



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE JUNE MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER AND via ZOOM AT 11.00 AM ON 16TH JUNE 2022

Present	Cllr's Fiona Bonfield, John Carroll, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, John "Rocky" McGrath, Michael O' Meara, Phyll Bugler, Séamus Morris and Ger Darcy
Also Present	<p>Mr. Marcus O' Connor, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Barry Murphy, District Engineer and Ms. Sinead Moriarty, Staff Officer.</p> <p>Housing: Ms. Cora Morrissey, Senior Executive Officer; Mr. Shane Grogan, Administrative Officer; Ms. Louise Ryan, Staff Officer and Mr. Enda Walsh, Assistant Engineer.</p> <p>Community & Economic Development: Ms. Elaine Cullinan, Administrative Officer.</p>
Item 1. To note any Disclosures/ Conflicts of Interest	None
Item 2. To consider and adopt Minutes of May meeting held on 19th May, 2022	It was proposed by Cllr. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. Hannigan and resolved that the minutes of the May Meeting held on 19 th May 2022 be adopted.
Item 3. To receive update from Housing	<p>The report from Housing was circulated to members.</p> <p>Ms. Louise Ryan gave a presentation on the allocation process and the different options that are available. This highlighted the fact that a different applicant was selected to get a house depending on which allocation system was used.</p> <p>As the presentation was very detailed and there was difficulty understanding the different systems over zoom it was agreed that a workshop would be held that would allow members to ask questions in person.</p> <p>Cllr. Bonfield asked if all the different criteria were required, especially when some of the applicants would already have a local authority house. Cllr. Hannigan supported this especially when it can create difficulties in the turnaround of the newly vacant property. Cllr. Bugler asked that consideration would be given to housing vulnerable applicants in areas where they have</p>



family support. Cllrs. Darcy and O'Meara supported this. Cllr O'Meara stated that the local councillors would also be able to assist Housing in some complex issues. He also expressed concern about the numbers who had not accessed the Choice Based Letting system.

Ms. L. Ryan explained that the allocation scheme was redrafted and approved in 2021. Prior to this it was revised in 2014 to take account of the merger and previously it was 2011 as the basis of need guidelines had changed. Priority lists were abolished in 2011 and applicants were assigned a number on the list, new lists were then generated to take account of who was most in need at that time. The 10% rule was introduced to give consideration to people who were on the housing list for a long time. Ms. L. Ryan outlined that vulnerable people would only be assigned a house in the area where they have family support and contact would be ongoing with their social worker or advocate.

As a follow-up on the report circulated to members, Cllr. Bonfield asked about expected completion dates for the new houses in Cormack Drive and Portroe and about the refusals from the Housing Agency on loan applications. Cllr. Darcy asked about the houses in Ardcroney and if the mature trees at the edge of Towerhill could be removed. Cllr. Hannigan requested an update on the site in Puckane, the numbers on the housing list and if there is an increase or decrease in the last 12 months.

Cllr. Morris welcomed the near completion of the houses in Portroe and Cormack Drive but asked that whatever damage was caused during construction to the estates be repaired. He also asked about the results of the recent affordability survey. Cllr. O'Meara enquired about the allocation of houses in Borriskane and about the accommodation for Ukraine refugees. He is aware of people that have pledged houses and have not got any further contact from the Red Cross. Cllr. Bugler asked about the possibility of improving the exterior look of some of the local authority houses.

Mr. S. Grogan will get information on the houses in Borriskane. There are currently 3,520 people on the Housing list. The draft report from KPMG has been received and will be discussed at the next SPC meeting. The final decision on housing loans is with the Housing Agency and a lot of work goes into getting the application ready for submission.

Ms. C. Morrissey explained that each Local Authority has now been provided with staff to deal with housing the Ukraine refugees. Mr. S. Lonergan has been appointed in Tipperary County Council along with 2 staff from the HSE. At the moment they are working through matching pledges of accommodation with families. If there are any offers of accommodation that are



	<p>not progressing they should contact Mr. S. Lonergan. Contact can be made with the CLO on any specific property that may be causing issue with regard to the condition of the property.</p>
Item 4. To receive update from Community & Economic Development	<p>The report from Community and Economic Development was circulated to members.</p> <p>Cllr. Bonfield asked for an update on the Older People Hub in Killoscully. Cllr Bugler enquired about the possibility of getting more signage for the Lough Derg Way out of Ballina, broadband and asked that Sinéad Cahalan would come out with the anglers to help promote fishing tourism.</p> <p>Cllr. O'Meara requested signage for the cycling without age group in Lorrha. Cllr Carroll asked about broadband hubs and Cllr. Hannigan asked about the % of funding community groups have to make available under Town and Village renewal schemes.</p> <p>Ms. E. Cullinan will follow up on these queries and come back to the relevant members.</p>
Item 5. To receive presentation on Nenagh Projects	<p>Ms. M O' Connor gave a presentation to members on the Nenagh Projects under Project Ireland 2040 and the potential funding sources.</p> <p>Cllr. Bugler believes they are great projects and that it is very important for the District that Nenagh town is as strong as possible. She looked forward to them coming to fruition and asked when an application would be made for Ballina-Killaloe. Cllr. Darcy enquired if the projects will be self-financing or if there is potential income from them. He acknowledged the great debate among the members on the issue. Cllr. Bonfield stated that these projects set a vision and have potential but hard decisions will have to be made.</p> <p>Cllrs. Hannigan, O'Meara and Morris were concerned about the amount of funding that will have to be sourced/raised by the County Council and the effect that will have on the other services of the council.</p> <p>Cllr. H. McGrath stated that the debate was of great value and necessary for the members.</p> <p>Mr. M. O'Connor outlined that if money is to be borrowed it will be done by Tipperary County Council not the District. A lot of discussions will have to take place before any final decisions are made but he believes the projects are worth it. He did not have a timescale as yet for Ballina – projects would have to be agreed with Clare County Council for a joint application. It would be at least a year off. It was hoped the Newport plan would be</p>



	<p>finalised within the next six months. Significant amounts would be required to meet repayments on borrowings – there is €1 million provided for this in the current budget. Mr. L. McCarthy would be coming back for further discussion on the various options including rates, charges and levies. He referred to the proposal to develop a Transport Hub at the Railway Station and the level of investment that has taken place in upgrading the Railway Line. There is potential for the Nenagh/Limerick line to develop as a commuter hub but another station is needed closer to Castletroy. Buses are causing huge congestion in the centre of town. There is a need for projects to wash their face – to cover the day to day running costs but they would not finance the capital costs. If well run they can break even and benefit the local economy, the hotel, shopping etc. Updates on all the District Projects are given at each monthly meeting.</p> <p>Ms. R. Joyce explained that not all the projects will be at the same stage of progress at the same time and they may not all get approved. Under the RRDF contingencies are allowed, under URDF if costs are going up due to inflation you go back to the Department to seek additional funding.</p>				
<p>Item 6. To receive update from Rail Partnership</p>	<p>This item was postponed until the July meeting as the group were unable to attend.</p>				
<p>Item 6. To approve allocation of funding under Contribution to Residents Associations</p>	<p>It was proposed by Cllr. Hannigan and seconded by Cllr. Darcy and resolved that in accordance with the terms of the Residents Association Grant Scheme the payment of grants be made to the following:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="525 1301 1417 1476"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="525 1301 1110 1346">Residents Association</th> <th data-bbox="1110 1301 1417 1346">Recommendation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="525 1346 1110 1476">Castle Court Residents Association (sub-committee of Terryglass Improvements Committee)</td> <td data-bbox="1110 1346 1417 1476">€350.00</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Residents Association	Recommendation	Castle Court Residents Association (sub-committee of Terryglass Improvements Committee)	€350.00
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<p>Items 9. To update members on projects & events</p>	<p><u>Killaloe Bypass, Shannon Bridge & R494 Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning procedures and the Oral Hearing have been completed. • The Tender Prior Information Notice (PIN) was published in December 2019. • Design was substantially completed in Q2 2020. • A minor works contract for site clearance and laying a section of sewer is completed. • Tenders for the works contract were received in November 2021. 				



- Approval by DoT was granted in December 2021 to award the works contract to the recommended successful tenderer for the works, John Sisk & Sons (Holdings) Ltd.
- The works contract was awarded on February 16th, 2022 to John Sisk & Sons (Holdings) Ltd.
- The works contract is due to commence on March 16th, 2022. The scheme will take approximately 3 years to complete.
- The Contractor is currently sorting out supply chain issues which have arisen as a consequence primarily of the war in Ukraine.

R498 Latteragh Realignment

- Part 8 procedures and preliminary design work is completed.
- The CPO was published in August 2020, an Oral Hearing was held on 1st & 2nd December and the CPO was confirmed on April 16th, 2021 without modifications.
- Tender documents have been prepared for the appointment of a consultant to carry out the detailed design, procurement and supervision of the Works contract. Approval from the DoT to go to tender for consultants has been received and the tender was advertised on March 11th, 2022. Tenders are currently being assessed and it is anticipated that a consultant will be appointed in July 2022.
- The consultant is expected to have the tender documentation prepared by Q2 2023 so that a works contractor can be appointed by Q3 2023.

N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge Strengthening

- Flooding of a short section of the N65 north of Carrigahorig results when Lough Derg lake rises significantly during severe flooding events. The most recent flooding events took place in 2019, 2015/2016 and 2009.
- The Council cannot carry out physical works to raise the road level at present due to a number of significant constraints and engineering challenges in determining a suitable solution/road scheme to prevent the road from flooding.
- The main issue here is there are two Natura 2000 sites (Lough Derg, North-east Shore SAC and Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA) located immediately adjacent to the proposed project. Natura 2000 sites are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79 / 409 / EEC).
- The road in this location is also built on soft peaty ground.
- On the basis of its proximity to the two Natura 2000 sites any significant works to raise the road level at this location requires planning consent from An Bord Pleanála.
- Preparations for a planning submission to An Bord Pleanála are underway and due to the significant environmental and ecological sensitivities several studies have been conducted and completed to-date by the Council to determine flood risk,



ecological, environmental and other impacts/constraints and also an initial assessment of ground conditions has been completed.

- Once planning consent is obtained, the Council will complete the detailed design process.
- A ground investigation has now been completed and the scheme has been formally categorized as a Minor Improvement Scheme.
- The Council has now received approval from TII to appoint a consultant to continue with the preliminary design and procurement for same is now underway with the preparation of tender documents.

N65 Carrigahorig Village Pavement Improvements

- Tipperary County Council is preparing a pavement improvements and safety scheme for the N65 at Carrigahorig Village. The scheme involves:
 - road pavement improvement works
 - addressing a number of road safety issues
 - the renewal and widening of footpaths in the village
 - the extension of footpaths to the speed limit on the Portumna side and to the R493 Terryglass Road on the Borrisokane side of the village
 - public lighting improvements
 - some public realm improvements.
- Feasibility work has been completed and the Preliminary Design stage has commenced.
- Land acquisition for footpath widening and extension works is at an advanced stage.
- On the basis of the scheme's proximity and likely impacts on two nearby Natura 2000 sites, a Natura Impact Statement must be prepared and the scheme therefore requires planning consent from An Bord Pleanála.
- The Council has received approval from TII to appoint a consultant to continue with the preliminary design and procurement for same is now underway with the preparation of tender documents.

Newport Town Park:

- Final works are being undertaken and snagging will then be carried out by the consultants in conjunction with the contractor.
- Following this the site will be handed back to the Council who will then determine the appropriate date for opening to the public.
- Meeting will be held with local community to discuss the operation of the Town Park and the preparation of bye-laws for its regulation.



Outdoor Enhancement – Covid Measures, Nenagh:

- Hanley's Place – works substantially complete. Planting to be completed by the end of June.
- Kenyon St – edge planters and glass panels have been installed. The installation of the parasols has now been completed. The installation of remaining street furniture, planters and the associated planting will take place shortly.

John's Lane Car Park:

- The EV charging points are now live and fully operational. Associated signage has been ordered and will be installed this week.
- Unfortunately, there has been some vandalism of the new trees planted at this location. We will be replacing the trees which have been damaged. This is not the first time this has happened and the matter has been referred to the Gardai. We would appeal to the public to notify the Gardai should they notice any such activity in the car park or indeed in any other area in the town.

Ely O Carroll Place / Ball Alley Lane:

- A resin bond surface has been laid at Ball Alley Lane. Ground lights will be installed on Ball Alley Lane and bollards are installed on Silver Street. It is anticipated works will be completed by the end of June.

Newport Enhancement Plan:

- We have reverted with comments to the consultants and are awaiting revised plan.

Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter:

- Feedback has been provided to the Design Team from the initial Stage 2 proposals and further meeting will be arranged to determine which elements should be taken forward.
- Meetings are being held with the project partners to discuss the approach to planning in view of the different ownerships involved with respect to the central pillars – Nenagh Castle & Nenagh Gaol.
- The programme aims to have design and planning completed by April 2023.

Nenagh Centre of Excellence:

- The Tender Assessment Panel has met and has assessed the tenders received for the Suitability Assessment stage for procurement of the Design Team.
- Letters will be issuing in the near future to the tenderers concerned.
- This process will short-list the number of tenderers to be taken through to the next phase of the procurement process.
- The next stage of the procurement process cannot be undertaken until the Department give approval.



- Report has been submitted to the Department on reviewed costings and a meeting is being sought to discuss same.
- Following that meeting the revised Preliminary Business Case will be submitted to the Department.
- Meetings of the Steering Group and the District Delivery Group are on-going.

Nenagh Traffic Management Plan:

- Consultants are currently progressing the design work required.
- Works at Emmet Place/Mitchel St. are now substantially completed.

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:

- EIA Screening Determination Report and Construction & Environmental Waste Management Plan (CEWP) have now been agreed with Fáilte Ireland.
- The application to An Bord Pleanála is currently being finalised and the proposals will be put on public display within the next two weeks.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme:

- Measure 2 2020: Beara Breifne Way - contractor has substantially completed the works including a 650-meter footpath which has been constructed through bog. Signage and circa 11 stiles will be completed in Q2 2022.
- Measure 1 2021: Ballinderry River Walk was approved for funding of €17,550 under this scheme. Works have been completed. The walkway is open with a planned official opening of the walkway now scheduled for Sunday 31st July 2022. Signage has now been provided.
- Two applications in Nenagh MD have been selected at county level for submission to the Department under the 2022 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS). These are:
 - Measure 1: Ballinderry River Walk Phase II – upgrade of 2 km riverwalk along the Ballyfinboy River. Application in conjunction with Ballinderry Development Association.
 - Measure 4: Clare Glens River Walk Enhancement Plan = preparatory planning and design works for the Clare Glens River Walk Enhancement.



	<p><u>Discovery Points (Castlelough & Lookout Portroe)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This project is being undertaken jointly by Tipperary, Clare and Galway in conjunction with Fáilte Ireland.• Screening of the report from consultants has now been completed by the respective counties. <p><u>Stereame Housing Development</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The next stage of the procurement process has now been completed and published.• Closing date for submissions is 21st June. <p><u>Rialto, Banba Square Nenagh</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Official notification from the Department has been received and the required verification form has been submitted. The information pack including the terms and conditions is awaited from the Department.• Tender documentation has been drafted for the procurement of the Design Team for the Project. It is envisaged that the Design Team will be appointed for all elements – both the building and the backlands development.• Pre-tender approval will be required from the Department before the tender can be published. <p><u>Streetscape Scheme</u></p> <p>This scheme has been completed. Nenagh MD paid out grants to 45 property owners the value of €151,391.60.</p> <p><u>Painting and Enhancement Scheme</u></p> <p>The Painting & Enhancement Scheme for 2022 in Nenagh has been advertised. To date 3 applications have been received – a total of 11 applications were issued in response to enquiries. The level of grants available in the current year will be determined by the available budget – it will not be possible to allocate the same level of funding as last year and priority will be given to properties that are in need of enhancement due to vacancy or dereliction.</p> <p><u>Mobility Plan – Nenagh</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• A workshop took place with Systra on Friday 27th May at 2.30 p.m.• Submissions have been invited – closing date 24th June at 16.30 <p><u>Nenagh Tourist Office</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nenagh Tourist Office had its Official Opening on Thursday 19th May 2022 by Cathaoirleach Michael O’ Meara and Author Donal Ryan.• TG4 were on site on 13th May and recorded a piece there with Pádraig Ó Flannabhra and children from the Gaelscoil. This was aired on TG4 in May.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The first of a series of events under the Local Live Performance Programming Scheme funded by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media took place from the Tourist Office on Saturday 4th June.• Eamon O’ Dwyer recorded a ‘Down Your Way’ programme from the Tourist Office and this was aired on Tipp FM on Saturday the 11th June. <p><u>Wheelchair Accessible Parking Spaces</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Works are underway on refreshing existing on street wheelchair accessible parking spaces in Nenagh. It is anticipated that this work will be completed over the coming weeks. <p><u>Bye-Laws for Jetties</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is an on-going problem with the long-term parking of boats at jetties in locations such as Terryglass, Garrykennedy and Ballina and a number of complaints have been received in relation to this.• It is proposed to draft Bye-Laws to address this problem by stipulating the maximum length of time that boats can be moored at Council jetties.• The draft Bye-Laws will be brought before members for consideration prior to being put on public display and there will then be the opportunity for submissions on same.• Following the public consultation process the Bye-Laws will be brought back to members for adoption. <p>Ms. R. Joyce outlined that the enhancement of John’s Lane carpark was a very successful project but unfortunately trees have had to be replaced due to vandalism and these trees have now been vandalised again. They will be replaced but the District is asking members of the public to report any issues of vandalism they see.</p> <p>There have also been complaints about the boats moored at the jetty in Ballina that are not moving. Bye-laws will be drafted to regulate the mooring of boats and should be available in September/October. Cllr. Hannigan asked who is the governing body over the use of jet-skies. Mr. M. O’Connor outlined that previously Waterways Ireland and the Gardaí had a joint operation to address the issue of jet skies and it was very successful. Some research may need to be done on the regulation of the jet-skies.</p>
Item 10. To update members on Works Programme 2022	<p>The update on the Works Programme was circulated to members.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy outlined that this is going to be the busiest 4 week period of the road works programme. The increase in construction costs will have an inevitable impact on the 3 year</p>



	<p>programme. An additional allocation for targeted investment for rural red roads in the sum of €75,472 has been received. He suggested that this would be used on the R493 as it is a regional road and a major tourist route that has heavy traffic. It was proposed by Cllr. Hannigan and seconded by Cllr. O'Meara that this additional money would be used on the R493 as suggested.</p>
Item 11. To note Engineer's Checklist on roads matters	<p>The Engineer's Checklist was circulated to members.</p> <p>Cllr. Darcy requested signage on the road from Lahorna to Knigh Cross to say there is a junction, also the hedges at junctions need to be cut. Cllr. Bugler supported this in relation to the junctions in Ballina and Cllr. J. McGrath mentioned rusty signs on the Templeberry to Kilcommon road.</p> <p>Cllr. J. Hannigan asked about the possibility of getting a wheelchair parking space in Borrisokane.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy outlined that the cutting of hedges is the landowners responsibility and it should be done before bird nesting season. The local authority can cut hedges if there is a safety issue and he will look at this. Cleaning of signs will be done once the road works programme is complete. Mr. M. O'Connor said they will look at the provision of a disabled parking space in Borrisokane.</p>
Item 12 To consider Notices of Motion	None
Item 13. To note Delegated Employees Orders	Noted.
Item 14. To consider items of correspondence	None
Item 15. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations	<p>Votes of congratulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Brendan O' Donoghue, Nenagh on defending the Irish Amateur Snooker Championship title.• Killoscully Darts Team on their recent victory• Ballymackey FC <p>Votes of sympathy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The family of the late Paddy Hourigan, a former employee of the Council• Margaret & Lindsay Cleary on the death of Kathleen Cleary, Ballylusky



Item 16. Any other business.	<p>Cllr. Morris requested an update on the title search on the Military Barracks. This will be followed up as there has been no response from the Department of Defence.</p> <p>Housing had made contact regarding a date for the workshop on allocations and it was agreed to hold this on the 30th June at 2.30 p.m.</p> <p>Cllr. H. McGrath referred to a number of accidents that had taken place at Tyone Bridge and asked that Active Travel consider provision of a footpath inside the bridge.</p> <p>Cllr. Hannigan informed members that a stand by the Gardai in relation to the dangers of drug use had been used in some areas and felt that the local GAA clubs were in a very good position to work with the Gardai in addressing this issue. Cllr. H. McGrath stated that he has been in contact with the Gardaí in relation to the Castlefest and they will have a similar stand in place over the weekend of the festival.</p> <p>Following discussion, it was agreed that the July meeting should commence at 9 a.m. and that the Drainage Committee meetings be held after the meeting, commencing at 11.30 a.m.</p>
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This concluded the business of the meeting, a true copy of which we hereby certify:-

Signed: 
Cllr. H. McGrath
Cathaoirleach

Date: 21/7/2022

Signed: 
Ms. Rosemary Joyce
District Administrator

Date: 21/7/2022