

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF TULLAMORE TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT
5.00pm ON THE 9TH JULY, 2009 IN THE TOWN HALL, TULLAMORE.**

In Attendance: Cllr. Mc Keigue (Chair), Cllr. Buckley, Cllr. S. O'Brien, Cllr. L. Byrne, Cllr. D. Harvey, Cllr. Killeavy, Cllr. T. McCormack, Cllr. S. Dooley, Mr. D. Kirrane, Town Manager, Mr. P. Devaney, Town Engineer, Ms. M. Brady Senior Staff Officer, Ms. R. McNally, Town Clerk

Apologies: Cllr. P. Rowland

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were extended and condolences were expressed with the families, relatives and friends of the following recently deceased :-

Mark Keegan, Ballydrohid

Denis Kennedy, late of Clontarf Road Tullamore and Dublin

Tom Walsh, Durrow

Jenny Coleman (nee Newton) Durrow and her sister Sr. Ambrose Newton

Niall Dillon, Gurteen, Killeigh

1. Confirmation of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr. Buckley and seconded by Cllr. Byrne, the following minutes were adopted :-

- (i) Minutes of Annual Meeting held on the 15th June, 2009
- (ii) Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on the 15th June, 2009
- (iii) Minutes of Special Meeting held on the 18th June, 2009
- (iv) Minutes of Special Meeting held on the 25th June, 2009

2. Consideration of the 2008 Annual Financial Statement and Approval to Over/Under Expenditure

The Town Manager took the members through the Income and Expenditure Account statement for year ended 31st December, 2008 as well as an analysis of revenue income received. He also outlined the main reasons for the deficit of €200,819 for the year which was mainly attributable to costs associated with the exceptional flooding during the summer of that year and the making of loan repayments on the leisure centre which could not be fully funded by development levies as originally envisaged due to the slow down in planning activity in town.

On the proposal of Cllr. Buckley and seconded by Cllr. O'Brien, the following over/under expenditure for the year ending 31st December, 2008 was approved.

	Expenditure (Over)/Under Budget	Income Over/(Under) Budget	Net Position
	2008	2008	2008
	€	€	€
Housing and building	(88,772)	155,855	67,083
Road transportation and safety	(59,819)	6,288	(53,532)
Water supply and sewerage	489,833	(235,688)	254,145
Development incentives and controls	9,785	16,000	25,785
Environmental protection	24,285	(19,108)	5,176
Recreation and amenity	(172,133)	22,647	(149,487)
Agriculture education health and welfare	(82,134)	881	(81,253)
Miscellaneous services	(950,584)	190,127	(760,457)
Support services	-	-	-
	(829,541)	137,001	(692,540)
County demand	-	-	-
Local government fund	-	-	-
County rates	-	595,589	595,589
Transfers from/(to) reserves	(257,901)	104,033	(153,868)
Dr/Cr balance			50,000
Surplus/(Deficit) for Year			(200,819)

3. **Nomination of Elected Representative to the Board of Tullamore Sports Group Limited**

The Cathaoirleach outlined the background to this company which was in the process of being set up in order to lease council owned lands off the Arden Road for use by local sporting groups. It was agreed that the Council would appoint one elected member and one official to the board of the company.

On the proposal of Cllr. Buckley and seconded by Cllr. O'Brien it was agreed that Cllr. McKeigue would represent the council on the board of this company for the five year term of office of the current council in the interest of continuity and that Rose O'Keefe Community Liaison Officer would represent Council management.

4. **Reduction in 2009 Local Government Fund Allocation**

The recent circular informing the council of a €44,030 reduction in the 2009 Local Government Fund was noted with concern and disappointment by the members. The Town Clerk informed the member that the reduction would have to be met either through a reduction in expenditure or increasing income to meet this deficit. The council's financial situation was currently under consideration and a report would be given to the members at the September meeting.

5. **Update on Review of Standing Orders**

The Cathaoirleach confirmed that the sub-committee on reviewing the Standing Orders had met a number of times and were in the process of finalising a draft which would be presented to the September meeting of the Council for consideration.

6. Notices of Motion

On the proposal of Cllr. Buckley and seconded by Cllr. McKeigue, the following notices of motion were agreed :-

- (i) *“That Tullamore Town Council consider extending the yellow box at the Bridge Centre to allow for better traffic flow”*

A written report confirming that this yellow box will be extended and its effectiveness monitored was circulated to the meeting.

- (ii) *“That Tullamore Town Council request information regarding the bed closures at the Regional Hospital Tullamore”*

An addition to this motion was agreed as follows :-

“That Tullamore Town Council request information on the budget for the National Treatment Purchase Fund for the Tullamore Area for 2009 and details of when it is likely that the recent bed closures will be reversed”

It was agreed that Mr. John Bulfin, Hospital Manager be invited to the next meeting of the Council or if necessary to a special meeting to be convened by the Cathaoirleach.

- (iii) *“That Tullamore Town Council consider ways in which renovations can be carried out on the six vacant council houses in Tullamore to allow them to be allocated”*

It was agreed that a special meeting of the Council to discuss housing would take place in committee at 4.00pm on the day of the September monthly meeting.

7. Conferences

On the proposal of Cllr. Buckley and seconded by Cllr. O’Brien, the recommendations from the meeting of the Council that took place prior to the monthly meeting were agreed.

There were no conference reports for consideration at the meeting.

8. Correspondence

- (i) Notice of Motion from Macroom Town Council concerning natural resources was noted and supported
- (ii) Notice of Motion from Passage West Town Council concerning representation on the board of Irish Public Bodies Mutual Insurances Ltd was noted and supported

9. Questions

None submitted.

10. Any Other Business

- (i) **County Development Board Representation** – Correspondence recently received was noted. On the proposal of Cllr. Byrne and seconded by Cllr. Harvey it was agreed that Cllr. McCormack would represent Tullamore Town Council on the County Development Board
- (ii) **Community Liaison Officer** – The Councillors wished to note their commendation of the work of the Community Liaison Officer since she took up office earlier in the year.
- (iii) **Rights of the Elderly Voluntary Housing Scheme** – The members complimented Cllr. Buckley and her colleagues in the Voluntary Housing Association on the recently completed scheme of 16 units for older persons at Clontarf Road.
- (iv) **Pruning of Shrubbery at Kilbride Street** – The Town Engineer undertook to carry out these works
- (v) **Issues with Road Opening Licences** – The Town Engineer confirmed that issues delaying a specific project had recently been resolved.
- (vi) **Youth Council** – It was agreed that the Youth Council would be invited to attend a meeting of the Council in the Autumn
- (vii) **Traffic Management at O'Connor Park** – The members thanked the Town Council Staff for the key role they played in traffic management at recent large scale matches in the town
- (viii) **Cloncollig Amenity Development** – The members thanked the Town Engineer for the works currently being carried out at this location
- (ix) **Illegal dumping at Arden View** – The Town Engineer confirmed that the material in question would be removed and the Environment Department of Offaly County Council requested to investigate possible legal proceedings under the Waste Management Act
- (x) **Re-Opening of Tyrrell's Shop** – The members extended their good wishes to the Tyrrell family
- (xii) **Phoenix Festival & Fleadh** – The members extended their good wishes to both festivals
- (xiii) **Tidy Towns** – The members commended the work of the Tidy Towns on their continued efforts to enhance the appearance of the town
- (xiv) **Golden Jubilee** – The members wished to extend their good wishes to Fr. Willie Cleary former Parish Priest on celebrating his golden jubilee recently.
- (xv) **Lloyd Town Park** – Members encouraged users of the park to report any incidents of anti-social behaviour to the Gardai at agreed at the recent Joint Policing Committee meeting
- (xvi) **Positive Ageing Week 2009** – It was agreed by the members that the Rights for the Elderly Association would manage this project on the council's behalf and Cllr. Buckley would liaise with the Council's Community Liaison Officer with regards to suitable events that could be organised in local authority owned facilities to coincide with this week

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Town Clerk

Date: _____