

Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District held in the District Chamber, New Street, Carrick on Suir at 14:00 on the 24 November 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. Helen Cahill, Staff Officer: Ms. Shirley Holloway, Assistant Staff Officer:
- Housing Directorate:** Ms. Cora Morrissey, Senior Executive Officer, Mr. Shane Grogan, Administrative Officer; Ms Breda Ryan, Senior Staff Officer; Mr. Robert Johnston, Senior Executive Engineer; Ms. Helen Butler, Community Liaison Officer; Ms. Tess Collins, Community Liaison Officer.
- Active Travel Team:** Ms. Gillian Flynn, A/Senior Executive Engineer.

Welcome and Introduction

Item 1.0.

Summons and Prayer.

The summons was taken as read.

Item 1.2

Joining via Zoom:

Ms. Sheila Naughton, Tipp FM; Ms. Gillian Flynn, A/Senior Executive Engineer, Active Travel Team.

Item 1.3.

Minute's silence at request of the Cathaoirleach:

In commemoration of those recently deceased, the Cathaoirleach, Councillors and staff members attending, stood in silence in a tribute to

- Ms. Vicky Phelan late of Annacotty, Limerick and Mooncoin, Co. Kilkenny, for whom a condolence book was currently available at the District Office, New Street, Carrick on Suir and online at www.tipperarycoco.ie - in appreciation of her courageous campaign on behalf of women affected by immense shortcomings in the Cervical Check services.
- Mr. John 'Toddler' Maher, late of Treacy Park, Carrick on Suir, tragically killed on Sunday 13th November in a road traffic accident - in appreciation of his tireless and selfless contribution to his club and to all the clubs in Carrick on Suir, as a true sporting ambassador.
- Mr. Tom Walsh, late of Pearse Square, Carrick on Suir whose generosity in imparting his knowledge of place and local history was renowned and who died on Tuesday 15 November 2022.

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 27 October 2022

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 27 October 2022 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. K. O'Meara and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

Item 4.1.

Housing Directorate: Housing Services Report

A report outlining the activities of the Housing Directorate for the period 01 January 2022 to 31 October 2022 was circulated and taken as read, with the Housing Team in attendance. Having considered its contents, the following issues raised by the members, were discussed and clarified;

Cllr. K. O'Meara

- Queried whether new houses at Mullinahone would be allocated through Choice Based Letting [CBL] and how that would operate.

Cllr. K. Bourke

- In his capacity as chair of the Housing Strategic Policy Committee, expressed his concern in relation to the vacant Administrative Officer post left unfilled following the recent retirement of its incumbent. He considered that this was a pivotal role and the main point of contact for the Members carrying out their representational role. Noting that he had communicated his concerns to the Chief Executive and Director of Services, he stated that he was not satisfied with the response that the SEO and Director of Services would field Members' queries until such time as the post was filled. He also considered that the SEO and Director had their own roles to fulfil, and the additional workload would be unfair and unsustainable, both to the staff members involved and disrespectful to the housing applicants who deserved proper consideration of their applications. He concluded that he would continue to pursue the matter until it was resolved satisfactorily.
- Queried whether additional funding was in place under Housing Aid for the Elderly Grants Scheme, and compliment the team operating the grants schemes.

Item 4.1.

Housing Directorate:
Housing Services
Report, Cont'd/

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Queried whether all eligible tenants would be notified of their eligibility to purchase their homes under the revised Tenant Purchase Scheme.
- Queried whether the proposed increases in income thresholds for eligibility for housing, were yet in operation.
- Sought update in relation to the energy efficiency upgrade of local authority dwellings.
- Requested that her appreciation of staff involved in managing housing grants be conveyed to the staff members.
- Queried whether consideration could be given to inclusion of replacement of sub-standard doubled glazed windows in the housing grant scheme, whereas only single-glazing was currently considered.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Sought information in relation to replacement of windows and doors under 'green' initiatives.
- Expressed concern on behalf of tenants with health conditions that required use of oxygen, and consequently were unable to use open fires to heat their homes, placing a financial burden in the current energy crisis.
- Suggested that the Executive Engineer had gone to great lengths to complete retrofits within the Carrick on Suir MD, but that there were many more properties requiring upgrade.
- Requested that remediation of leaking roofs be attended to at Mass Road, Carrickbeg.
- Stated that newly-constructed properties should not be allocated by means of Choice Based Letting. Accepted that CBL had reduced the numbers of refusal of offers of tenancies; however, he understood that the CBL process was designed to allocated tenancies in areas that were considered 'undesirable' with high refusal rates.
- In the matter of imminent increase of income thresholds for eligibility for housing support, he expressed the concern that this would open up a torrent of additional applications, placing an increased burden on staffing resources already under pressure, and queried whether the Council was ready to meet the extra workload. He suggested that extra staff would be needed to meet the demand, noting that there was heightened desperation among some applicants, leading to abusive engagement with Councillors and staff members.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Commended the staff engaged in administering housing grants scheme, particularly in relation to the manner in which they communicate with elected members.

Item 4.1.

**Housing Directorate:
Housing Services
Report, Cont'd/**

Responding to some of the issues raised, Ms. Cora Morrissey, Senior Executive Officer, stated that presently there was no decision in relation to the allocation of houses at Mullinahone under CBL, but that in most instances it was intended to employ this allocation method in the future, save for dealing with applicants requiring specially-adapted dwellings, or RAS tenants in receipt of notices to quit or other exceptional circumstances.

Referring to the vacant Administrative Officer post at Housing Assessment & Allocations, she indicated that it was not for the lack of engaging with the Human Resources department but that every department of every local authority was encountering similar difficulties with recruitment.

**Income thresholds
for eligibility for
social housing:**

Ms. Morrissey noted that the Department circular introducing increase of €5,000 on income thresholds, was not yet issued and she accepted that this was likely to place further pressure on the housing assessment team.

Mr. Shane Grogan, Administrative Officer thanked the Members for their compliments to staff and undertook to convey those sentiments.

**Housing Grants
Schemes –
exclusion of double-
glazed windows:**

Addressing the issue of exclusion of double-glazed windows from the housing grants scheme, he noted that an analysis of applications for the period 01 January to end June 2022 indicated that 41% of applications were for replacement of single-glazed windows; that that scenario he suggested that were the scheme extended, the entirety of the budget would be taken up with this element, notwithstanding that many double-glazed units were certainly obsolete. He undertook to convey the councillors' concerns in this regard.

**Tenant Purchase
Scheme 2022:**

Mr. Grogan indicated that the Council was now accepting applications from older tenants whose sole income derived from old age pension as a result of amendments to the tenant purchase scheme introduced some 6 weeks earlier via department circular, giving effect to legislation introduced in February 2022. Applications were currently being examined and, in many cases, applicants were required to submit further information prior to escalating to the Housing Agency for decision.

**Energy Efficiency
Retrofit & Planned
Maintenance
Programmes:**

Mr. Robert Johnston, Senior Executive Engineer updated in relation to progress on the energy retrofit programme, noting that there were 17 properties upgraded in the Carrick on Suir Municipal District in the 2022. As of now, Mr. Johnston noted that there was no indication as yet of the

Item 4.1.

Housing Directorate
continued/

2023 budget, but surveying was underway with a view to proceeding to tender for the upgrade of a further 100 units to commence in Quarter 2, of 2023 in order to achieve a 'C' Building Energy Rating. He further noted that it would be a requirement for the District technical staff to identify units where planned maintenance works were necessary in the coming year.

Presentation by
Community Liaison
Officers.

With Community Liaison Officers in attendance, a comprehensive report was presented to the Councillors in relation to estate management.

Ms. Helen Butler outlined progress to date in her area of assignment at Kilnockin View and Gort an Óir estates in Fethard and of the strides that had been achieved in the past year as a joint initiative with Housing, Environment and the Carrick on Suir Municipal District.

Ms. Tess Collins reviewed activities in the Carrick on Suir urban and rural areas, providing statistics in relation to caseloads, noting that there were 146 cases of alleged tenancy breaches logged in the 9 months to 30 September 2022 of which 118 were closed and 28 were under investigation.

In cases where legal proceedings were instituted in the past year, it was noted that

- 5 court injunctions were obtained for removal of unauthorised structures, poultry and dogs.
- 3 cases resulted in orders for repossession on grounds of antisocial behaviour in the past year.
- 3 orders for possession were obtained to address illegal occupancy of council houses.
- 1 repossession order was obtained on the basis of tenant having carried out unauthorised alteration to the council's property.

Ms. Collins described her dealings with vulnerable tenants, those engaged in tenancy sustainment, second chance programme, delivering pre-tenancy training and the estate management activities in developing residents' associations, now the subject of renewed focus following a fallow period during the Covid pandemic.

On further discussion, the Councillors in the main, commended the work of the estate management group, and raised the following matters;

- Response to antisocial complaints required review
- The Tenancy Handbook considered not fit for purpose and required review.
- Inspections of houses to ensure compliance with tenancy agreements was warranted.

- It was desirable for Councillors to meet with Garda authorities to discuss estate management issues.
- There appeared to be a lack of communication between officials and Councillors on the ground, in that greater cognisance needed to be taken of Councillors' grasp of issues in their own areas in relation to allocations such that consultation with members would be desirable, not for the purposes of dictating allocations which was not their function, but to better inform those decisions.
- Queried whether there were organisations providing support to vulnerable elderly tenants.
- Queried what level of grant funding was available to residents' associations from the Housing Section.

In response, Ms. Morrissey stated that it was important to emphasise that a minority of tenants engaged in antisocial behaviour. She indicated that Community Safety Meetings were intended to be held on a quarterly basis with Garda authorities, noting that she had recently this matter with the District Administrator with a view to having the Community Liaison Officers in attendance.

She also stated that it was intended to re-examine the tenant handbook with the Housing Strategic Policy Committee in the coming months and she had set a target for Community Liaison Officers to inspect 10% of rented dwellings commencing in 2023.

Ms. Breda Ryan, Senior Staff Officer clarified that there was a budget of €75,000 in place each year to support the activities of residents' associations and applications were normally invited in March/April with a significant project funded in each District annually. She also informed of the Council's collaboration with South Tipperary Development Company which was active on the ground supporting vulnerable and elderly persons; she expanded on the joint initiatives undertaken with the Environment section and the Dog Warden in dealing with illegal dumping and stray/problem dogs, and with the Municipal District dovetailing its activities with issues identified by the Housing Section.

Mr. Willie Corby, District Engineer spoke in relation to the joint forum for collaboration between staff of the Municipal District, and the Housing and Environment Sections respectively which established a common purpose and a good working relationship.

Item 4.2.
Part 8 Planning
Consent – P8/22/10
Replacement of
Cláirín Pedestrian
Footbridge at
Carrick-on-Suir
under Active Travel
Scheme 2022:

Ms. Gillian Flynn, Senior Executive Engineer with the Active Travel Team, attended to outline the planning process undertaken in relation to the proposed replacement of pedestrian footbridge over the railway at Carrick on Suir connecting Cláirín housing estate with St. John’s Terrace. She noted that the Part 8 planning process commenced on 22 September 2022 with the publication of statutory notices in ‘The Nationalist’ and the circulation of Article 82 notifications to prescribed bodies as required by the Planning and Development Regulations 2001 (as amended).

Plans and particulars of the proposed development were placed on public display for a period not less than 4 weeks ending on 20 October 2022 for viewing at the District Office, Carrick on Suir, and at Civic Offices Nenagh and Clonmel respectively, during normal office opening times. The closing date/time for receipt of submission or observations dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the was 4.30pm on Friday, 4th November 2022 and during that period, Ms. Flynn noted that there were no submissions or observations received. Accordingly, the Chief Executive’s report prepared in accordance with Section 179 (4) (a) of the Planning and Development Act, 2001 (as amended) was circulated on the 18 November 2022. Having considered the matter, it was proposed by Councillor K Bourke and seconded by the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. D. Dunne,

“That having considered the Chief Executive’s Report in accordance with Section 179 (4) (a) the Planning and Development Act 2000 for the Replacement of Cláirín Pedestrian Footbridge under the Active Travel Scheme 2022, the Carrick on Suir Municipal District hereby decide that the proposed development be carried out in accordance with the Chief Executive’s Recommendation.”

The District Administrator conducted a roll call in respect of the motion and the Councillors voted as follows;

Record of voting	For	Against
Councillor K. Bourke	For	
Councillor D. Dunne	For	
Councillor M. Fitzgerald	For	
Councillor I. Goldsboro	For	
Councillor K. O’Meara	For	

The Meetings Administrator duly deemed the motion as carried unanimously.

Item 4.3.
District Engineer's Report.

Schedule of Municipal District Works (November 2022)

The Schedule of Municipal District Works (November 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. Following consideration of same, Mr. Corby responded to queries raised by the Members as follows:

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Conveyed her appreciation of the work carried out at Carrick on Suir MD by Mark Bradshaw, Executive Engineer, who recently resigned to take up a position with Galway County Council; she queried whether there was a replacement in sight to take up the vacancy.
- Conveyed her sincere thanks to the Outdoor staff who had performed exceptionally during the recent flooding events.
- Queried the amount of additional funding anticipated to address flood damage in the district, referring to events which had taken place at Slieveardagh area, Moyglass and The Commons. This was particularly pertinent in the context that many affected householders did not have insurance cover in place to reinstate after flooding.
- With climate change increasing the number of flooding events, she queried whether there were plans to recruit additional outdoor staff.
- Queried whether there was a stock of sandbags in place.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Complimented the response of the Outdoor Staff in dealing with flooding issues all over the district during recent weather event.
- Commended the work of Mr. Mark Bradshaw and queried the interim arrangements until his replacement was appointed.
- Complimented the District Engineer and his team in completing an enormous amount of work as set out in the schedule of municipal district works.
- Contended that GLAS Civil Engineering's traffic management on the Clonmel Road during the course of working on the new bus stop recently, left much to be desired; he was aware of 40-45 minute delays for traffic approaching from Clonmel on one particular occasion; similarly, he suggested that work on the Pill Road should have been suspended until after 9:00am in order to streamline the delivery of student to schools.
- Noted that road markings on pedestrian crossings were still not replenished following recent road works.
- Sought feedback from TII in relation to request for Road safety audit requested for junction of N24 at Arrigan's Boreen N24.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Wished to be associated with tributes to outdoor staff.
- Expressed concern in relation to prevailing staffing vacancies.
- Stated that he had serious misgivings about the levels of manholes constructed at Grangemockler following recent resurfacing at Grangemockler.
- Flooding events included an overflowing well at Drangan and saturated paddocks on the Killenaule Road, he suggested that installation of 5-6 ft drainage pipes were warranted in these areas.
- Conveyed his thanks to the District Engineer for installation of street lighting at Cloneen.

Cllr. K. O'Meara:

- Echoed his colleagues' compliments to the District Engineer and his team for their diligent attention during recent flooding events acknowledging the sacrifice of outdoor staff of their personal and family time during these incidents.
- Acknowledged the difficulties presented by the turnover in engineering staff in delivering works programmes and lamented the time taken to build up a relationship with new incumbents.
- Sought update in relation to the speed display in Mullinahone
- Queried the status of proposed traffic control measures on the Clonmel Road, Mullinahone.
- Referring to the drainage issues across the district, he accepted that an increase in rates in the context of the 2023 budget was inevitable
- Commended the District Engineer for his application for additional funding to alleviate flooding issues
- Queried whether there would be an IPB-funded budget to replace footpaths in 2023.
- Complimented the contractor engaged on the N76 pavement improvement scheme at Grangemockler; however, he noted that one business owner had to close for 2 weeks owing to disruption caused by the works and queried whether there was any compensation available in such cases.

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Queried whether there was 'once-off' emergency compensation payable to householders with no insurance cover affected by recent flooding events.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- In view of recent flooding events at Grangemockler, he suggested that the relevant authorities needed to have a conversation with landowners in relation to the manner in which they managed run-off from their lands, causing damage to roads and properties. He suggested that each flooding event should be thoroughly investigated to establish its cause and remediation/
- Stated that many of the 12 houses at Mass Road had roof leaks and noting that tenants were unable to secure 'contents insurance', he requested that remediation of same be examined as a matter of urgency.
- Sought information in relation to proposals to replace brick paving at Castle Heights
- Reiterated his request for provision of litter bin at Carrickbeg.
- Strongly urged the procurement of 'sweeper' for Carrick on Suir town team along the lines of equipment recently trialled.
- Expressed concern at the speed of traffic passing the junction of Woodland Heights with the Dungarvan Road and requested that a joint project with Waterford County Council be undertaken.
- Repeated the disappointment of his colleagues that there was no opportunity for new incumbent to have a 'handover' with the departing Executive Engineer from the District with responsibility for housing maintenance.

Responding to matters raised, Mr. Willie Corby indicated that he was liaising with the OPW representative in relation to recent flooding events and estimated that the cost of remediation was in the region of €300,000, for which he had submitted a funding application. In the long-term, he suggested that berms would need to be constructed by the OPW in Grangemockler in addition to a new bridge. He also stated that maintenance of gulleys was vital, along with silt removal and in relation to the paddocks at Drangan, he proposed that a raised crossing would address the deficiencies at that location.

He undertook to bring the members' concerns to GLAS engineering in relation to works underway at the N24 and N78 schemes and to follow up the request to TII for road safety audit.

He accepted that the ongoing absence of road markings at pedestrian crossing was frustrating; however, the contractor was hindered by prevailing weather conditions.

In conclusion, Mr. Corby stated that he had written to several landowners under the provisions of the Road Act 1993, instructing them to design schemes to drain their lands to watercourses. He also

undertook to engage a contractor to examine the rooves at Mass Road with a view to carrying out the necessary repairs.

Suspension of Standing Orders:

As the time had reached 15.58, it was proposed by Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. K. O'Meara and agreed to suspend standing orders in order to consider remaining matters on the agenda.

**Item 4.4.
District
Administrator's
Report:**

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) 2022

Following consideration of report of funding allocation of €14.39million for the Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan by Minister Heather Humphries, Mr Brian Beck, A/Director of Services acknowledged the work involved in getting this project to approval stage and the members' support in relation to same noting that Carrick on Suir project the only Phase 1 project in Tipperary which meant it was vital to get contractors on site in 2023, thereby showing the department that we were serious players. In that regard it was intended to run 3-4 projects in quick succession while protecting traders and residents to the greatest extent possible and safely managing traffic movements. It was his intention to appoint a person to liaise with traders and residents so to ensure smooth communication channels throughout.

He indicated that An Post were co-operating with the Council in relation to the Old Post Office at Main Street and had made substantial progress in relation to regularising title to the protected structure and with the acquisition in place, he expected to commence tendering for the first phase in quarter 1 of 2023.

Carrickbeg Active Travel Scheme – Part 8 Planning Process

The District Administrator outlined the current status of this planning process with the statutory consultation closing off the following the following day (25 November 2022) and noted that the matter would be listed on the December 2022 monthly agenda for the members' consideration of the Chief Executive's report.

Carrick on Suir Railway to Town Centre Active Travel Scheme – Part 8

With the public consultation phase of this project closed on the 21 October, 2022, the District Administrator stated that it was intended to list this matter for Members' consideration and decision at the December monthly meeting.

Christmas Windows Campaign 2022

With very little uptake on the Christmas Windows campaign, the District Administrator asked that the members would encourage applicants from across the district where possible. Anyone interested in registering should contact Helen Cahill at 0818 06 5000 or via email at helen.cahill@tipperarycoco.ie.

€10m fund to support community/voluntary groups with energy costs

The District Administrator outlined details in relation to the launch of a new €10 million fund to support community and voluntary groups with increased energy costs, which are having an impact on the operations of these groups as contained in a press release by Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys, and Minister of State, Joe O'Brien, on Monday the 21 November with applications available on the Pobal website at the following link-

<https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/community-and-voluntary-sector-energy-support-scheme/>

With the closing date for receipt of applications set for **3:00pm on Friday 02 December 2022**, she emphasised that there was a short window for groups to avail of this support.

Residential Zoned Land Tax

The members were informed of the documentation and maps currently on display at the District Office in relation to the introduction of Residential Zoned Land Tax by the Department of Finance via the Finance Act 2021 aimed at increasing housing supply, and incentivising landowners to activate existing planning permissions for housing on identified lands which are suitably zoned and appropriately serviced.

The Council's Planning and Policy unit had produced draft maps for the purposes of identifying land in 20 urban settlements that satisfied the relevant criteria and was to be subject to the residential zoned land tax. In addition, there were interactive maps available on <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/rzlt>. Submissions in writing may be made not later than **01 January 2023**, and were invited from such parties who wished to (a) challenge the inclusion of land on the map if the owner considers that the land does not meet the criteria which determine the land in scope; (b) challenge the date the land is considered to be in scope; (c) request a change of zoning or (d) identify additional land

which may fall into scope (for draft map only). Submissions in this regard could be made **Online at: <https://www.tipperarycoco.ie/rzlt>** or **in writing to:** Residential Zoned Land Tax, Planning Policy & Projects Unit, Tipperary County Council. Civic Offices, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary E45 A099, or **in writing to:** Residential Zoned Land Tax, Planning Policy & Projects Unit, Tipperary County Council. Civic Offices, Clonmel, Co. Tipperary E91 N512. This was duly noted along with FAQ's circulated under correspondence at item 6.1.

Following consideration of the report, Cllr. K. Bourke extended congratulations to Mr. Beck and his team in getting the project over the line; in particular he acknowledged the role and support of the rural-based councillors in relation to its planning consent. He expressed the hope that the proposed parking solution would be progressed and lauded the great news from the department.

With regard to the Active Travel Scheme for the Railway to Town Centre project, he referred to the raised platform proposed at Cregg Road and requested that the design team would examine same in the context of flooding having taken place previously. This was noted.

**Item 4.5.
General Municipal
Allocation**

Christmas Lights 2022

A report and recommendation was circulated by the Meetings Administrator for Members' consideration. Whereas in 2021, the allocation towards Christmas lighting was made from a specific 'post-Covid recovery' budget, any such award in 2023 would be funded from remaining allocation to community grants within the District's General Municipal Allocation. Arising from consideration, it was proposed by Cllr. K. O'Meara, seconded by Cllr. I. Goldsboro and unanimously agreed,

That in accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001, and being of the opinion that it is desirable to so do to promote the interests of the local community, and having regard to the recommendation of the District Administrator, that grants be awarded to the community groups set out in the following schedule to support their Christmas Lighting plans for 2022"

Community Group	Proposed Grant
Fethard & Killusty Muintir Council	2000.00
Killenaule Enhancement Group	2000.00
Ballynonty Community Field	1000.00

Cloneen Sports & Social Club	1000.00
Ballingarry Tidy Towns Committee	1000.00
Carrick on Suir Business Association	2500.00
Mullinahone Community Council	200.00

Village Enhancement Scheme 2023

Village Enhancement Scheme 2023:

The A/Director of Services, Mr. Brian Beck indicated that it was intended to have a consultant in place in early 2023 to progress the Village Enhancement Scheme for Ballingarry, Killenaule and Mullinahone villages, which would be funded from the GMA allocation in 2023. This was noted.

**Item 4.6.
Assistance of Bodies under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001.**

The Meetings Administrator indicated that there were no items for consideration under this heading

Chief Executive's/Delegated Officers' Orders

Item 5.1

Delegated Officer's Order no. 31774 dated the 26 October 2022 to recommendation for the increase in consultant fees for CST Group as technical consultant for the Active Travel-funded Carrick on Suir New Street to Railway Station Link Development. This arose as a result of changes to regulations that required the consultants to carry out extra works. This was noted

Item 5.2.

Chief Executive's Order no. 31903 dated the 8th November 2022 relating to the acquisition of Goldcrop site at Castle Lane and North Quay, Carrick on Suir, funded under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme's Building Acquisitions Measure [BAM] was duly noted by the Councillors.

Item 5.3.

Delegated Officer's Order 32040 dated 10 November 2022 appointing Tom O'Brien Construction Ltd. as Project Supervisor Construction Stage [PSCS] for investigation works at Town Hall Carrick on Suir was noted and discussed. Given concerns expressed by Cllr. Bourke in relation to maintenance issues arising so soon after the conclusion of Town Hall refurbishment, the Meetings Administrator indicated that the investigations were being carried out by the contractor as a gesture of goodwill and without charging for labour as the rooflight installed had developed a fault. As the defects liability period associated with that

contract was long passed, TOBC was being appointed PSCS in accordance with health and safety code.

Item 5.4.

Delegated Officer's Order 32041 dated 10 November 2022 appointing DLA Ltd as Project Supervisor Design Stage [PSDS] for investigation works at Town Hall, Carrick on Suir, in similar circumstances to Item 5.3. above.

Correspondence

Item 6.1.

Publication by Department of Finance and Department of Housing Local Government and Heritage publication of FAQ's relation to the Residential Zoned Land Tax was circulated and noted

Item 6.2.

Publication by the Department of Environment Climate Action and Communications – National Broadband Plan update of November 2022 was circulated and noted.

Notices of Motion

Item 7.1

None for consideration

Any Other Business

Item 8.1.

With the permission of the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. K. Bourke raised the issue of the recent removal of Community Welfare Officer from Carrick on Suir, which was the subject of a Parliamentary Question to the Minister for Social Protection and a subsequent reply which Cllr. Bourke considered to be 'generic' in nature, wholly inadequate and unsatisfactory.

In the first instance, the transfer of services to the Clonmel Intreo Centre failed to take cognisance of the reality of absence of transport for many recipients of social welfare seeking to transact their business in person.

Secondly, he was aware of many cases where persons were 5, 6 or 7 weeks waiting for exceptional needs payments and many tenants allocated new tenancies had to move into their accommodation without furniture or appliances.

He advocated that persons accessing the service via freephone such as suggested in the Minister's response were generally frustrated at entering into a lengthy queuing situation which was intolerable to many

and for a DEIS-designated urban centre, it was inexcusable to have such a service removed from the town.

Councillor Bourke proposed that the Carrick on Suir Municipal District would write to the Minister seeking more specifically, the reason for the removal of the CWO from Carrick on Suir and requesting that the decision be reversed.

This was seconded by the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. D. Dunne and unanimously agreed.

Item 8.2.

The Cathaoirleach informed the meeting of the invitation extended to him by Superintendent Leahy to attend the Commemoration of the 100th Anniversary of Garda Henry Phelan, who was killed in Mullinahone, Co. Tipperary on 14th November 1922. He apologised that he as he was unable to attend on the day, it was remiss of him not to request his colleague to attend in his place. This was noted.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

[16:48]



District Administrator



Cathaoirleach

15 December 2022