

MINUTES OF MONTHLY MEETING OF MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TULLAMORE HELD AT 4.00PM ON THE 9th NOVEMBER 2017 IN THE TOWN HALL, TULLAMORE.

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

Apologies: Cllr. D. Dolan.

In Attendance: Mr. S. Murray, Director of Services; Mr. J. Connelly, Senior Executive Engineer; Mr. S. Hynds, Executive Engineer; Ms. B. Molloy-Carroll, Acting Meetings Administrator; Mr. J. Cunningham, Senior Executive Engineer; Ms. B. Maher, Executive Planner; Ms. J. Finney, Administrative Officer; Ms. R. O'Keefe, Senior Staff Officer.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

The following minutes were approved on the proposal of Cllr. F. Moran and seconded by Cllr. B. Killeavy:

- (a) *Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 12th October, 2017*
- (b) *Minutes of Monthly Meeting held on 12th October, 2017*

2. Election/Nomination of members to the following Bodies: (following resignation from Offaly County Council of Cllr. S. Dooley)

Tullamore Leisure Ltd. On the proposal of Cllr. D. Owens, seconded by Cllr. T. McKeigue, Cllr. T. McCormack was nominated.

Tullamore Community Arts Centre Ltd. On the proposal of Cllr. D. Owens, seconded by Cllr. T. McKeigue, Cllr. T. McCormack was nominated.

Tullamore/Chandler Sister Cities Committee. No nominations received, deferred to November meeting.

3. Housing Report

None. (Estate Management Report in lieu of Housing Report).

4. Estate Management Report

Ms. R. O'Keefe, S.S.O., presented a Report on Estate Management as circulated. The members thanked Ms. O'Keefe for her report and complemented her and all the housing staff on work outlined in the report, in particular the housing inspections and the tidy garden competition within estates. The members asked that housing inspections be maintained in an effort to tackle issues of waste disposal.

Ms. R. O'Keefe and Ms. J. Finney then left the meeting.

5. Offaly Climate Change Adaptation and Energy Efficiency Strategy

Ms. B. Maher, E.P., briefed the members on the Offaly Climate Change Adaptation and Energy Efficiency Strategy which was circulated to the members. Ms. B. Maher explained the impact climate change had on communities and what actions were needed to help alleviate the negative impacts of extreme weather events in Offaly. A discussion ensued and the members looked for clarification on the next steps to be taken. Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S., advised that a

regional approach would be adopted with Kildare being the lead county and that the first stage would be an informative/philosophical approach. The public were invited to make submissions to the pre-draft stage up to Friday 8th December, and thereafter the Planning Department would prepare a draft strategy that would be put before the members before going back out for further public consultation.

Ms. B. Maher then left the meeting.

6. Approach to the Implementation of the Vacant Site Levy in County Offaly as provided for in the Urban Regeneration and Housing Act 2015.

It was agreed to take this item off the agenda, discussed at earlier committee meeting, and on agenda of full Council meeting.

7. Update on Tullamore Street Enhancement Programme

Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S., advised the members that this day, 9th November, 2017, was the last day for submissions under Part VIII. The Area Planner would present a report to the full Council at it's monthly meeting on 20th November 2017. He also asked the members to recall in-committee discussions regarding the war memorial. He reminded the members that no proposal was made to move the war memorial (as was circulated in the media), he said that he would talk to the families concerned and the British Legion and would open discussions.

8. Report from Municipal District of Tullamore's Representative on: Tullamore Leisure Ltd

Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S., advised the members that it was agreed with Tullamore Aura Leisure Ltd to close the learner pool on 11th December 2017 for remedial works.

9. Derelict Sites Report

Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., presented a Report on Derelict Sites. A discussion ensued where the members looked for a stricter approach regarding levying the owner and seeking the owners in the first instance as some sites in the centre of the town in particular were considered an eyesore. A CPO of the site was suggested as an option. Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S., advised the members that the Area Planner would update the members in three months.

