

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TULLAMORE HELD AT 4.00PM ON THE 13th DECEMBER 2018 IN THE TOWN HALL, TULLAMORE

Present: Cllr. D. Harvey, (Cathaoirleach), Cllr. D. Dolan, Cllr. B. Killeavy, Cllr. T. McCormack, Cllr. T. McKeigue, Cllr. F. Moran.

Apologies: Cllr. D. Owens.

In Attendance: Mr. T. Shanahan, Director of Services; Mr. J. Connelly, Senior Executive Engineer; Mr. M. Quinn, Senior Executive Engineer, Environment & Water Services; Ms. M. Brady, Meetings Administrator.

Residents' representatives Gemma Daly, Church View and Aidan Shorthall, Chancery Close were also in attendance.

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were extended, and condolences expressed, to the families of: Mary Delaney, mother of CE Anna Marie Delaney; Maureen Finlay, mother of staff member Mark Makin Finlay; Kealan Walsh, son of staff member Austin Walsh; Mary Hennessy, wife of former staff member Liam Hennessy; Sr. Pius Clarke, Convent of Mercy, Tullamore; Shannon Coyne, Church Hill, Tullamore; Jimmy Cronly, Callery St., Tullamore; Joe Cronly, Convent View, Tullamore; Peter Devine, Tara Crescent, Tullamore; Paddy Lowbridge, (former member of fire service) Pearse Park, Tullamore; Mary Bridget Quinn (nee Davis), formerly Church St., Tullamore; Elizabeth Ryan, Marian Place, Tullamore; Maura Wrafter, Ballyduff, Tullamore; and all those in Tullamore MD who had died since the last monthly meeting; on their recent bereavements.

It was agreed by all to suspend standing orders following a request from Cllr. T. McCormack, and take Cllr. McCormack's Motion (ii) as first item of business.

(ii) "That the Municipal District of Tullamore form and work with a multi organisational task force to deal with illegal encampments around the town."

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. T. McCormack, seconded by Cathaoirleach Cllr. D. Harvey. A discussion ensued regarding illegal encampments. Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S., in response stated there was ongoing consultation and facilitation between Offaly County Council and other agencies regarding illegal encampments. He advised that discussions would continue with all relevant agencies.

Arlene Connolly and Aidan Shorthall then left the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

The following minutes were approved on the proposal of Cllr. F. Moran, and seconded by Cllr. D. Dolan:

- (a) *Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 08th November, 2018*
- (b) *Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 08th November, 2018*

Mr, T. Shanahan, D.O.S., following request for update by Cllr. F. Moran, confirmed that a letter

had issued to the Minister for Housing regarding the exclusion of Part V housing units from Tenant Purchase Scheme, as agreed at the November monthly meeting.

A further suspension of standing orders was agreed at this point, following a request from Cllr. D. Dolan. Cllr. Dolan informed the meeting that he had made the decision not to contest the 2019 local elections. Cllr. Dolan was wished well, and his work as a public representative was acknowledged by all present.

It was also noted that Cllr. T. McKeigue would not contest the 2019 local elections. Cllr. McKeigue's work was also acknowledged and he was wished well by all present.

2. Water & Environment Report

Mr. M. Quinn, S.E.E., presented the Water & Environment Report, as circulated, to the members. The members welcomed the Report, raising a number of issues incl.: litter problems; hard water and expense of water softeners; street cleaning in Clara; which were noted and responded to by Mr. M. Quinn. He confirmed that Tullamore would be connected to the Shannon water supply following query raised. He also confirmed that the survey report on Tullamore Sewerage Scheme's capacity would be available the following week. Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., agreed to follow up on the Clara street cleaning issue. Cllr. F. Moran requested that an update on lead piping issues be included in the next Water & Environment Report.

Mr. M. Quinn then left the meeting.

3. Director's Report on Housing

Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S., gave an update on housing issues. Works were ongoing at Chancery and Mountbolus housing developments. It was expected that Oaklee developments at Clonminch and Kearney's Field would progress to Part 8 in January, items noted by the members were taken on board. He also noted that 13 houses would be available from Part 5 of a private housing development at Arden Road. A master plan for housing development at Raheen, Clara would be brought to the members in early 2019. The update was welcomed by all.

4. Update on Tullamore Street Enhancement Programme

Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S., updated the members on Tullamore Street Enhancement Programme. The open day held on 21st November was well attended. The formal contract signing was scheduled to take place on 14th December and it was confirmed that works would commence on 2nd of January. He stated that the recent re-opening of 'Texas Car Park', and planned increased directional signage would help mitigate the impact of the works on traffic flow and parking as motorists would have a number of options for parking close to the town centre. Car parking options would be well signposted during the works. He was also trying to engage with the owners of the car park at Main St.

It was agreed to discuss Clara Town & Village Renewal Scheme under this item of Agenda. Cllr. D. Dolan raised the issue of the layout at The Green, as previously discussed. Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., agreed to follow up, and to send results of Safety Audit carried out at the site to Cllrs. D. Dolan and F. Moran.

5. Notices of Motion:

Cllr. T. McCormack

- (i) *“That the Municipal District of Tullamore get a Chain of Office for the Cathaoirleach to respect the Office, and also to allow the Cathaoirleach be prominent in photographs for media events.”*

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. T. McCormack, seconded by Cathaoirleach Cllr. D. Harvey. Cllr. D. Dolan stated that he did not support the motion as he thought that it would dilute the chain of Offaly County Council. It was agreed that the matter would be referred to Offaly County Council’s Corporate Policy Group for clarification.

Cllr. D. Dolan

- (i) *“That this Municipal District address the concerns raised by the local residents group following the recent works at Killina school in Rahan.”*

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. D. Dolan, seconded by Cllr. T. McKeigue. Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., in response stated that he had discussions with the developer. He also stated that a pre-existing drainage problem existed at the site. He agreed to follow up on the issue.

6. A.O.B.

Speed Limit at Cappincur Rd.

Cllr. B. Killeavy raised the issue of the concerns of the residents of Cappincur Rd. in relation to speeding. Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., in response, stated that he had met with some of the residents regarding their concerns, and would follow up on the issue.

Local Elections 2019

Cllr. B. Killeavy, following earlier announcements, also confirmed that he would not be contesting the 2019 local elections. He was wished well by all, and his work as a public representative was also acknowledged.

O’ Connor Square Parking Spaces at Eddie Rockets

Cllr. F. Moran raised the issue of the parking spaces occupied by Eddie Rockets. Mr. T. Shanahan, D.O.S., agreed to follow up on the issue, and revert back to Cllr. Moran.

Parking at Arden Rd.

Cllr. T. McKeigue raised the issue of parking problems and traffic management issues at Arden Rd. following the opening of the new Spar shop. Mr. J. Connelly, in response, stated that there was further work to be done at the site which should alleviate the parking problems.

Traffic Calming Measures at Clara Schools

Cllr. D. Dolan requested an update on his motion of April 2018 regarding traffic calming measures at Clara Schools on the Clara/Kilbeggan Rd. Mr. J. Connelly, in response, stated that he had met with the caretaker at the Boys school in Clara, and was following up on the issue.

Traffic lights at Cloncollig

Cllr. D. Dolan requested an update on the timing of traffic lights at Cloncollig, as previously discussed. Mr. J. Connelly, in response, stated that the lights had been tweaked. He also stated that the heavy volume of traffic at peak times was reason for tailbacks.

Cork Hill, Clara

Cllr. D. Dolan requested that the Council work with Clara Heritage Group to develop park/walk area at Cork Hill, Clara. Mr. J. Connelly, in response, agreed to follow up on the issue.

Tullamore Urban Regeneration Development Funding

Cathaoirleach Cllr. D. Harvey welcomed the €3M URDF funding approval for Tullamore. He

asked for breakdown of the funding. Mr. T. Shanahan, in response, stated that the breakdown would be determined at a later stage, following meeting with Dept. of Housing, Planning & Local Government officials.

Christmas Wishes

Cathaoirleach Cllr. D. Harvey wished all present a happy Christmas.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date:
