

Minutes of Joint Special Meeting of Tullamore Town Council and Tullamore Area Committee of Offaly County Council held on 13th May 2010 at 2.30pm in Tullamore Town Council to consider the County Manager's Report to Members on submissions received with regard to the Draft Tullamore Town and Environs Development Plan 2010-2016

Members in Attendance : Cllr. T. McKeigue (Chair), Cllr. M. Buckley, Cllr. P. Rowland, Cllr. T. McCormack, Cllr. D. Harvey, Cllr. S. O'Brien, Cllr. L. Byrne, Cllr. S. Dooley, Cllr. B. Killeavy, Cllr. J. Butterfield, Cllr. B. Cowan, Cllr. D. Dolan, Cllr. D. Owens

Officials in Attendance : Mr. P. Gallagher, County Manager, Mr. D. Kirrane, DOS/Town Manager, Ms. A. Walsh, A/Senior Executive Planner, Mr. E. Lynch, Asst. Planner, Mr. P. Devaney, Town Engineer, Mr. Gabriel Conlon, Acting Town Clerk

Apologies Ms. Ruth McNally, Town Clerk

Mr. Pat Gallagher asked Ms. Alma Walsh to take the elected members through the report compiled in respect of the submissions received along with his recommendations.

The first submission ref TTEDP/10/01, by John Flanagan Developments Ltd. c/o Sheila Hobbs Planning Ltd, 6 Lussielaw Road Edinbugh, was in respect of Places of worship on land zoned for other purposes.

Full details of examination of this item are available in the report.
The manager recommended no change to the existing plan.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Buckley and Seconded by Cllr. L. Byrne the recommendation was accepted.
There were no Dissentors

The second submission ref: TTEDP/10/02 by Cllr. Paddy Rowland, Knockowen Road, Tullamore, C. Offaly requested a change of wording with regard to the provision of cycle ways to long established areas. Ms. Walsh outlined that the proposed change of wording by the manager strengthened the existing policies of Offaly County Council and Tullamore Town Council with regard to facilitation of all modes of transport.

The manager recommends no change to the wording originally proposed.

After lengthy discussion the manager outlined the options available to councillors at this time with regard to changes. He reiterated that they could not make any material change at this time which might leave the development plan open to legal challenge.
The members asked if it was possible to detail areas to be excluded from this policy. The Manager informed the members that this would be a material change.

Cllr. Sean O'Brien proposed that the TTEO/08/13 amendment proposed at review should be removed from the plan. This was not seconded.

During further discussion the elected members expresses worry that long established areas might object to new developments beside them being granted cycle ways through their development.

The manager and planning staff stressed that the ordinary planning process actively invites the public into this process. In addition he stressed that none of the members present were concerned about the policy but their concerns could be allayed with the knowledge that the planning process whether Part VIII or Planning Application is an open process.

On the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Brien and Seconded by Cllr. D. Dolan the manager's recommendation was accepted.

There were no dissenters

The third submission ref TTEDP/10/03 by Kamar Construction Ltd., C/O Frank O'Donnell & Associates, Planning and Development Consultants, The Well House, Patrick Street, Mullingar, Co. Westmeath. This submission referred to the implications for proposed development lands at Puttaghaun as a result of the current proposed amendments to the plan. This submission also proposed to remove the strategic linkage to the southwest of these lands.

The manager's response states that on the basis of population growth that at least 20% of the future population growth should be aimed for in terms of infill, brown field and suburban renewal type development reducing the requirement for Greenfield development. Furthermore the population allocation set out in chapter 4 does not adversely impact on the application of this policy. It is not considered prudent to rely entirely on residential lands outside the master plan areas. The manager has recommended no change to existing plan. On the proposal of Cllr. M. Buckley and Seconded by Cllr. L. Byrne the manager's recommendation was accepted.

On the matter of the proposed linkage to the southwest the manager recommended to retain the vehicular link as per the draft plan. Following discussion the members agreed that this was not in the best interest of development in this area and on the proposal of Cllr. S. O'Brien and seconded by Cllr. P. Rowland it was agreed to remove the link from the draft plan. This was agreed by the members present.

In addition to the three submissions detailed above the Manager recommended the insertion of the Flood Risk Assessment into the plan. This does not represent any material change to the plan. On the proposal of Cllr. T. McCormack and seconded by Cllr. L. Byrne this was accepted.

Ms. Alma Walsh summarised the process and informed the members that the plan will come into effect four weeks after it's adoption at next weeks Council Meeting. Two local Area plans will be revoked when the revised plan is in effect and all relevant details from these plans will have been subsumed into the main plan. Notice of the adoption of the plan will be published in the media.

The County Manager Mr. Pat Gallagher thanked all the members for their consideration of the plan and their ambitions for the area.

This concluded the business of the meeting

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Town Clerk

Date: _____
