

**MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TULLAMORE HELD AT 4.00PM
ON THE 12th JANUARY 2017 IN THE TOWN HALL, TULLAMORE.**

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

In Attendance: Mr. S. Murray, Director of Services; Mr. P. Devaney, Senior Executive
Engineer; Mr. S. Hynds, Executive Engineer; Ms. A. Dillon, Senior
Executive Officer; Ms. M. Brady, Meetings Administrator.

Vote of Sympathy

A vote of sympathy was extended, and condolences expressed, to the family of Kevin McDonald, former member of Offaly County Council, on his recent death.

1. Confirmation of Minutes.

The following minutes were approved on the proposal of Cllr. S. Dooley and seconded by Cllr. D. Dolan:

- (a) *Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 08th December, 2016*
- (b) *Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 08th December, 2016*

2. Housing Report.

Ms. A. Dillon, SEO, presented the Housing Report, as circulated, to the members. The members welcomed the Report, and complimented the housing staff on progress made during 2016. They raised a number of issues incl: reduction in housing list – concern that some people had slipped through the net due to low income limits; preference for the Council to carry out housing developments rather than other organisations; the proposed derelict houses back to rent scheme welcomed – it was proposed that Offaly County Council seek to pilot the scheme; the need to review income limits for the tenant purchase scheme; the high level of housing repairs carried out by the Council in council houses - it was proposed that a levy be added to housing rents to cover chimney sweeps/boiler services etc. similar to that applied by some local authorities; concern expressed about the timeframe involved in progressing housing developments. Mr. S. Murray & Ms. A. Dillon responded to all queries raised: the timeframe for progress of developments was outside the control of the Council, a meeting was scheduled with the Department of Housing, Planning & Community Development where it was hoped to progress matters; the Council would seek to carry out future housing developments itself if possible; the issue of potentially charging levy on rents would be brought to Housing Corporate & Cultural SPC for its consideration; the Council would consider piloting derelict houses scheme.

Ms. A. Dillon then left the meeting. Cllr. D. Dolan also left the meeting.

3. Update on Tullamore Street Enhancement Programme Phase 1.

Mr. S. Murray gave an update on Tullamore Street Enhancement Programme Phase 1. A total of 63 submissions were received during the Public Consultation process. The vast majority of these were in favour of the enhancement. There were some concerns regarding potential loss of car parking spaces in O' Connor Square. The submissions would be included in the Part 8 process. A workshop was scheduled for Thursday January 19th 2017 at 4.00pm in the Town Hall, as agreed by the members at the earlier committee meeting. The

members, council staff and the Design Team would attend the workshop.

4. Report from Municipal District of Tullamore’s Representatives on Tullamore Sports Link Ltd

Cllrs. T. McKeigue gave a Report on Tullamore Sports Link Ltd. Good progress had been made with the development. The pitches were complete, and the walking track was near completion. IPB grant, Sports Capital Grant & a successful draw had financed in full Phase 1 of the Project. The Council was thanked for providing the site for the development.

5. Notices of Motion

(i) *“That this Council relocate the pedestrian lights located the far side of the hospital on Arden Road to some location at the G.A.A. Centre. This move should be considered following the erection of traffic control lights which also provide for pedestrians at the hospital.”*

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. D. Harvey. Mr. P. Devaney agreed to follow up on the matter. In follow up discussions, the issues of providing for pedestrian crossings in Tullamore in the 2017 Roads Programme of Works, and the repair of damaged pedestrian crossings in Clara, was raised.

(ii) *“That Offaly County Council provide the necessary finance to finish the footpath along Charleville Road to the Finger Board, as most of the slabs are broken or dislodged.”*

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. D. Harvey. Requests were also made to repair footpath on opposite side of road too, and to resurface the back lanes at St. Columba’s Place and O’ Molloy St. Mr. P. Devaney agreed to follow up on issues raised.

6. A.O.B.

Traffic issues at Marian Square, Clara

Cllr. D. Dolan raised the issue of the need for traffic calming measures at Marian Square, Clara, as discussed at December 2016 monthly meeting. It was agreed to place the issue on the agenda of February monthly meeting for update.

Irish Water Query

The issue of noise nuisance being caused by traffic on loose manhole covers in Tullamore and Clara was raised, to be followed up with Irish Water.

Update on Road Lining at Ballinamere

Cllr. S. Dooley requested an update on road lining at Ballinamere, P. Devaney to follow up.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed:

_____ **Cathaoirleach**

_____ **Meetings Administrator**

Date:
