

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE FEBRUARY MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD VIA ZOOM AT 10.30 AM ON 17th FEBRUARY 2022

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Present	Cllr's Fiona Bonfield, John Carroll, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, Michael O' Meara, Phyll Bugler, Séamus Morris, Ger Darcy, John "Rocky" McGrath
Also Present	Mr. Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Barry Murphy, District Engineer and Ms. Sinead Moriarty, Staff Officer.
	Planning: Ms. Carmel Daly, Executive Planner, Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer
	Water Services: Mr. Gerry Robinson, Senior Executive Engineer
Item 1. To note any Disclosures/ Conflicts of Interest	None
Item 2. To consider and adopt Minutes of January Meeting held on the 20th January 2022	It was proposed by Cllr. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. Bonfield and resolved that the minutes of the January Meeting held on 20 th January 2022 be adopted.
Item 3. To receive update from Planning	The report from Planning was circulated before the meeting. Cllr. O'Meara asked if it would be possible to have a workshop on protected structures and listed buildings for the Nenagh MD only and for an update on the taking in charge of Townsfields. Cllr. H. McGrath enquired about the timeframe for the Nenagh Local Area Plan. Cllr. Bugler stated that the pressure has to be kept on Irish Water regarding the upgrading of the Ballina Waste Water Treatment system as it is affecting the possibility of getting planning permission in the area. Cllr. Morris has concerns over the potential dezoning of land in Nenagh, a lot has changed due to Covid and since the 2016 Census. Cllrs. Darcy, Carroll and Hannigan supported the request for a workshop for the District, but requested that other issues be included in the workshop as well as protected structures. Cllr. Carroll asked about housing clusters, clarification on the reasons for the invalid planning applications and the possibility of extending the duration/term of planning permissions granted.

Ms. C. Daly explained that while there is no timelime at the moment on the Local Area plans, it will be after the adoption of the County Development Plan. She will get clarification on the clusters and invalid applications and she noted the comments on the population figures, the Ballina waste water treatment system and the request for the Nenagh MD workshop. Ms. C. Daly outlined that the provision in the legislation regarding the duration of a planning permission changed last year and she will look for the circular that outlined these changes.

Mr. K. Ladden confirmed that Ryan Hanly's are carrying out a survey and technical assessment of Townsfield, this survey should be completed in the first quarter of the year.

Item 4. To receive update from Water Services

The report from Water Services was circulated before the meeting.

Cllr. Morris enquired if there was funding for the upgrade of the Nenagh and Ballina WWTP. He expressed concern that, with the Transformation of Water Services TCC staff will not have a role in water services even though they would be familiar with all the systems at local level.

Cllr. Bugler asked if the work on the Ballina plant could start earlier in the year as this was an environmental issue. Cllr. Darcy stated that Cloughjordan should remain a priority. Cllr. Bonfield said it may be difficult to change the timelines for the Ballina and Newport schemes at this stage and queried what the works under the National Certificate of Authorisation Programme for Portroe are.

Cllr. Carroll felt it was important that that there was a commitment from Irish Water in relation to smaller settlements before the County Development Plan has been signed off. Cllr. Hannigan believed that water services will not be in the remit of the local authorities shortly and that a survey of all the systems is required. He also asked for an update on the pipe at Puckane on the Nenagh road.

Mr. G. Robinson advised that the closing date for priority tenders for Ballina is in March and the earliest a contractor would be able to get on site is September. Irish Water have committed funding for this project. Planning will be submitted for the Nenagh Scheme later in the year with construction expected to begin in 2023. Cloughjordan will be kept on the agenda.

The area in Portroe under the Authorisation Programme is on the Garrykennedy Road towards Newtown for $\frac{1}{2}$ mile on the right-hand side. The transfer to Irish Water will happen but Council staff on the ground will still be there. Irish Water have a survey done on the schemes and what is required. The update on the



	Puckane pipe is outlined in the report as to be progressed in 2022.
Item 5. To agree	It was proposed by Cllr. S. Morris and seconded by Cllr. H. McGrath and resolved:
proposed Declaration of a Road to be a Public Road at Lisbunny	"that pursuant to the provisions of Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993, this Municipal District hereby agrees to declare the Road serving the area known as Lisbunny Industrial Estate, Dublin Road, Nenagh, from its Junction with the R-445 (Dublin Road) to the end of Industrial Estate Road to be public, as per the map which was on public display during the prescribed period and as outlined in the Director of Services Report to the Members dated 04 February 2022."
	Cllr. Morris enquired about the cost of bringing the road up to standard and how will this be funded.
	Mr. M. O'Connor clarified that this property was bought to help with job creation in the area. Various funding sources will be examined and any proceeds from the sale of sites within the estate will be used to fund any required upgrading works.
Item 6. To note changes to boundaries for Ireland's Hidden Heartlands projects & events	Details of the changes were circulated to members prior to the meeting. The changes were welcomed and it was recognised that the Hidden Heartlands as a fourth region was very important. The Nenagh District did not sit well within Ireland's Ancient East.
Item 7. To consider	It was proposed by Cllr. Morris and seconded by Cllr. H. McGrath and resolved
submissions on Draft Car Park bye-laws	"that the Draft Car Park Pay & Display Bye-Laws 2021 Bye-Laws be adopted subject to the following amendments:- 1. These bye-laws may be cited as the Nenagh Town Car Park Pay & Display Bye-Laws 2022."
	Ms. R. Joyce outlined that the amendment to the Bye-Laws was to take into consideration the addition of Emmet Place car park. One submission was received but most items raised in the submission did not relate to the draft bye-laws on display. She went through the items outlined in the submission and the response to same. These bye-laws will come into force on Friday, 1st April, 2022
Item 8. To update members on projects & events	Newport Town Park: Having reviewed the existing site condition and following discussion with the consultants the contractors have requested an extension to the proposed handover date. The primary reason for this request is that the existing topsoil on site is

extremely wet and due to the subsoil material type this is taking longer to dry out than expected. On this basis it will not be possible to open the facility to the public until May 2022 and it may be necessary to open on a phased basis commencing with the MUGA.

The quality of the finish of the landscaping works forms a large part of the overall project. While it is appreciated that the delaying of the opening will be a major disappointment in particular to the local community, it is important that the grassed areas, which form a large part of the overall project, are allowed time to develop and that the planting can become established in advance of public access. This will benefit the facility in the long-term.

Outdoor Enhancement - Covid Measures, Nenagh:

- Hanley's Place works substantially complete. Planting to be completed at appropriate time.
- Kenyon St edge planters have been delivered and work will commence on installation in the near future. Carey's Glass have kindly agreed to provide the glass panels free of charge – these are currently being manufactured. Installation of street furniture and remaining planters will follow. Parasols have been procured and will be final item for installation.

John's Lane Car Park:

• EV charging points have been installed but connections are not yet fully operational.

Emmet Place/Mitchel St:

Work is now substantially complete.

Ely O Carroll Place / Ball Alley Lane:

- This project will commence in March as the current weather is too cold to apply resin bond treatment.
- The ground lights will be installed in the near future.

Newport Enhancement Plan:

- Awaiting revised draft Plan from Consultants
- When we receive same we will arrange a date to brief members in committee

Ballina Access Promenade & Viewing Area:

- Awaiting decision on funding application under Town & Village Renewal Scheme
- Some preliminary works have been carried out on site clearance

Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter:

- We are following up with the partners represented on the Steering Group to obtain their feedback on the initial reports.
- Next stage will include initial design and preparation of business case.

Nenagh Centre of Excellence:

- Work on review and updating of Preliminary Business Case is ongoing by Grant Thornton Consultants
- Tender documentation for the appointment of the Design Team has been prepared by Rogerson Reddan Associates
- The procurement process is a two stage Restrictive Tendering process with stage one relating to suitability assessment – it is expected to commence this phase within the next few weeks
- A Communications Strategy is in the process of being drafted.
- 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:

- Documentation for the Planning Application for submission to An Bord Pleanála has been drafted and validated by planning section
- This has been forwarded to Fáilte Ireland for approval and for update of the NIS
- Once their approval is received it will be put out on public display and application will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála

Provision of Bus Shelters:

- The bus shelters have been installed at Stereame. The power supply to the bus shelters will be completed in the coming weeks.
- Minor ancillary works such as the provision of bins to be completed end of Q1 2022 / start of Q2 2022.
- Active Travel Team is finalising an Application for 2 shelters at the bus stops in Borrisokane for installation in 2022.

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 Q1 2022.
- Measure 1 2021: Ballinderry River Walk has been approved for funding of €17,550 under this scheme. Works have been completed.

<u>Discovery Points (Castlelough & Lookout Portroe)</u>

- This project is being undertaken jointly by Tipperary, Clare and Galway in conjunction with Fáilte Ireland
- Cunnane Stratton Reynolds were appointed in February 2021 for the preparation of proposals for six Discovery Point sites which were identified in the project meeting
- Two of these Discovery Points are in Tipperary Castlelough and The Lookout
- Following site meetings, a presentation was made to the group on potential proposals
- Clarification was given that the focus should be on site furniture, information points, approach road signage and any key surfacing improvements that might be required on any of the sites.
- A revised report was received and is currently being considered by the Tourism Officers in the respective counties.

Stereame Housing Development

• Documentation for Stage 2 of the tendering process has been drafted and is currently being considered by the Evaluation Team. It is expected to proceed with Stage 2 procurement within the next month.

Rialto, Banba Square Nenagh

- A Steering Group and a District Delivery Group has been established to deliver this RRDF project and initial meetings have been held.
- Official notification together with terms and conditions is awaited.
- Consultants are being procured to assist with the preparation of the tender documentation for the Design Team.

Installation of Solar Bins

- Seven Solar Bins have been procured by Environment Section in respect of the Nenagh MD area and will be installed over the coming month.
- The locations for the bins are as follows:

- o Ballina 2
- o Dromineer 2
- o Terryglass 2
- o Garrykennedy 1
- The funding for the bins comes from an allocation of €150,000 secured by the Environment Section under the Litter Infrastructure Support Grant Scheme

Streetscape Scheme

- Payment of applications where works have been completed is on-going – to date 20 grants have been paid to a value of €57,120.
- Property owners are encouraged to have the works completed as early as possible to ensure draw down within the framework of the scheme – claims based on grant payments must be submitted to the Department by April 2022.

Festivals & Events Grant Scheme

- There has been a considerable number of applications received under the Festivals & Events Grant Scheme.
- Assessment of applications is currently underway.

Grant Schemes:

- Applications are being invited by Environment Section under the Tidy Towns and the Burial Ground Grant Schemes.
- The Contributions to Clubs & Organisations and the Residents' Associations grant schemes remain open until 11th March.
- All grant applicants are encouraged to submit their applications as early as possible

Nenagh Tourist Office/St. Patrick's Day in Nenagh:

- Since opening its doors to the public in December 2021
 Nenagh Tourist Office has welcomed over 600 visitors.
- The Information/Tour Guide (Victoria Lee) has now set up a dedicated Facebook page and Instagram account for the Tourist Office. The contact details for the Tourist Office are as follows:
 - email: nenaghtouristoffice@tipperarycoco.ie
 - o telephone: 087 187 1932
 - o facebook: Nenagh Tourist Office
 - o Instagram: @nenaghtouristoffice
 - Eir Code: E45 NX26
- Opening hours are Tuesday to Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- Victoria has kindly offered to open the Tourist Office on St. Patrick's Day so that visitors attending the festivities can use the opportunity to view the various exhibits – discussions are in train about having some live music in the Tourist Office on the day.

 Plans are being developed for a festival of local musical talent, food, arts and crafts to be held at the Courthouse Nenagh on St. Patrick's Day – organized by Nenagh Live

Killaloe Bypass, Shannon Bridge & R494 Upgrade

- Planning procedures and the Oral Hearing have been completed.
- Design was substantially completed in Q2 2020.
- The Tender Prior Information Notice (PIN) was published in December 2019.
- A minor works contract for site clearance and laying a section of sewer is substantially complete.
- 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.
- It is anticipated that the main contract will be awarded in Q1 2022 and the works will also commence in Q1 2022. The scheme will take approximately 3 years to complete.

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 is awaited to go to tender for consultants and it is anticipated that following this competition that a consultant will be appointed in Q2 2022.
- The consultant is expected to have the tender documentation prepared by the end of 2022 so that a works contractor can be appointed by Q1 2023 and, subject to final approval and DoT funding, begin work on site in Q1 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 underway.

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 currently underway.
- Subject to land acquisition it is expected that preliminary design work will be completed and the Part 8 for the scheme advertised in 2022.
- The Council has received approval from TII to appoint a consultant to continue with the preliminary design and procurement for same is underway.

Cllr. Morris enquired about the tender process for the Stereame development and stated that it would be important to get the planning permission before the new County Development Plan results in a reduction in zoned land. Mr. M. O'Connor advised that a competitive dialogue and negotiations are currently underway.

Cllr. Hannigan enquired about the Casual Trading Bye-Laws and if they would be in place for the Summer. Ms. R. Joyce advised that submissions have been received on the proposed amendment of the Bye-Laws and now each area needs to be examined to consider whether or not casual trading is appropriate in the location. It will be important not to put obstacles in the way of existing markets. The revised bye-laws when drafted will have to go through a further public consultation process before being brought back to the members for adoption. It will not be possible to have them in place by June this year.

Item 9. To note Engineer's Checklist on roads matters

The Engineer's checklist was circulated to members.

Cllr. Morris requested an update on the pedestrian crossing at Nenagh College and asked that an engineer visit Rapla to ensure the correct area is included for work. Cllr. Darcy supported this and raised the issues of the footpath across from the Community Field in Ardcroney and flooding at Oxpark, Cloughjordan.

Cllr. O'Meara stated that milk lorries are now finding it difficult at Dromnahane, Borrisokane and have started to refuse to travel the road. There is also an issue with the footpaths in Ballingarry.

Cllr. Hannigan asked about the funding received under Climate Change. Cllr. H. McGrath raised concerns about the flooding at the pedestrian crossing at Brooklands and missing bricks on the footpath in Abbey Lane.

Cllr. Bonfield asked that contact would be made with Coillte to cut back the ditches at Ballinahinch before the work during the year. Cllr. Darcy stated that most people are making a effort but asked what actions are taken against people that don't keep their ditches cut back. Cllr. Carroll requested that rural roads would be patched to help milk collections.

Mr. B. Murphy confirmed that they will visit Rapla, 3 jobs have been approved under Climate change – Culvert at Hogan's Pass, water ponding along the R494 Ballina/Portroe Road and raising a section of the Drominagh to Terryglass road. Notification was only received on these the previous day. Oxpark may need extra gullies. There is not an easy solution to the pedestrian crossing at Nenagh College. The surface on Dromnahane has a PSCI rating of 4 and it will be on the reserve list of work. The schedule for footpaths is currently being prepared. The gullies at Brooklands may be the problem and the footpath at Abbey Lane will also be looked at. Letters were sent to 65 landowners regarding hedge cutting, 58 replied but there are certain areas where compliance is low. In some areas where there are



continuous problems, letters were sent out along with repeat visits and this seems to have helped.

Item 10. To consider Notices of Motion

Notice of motion 2365 was proposed by Cllr. H. McGrath and seconded by Cllr. Morris.

Notice of Motion No: 2365 submitted by Cllr. H. McGrath I'm calling on Nenagh MDC to upgrade the two lights going into Belmont off St Conlon's Road, I'm also calling for an extra light to be erected so that people can feel safe walking in or out of the estate at night.

Response was given to Cllr. H. McGrath as follows:

Nenagh MD has requested the Service provider to provide an assessment of the existing Public Lighting levels on the Belmont Road (L1232-0) and with the junction of St Conlon's Road (R494-171). This will be reviewed again upon receipt of this report.

Notice of Motion 2366 was proposed by Cllr. Bonfield and seconded By Cllr. Bugler.

Notice of Motion No: 2366 submitted by Cllr. F. Bonfield I call on the Nenagh Municipal Council to carry out a review of the changing facilities in their public toilets through the Nenagh MD.

I am hoping that this Municipal Council would set an objective of having one "Changing Places" bathroom in their public toilet facilities.

A "Changing Places" bathroom allows carers or family members of adults with profound or severe disabilities to look after their toileting needs with dignity and in comfort.

Response was given to ClIr. Bonfield as follows:

A public consultation process is currently underway nationally on the review of Building Regulations Part M (Access and Use) to make provision for a changing places toilet in certain buildings. This consultation, which is being undertaken by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage was opened on 9th February and will run 12th May 2022. It will inform changes in the Building Regulations.

Tipperary County Council will, in the provision of new facilities, comply with the Building Regulations in force at the time of provision.

Notice of motion 2367 was proposed by Cllr. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. Bonfield

Notice of Motion No: 2367 submitted by Cllr. P. Bugler I hereby request Tipperary County Council to carry out remedial works on Ard Abhainn Estate Ballina. Remedial works include repair of footpaths, road, lights etc.

Response was given to Cllr. Bugler as follows:

Nenagh MD are currently examining all estates in charge across the District.

In the absence of a Bond, any future works can only be carried out over a period of time, on a priority basis and subject to available funding.

Notice of motion 2368 was proposed by Cllr. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. Bonfield.

Notice of Motion No: 2368 submitted by Cllr. P. Bugler
I hereby request Tipperary County Council to carry out remedial
works at Iniscealtra Estate immediately in the interest of health
and safety. Footpaths/ Footsteps, fences manholes, walkways etc
in this estate need immediate attention.

Response was given to Cllr. Bugler as follows:

Nenagh MD are currently examining all estates in charge across the District.

In the absence of a Bond, any future works can only be carried out over a period of time, on a priority basis and subject to available funding.

Notice of motion 2369 was proposed by Cllr. Bugler and seconded by Cllr. Bonfield.

Notice of Motion No: 2369 submitted by Cllr. P. Bugler I hereby request Tipperary County Council to carry out remedial works immediately on Ard Lua Estate, Ballina. Remedial works include repair of main road in estate, footpaths, lights etc.

Response was given to Cllr. Bugler as follows:

Nenagh MD are currently examining all estates in charge across the District.

In the absence of a Bond, any future works can only be carried out over a period of time, on a priority basis and subject to available funding.

Item 11. To consider arrangements

Members agreed to hold the District meetings through a hybrid option going forward. Directorates giving updates would still be able to attend the meetings by Zoom. Ms. R. Joyce advised that



for holding future meetings of Nenagh MD	the necessary amendments to the Standing Orders would be brought before the next meeting.
	Cllr. Morris stated that the fact that all the meetings are held during the day may discourage people from entering local politics as day meetings may cause difficulties for those in employment.
Item 12. To note Delegated Employees Orders	Noted.
Item 13. To consider items of correspondence	None
Item 14. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations	 Votes of sympathy – Keogh Family on the death of Billy Keogh, RIP retired Council Employee Cllr. Hughie McGrath on the death of his sister, Teresa Collins RIP Votes of congratulations Johnny Quigley, Rearcross on his retirement
Item 15. Any other business.	Cllr. Morris raised the issue of correspondence members received from a group enquiring about disabled parking at facilities and amenities along the lake. He also asked who was replacing Mr. K. Malone in Housing on the Cormack Drive project.
	Cllr. Darcy asked if there was any update on the reinstatement of the bus service between Nenagh and Limerick. Cllr Carroll supported this and also stated that there was concerns over the way the Parks and Wildlife Inspectors dealt with land owners. Cllr Darcy supported this.
	Cllr. H. McGrath requested an update on the implementation of the one way system in Nenagh.
	Mr. M. O'Connor informed members that he was not aware of any correspondence in relation to disabled parking along the lake. There are designated spaces in the areas but a survey can be undertaken if required. He agreed that the reinstatement of the bus routes between Nenagh and Limerick/Shannon airport is very important. The X8 route through Cahir and Cashel has been recently reinstated. Contact will be made with Housing regarding the engineer now involved with Cormack Drive. The main works for the one-way system are completed but the delay is due to the issue with the bus stops. The preference is to move the bus stops to the railway station. Discussions are ongoing with NTA but they have reservations. The scheme went out to public



consultation and 30/31 submissions were received with only one
objection. This will need to be resolved before the one-way
system can be put in place.

Date: 24/3/2027

Date: 24/3/2022

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

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Signed:

District Administrator