



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER AND via ZOOM AT 10.00 AM ON 16th NOVEMBER 2023

Present in chamber	Cllr's Fiona Bonfield, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, John "Rocky" McGrath, Michael O Meara and Gerard Darcy
Present via Zoom	Cllrs. John Carroll, Phyll Bugler and Séamus Morris
Also Present	Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services; Mr. Barry Murphy, Senior Executive Engineer and Ms. Sinead Moriarty, Staff Officer. Housing: Mr. Shane Grogan, Administrative Officer, Mr. K. Malone, Executive Engineer
Item 1. To note any Disclosures/ Conflicts of Interest	None
Item 2. To consider and adopt Minutes of the October Meeting held on 19th October 2023	It was proposed by Cllr. Bonfield, seconded by Cllr. Darcy and resolved that the minutes of the October Meeting held on 19 th October 2023 be adopted.
Item 3. To receive an update from Housing	<p>The Housing report was circulated to members.</p> <p>Cllr. M. O'Meara complimented the work that was done on voids to date this year but asked if extra funding was going to be made available before the end of the year. He also stated that the Croí Conaithe scheme was very worthwhile.</p> <p>Cllr. Morris welcomed the proposal for the 67 houses in Tyone but was concerned with the length of time and complexity in getting housing schemes through the process. He is aware of people working who are getting notices to quit on their properties as landlords are leaving the sector. There are 166 using the homeless services but the report should reflect the number of people who have received NTQ and are engaging with the homeless service. Report also needs to show negotiations with landlords.</p> <p>Cllr. Bonfield thanked the Housing team for their work. She asked if it would be possible to get a breakdown of the numbers on the housing list to show how many are from HAP. The figure for housing applicants has been around 700 for the last number</p>



	<p>of years and has not reduced significantly even though additional houses have been provided.</p> <p>Cllr. Hannigan also commended the work on voids and the Croí Conaithe scheme and stated that everything should be done to ensure people avail of the different schemes available to them. He was concerned about the person in the middle whose income is too high for social housing but they cannot get a mortgage from a bank. It may be useful to highlight the Local Authority Loan and the areas that can cause issues in getting the application approved by the Department. 13 approvals from 68 applications is low but he acknowledged that a lot of work has to be done to get the application to approval stage. It may be worth going back to the Department explaining the areas that are causing difficulties.</p> <p>Cllr. Darcy stated that any additional funding towards voids would be very welcome and that the Croí Conaithe scheme is a great opportunity for people.</p> <p>Mr. S. Grogan explained that an application has been submitted for additional funding for voids and positive feedback has been received but Housing are currently waiting on written confirmation. Work can't begin until this has been received. The figures in relation to Notice to Quit will be included in the report going forward. The figure on homeless presentations is part of the Management Report for the full council. He will let Cllr. Bonfield know the figure for HAP on the housing list after the meeting. The number of applicants on the Housing list has been the same for the last number of years, more houses are being provided but more applications for social housing are also being received. In relation to the loan scheme Tipperary County Council have to stay within the National Framework. 13 loans have been issued and a lot of work has to be undertaken to get the loans to drawdown stage. Staff work with applicants to ensure the documentation is to the standard required and the Department approves the loan. Any feedback on the schemes is welcome and will be sent to the Department. Guidance can be put on the website for "Getting Mortgage ready" .</p>
Item 4. To approve contribution to the Choose Respect Committee	It was proposed by Cllr. Darcy and seconded by Cllr. Bonfield and resolved that in accordance with the terms of the 2023 Contribution to Clubs/Organisations Grant Scheme the payment of grant of €800 be made to the Choose Respect Committee.
Item 5. To update members on projects & events	<u>Newport Town Park:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Awaiting response from Minister for Housing, Heritage & Local Government re invitation to perform the Official Opening of this facility.



Newport Town Centre First Plan:

- Arrangements are being made to finalise the draft plan – feedback provided to consultants. Meeting to be arranged.
- Initial steps are being taken to progress the establishment of the Town Team.
- Nomination of elected member to represent Nenagh MD on the team to be considered.

Nenagh Town Team/Town Centre First:

- Contact will be made with those who had previously expressed interest in participating on the Nenagh Town Team.
- Nomination of elected member to represent Nenagh MD on the team to be considered.
- It is proposed to put Nenagh forward for consideration for being one of the next towns in Tipperary to be identified for a Town Centre First plan.

Banba Historic & Cultural Quarter:

- Part 8 for the Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub was lodged on Wednesday 15th November 2023 and will be on public display at the Nenagh MD Offices and at Nenagh Library from 9.30 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. Monday to Friday up to 12th December 2023.
- Submissions or observations with respect to the proposed development, dealing with the proper planning and sustainable development of the area in which the development will be situated, may be made in writing and addressed to Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services, Nenagh Municipal District, Civic Offices, Limerick Road, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary and should be clearly marked 'Part 8 in respect of former Rialto Cinema, Nenagh' or online at the following web page:
<https://consultations.tipperarycoco.ie/consultations/part-8-former-rialto-cinema-digital-and-enterprise-hub> no later than 4.30 pm on 4th January 2024.
- Preparation of the Part 8 for Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter is progressing.
- The fifth call for Category 1 Applications under the RRDF is now open. Closing date is 12 p.m. on 8th February 2024.

Nenagh Centre of Excellence:

- Meetings are on-going with relevant parties (consultants, TEA, Steering Group, etc.) to finalise the Design Brief.
- Six companies who were brought forward from Phase One of the procurement process will be invited to submit tenders in Q4 2023.
- It is aimed to have a Design Team identified by end of 2023.



Nenagh Transport Hub:

- Engagement with NTA on the development of a Transport Hub and the proposed relocation of the bus stops to the Railway Station is on-going.

Platforms for Growth- Dromineer:

- Work is progressing on the preparation of tender documents for appointment of consultants for the detailed design, procurement of contractors and overseeing the demolition of the existing toilet block and the construction of a Facilities Centre for Water Sports Activity with a view to going to tender in Q4 2023.

Stereame Housing Development

- Discussions with developers in relation to Housing Development at Stereame are nearing conclusion and legal teams from both sides are currently working on finalizing agreement.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2022

- Ballina Access Promenade and Viewing Area – Jennings O’ Donovan, Consulting Engineers have commenced work on preparation of tender documentation for the work. As part of the conditions under the permission from An Bord Pleanála bat and otter surveys are required and this will involve the procurement of an ecologist for this purpose. An archaeologist will be required to carry out monitoring during construction. The consultant has been requested to provide a timeline for the procurement process.
- Newport Courthouse and Bridewell Complex – Scroope Design have been appointed to prepare a feasibility study. Engagement and consultation process have commenced and a meeting is being arranged between the consultant and the area planner.

Painting & Enhancement Scheme 2023:

- Fifteen applications have currently been received to date under this scheme – thirteen applications received provisional approval; seven grants have been processed for payment; one of which was cancelled and the other five are awaiting completion of works/return of documentation; two applications were refused due to non-compliance with the conditions of the scheme.

Casual Trading Bye Laws:

- Tipperary County Council (NMD) recently invited applications for casual trading licences for 2024 or part thereof. The deadline for receipt of completed application forms was 1st November. A total of 7 applications has been received i.e. 1 application for Castlelough, 2 for Garrykennedy, 3 for Ballina Riverside Park and 1 for Dromineer. Following assessment of



these applications and receipt of the appropriate fee, licences in respect of successful applicants will be issued.

- During 2023 a total of 6 licences were issued i.e. 1 for Castlelough, 2 for Garrykennedy, 2 for Ballina Riverside Park and 1 for Dromineer. All of these licences will have expired by 31st December 2023.
- During 2023 contact was made with a number of parties in relation to the establishment of a working group to consider opportunities for developing a market in Nenagh. This will be further progressed in the near future.

Expressions of Interests for Development Land at Lisbunny

Tipperary County Council advertised for expressions of interest from developers and entrepreneurs interested in acquiring a prime 19.2 acre industrially zoned site at Lisbunny Business Park, Dublin Road, Nenagh for immediate development and job creation. The closing date for expressions of interest was 4.30 pm on Friday 9th June 2023. Applicants who had expressed interest in the development land have been asked to provide more detailed proposals.

One Way System

Detailed design on the Nenagh One Way System is currently being finalised. Advance works will start on Pearse Street on 16th November with full implementation likely in Q1 2024.

Nenagh Municipal District Awards Evening

The Nenagh Municipal District Awards evening will be held on Monday 20th November commencing at 6.30 p.m. in the Civic Offices, Nenagh. On the night various presentations will be made in recognition of special achievements and significant contributions to the community.

Designated Bathing Area

A public consultation meeting took place in Dromineer on Tuesday 14th November to discuss the proposed designation of Dromineer as a bathing area in accordance with the Bathing Water Directive. Proposals are currently being prepared by Destination Lough Derg Tourism Officer, Environment Section and Nenagh MD. The process commenced in 2022 with a submission to Tipperary County Council from Destination Lough Derg. A preliminary assessment was carried out by Tipperary County Council. Surveys were undertaken of visitor numbers and facilities. Environmental surveys are currently ongoing as is a Risk Assessment with Irish Water Safety. It is proposed to make an application to the EPA for official designation under the Bathing Water Regulations in March 2024 with a view to having a dedicated Bathing Area in place for summer 2024. Water quality will be monitored during the summer with the intent of securing blue flag beach status in 2025. 24 individuals attended the consultation. The application received unanimous support from



those in attendance with suggestions also being put forward for additional facilities. These will be considered and referred to the relevant agencies as appropriate.

Pride of Place Winners

Nenagh was nominated by Tipperary County Council to represent Tipperary in the IPB Pride of Place Competition in the category for towns with a population of over 4,000 people. The Awards ceremony was held last Friday 10th November in Armagh. The event which is an all-island competition, recognises improvements made by local communities to create civic pride in their area. Nenagh won the Pride of Place award with the entry entitled 'We ♥ Nenagh'. This was a collaboration of Nenagh community representatives, co-ordinated by Nenagh Municipal District, the Silver Arch Family Resource Centre and Clúid Housing. The input of Ballygraigue Court Residents Association was a major factor in achieving this award.

Christmas in Nenagh

- 'Light Up Nenagh' will take place on Sunday 26th November with entertainment on the streets from 3 pm. There will be a partial closure of Pearse St. from the Market Cross to the junction with Kickham St. The Christmas Lights will be switched on at 5.30 p.m.
- This will be followed by the lighting of the Tree of Remembrance at Nenagh Courthouse at 6.15 p.m.
- 'Christmas at the Castle' will begin on the evening of 15th December and will continue on Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th December in Nenagh Castle, the Castle Field and the Castle Garden. Activities will include family entertainment, a market with stall holders and local vendors, an illuminated walking trail with lighting displays, projections, interactive elements and music. Entry is free. This event is aimed at making Nenagh a Christmas Destination. Santa Claus, Mrs. Claus and the Grinch will be based in Nenagh Castle on 16th & 17th December – booking through Nenagh Tourist Office.
- Other events which have been notified to us at this stage include:
 - Nenagh Christmas Tree Festival at St. Mary's Church of Ireland Nenagh from 13th to 17th December.
 - Ormond Octaves annual Christmas Concert at St. Mary's of the Rosary on Friday 15th December.
 - Panto 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' at Nenagh Arts Centre on Saturday 16th December at 2 p.m.
 - Nenagh Christmas Tractors Saturday 23rd December at 6 p.m.

It was agreed that Cllr. Bonfield would represent the members on the Newport Town Team. It was agreed that Cllr. Morris would represent the members on the Nenagh Town Team. All the members expressed their congratulations on the winning of the Pride of Place competition.



<p>Item 6. To update members on Works Programme</p>	<p>The update on the Works Programme was circulated to members.</p> <p>Cllr. Bugler expressed her thanks for the work that is ongoing at Ballina Quay but was concerned about the condition of the R496 with the additional traffic the last 4 months, especially at Darcy's Bridge. She had a notice of motion down previously in relation to this.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Meara raised the issue of Ballingarry village. The residents are very upset, they believe the village has deteriorated and seems to be the most neglected village along the N52. He appealed to the executive to move Ballingarry to the top of the list but acknowledges that if the route was the responsibility of the Local Authority and not TII more work would have been done. Cllr. Darcy and Hannigan supported this. Cllr. Hannigan also raised the issue of the transport hub especially in the context of the new bus routes into town.</p> <p>Mr. M. O'Connor said it was not fair to say that Ballingarry has been neglected. When there was an issue at the Glue Pot this was rectified, the road surface is reasonable and the lights will be upgraded, a survey is currently being progressed. There is an area between the pub and the estate where the footpaths and lighting are poor and this will be looked at. The priorities for Ballingarry will be discussed at the meeting with TII on the 13th December.</p> <p>In relation to the transport hub no significant progress has been made with NTA. No-one disagrees with the need for the transport hub, it was originally discussed about 8/10 years ago. Cllr. H. McGrath suggested that the side lane entrance be opened to provide inward access only to the railway station with exit at the roundabout.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Meara disagreed with Mr. M. O'Connor in relation to Ballingarry and wanted it at the top of the agenda for the meeting with TII.</p> <p>Cllr. J. McGrath complimented the work on the bridge in Templeberry.</p>
<p>Item 7. To note Engineer's Checklist on roads matters</p>	<p>The Engineer's Checklist was circulated to members.</p> <p>Cllr. Darcy asked that Iarnród Éireann would be written to about the bridge at Ballygibbon. It is very dangerous and is impossible for pedestrians to use the road. The work at the bridge in Rathnaleen has not been done and he asked if something could be done with the sightlines at the cross on the Lahorna to Knigh Road.</p>



	<p>Cllr. Hannigan complimented the work on the Ballinderry to Borrisokane road but asked that the flooding issue near the cross and the footpath across from the Whiskey Still, Dromineer would be looked at. He also requested that the road surface in Terryglass village and signage for the harbour would be looked at.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Meara had submitted an email with the items for the checklist but wanted to include flooding near residential entrances on the Ballingarry to AGLISH road and additional signage for concealed entrances on the R489 Birr to Portumna road. He doesn't think mirrors will solve the problem but that maybe a scheme for dangerous entrances could be developed.</p> <p>Cllr. H. McGrath requested that the exit from the Kenyon St carpark would be looked at as sometimes it is difficult to exit onto the road. Cllr. Bonfield asked that Pound St. Newport would be surveyed again.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy stated that he had looked at the railway bridge in Ballygibbon and has contacted Iarnród Éireann. The parapet at Rathnaleen was also checked and it is of sufficient height and no additional work is required. Surveys are done in rotation and the roads in Borrisokane will be surveyed again. The flooding issues and Kenyon St will be added to the checklist. Concealed entrances are a big problem and a lot are historic but he would not be in favour of erecting signage anywhere. The council cannot put up mirrors but won't object to anyone putting them up. For any new planning permissions there is a good policy in place but it is not easy to resolve those already in place. The surface in Terryglass will be checked but it is reasonable at the moment.</p>
<p>Item 8. To consider Notices of Motion</p>	<p>Notice of Motion 2717 was proposed by Cllr. Bonfield and seconded by Cllr. H. McGrath</p> <p>Notice of Motion No: 2717 submitted by Cllr. F. Bonfield That Tipperary County Council consider and work with the community of Newport in implementing an Active Travel Route from the GAA Grounds in Newport to the Soccer Field Facility (Derryleigh Park) in the town. It's an ideal project to implement an active travel route here because of the number of children that walk from the town to the facility and also because there is further expansion of the GAA facility on the cards following the purchase of a new playing field in the location also.</p> <p>Response was given to Cllr. Bonfield as follows:</p> <p><i>Derryleigh Park is located on the R503 Nenagh to Thurles Road. The facility is located 300 metres outside the speed limits of Newport town.</i></p>



	<p><i>Council policy is not to construct footpaths outside existing speed limits based primarily on safety reasons. Any footpath constructed along the R503 would require land purchase and installation of street lighting.</i></p> <p><i>It may be possible to extend a footpath along the local L6009 road in conjunction with a possible expansion of the Newport GAA grounds. This option can be examined in consultation with the GAA and soccer club.</i></p> <p><i>A submission will be made to Active Travel for funding when a preliminary proposal is developed.</i></p> <p>Cllr. Bonfield welcomed the response.</p> <p>Notice of Motion 2716 was proposed by Cllr. H. McGrath and seconded by Cllr. Darcy.</p> <p>Notice of Motion No: 2716 submitted by Cllr. H. McGrath As we have now put in place raised pedestrian crossings on the new roundabout at the railway station I'm asking that we put in place a raised pedestrian crossings at Brooklands road outside IFAC building. This raised crossing would be of great benefit to pedestrians in the area.</p> <p>Response was given to Cllr. H. McGrath as follows:</p> <p><i>In 2022, the Council provided improved lighting and road markings at the pedestrian crossing at Brooklands as part of an Active Travel scheme.</i></p> <p><i>The draft Nenagh Local Transport Plan contains a number of interventions / improvements for Nenagh Town. Option AT18 identifies the creation of a segregated cycle route between the N52 Borrisokane Roundabout and Tesco's supermarket. The Council will develop a 'Safe Route to School Link' providing a connection from large residential areas off the Borrisokane Road to several schools in the area. The Brooklands pedestrian crossing will be upgraded as part of the AT18 scheme.</i></p> <p>Cllr. H. McGrath welcomed the response however he said there are a number of other crossings that could also be included.</p>
Item 9. To note Delegated Employees Orders	Noted.
Item 10.	Ms. R. Joyce informed members that Superintendent Baker had come back in relation to a new date for the Community Safety meeting. It was agreed to hold this meeting on Wednesday 22 nd



<p>To consider items of correspondence</p>	<p>November at 9.00 a.m. and that items for discussion would be submitted before the end of the week.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Meara mentioned the recent break-ins in the Lorrha area. The public are angry but the work of the Gardaí is not an issue. The fact that Lorrha is in the same division as Ballyvaughan is not good enough. It would make more sense for Lorrha to be in the Birr or Portumna areas. Local knowledge is being passed to burglars and they are targeting isolated areas.</p> <p>Cllr. Hannigan agreed that local knowledge is giving the information on where and when to target. Community Alert has to be re-established and Garda numbers are a concern. He enquired if it would be possible to get details of the current numbers in the force and at what level they should be at.</p> <p>Cllr. Darcy stated that crime waves move from area to area and that every area will eventually be hit. It is really important that the Community Alert scheme gets back up and running. At the moment community knowledge is working against people. He has raised the issue at the JPC and would like it on the agenda for the meeting next week.</p> <p>Ms. R. Joyce informed members that Brian Treacy, Waterways Ireland will meet members in January and she will contact them regarding dates but they should submit details of any items they want included on the agenda.</p>
<p>Item 11. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations</p>	<p>Votes of Congratulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark Leamy, Captain of Silvermines Junior C Team • St. Joseph's CBS on winning the Dean Ryan Cup <p>Votes of Sympathy - None</p>
<p>Item 12. Any other business.</p>	<p>Cllr. Hannigan raised the issue of the new legislation in relation to the Control of Dogs and he said it is very important to promote it. He also thinks shopping local should be promoted by the members.</p>

This concluded the business of the meeting, a true copy of which we hereby certify:-

Signed: John Rocky McGrath
Cllr. John 'Rocky' McGrath
Cathaoirleach

Date: 21/12/23

Signed: Mary Joyce
Ms. Rosemary Joyce
District Administrator

Date: 21/12/23