

Minutes of Youghal Town Council September 2010

Minutes of Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 14th September, 2010 in the Mall House, Youghal at 10.00 a.m.

Present:

Mayor Mary Linehan Foley presided.

Cllrs. McLellan, Revins, Coyne, Burke, Hennessy, Beecher and Murray.

Officials Present: Mr. Robert O' Farrell, A/Town Manager.

Mr. Liam Ryan, Town Clerk.

Mrs. Geraldine O' Connell, Clerical Officer.

Mr. Paul Murray, Executive Engineer.

Opening Prayers:

The members and officials recited the opening prayers.

Presentation on new Mr. Gary Delaney and Mr. Hugh Carson gave a Log8code Digital presentation to the Members on the New Log8code Addressing System.
Digital Addressing System.

The minutes of Monthly meeting of Youghal Town Meeting held on 14th Council held on the 14th September 2010 were adopted on September 2010:
the proposal of Cllr. Coyne seconded by Cllr. Hennessy and unanimously adopted by the members of the Council.

Report of the Town Clerk on matters arising from the Monthly Meeting of Youghal Town Council held on 14th September 2010. The most important issue facing Town Councils for decades will centre around the recent publication of the Report of Local Government Efficiency Review Group which is to be discussed by Government this Autumn.
Here is a summary of some of the proposed changes.

Town & County:

In terms of town and county co-operation, a number of factors suggest the need to re-assess the planning, roads and housing responsibilities of town councils. The Group noted that while most town councils retain statutory responsibility for planning functions, in practice the bulk of town councils rely heavily on the county councils to carry out planning work on their behalf. In this regard the statutory responsibility of town councils for planning matters carries with it an administrative overhead and a duplication of effort that should be streamlined.

In terms of roads, the Group considers that all county councils should be allocated an urban grant for local urban roads for spending in all town areas (regardless of whether the urban area has town council status or not). The shift in policy towards sourcing a greater proportion of social housing supply through leasing from the private sector also provides an opportunity to achieve efficiencies through the consolidation of the housing function at county level, with allowance for the delegation of certain responsibilities to the town level.

Consequently the Group is recommending that the planning, roads and housing function of town councils should be transferred to their respective county council. The Group is also recommending that the rating function should be removed from town councils, and that town charges be applied in the same manner as is the case on the non-rating town councils.

These recommendations will ultimately be dependent on policy on the sub-county level arising from the White Paper on Local Government. It will be important in this context that policy and organisational change be implemented before the next scheduled local elections in 2014.

Dissolution of Other Local Bodies: A series of other bodies, including joint drainage boards and joint burial boards should be dissolved, with their functions transferred to local authorities or a 'lead' local authority, resulting in savings in administrative overheads.

Financial Supports for Elected Members:

While the Group did not have a mandate to consider the number of local councils, or the number of local elected members, it is recommending that the financial supports to local elected representatives which have recently been reduced, are kept under review to ensure they remain reasonable and proportionate.

Housing Functions of Town Councils:

The reorientation of housing policy away from traditional construction and acquisition of housing to greater sourcing of supply from long-term leasing implies a need for different skills sets within housing sections of local authorities - for example with a greater focus on active estate and property management and tenant liaison. This implies the need for some redeployment of staff. As noted above, the Group is also recommending that the housing-related functions of town councils be transferred to their respective county council, but that individual county councils could decide to delegate certain aspects of the housing function to town level where this makes sense from the point of view to efficiency.

Roads:**Tolling Schemes:**

The Group recommends the introduction of new tolling schemes on national roads (both new and existing) based on an equitable distribution of tolling points across the national roads network. Such a move would be consistent with Government policy on promoting a more efficient and environmentally-friendly use of the national road network and incentivising road users to move to other transport options, including public transport. A dedicated proportion of the revenue raised should be used for investment in local and regional roads.

Consolidating Water Functions:

A regional approach to monitoring, authorisation, inspection and sampling functions should be adopted. This includes building the current approach of aligning inspections under the Nitrates Directives with the work of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. To implement Government policy on water charges, one solution may be to establish a dedicated agency for metering and regulation of prices.

Planning Fees:

Current planning fees represent a fraction of the actual cost of processing planning applications, and are very much lower in Ireland than neighbouring countries. The Group recommends moving to full cost recovery on a phased basis over a 5-year period, starting with 50% cost recovery in the first year, and 75% after 3 years.

Joint Administrative Areas:

The group recommends that as soon as may be the following county and city council areas be paired as 'joint administrative areas' to facilitate greater economies of scale in the provision of local services:

- Carlow and Kilkenny;
- Cavan and Monaghan;
- Galway City and County;
- Laois and Offaly.
- Leitrim and Sligo;
- Longford and Westmeath;
- Mayo and Roscommon;
- North Tipperary and South Tipperary.
- Waterford City and County.

These pairings were determined using a number of criteria, including population base, geographical factors, and the fact that a single manager served many of these paired areas in the past. The local government arrangements in Limerick City and County are currently under review by the Limerick Local Government Committee. Nevertheless, the Group is persuaded that there is also a case, at a minimum, for joint administration in respect of Limerick city and county.

Organisational Recommendations:**Administration:**

1. Ten joint administrative areas across 20 county and city council area should be established to pool corporate functions and other service areas, with each joint administrative area under the responsibility of a single manager (short, medium and long-term)
2. Responsibility for planning, roads and housing functions should be transferred from town

councils to county councils (medium term).

3. County councils should be allowed delegate some local aspects of housing service provision to towns where this is economically efficient (medium-term).

4. The power to determine the annual rate on valuation should be removed from town councils, and town charges be applied in the same manner as other existing non-rating town councils (medium-term).

5. Each county council should be allocated an urban grant for local urban roads, with the county council determining the urban road spend across all towns in its administrative area (medium-term).

6. County council offices/area offices and town council offices should be co-located (ongoing).

7. Joint drainage boards, joint burial boards and other bodies should be dissolved, and their functions transferred to local authorities or a 'lead' local authority (short to medium-term).

Votes of Congratulations:

The Members passed a vote of congratulations to the following:

1. Youghal Camogie Club on winning the county title.
2. Patsy O' Mahony on his heroic rescue at The Mall Beach.
3. Triathlon Committee on their recent successful event.
4. Tidy Towns Committee and the Staff of Youghal Town Council on winning the bronze medal in this years National Tidy Towns Competition.
5. Youghal Soccer Club on acquiring the World Record.
6. The Heritage Committee on their very successful Medieval Day and on initiating the hosting of approximately 170 WIT Students over the coming 9 months.

Votes of Sympathy:

No vote of sympathy was passed by the Members.

Town Foreman's Report:

The Town Foreman's report on works carried out from 8th July to 9th September 2010 were brought to the attention of the council and noted.

Arising from the report the following items were raised:

1. Temporary Road Surface at Knockaverry. The Town Clerk informed the members that as no further monies were available this could be looked at in conjunction with the 2011 Road Grant.
2. Potholes at McCurtainstown.
3. Fencing at CIE Railway Station.
4. Weeds at verges of roads and footpaths around town.
5. Dangerous bend sign at Sammy's.
6. Wall across from Pipe Band Hall at Cork Hill.
7. Bushes around perimeter of Lidl. The Town Clerk informed the members that this is the responsibility of the supermarket.
8. Cllr. Michael Beecher complimented the work done at Clancy's Bar.
9. Toilets at Front Strand.
10. Misuse of litter bins around town.
11. Damaged sign on Island at Dolphin Square.
12. Grid on shore at Spa Hill.
13. Cork County Council Library at North Main Street.
14. Overhanging trees at Windmill Hill.
15. Overgrown trees at The Mall. The Town Foreman informed the members that these would be cut down by the end of October.
16. Road surface at Allins Quay.
17. Dangerous wall at Ashe Street.
18. Disabled parking space at Belmont Terrace.
19. Dangerous wall at Belmont Terrace.
20. Stench from seaweed at Greenhole.

County Council Items:

Engineers Report:

1. Rifle Range: A Dangerous Structures Notice has been issued to the owner of the above and he is carrying out work to comply with the notice.

2. Youghal Landfill & Waste Collection Service:

The Environment Department is dealing with all issues regarding the landfill. In addition Cork County Council has concluded a sale agreement with Countryclean Recycling Ltd., in relation with its waste collection business.

3. Road Improvements:

It is proposed to overlay a section of road at Ballyclamassey opposite the Hilltop Hotel in the next few weeks, plus some other repairs in the area. In addition while it was proposed to do an overlay on North Main Street, this has now been deferred pending approval for funding to do the whole of the Main Street from Windmill Hill to Cork Hill.

4. Outfall at Front Strand:

Following discussion with Atkins Consulting Engineers it is proposed to change the valve at the Outfall. The suppliers have recommended a different model and this has been ordered and will be replaced in October.

5. Quarryvale:

Proposals for Quarryvale have been received and are being examined and costed.

6. Blue Flag Beaches:

The Blue Flag season has concluded. The results for Claycastle, Front Strand, Redbarn & Garryvoe are in compliance with the requirement of the Blue Flag criteria. A full review of the season is to take place on the next few weeks in County Hall.

7. Cork Hill:

It is proposed to carry out traffic counts in the area of Costcutters shortly.

County Council Items Raised:

1. Anti Social Behaviour at the Rifle Range. The Town Engineer informed the members that the owner had been served with a 'Dangerous Structure Notice'.
2. Water leak in Quarry Road.
3. Roadwork's at Ballyclamassey. The Town Engineer informed the members that these works were due to take place in the next few weeks.
4. Outfall at the Front Strand. The Town Engineer informed the members that a new valve was fitted but was not working satisfactorily, it was recommended that a new valve be fitted. The Town Engineer also stated that a foreshore licence was being applied for in order to extend the outfall. Cllr. Murray requested a report on what the remedial works to the outfall has cost to date.
5. Sewerage situation at McCurtainstown. The Town Engineer informed the members that work was being done here for a private landowner who allowed Cork County Council access to the clear the drain at this location.
6. Poor condition of footpaths around the town.
7. Misspelling of nameplate at Struthain na Saili. The Town Clerk informed the members that in an effort to solve problems in the estate Youghal Town Council undertook a number of works including landscaping and installing a new nameplate. The Town Clerk stated that the correct name was given to the stonecutter who will be responsible for the changing or replacing of the nameplate.
8. Footpaths at Meadowlands and Ballyclamassey. The Town Engineer informed the members that he will investigate same.
9. Overgrown shrubbery at Golf Links Road.
10. Introduction of CCTV in rural and county areas.
11. Pothole at the end of Cork Hill.
12. Gulley at the entrance to Dermot Hurley Estate on the Spa Hill side.
13. Sharp turn at entrance to Dermot Hurley Estate on the Spa Hill side. The Town Clerk informed the members that no money is available for such work as the Local Roads Grant had been spent on resurfacing works on Cork Hill, Magners Hill, Ardrath, Golf Links Road & Kilcoran Road. The Town Clerk stated that this could be addressed in conjunction with the 2011 Budget.
14. Commencement of Main Drainage Scheme. The Town Clerk informed the members that tender

documents were with the Department of the Environment for approval.

15. Potholes in Quarry Road.

16. Removal of signs on island at Breton Road.

17. Deterioration of road at the top of Cork Hill at Blackwater Heights.

18. Road repairs from Hillview, Cork Hill to Raheen Road.

19. Yellow box at 5 Fitzgerald's Terrace.

20. Priority 1's of Disability Awareness Audit.

The Town Engineer informed the members that a contractor was due to start shortly on the audit priority.

Managers Orders:

Managers Orders nos. 144A/10 to 179/10 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Planning Applications:

Planning application reference no's P58017/10 to P580021/10 were brought to the attention of the Council and noted.

Further Information:

The members were informed that no further information was received.

Disposal of Properties:

There was no disposal of properties.

Mayors Business:

1. The Mayor wished to convey her congratulations to the voluntary festival committees for the running of festivals during the summer months all of which were a huge success.

2. The Mayor wished to thank the Deputy Mayor on standing in for the 10th anniversary celebrations for the tweenies group.

3. The Mayor wished Team Youghal the best of luck on their race around Ireland.

4. The Mayor stated that the annual meeting with the Chamber of Commerce had gone very well and liaisons would be ongoing.

5. The Mayor sought clarification from the Town Clerk on the proposed Marina at Allins Quay.

The Town Clerk gave an expansive explanation of the proposed project and its current position.

Extension of Time:

An extension of time was unanimously agreed by the members of the Council on the proposal of Cllr. Revins and seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley.

Unresolved Motions:

In relation to motion 1 in Section D Cllr. Linehan Foley requested that this motion be withdrawn as the works were now near completion.

Notice of Intention to The Town Clerk to the members on the 16th August 2010 Designate the Blackwater a Notice of Intention to Designate the Blackwater Estuary Estuary as an SPA under as an SPA under the EU Birds Directive (2009/147/EC). The EU Birds Directive The Town Clerk informed the members that the Area (2009/147/EC): Planner was to prepare a submission for the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government on this matter and urged the members to make recommendations if they wished. The Town Clerk informed the members that the area would include both town and county areas. Presentation of Traffic The Town Clerk circulated to the members on 19th July Management Plan for a presentation of a Traffic Management Plan for Ashe Ashe Street, DeValera Street, DeValera Street, Emmet Place & Church Street. Street, Emmet Place & The Members agreed to defer this item to the October Church Street.

Meeting when a full Council would be in attendance.

(Presentation by Eileen Coleman) Circulated 19/07/2010): Review of Parking The Town Clerk circulated to the Members a review of the Bye Laws: Parking Bye Laws on 20th July 2010. The Members agreed that a special meeting be convened to discuss the review of the Parking Bye Laws together with the Traffic Management Plan. The Town Clerk informed the members that any

decision on these items must reflect on Council Policy contained in the Development Plan and the Public Realm Plan. Extinguishment of Right The Town Clerk circulated to the Members a copy of the of Way at North Abbey public notice and one submission which was received in Terrace/Flemings Court: relation to the Extinguishment of Right of Way at North Abbey Terrace/Flemings Court.

On the proposal of Cllr. Burke which was seconded by Cllr. Coyne the members agreed to proceed with this extinguishment.

Report by Cllr. Murray Cllr. Murray informed the members that the Youghal Socio On Youghal Socio Economic & Development Group which was in business Economic Development since 2007 and was very successful in that short period of Group: time and that the group was planning a bigger role in making things happen in town as regards marketing and accessing funding. Cllr. Murray informed the members that this group was managed by Aileen Aherne and was assisted by 2 CE workers at present. Cllr. Burke thanked Cllr. Murray for her report and also thanked Aileen Aherne and her co workers.

IBAL Report 23rd The Town Clerk circulated to the members the IBAL August 2010: Report dated 23rd August 2010. The Town Clerk stated that he was disappointed by the report given that Youghal had achieved Litter Free Status and had been within "European Norms" for the previous four years. The Town Clerk informed the members that the problem was that IBAL now includes access roads into Youghal which are not in the jurisdiction of Youghal Town Council.

Corporate Plan 2010 - The Town Clerk circulated to the members on the 16th 2014 for Inland Fisheries August last the Corporate Plan 2010 - 2014 for Inland Ireland: Fisheries Ireland and informed the members that they could make submissions on the plan if they so wished. Security Survey Report The Town Clerk circulated to the members a Security (Youghal Town Walls, Survey Report on Youghal Town Walls, College Gardens College Gardens & St. & St. Mary's Church.

The Town Clerk informed the Mary's Church members that much of the anti social behaviour in these areas has reduced but there was still more work to be done. Funding had come from the Heritage Budget and if more funding was required the members would have to look at the 2011 Budget. Report of the Local The Town Clerk circulated to the members on the 29th July Government Review last a Report of the Local Government Review Group 2010. Group July 2010. Cllr. Burke stated that the motions from Macroom should be supported and the support forwarded on to other Local Authorities. Report on AMAI Cllr. Linehan Foley informed the members she had Conference by travelled to Buncrana with The Town Clerk and Cllr. Cllr. Linehan Foley: McLellan for the recent AMAI Conference. The main issue of the conference was the white paper proposal on the abolition of Town Councils. Cllr. Foley informed the members that Minister Eamonn O Cuiv stated that there was going to be big changes in District Councils. Cllr. Linehan Foley urged her fellow Councillors to lobby their Ministers and TD's for the retention of Town Councils. Cllr. Linehan Foley informed the members that she recommended all Councillors attending conferences should furnish a report to the chamber on their return.

Rapid Report by This item was deferred to December until after the next Cllr. Revins: Rapid A.I.T. meeting. Report on Tidy Towns Cllr. Linehan Foley informed the members there was no Task Force by Cllr. Update on the Tidy Towns Task Force but would have a Linehan Foley: presentation on the groups work for the October meeting.

Correspondence:

1. Notice from Kadenza Consultancies in relation to a Training Seminar for Councillors on "Report of the Local Government Efficiency Review Group". On the proposal of Cllr. Murray which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Beecher attend this conference.
2. A letter from An Garda Siochana in relation to a public meeting regarding Midleton Garda District Joint Policing Committee.
3. A Notice from Clare Tourist Council regarding the Clare Tourism Conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Burke which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Coyne attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Coyne which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Burke attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Murray which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Beecher attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Hennessy which was seconded by Cllr.

Linehan Foley the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. McLellan attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Beecher which was seconded by Cllr. Linehan Foley the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Murray attend this conference.

4. A Notice from Greystones Town Council La Touché Legacy Committee.

5. A letter from AIB in relation to the withdrawal of Bank of Scotland (Ireland).

6. A brochure from Kerry County Council in relation to the forthcoming LAMA Autumn Seminar. On the proposal of Cllr. Burke which was seconded by Cllr. Coyne the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Hennessy attend this conference. On the proposal of Cllr. Revins which was seconded by Cllr. Coyne the members unanimously agreed that Cllr. Burke attend this conference.

7. A letter Kerry Life Education Ltd. in relation to their forthcoming conference.

8. A motion received from Passage West Town Council.

9. A letter from Youghal Family Fun Festival.

10. A letter from Cork County Council in relation to review of special speed limit bye-laws.

11. A Notice from Roscommon County Council in relation to their forthcoming Douglas Hyde Conference 2010.

12. A letter from Youghal Disability Action/Awareness Group in relation to the Main Drainage Scheme.

13. Agenda received from Walled Towns Friendship Circle in relation to their 20th International Symposium.

14. A brochure from Irish Ports Association in relation to the 2010 Conference.

15. A motion received from Clonmel Borough council.

16. A motion received from Macroom Town Council.

17. A motion received from Killarney Town Council.

18 A letter received from Cork County Council in relation to odours emanating from Youghal Landfill

Circularised

1. Local Authority Times. Correspondence

2. COPE Foundation Annual Report 2009. 3. Cork County Council Planning Guidance & Standard Series No. 2.

4. Cluid Housing Annual Report 2009.

5. Landscape Ireland (The ILI Awards).

6. Public Sector Times Volume 37.

7. World Cargo News.

Any Other Business:

1. Cllr. Burke thanked Gary Delaney and Hugh Carson for adopting Youghal to begin the new Log8code Digital Addressing System. Cllr, Burke requested that a letter of thanks be written to Hugh Carson.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.