

Minutes of the October 2022 of the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District held in the District Chamber, New Street, Carrick on Suir at 14:00 on the 27 October 2022

- In the Chair:** Cllr. D. Dunne.
- Members present:** Cllr. K. Bourke, Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, Cllr. I. Goldsboro, Cllr. K. O'Meara.
- Apologies:** None
- In attendance:**
Carrick on Suir MD. Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services: Ms. Marie O'Gorman, District Administrator: Mr. Willie Corby, District Engineer: Ms. Máiréad Winters, Assistant Staff Officer: Ms. Emma Creighton, Assistant Staff Officer:
- Finance:** Mr. Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance:
Mr. Paddy Brennan, Financial Management Accountant:

Welcome and Introduction

- Item 1.0.**
Summons and Prayer. The summons was taken as read.

Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Council

- Item 2.1.**
Conflict of Interest Declaration. None to record

Consideration of Minutes:

- Item 3.1.**
Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 22 September 2022 The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 22 September 2022 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. I. Goldsboro and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

- Item 4.1.**
Draft District Budgetary Plan 2023 The Draft Budgetary Plan for the Carrick on Suir Municipal District for 2023 was despatched to the elected members on the 16th October 2022 in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act, 2001 and circulated with the agenda for consideration and discussion.
- Mr. Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance, attended and gave a presentation on the preparation of the draft Budgetary Plan for 2023; he indicated that the proposed allocation of €116,197 for the GMA remained the same as 2022, against the background that notification of the allocation was not yet received from the Department. He requested

Item 4.1.
Draft District
Budgetary Plan
2023 cont'd/

that the Members would adopt the allocation in Quarter 1 of 2023, when more information was to hand on the available funding.

It was proposed by Cllr. Kieran Bourke, seconded by Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald AND RESOLVED unanimously that pursuant to the provisions of Section 102 of the Local Government Act, 2001 (as amended), the Draft Budgetary Plan 2023 for the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District be adopted, as per the following schedule:

Carrick on Suir Municipal District Budgetary Plan - 2023	
General Municipal Allocation 2023	€116,197
Increase/decrease in other charges	
Total GMA Income	€116,197
Gross Revenue Expenditure	
GMA Allocation proposed for 2023	€116,197
Total GMA Expenditure	€116,197
Directorate Gross Revenue Expenditure	Indicative Expenditure 2023
<i>Housing and Building</i>	
Housing Maintenance – including pre-letting repairs and voids	€960,000
<i>Road Transportation and Safety</i>	
Road Maintenance, Repair and Improvement	€5,730,000
<i>Environmental Services</i>	
Burial Grounds maintenance, Street Cleaning and Litter Initiatives	€354,440
<i>Recreation and Amenity</i>	
Maintenance Amenity Areas	€172,000
<i>Agriculture, Education, Health and Welfare</i>	
Flood Relief	€15,000
Relevant Directorate Expenditure	€7,231,440

Cyber Security:

In further discussion, Mr. McCarthy advised that the issue of cyber security was a most important matter and informed that on-line training was available to members. He strongly urged Councillors to undertake this training opportunity which had issued recently from IT section and he undertook to have links re-issued to those who had not already completed the online training.

Item 4.2.
District Engineer's
Report.

Schedule of Municipal District Works (October 2022)

The Schedule of Municipal District Works (October 2022) was circulated by Mr. Willie Corby, District Engineer, outlining progress to-date on all maintenance and capital projects underway in the Carrick on Suir Municipal District.

He referred to ongoing projects at N24 Carrick on Suir and N76 Grangemockler undertaken by GLAS Engineering Ltd., and noted that they were making good progress on same with little or no complaint from any quarters. He noted that the deadline of 7th October 2022 for receipt of submissions in the non-statutory consultation undertaken by TOBIN Consulting Engineers conducting feasibility study for route selection to connect Suir Blueway to Waterford Greenway was underway. Noting that Road Improvement and Road Maintenance programmes were substantially completed other than some road markings, he stated that some road were completed in the 'red roads' category and that a contractor was now appointed to carry out safety improvement works at Dualla. With the safety improvement works well underway at Mocklershiill, he stated that anti-skid surfacing would be applied in the following week and further noted that works at Rack Hill were underway that day. At this stage of the year, he stated that he was balancing remaining budgets in the context of inflationary pressures in an effort to close out the programme.

Following consideration of his report, Mr. Corby responded to queries raised by the Members as follows:

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Complimented GLAS Engineering on their efficient manner in conducting the N24 contract; he referred to traffic flow being maintained on a very busy stretch of road while dealing with schools and local businesses.
- Requested that Roads Engineers present would seek an updated Road Safety Audit to be carried out by TII on the N24 junction opposite Arrigan's Boreen as a matter of urgency, given the serious concerns expressed by householders and farmers using this junction on a daily basis in danger of being rear-ended when attempting to turn off at this location. He accepted that RSA was carried out some 7 years earlier when this stretch of road was widened; however, he suggested that traffic volume and speeds had increased significantly since then and strongly urged that a further safety audit was warranted at this juncture.
- Referring to instances where large trucks were being directed via satellite navigation systems over the skew bridge at this location,

Item 4.2.

District Engineer's
Report cont'd/

(opp. Arrigan's Boreen) he requested placement of appropriate additional signage to prevent such vehicles approaching this bridge.

- Sought updates in relation to footpath reinstatement at Cláirín, Marian Avenue, Mill Street and Árd Mhuire.
- Reiterated the urgency of reinstating road markings on pedestrian crossings at Well Road and Greenside, as previously reported.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Referring to recent accidents on the R692 Fethard to Cloneen Road, he requested examination as to whether safety improvements were warranted at this location.
- Noted that there was serious subsidence on a section of R692 after first bridge and requested it be given urgent attention.
- Expressed concern in relation to condition of pipe work at Grangemockler, requesting that it be investigated prior to resurfacing taking place.

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Conveyed her thanks to outdoor staff dealing with flash floods in the past fortnight and queried whether there was application in train to seek funding to reinstate subsidence caused by same, with Ballingarry impassable.
- Sought information in relation to proposals for Ballintaggart Bridge.
- Requested details relating to ORIS applications submitted in the current year.
- Suggesting that signage seeking to slow down traffic did not work, she requested that consideration be given to providing other traffic calming measures and sought update in relation to Killenaule.

Cllr. K. O'Meara:

- Requested that attention be given to pipes at Callan Road, Mullinahone which become blocked 3 to 4 times each year.
- Complimented contractor engaged at Grangemockler and the manner in which large traffic volumes were managed.
- Reiterated concerns of Grangemockler residents that new surface shortly to be provided would be dug up by Irish Water in the near future, in providing water services infrastructure.
- Reiterated his request for repair to speed signs at Mullinahone N.S.
- Queried whether the roads programme for 2023 was at risk owing to escalating costs.
- Referring to his notice of motion [2443] carried at the September 2022 monthly meeting, sought timeline for provision of measures requested.

Item 4.2.

District Engineer's
Report cont'd/

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Complimented GLAS Engineering on their management of contracts at Carrick on Suir and Grangemockler respectively.
- Welcomed the progress on the Bogfield, Carrickbeg project informed by feasibility/constraints study commissioned jointly by himself and Cllr. K. Bourke.
- Reiterated his request for provision of litter bin at Carrickbeg
- Requested that the issue of provision of speed ramps be re-examined for housing estates
- Referring to recent incident on the Suir Blueway which required an ambulance at the scene, he requested that the matter of access for emergency services would be examined in order to enhance the safety of the amenity and make it a more attractive product for tourists.

Responding to these matters, the District Engineer thanked the Members for their compliments to Resident Engineer managing the N24 contract and to the Council's outdoor staff engaged in emergency works and confirmed that he would convey those sentiments respectively.

Referring to Cllr. Bourke's concerns about the traffic island at Deerpark/Arrigan's Boreen on the N24, he noted that similar conditions prevailed at other locations and that works carried out some 5-7 years previously were informed by a safety audit at the time. He confirmed that while there was no history of accidents at this location, he would however, refer the matter to TII for further examination in view of concerns expressed.

Mr. Corby confirmed that works were completed at Mill Street and Árd Mhuire utilising IPB resources and that road markings due to be carried out (from bond monies rather than own resources) were delayed by bad weather.

He undertook to examine the issue of subsidence on the R692 at Cloneen and noted that he was aware of the circumstances surrounding recent road traffic accident involving a car overtaking a tractor. Such matters formed the basis of an annual accident review seeking funding for safety improvements at accident hotspots from the TII.

A low-cost safety scheme for Ballingarry, Copper Cross and Máiréads Cross was the subject of application to IPB and the District Engineer was currently dealing with An Garda Síochána in relation to same.

He confirmed that the replacement of sign at Mullinahone was referred to the active Travel Team for inclusion in the 2023-2024 projects and he undertook to follow up on item requested in recent notice of motion.

Referring to incidents of flash flooding which occurred during the previous week, he stated that these areas would be included in an application for additional funding. Drainage works requested for Callan Road, Mullinahone and pipes for Grangemockler would be referred to the design team. The District Engineer concluded by stating that an emergency strategy for the Blueway would require access routes to be arranged, involving compulsory purchase of private property at a future date.

Referring to possible impact on 2023 budgets arising from construction inflation, Mr. Liam Brett, Senior Engineer, stated that he did not have sight of funding as yet, but he believed that there would be no significant increase in same. He noted that inflation was a major risk to the programme, but stated that he was hopeful in the context that bitumen costs had recently dropped slightly, that inflationary pressures were stabilising. In any event, he assured that the Council would maximise whatever funding was allocated.

Item 4.3.
**District
Administrator's
Report**

The District Administrator informed of the following

- The free-of-charge hazardous household waste initiative was taking place on Saturday 29th October at Carrigeen Recycling Centre Clonmel, details of which were circulated
- The contact numbers contained in the Halloween Bonfire Strategy were circulated via email from Mr. David Corbett, Executive Scientist and were available on request.
- The Annual Safety and Security meeting with An Garda Siochána was shortly to be arranged and she would revert with date
- Meeting summons for the impending joint meeting of Piltown MD and Carrick on Suir MD was not yet issued. Following further discussion concerning the potential clash with Environment SPC meeting, she undertook to rearrange with Piltown MD Cathaoirleach and Administrator.

These matters were noted.

Item 4.4.
**General Municipal
Allocation**

Village Enhancement Schemes

Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services indicated that he had a brief at draft stage to tender the engagement of consultants to prepare a Village Enhancement Scheme subject to the Members' approval, utilising GMA resources in due course.

The scheme was designed with a view to addressing infrastructural

deficits within the villages of Ballingarry, Killenaule and Mullinahone initially. It was envisaged that the successful design team would work in consultation with the local communities to identify issues such as dealing with vacant and derelict sites, incorporating measures for calming traffic, improving biodiversity, public realm improvements, climate mitigation and adaption measures, rural employment and young persons' supports. A key requirement would involve the consultant sitting down with community groups to advance those plans and it was envisaged that the scheme would then extend to other villages in turn.

This proposal was welcomed by the Members.

Christmas Lights

Noting that there were applications on hand from certain groups seeking financial assistance for provision of Christmas lights within the municipal district, Mr. Beck informed that these were under consideration. However, he referred to the need for uniformity throughout the county in relation to cost-saving measures required in view of escalating energy costs and stated that with concrete proposals from community groups to include hours of operation, period of operation, equipment to be used etc. this would allow the Council to progress applications and bring forward a recommendation for the councillors' consideration.

Item 4.5.
Assistance of Bodies under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

The District Administrator indicated that there were no matters for consideration under this heading.

Chief Executive's/Delegated Officers' Orders

Item 5.1.

Delegated Employee's Order no. 31429 dated the 21 September 2022 relating to issue of Section 254 licence was circulated and noted. The Meetings Administrator drew attention to a 'typo' in the heading of the Order which referred erroneously to 2,3 and 4, 'Chapel Street', Carrick on Suir, which should have read as 'New Street'.

Item 5.2.

Delegated Officer's Employee's Order no. 31430 dated the 21 September 2022 relating to Section 254 licence issued in respect of broadband infrastructure was circulated and noted.

- Item 5.3.** Delegated Employee's Order no. 31518 dated the 21 September 2022 relating to appointment of Caherclough Tarmacadam as Project Supervisor Construction Stage [PSCS] in the NTA Moyglass Footpath Works, was circulated and noted.
- Item 5.4.** Delegated Employee's Order no. 31545 dated the 29 September 2022 relating to appointment of V Plant Construction Ltd as works contractor and project supervisor construction stage for Active Travel Works at 'Dooks' to The Valley, Fethard, was circulated and noted.
- Item 5.5.** Delegated Employee's Order no. 31546 dated the 29 September 2022 relating to appointment of Suir Plant Ltd, as contractor to the construction of Suir Blueway Outdoor Recreation Improvement Scheme 2022 at Carrick on Suir Co. Tipperary, was circulated and noted.
- Item 5.6.** Delegated Employee's Order no. 315476 dated the 29 September 2022 relating to appointment of Suir Plant Ltd, as Project Supervisor Construction Stage [PSCS} for the Suir Blueway Outdoor Recreation Improvement Scheme 2022 at Carrick on Suir Co. Tipperary, was circulated and noted.
- Item 5.7.** Delegated Employee's Order no. 31612 dated the 10 October 2022 relating to appointment of Eugene Fallon Plant Hire as works contractor and Project Supervisor Construction Stage for Active Travel Works at Moyglass Village, Co. Tipperary, was circulated and noted.
- Item 5.8.** Delegated Employee's Order no. 31699 dated the 21 March 2022 relating to appointment of Tobin Consulting Engineers, to carry out feasibility study on the development of a recreational trail connection the Waterford Greenway and Suir Blueway, Co. Tipperary, was circulated and noted.
- Item 5.9.** Delegated Employee's Order no. 31703 dated the 18 October 2022 authorising increase in tender from €76,435 to €106,035 received from Tobin Consulting Engineers in respect of additional deliverables association with Phase 0-2 of the Carrick on Suir to Kilmeaden Greenway, thereby superseding DEO 31699 above, was circulated and noted.
- Item 5.10.** Delegated Employee's Order no. 31717 dated the 13 July 2022 relating to engagement of CST Group to provide drawings and associated reports for Part 8 Planning Process for Active Travel Route from Railway Station to Town Centre at Carrick on Suir Co. Tipperary, was circulated and considered. It was noted that the deadline for receipt of submissions/ observations was the previous Friday [21 October 2022] and it was anticipated that the matter would come

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before the Municipal District Councillors at the earliest opportunity - either November or December 2022 monthly meeting.

Correspondence

Item 6.1. The District Administrator indicated that there were no matters for consideration under this heading.

Notices of Motion

Item 7.1. The District Administrator indicated that there were no matters for consideration under this heading.

Any Other Business

Item 8.1.

Tidy Towns Competition 2022.

With the permission of the Cathaoirleach, Cllr I. Goldsboro extended well wishes to all the Tidy Town Groups taking part in the SuperValu National Tidy Towns Awards 2022 to take place on the following evening. She stated that generally, the points achieved did not adequately reflect the amount of work and commitment of volunteers engaged in enhancing their areas. All Councillors present wished to be associated with those well wishes.

Item 8.2.

Staff departures:

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. D. Dunne, noted the forthcoming departure of Ms. Máiréad Winters who was leaving the Carrick on Suir Municipal District to take up a promotional post at the C&ED Section. He also referred to the impending departure of Mr. Mark Bradshaw, Executive Engineer who was shortly to take up an appointment with Galway County Council. On his own behalf and that of the Councillors, he congratulated both officers, thanked them for their work at Carrick on Suir MD and wished them well in their new appointments.

This concluded the business of the meeting. [14:59 hours]



District Administrator



Cathaoirleach

24 November 2022