10. Notices of Motion:

Cllr. T. McKeigue

(i) "That Municipal District of Tullamore seeks a meeting with representatives of Iarnród Éireann to discuss the poor maintenance of Tullamore Railway Station, and other ongoing issues at the Station."

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. D. Harvey. It was agreed that the Council would write to Iarnród Éireann seeking a meeting to discuss ongoing issues. (Cllr. F. Moran asked that issues at Clara Railway Station be included.)

(ii) "That Municipal District of Tullamore provides the necessary finance to replace the footpath on Charleville Road towards Fingerboard in the Roads Budget for 2018".

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. T. McKeigue, seconded by Cllr. D. Owens. It was agreed that the present Programme of Works would be looked at and the members could update accordingly.

Cllr. T. Mc Cormack

- (i) *“That Municipal District of Tullamore ask for Ms Dawn Livingston, Head of Waterways Ireland, to discuss the canal going through Tullamore, with a view to working with the local community and organisations to ensure that we are making the most of this beautiful amenity in Tullamore”.*

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. T. McCormack, seconded by Cllr. B. Killeavy. It was agreed that the Council would write to Ms. Livingston seeking a meeting to discuss the potential of developing the canal going through Tullamore.

(Cllr. B. Killeavy brought up an issue he wished to be included as AOB regarding the local fishing club having problems with dog waste along the canal (from Connolly Park to Boland’s Lock). Mr. S. Murray explained that signage re dog waste could be erected and the issue could be dealt with at the Environment SPC.)

- (ii) *“That Municipal District of Tullamore forms a small committee to look at ways of improving the attractiveness of our town and area for Foreign Direct Investment”.*

The motion was passed on the proposal of Cllr. T. McCormack, seconded by Cllr. D. Owens. Cllr. T. McCormack advised that he would like to see a small committee formed, to include 2 Councillors and 2 Council officials, focusing on attracting Foreign Direct Investment. Cllr. Owens proposed Cllr. T. McCormack which was seconded by Cllr. F. Moran. Cllr. T. McCormack proposed Cllr. T. McKeigue which was seconded by Cllr. D. Owens.

11. A.O.B.

Proposed New Fire Station, Clara

Cllr. F. Moran sought an update on the proposed new Fire Station in Clara as agreed from October Meeting. Mr.S. Murray, D.O.S., agreed to give update at the next monthly meeting.

CPO of Green Field in Clara

Cllr. F. Moran requested an update on a Notice of Motion he put forward in December 2015 : *“I call on this MD of Tullamore to liaise with OCC to procure the CPO of the Green Field in Clara.”* The S.E.E. at the time stated that he had sought legal advice on the motion and agreed to come back to the members with clarification. Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S advised that this issue may be best dealt with at full Council and would investigate.

Lights out at Corkhill, Clara

Cllr. F. Moran advised that lights were out at Corkhill since Storm Ophelia and asked for it to be rectified. Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., agreed to follow up.

Clara Village Renewal

Cllr. F. Moran requested a timeframe for Clara Town Renewal Scheme and complemented Mr. S. Hynds, E.E., on Phase 1 of the linkage footpath connected to the boardwalk. Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., in response, stated that tenders were due on the 17th November 2017, timeframe for commencement of works would depend on the chosen contractor’s availability.

Clara Halloween Event

Cllr. T. McKeigue complemented Clara organisation committee for the Halloween event that was held in the town and proved very successful.

Footpath - Patrick St, Tullamore

Cllr. D. Harvey, requested that a dip in the footpath outside Hanlon's Butchers, Patrick St., Tullamore be investigated.

Cahir Mór

Cllr. D. Harvey requested an update on the taking in charge of Cahir Mór, Tullamore. Mr. J. Connelly, S.E.E., agreed to give update at the next monthly meeting.

Clarifications regarding items under A.O.B.

Mr. S. Murray, D.O.S., advised the members that issues raised under AOB were very specific and should be dealt with as Notices of Motion or submitted as Questions, as per Standing Orders. Cllr. T. McKeigue clarified that members were entitled to include 3 written questions and 1 item under AOB.

The meeting then concluded.

Signed:

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date:
