

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TULLAMORE HELD AT 4.00PM ON THE 12th SEPTEMBER 2019 IN THE TOWN HALL, TULLAMORE

Present: Cllr. F. Moran, (Cathaoirleach), Cllr. N. Feighery, Cllr. D. Harvey, Cllr. T. McCormack, Cllr. S. O'Brien, Cllr. D. Owens, Cllr. K. Smollen.

In Attendance: Mr. T. Shanahan, Director of Services; Mr. J. Connelly, Senior Executive Engineer; Mr. B. Kelly, Executive Engineer; Mr. M. Quinn, Senior Executive Engineer, Water & Environment; Ms M. Brady, Meetings Administrator.

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were extended, and condolences expressed, to the families of: Jerry Conway, Ballydaly, Tullamore; Leah Cully, Marian Place, Tullamore; Jackie Devine, Marian Square, Clara; Sr. Bernadette Fox, Athlone (formerly Tullamore); Andrew Hctor, Thornsby Est., Tullamore; Jean Hogan, Corkhill, Clara; Ann McDonagh, Meadow Close, Tullamore; Barry Woodnutt, Sragh Rd., Tullamore; and all those in Tullamore MD who had died since the last monthly meeting, on their recent bereavements.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

The following minutes were approved on the proposal of Cllr. T. McCormack, and seconded by Cllr. D. Harvey:

- (a) *Minutes of Special Committee Meeting held on 08th July, 2019*
- (b) *Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 11th July, 2019*
- (c) *Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 11th July, 2019*

2. Water & Environment Report

Mr. M. Quinn, S.E.E., presented the Water & Environment Report, as circulated, to the members. The members welcomed the Report, raising a number of issues incl.: Request for update on Report on Tullamore Sewerage Scheme; ongoing sewerage issue at Tyrrell's Road, Tullamore; ongoing litter/dumping issues; locations of bins in Clara; Request for update on Cappincur Industrial Site. Mr. M. Quinn, in response, noted that the Report on Tullamore Sewerage Scheme was well advanced, and that planning and investing by Irish Water following the completion of the Report should rectify ongoing sewerage issues. Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S., advised the members that plans with Irish Water for works at Cappincur Industrial Estate were progressing. Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., agreed to survey the location of bins in Clara, and modify if required.

3. Update on Tullamore Street Enhancement Programme and Urban Regeneration & Development Fund.

Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S., and Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., updated the members on Tullamore Street Enhancement Programme, and the planned URDF works at Harbour Street and Store Street, and Grand Canal Greenway. The Street Enhancement works were progressing, and daily communications with the traders was continuing. The traders were again acknowledged for their co-operation throughout the works. It was expected that works on the right hand side of William St. would be completed by mid-October, and the opposite side by mid-November. It

was also noted that the new layout Tanyard would be open by the end of October, and the works in O'Connor Square completed by the end of November. The members welcomed the update, complimenting the works to date and the level of communications from the Council while acknowledging also the effect on businesses during the works.

Mr. J. Connelly also updated the members on Clara and Ballycumber Town & Village Renewal Schemes. Both Schemes had been tendered, and it was expected that the works would be completed by mid-December, in advance of the run up to Christmas.

4. Notices of Motion:

Cllr. T. McCormack

"That the Municipal District of Tullamore explore with the Dept. of Transport possible funding streams for upgrading the Cappincur Road and speed restricting measures."

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. T. McCormack, seconded by Cllr. N. Feighery. Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., agreed to investigate possible funding sources.

Cllr. S. O. Brien

"Considering the serious decline in economic activity in Tullamore town centre, that this Municipal District Council recommends that a plan is developed as a matter of urgency with a view to restoring Tullamore to the time when it was a serious centre of commercial and retail activity. This plan should be developed in conjunction with all the required stakeholders."

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Brien, seconded by Cllr. T. McCormack Owens. Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S., in response, noted that the County Development Plan was being reviewed, incorporating plans for Tullamore town centre. He also referred to the ongoing Street Enhancement and Urban Cycleway works which would rejuvenate and enhance the town centre.

5. A.O.B.

Clara Issues

Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., gave the following responses to queries raised by Cathaoirleach Cllr. F. Moran: a contractor was appointed for works at Erry Mill Junction; the Council had applied for ORIS funding (Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme) for extension of footpath to Clara Bog, awaiting response; issues at Kinclare would be referred to the Housing section.

Grass Cutting in Open Spaces

Mr. J. Connelly advised that there was an ongoing grass cutting programme in place in relation to open spaces following queries raised by the members.

Road Safety at Blueball Junction

Cllr. N. Feighery raised the issue of road safety at Blueball Junction. Mr. J. Connelly, in response, agreed to follow up on possible funding availability for traffic calming measures.

Pedestrian Crossing at Educate Together School Junction, Tullamore

Mr. J. Connelly also agreed to look at possible funding for the provision of a pedestrian crossing at the Educate Together School, in response to query raised by Cllr. N. Feighery.

Playground at Ballycumber

Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S., advised the members that 2.3 acres of Council land in Ballycumber was ringfenced for the provision of a playground at Ballycumber as part of an Action Plan for the village.

Congratulations to Shane Lowry

Clara golfer Shane Lowry was congratulated by all on his success in winning the British Open, and it was proposed by Cathaoirleach Cllr. F. Moran that Offaly County Council hold a civic reception for him, seconded by Cllr. D. Owens, subject to the approval of the CPG and full Council.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date:
