



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE DECEMBER MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER AND via ZOOM AT 10.00 AM ON 21st DECEMBER 2023

Present in chamber	Cllr's Fiona Bonfield, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, John "Rocky" McGrath, Michael O Meara, Gerard Darcy, 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. Economic, Community & Rural Development: Ms. Elaine Cullinan, Administrative Officer & Ms. Geraldine Manning, A/Administrative Officer
	Cllr. J. McGrath acknowledged the work that was undertaken by Tipperary County Council staff in preparation for the funeral of Shane McGowan. He also acknowledged the work of the Gardaí and businesses. All the members wished to be associated with his comments. Mr. M. O'Connor agreed that a lot of work had to be undertaken in preparation for the funeral. He acknowledged the input of staff, Gardaí, Church, contractors, businesses and schools. Ms. R. Joyce said it was a real team effort. It was agreed that now is not the time to discuss the best way to commemorate the work and life of Shane McGowan but that this will be done in the future in consultation with the family.
Item 1. To note any Disclosures/ Conflicts of Interest	None
Item 2. To consider and adopt Minutes of the November Meeting held on 16th November 2023	It was proposed by Cllr. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. Darcy and resolved that the minutes of the November Meeting held on 16 th November 2023 be adopted.
Item 3. To receive an update from Economic, Community & Rural Development	The Economic, Community & Rural Development report was circulated to members. All members welcomed the report and the work that was being undertaken in the various areas. Cllr. Morris asked about holding an event similar to the one that was previously held in the Scouts Hall with all the clubs and organisations to show what is available for people. He also requested an update on Broadband from those responsible for



	<p>that function. He referred in particular to areas around the lake where it is difficult to get access.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Meara was concerned with the areas covered by the Just Transition Fund and that this did not extend to the Nenagh District. He acknowledged that the Chief Executive is trying to get the scheme extended to cover the Lorrha/Rathcabbin area.</p> <p>Cllr. Hannigan asked when the new Tourism Officer will be appointed. He also enquired about the possibility of helping to improve volunteerism and business with their online presence.</p> <p>Cllr. Bugler also asked about the replacement of the Tourism Officer and assistance for Tidy towns groups with biodiversity projects.</p> <p>Ms. G. Manning agreed that they would bring back the feedback and queries about the clubs. Ms. E. Cullinan will request an update on Broadband from Mr. S. Howe. Mr. M. O'Connor explained that the decision around the Just Transition scheme is a national decision and that Ms. M. O'Donnell is the Biodiversity Officer.</p>
<p>Item 4. To appoint member to the board of Nenagh Arts Centre</p>	<p>It was proposed by Cllr. O'Meara and seconded by Cllr. Darcy that Cllr. Bugler be appointed to the board of Nenagh Arts Centre to replace Cllr. Hughie McGrath who had resigned from the Board.</p>
<p>Item 5. To update members on projects & events</p>	<p>The report on the update of Roads Projects including Active Travel was circulated to members.</p> <p><u>Newport Town Park:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The official opening of the Town Park by the Minister for Housing, Heritage & Local Government is scheduled to take place on the 15th January 2023. <p><u>Newport Town Centre First Plan:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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.• Cllr. Bonfield was nominated at the November MD meeting to represent Nenagh MD on the team. <p><u>Nenagh Town Team/Town Centre First:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Contact will be made with those who had previously expressed interest in participating on the Nenagh Town Team.• Cllr. Morris was nominated at the November MD meeting to represent Nenagh MD on the team.



- It is proposed to put Nenagh forward for consideration as one of the next towns in Tipperary to be identified for a Town Centre First plan.

Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub:

- Part 8 for the Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub was lodged on Wednesday 15th November 2023 and was on public display at the Nenagh MD Offices and at Nenagh Library 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 no later than 4.30 pm on 4th January 2024.
- A report on the Part 8 will be brought to the January meeting of Nenagh MD.

Banba Historic and Cultural Quarter

- Part 8 for Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter was lodged on Wednesday 29th 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 4th January 2024. The closing date for submissions is 4.30 pm on 18th January 2024.
- We are requesting that members would agree to hold a special meeting on 31st January 2024 to consider the Part 8 so that a decision on same would be in place by the closing date for funding applications under the RRDF Category 1.
- 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 appointed in Q1 2024.

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 Q1 2024.



Stereame Housing Development

- Discussions with developer 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 – the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) is practically complete. Work is progressing on the preparation of tender documentation and this is to be submitted to the Council early in the New Year.
- Newport Courthouse and Bridewell Complex – Scroope Design have been appointed to prepare a feasibility study. Some initial engagement has taken place with stakeholders. Further meeting is planned for January.

Painting & Enhancement Scheme 2023:

- Fifteen applications have been received in 2023 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 licenses 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. These applications are currently being assessed. Following assessment 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.
- The establishment of a working group to consider opportunities for developing a market in Nenagh will be progressed in 2024.

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 provided more detailed proposals on request. Submissions are currently being assessed.

One Way System

Advanced works on the Nenagh One Way System commenced on Zone 1 with works taking place on the mid-block crossing on Pearse Street in November. Works have been paused for the Christmas period and will recommence again on the 8th January with full implementation likely in Q1 2024.

Designated Bathing Area

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 in Dromineer for summer 2024. Water quality will be monitored during the summer with the intent of securing blue flag beach status in 2025. Work is being progressed on the preparation of the application – this is being done through Destination Lough Derg, Environment Section and Nenagh MD.

Ballina CCTV at Toilet Block

The Data Protection Impact Assessment has been completed. The request for quotation for the equipment and installation is currently being drafted and will issue in Q1 2024.

Nenagh MD Annual Awards Evening

The Annual Nenagh MD Awards evening was held on 20th November with awards made in a number of categories relating to Tidy Towns, Sporting Achievements, Residential Estates, Burial Grounds and Significant Community Contributions. A number of Nenagh 800 medals were also presented. The feedback from recipients and attendees was very positive and many have sent in letters and emails to convey their thanks to the Municipal District.

Christmas in Nenagh

- 'Light Up Nenagh' took place on Sunday 26th November with on street entertainment provided. The Christmas Lights were switched on by the Cathaoirleach in conjunction with Santa Claus and Fran Curry from Tipp FM. This was part of a programme of music on the street co-ordinated by Spain AV. Entertainment was provided in the form of JP's Gigantic Video Disco, Christmas Karaoke, Santa Claus, the Grinch and Paw Patrol among others making a festive appearance. Attendance is estimated as in excess of 3000.
- The Tree of Remembrance at Nenagh Courthouse was also lit on the evening.
- Three hours free parking in Car Parks in Nenagh is being allowed from Saturday 9th to Tuesday 26th December.



- 'Christmas at the Castle' took place on Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th December in Nenagh Castle, the Castle Field and the Castle Garden. Santa Claus & Mrs. Claus were based in Nenagh Castle with elves Ellie & Jack as well as The Grinch engaging with the younger audience members. In total 205 children accompanied by 209 adults visited Santa & Mrs. Claus. Other activities included family entertainment including funfair and live music, a market marquee with 20 stall holders, local food vendors, an illuminated walking trail with lighting displays, projections, interactive elements and music. Entry was free (other than Santa visits). This event was aimed at making Nenagh a Christmas Destination and thousands attended over the course of the two days. The feedback during the event and also on social media has been very positive.

FEEDBACK FROM VENDORS: *"Had a fantastic weekend, sold out both days", "Very good weekend, well done on a great event, we had a busy weekend", "great venue, I will definitely be back next year if you have it", "this was fantastic", "it was fabulous". "It was pure magic. A wonderful venue. Thanks to all involved".*

FEEDBACK FROM VISITORS: *"Light trail was beautiful", "it was so well organised, really enjoyed it. Thanks to all involved", "It was fantastic. Please do it again", "thank you, Santa was great, the children loved it", "well done to all those who put in the hard work", "it was fabulous, thanks so much we loved it", "What an amazing gem of a town we live in! Well done to all involved", "Congratulations to everyone. The Castle never looked so well".*

The event was co-ordinated through Nenagh Tourist Office.

- Nenagh Christmas Tractor Run will once again take place on Saturday, December 23, at 6pm. This all-day event will include a Christmas market, funfair and the return of the Polar Express.

Cllr. Bugler requested an update on the viewing promenade in Ballina and expressed concern at the length of time it is taking to progress this project. She also requested an update on the CCTV for the toilet block in Ballina, enhancement plan for Ballina and the active travel project for Quarry Lane.

Cllr. Morris asked about Stereame. He said the situation with the caravans should not be tolerated but it is important to progress the housing element of the site. It is great to see a building that was not being used revitalised and employ 77 people. He also requested a report on the progress of the Greenway projects.

Mr. M. O'Connor explained that the promenade is progressing through the different stages but did take the point regarding the timelines. He also stated that the housing element of the Stereame project is also very advanced in discussions.



	<p>Ms. R. Joyce informed members that the tender documents for the CCTV at the Ballina toilet block are being prepared and should be available in January. The Data Impact Statement has been completed, signage has been commissioned and it is hoped the scheme will be operational by the middle of the year.</p>
<p>Item 6. To update members on Works Programme</p>	<p>The update on the Works Programme was circulated to members.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy outlined that there were 110 schemes completed in 2023. These include roads, drainage and bridge schemes. The budget will not be available for the next 3-year programme until March.</p> <p>The members thanked the staff for the quality and volume of work that was completed.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Meara asked if it would be possible to start the programme earlier in the year. Some other Districts seem to be in a position to start before Nenagh MD.</p> <p>Cllr. Darcy acknowledged that the problems were never going to be solved quickly but a lot of the red roads have been dealt with. He did raise the issue of the junction at the meat factory along with the other junctions on the N52. He is concerned that another fatality will happen on that road. There was another accident recently at one of these junctions. Cllr. Darcy asked if a Low-Cost Safety Scheme could be considered for Knocknacree.</p> <p>Cllr. Hannigan said the watermains going into Puckane is being replaced and the road will need to be done when that is complete.</p> <p>Cllr. Bugler stated that the road from Roulagh junction to the bridge needs to be included in the next roadworks programme.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy thanked the members for their comments. While it is great to get an early start on schemes there are a number of steps that have to be completed before work can get underway. A proposal has been submitted for a low-cost safety scheme for Knocknacree but it will be March before a decision is made.</p> <p>Mr. M. O'Connor explained that the policy on the red roads was a difficult one but it seems to have worked and money has been diverted to these roads. Hopefully next year a lot of the regional roads will be done. It is very important that this programme continues. He was disappointed with the amount of people parking on footpaths especially where work was done on them. In relation to the junctions on the N52, the junction at Ashley Park is on the TII radar as there is a history of accidents there.</p>



	<p>The issue with the junctions on the N52 has been raised on an ongoing basis with TII.</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 warning signs be put in place at the bad bends on the Old Birr Road. He also asked if the footpath at the Church of Ireland in Borrisokane could be looked at and the sight lines on the minor road in Rathnaleen coming from the meat factory be examined.</p> <p>Cllr. Carroll mentioned the wall at the bridge at Tullaheady, drainage at Carrigatoher and the condition of the R497/R503. Cllr. Bonfield agreed that something should be done on the R503. It is still unclear what the situation with the wind farm is. She also asked if drainage at Cloneygowney would be examined and maintenance be carried out on the cycle lanes.</p> <p>Cllr. Hannigan said the road surface in Terryglass village needs to be looked at. During frosty weather the area at Kylepark school, Tombricane and the right turn to the Golf Club on the N52 seems to be more dangerous than other sections of the road. He asked that the junction off the Ferbane Road on the N65 be improved – maybe additional signage along with a review of the junction may help. Cllr. O'Meara supported this.</p> <p>Cllr. Bugler asked that the gullies at Cullenagh be cleaned as the area gets flooded and it causes difficulty for the day care bus. She said there is a lot of potholes on the R496. People are not respecting the yield right of way sign. She also requested the painting of road markings outside the school and that the consultant's report on the flooding at Boruma be provided.</p> <p>Cllr. Morris welcomed the double yellow lines at Ard Cruidin/Ormond Court but asked if there could be engagement with the HSE about providing additional parking. He also requested that a "Children at Play" sign be put in place in Hawthorns. He said a pole is already there and he requested an update on a letter about St Paul's Playground.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy explained that a big job is needed in Terryglass and it is important that it is done correctly. There does not appear to be any obvious reasons for the problems at Tombricane. The gullies at Cullenagh were blocked and are now cleared. Line marking is avoided in the winter and is part of a 2/3-year cycle.</p> <p>Ms. R. Joyce will follow up on the request regarding St. Paul's Playground.</p>



	<p>Cllr. J. McGrath raised the issue of the proposed cull on deer and the issues this could lead to. The members supported these concerns and believed it is important to deal with the issue of deer but it should be done in the correct manner and not lead to further problems.</p>
<p>Item 8. To consider Notices of Motion</p>	<p>Notice of Motion 2735 was proposed by Cllr. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. Carroll.</p> <p>Notice of Motion No: 2735 submitted by Cllr. P. Bugler I hereby request Tipperary County Council to install a right turning area on R445 at Bushfield cross. This junction is extremely busy due to Boher School and Boher Church etc. Residents are finding it very difficult to turn right at this junction and it is very dangerous.</p> <p>Response was given to Cllr. Bugler as follows:</p> <p><i>The Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) document DN-GEO-03060 Design of Junctions guidance standards for the design of road junctions including the use of right-hand turns. There is insufficient width available at the junction to achieve a dedicated right-hand lane in accordance with the TII standards.</i></p> <p>Cllr. Bugler acknowledged the response but did request a further examination of the junction be undertaken to see if it can be improved in any way.</p>
<p>Item 9. To note Delegated Employees Orders</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Item 10. To consider items of correspondence</p>	<p>Ms. R. Joyce informed members that Brian Treacy, Waterways Ireland is available to meet members before the District meeting on the 18th January at 9.30. The members agreed to this and that the District meeting will take place at 10.45a.m.</p>
<p>Item 11. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations</p>	<p>Votes of Congratulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nenagh Ormond on winning club of the year.• Kiladangan U18 camogie teams on their victory.• Lorrha for winning the Intermediate County Hurling Final.• Nenagh Hockey Club for winning Girls U16 League.• Nenagh Eire Og Camogie club winning 13 Development League.• Shane Brophy and Damian Lawlor for winning McNamee awards.• Ballinahinch on winning Junior Hurling County Final.• Kiladangan on winning Senior Hurling County Final.• Jimmy Minogue on becoming GAA County Chairperson.• Shannon Rovers Camogie for winning Senior and Minor B county finals.



	<p>Votes of Sympathy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Betty Griffin, Ballina on the death of her husband, Kevin, R.I.P.• Siobhan MacGowan, Dromineer on the death of her brother, Shane, R.I.P.• Morgan Family, Nenagh on the death of their father, Teddy, R.I.P.• Paul Hough, Borrisokane on the death of his sister, Deirdre, R.I.P.• Rita Guest, Nenagh on the death of her husband, John, R.I.P.• Kathleen Mulqueen, on the death of her husband, Tom, R.I.P.• Una Caulfield, Borrisokane on the death of her husband, John, R.I.P.• O'Connor Family, Nenagh on the death of their brother, Michael, R.I.P.
Item 12. Any other business.	None

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

Signed:  Date: 18/1/2024
Cllr. John 'Rocky' McGrath
Cathaoirleach

Signed:  Date: 18/1/2024
Ms. Rosemary Joyce
District Administrator