllr. Burke informed the members that a large display board is being considered for Barry's Lane and will contain updates and information on all the Heritage Projects.

In relation to the Medieval Fun Day Cllr. Burke informed the members that this was an outstanding success attracting almost 6,000 people.

Report on RAPID Matters:

Cllr. Revins informed the members that €40,000 has been allocated for footpaths at Gallagher's Mews and Quarry Road and expressed his delight at the completion of both projects.

Taking in charge of:

1. Through Road off Cork Hill, Dun Coran, Whitebarn, Sweetfields, Youghal. Length 360 linear metres.

The Town Clerk circulated to the members the public notice and map detailing the taking in charge of through road off Cork Hill, Dun Coran, Whitebarn, Sweetfields, Youghal. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. McLellan the members unanimously agreed to commence the taking in charge procedure.

2. Through Road off Cork Hill, The Rise, Whitebarn, Sweetfields, Youghal. Length 295 linear metres.

The Town Clerk circulated to the members the public notice and map detailing the taking in charge of through road off Cork Hill, The Rise, Whitebarn, Sweetfields, Youghal. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. McLellan the members unanimously agreed to commence the taking in charge procedure.

3. Through Road off Cork Hill, The Green, Whitebarn, Sweetfields, Youghal. Length 225 linear metres.

The Town Clerk circulated to the members the public notice and map detailing the taking in charge of through road off Cork Hill, The Green, Whitebarn, Sweetfields, Youghal. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. McLellan the members unanimously agreed to commence the taking in charge procedure.

4. Through Road off Cork Hill, Ridgewood, Whitebarn, Sweetfields, Youghal. Length 255 linear metres.

The Town Clerk circulated to the members public notice and map detailing the taking in charge of through road off Cork Hill, Ridgewood, Whitebarn, Sweetfields, Youghal. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. McLellan the members unanimously agreed to commence the taking in charge procedure.

Notice under Section 81 (1) Part 8 Planning & Development Regulations Regulations 2001 "Construction of New Club House at Claycastle Pitch & Putt Club":

The Town Clerk circulated to the members Notice under Section 81(1) Part 8 Planning & Development 2001 "construction of New Club House at Claycastle Pitch & Putt Club" and map detailing same.

The Town Clerk informed the members that this would greatly improve the profile of the club as there are no facilities at present to host national events.

Cllr. Burke stated that this was a fitting reward to an excellent club who provided a wonderful amenity in this town. Cllr. Revins stated that he wished to concur with Cllr. Burkes statement. The members agreed unanimously to commence the required public consultation procedure as laid down by the Regulations on the proposal of Cllr. Burke and seconded by Cllr. Revins.

Motion in the name of Cllr. Linehan Foley seconded by Cllr. Burke:

Motion in the name of Cllr. Linehan Foley seconded by Cllr. Burke:

"Calling on Youghal Town Council in conjunction with various Government Departments to investigate the possibility of bringing the Kathleen & May to Youghal on a permanent basis".

Cllr. Linehan Foley stated that the Kathleen & May would be a great asset to the town and requested that the relevant bodies be written to see if they can support this motion.

Cllr. Burke informed the members that the Kathleen & May is a rare historical artefact and one of the last masted schooners left in the world. He also stated that it would develop both a heritage and tourist aspect to see it moved to the Quayside.

The Town Clerk agreed to revert back to the members with a full report on the matter.

Correspondence:

1. A Notice from the confederations of European Councillors in relation to a forthcoming seminar on Tackling Poverty and Social Need in Ireland, North & South.
2. A letter from Cork County Council in relation to Harbour Bye Laws.
3. Nomination from GCAI in relation to Best Practice in Government Procurement Awards.
4. A Notice from Cork Environmental Forum in relation to forthcoming events and actions .
5. A Notice from Greystones Town Council in relation to their 2007 Autumn Seminar.
6. A Notice from TJK Conferences Ltd in relation to their forthcoming Planning Seminar For Councillors.
Cllr. Burke requested permission to attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. McLellan it was unanimously agreed that Cllr. Burke attend this conference.
7. A Notice from Clare Tourism in relation to their forthcoming conference.
Cllrs. Burke, Linehan Foley & Beecher requested permission to attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. McLellan the members unanimously agreed that Cllrs. Burke, Linehan Foley & Beecher attend this conference.
8. A Notice from Kadenza Consultancies in relation to a conference on Local Government and Rural Development. Cllrs. Beecher & Linehan Foley requested permission to attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. McLellan the members unanimously agreed that Cllrs. Beecher & Linehan Foley attend this conference.
9. A letter from Cork County Council in relation to National Heritage Week August 25th – September 02nd 2007.
10. A Notice from Kerry Life Education Ltd. in relation to their "Getting to Grip"

Conference.

11. A Notice from LAMA in relation to their Annual Winter Conference.

12. A Letter from Roscommon County Council in relation to their forthcoming Douglas Hyde Conference.

13. A letter from Listowel Literary Capital in relation to their Third Annual Conference "Developing Local Heritage for Tourism Purposes".

14. A Notice from the Association of Irish Regions in relation to their 10th Annual Conference.

Cllr. Burke requested permission to attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Linehan Foley which was seconded by Cllr. McLellan the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Burke attend this conference.

15. The following motion was received from Fermoy Town Council:

"That all Third Level Students who attend Universities or Institutes of Technology be eligible to vote in the Senate Eireann Elections".

16. The following motion was received from Clonakilty Town Council:

"That This Council writes to the Minister for Transport calling for an amendment to the present Hackney Regulations so as to enable Hackney Drivers to legally stop and pick up potential customers who "flag" them down on the street without a prior arranged booking.

We suggest that in order not to impede on Taxi Operators, that the above condition for Hackneys would only operate in towns where there is not Taxi service operating, and that it be confined to the hours of 12 midnight to 4.00am on Saturday and Sunday mornings and Public Holidays.

This motion is tabled in recognition of the potential service which Hackneys could provide during these critical hours to get large crowds out of town centres, while also recognising the unavailability of people investing in Taxi Licences in small towns".

17. A letter from Mary Ryan, Corporate Affairs, County Hall, Cork in relation to twinning La Rochelle with a coastal town in Cork.

18. A Notice from Kadenza Consultancies in relation to a Training Seminar for Councillors on Local Government and the Arts.

19. A letter from the Walled Towns Friendship Circle and nomination form in relation to the World Walled Town Award Nomination.

20. A letter from The Equality Authority in relation to the publication of Dara has the Craic.

21. A Notice from Omagh District Council in relation to the Benedict Kiely Literary Weekend 2007.

22. A letter from the Central Fisheries Board in relation to their book "Channels and Challenges".

23. The following motion was received from Tralee Town Council:

"That Tralee Town Council call on the Government to introduce the necessary legislation to prohibit the sex trafficking of women and children in Ireland".

24. A letter from Cork County Council in relation to adopted amendment to the following Electoral Area Local Area Plans: Bandon, Bantry, Fermoy, Kanturk, Midleton, Skibbereen.

25. A letter from Waterford County Council in relation to Section 9.1.4 Regional Road Policy.

26 A letter from Cork County Council in relation to an adopted Amendment to the Mallow Electoral Area Local Area Plan 2005. Adopted Variation to the Mallow Development Plan 2004. Adopted Amendments to the Mallow Special Local Area Plan.

27 A letter from the Irish Water Safety in relation to the Annual Report of Irish Water Safety for 2006.

Any Other Business:

1. Cllr. Beecher wished Cllr. McLellan well on her recent illness and stated that it was great to see her attend the meeting.

This concluded the business of the meeting.