

**MINUTES
COMERAGH DISTRICT MEETING**

**DÚICHE AN CHUMARAIGH
HELD ON 19TH FEBRUARY, 2020 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,
DUNGARVAN**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Liam Brazil, Cathaoirleach

Cllr. Ger Barron

Cllr. Declan Clune

Cllr. Seanie Power

Cllr. John O'Leary

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. I. Grimes, DOS, Housing

Mr. G. Hynes, SE, Roads

Ms. M. Goff, A/SEE Roads

Mr. R. Moloney, SEO, Environment

Mr. D. Ó Murchadha, SEE, Planning

Ms. A. Maher, Corporate

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:

It was unanimously resolved that this Council extends a vote of congratulations to:

- Portlaw Musical Society on the occasion of their 40th Anniversary.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY:

It was unanimously resolved that this Council extends its sympathy to the families of the late:

- John Power
- Marie Murphy Veale
- Billy Kirwan

1.CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Minutes of District Meeting held 15th January, 2020 were proposed by Cllr.O'Leary and seconded by Cllr. Cluneand agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

I.Grimes, DoSresponded on the matters raisedpreviously in relation to the Fire Service and confirmed that there is regular communication with Coillte in relation to preventing and dealing with forest fires. The onus is on the land owner in relation to controlled burning and they need to liaise with fire service control centre in order to prevent call outs.

Cllr. Brazil requested the Chief Fire Officer is invited to a meeting with the Councillors.

I. Grimes, DoS confirmed that this will be arranged.

3. PLANNING

- (a) **Planning Lists** – noted.
- (b) **Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended Planning & Development Regulations 2001 as amended Part V111 –16 No. Social Housing Units, at Graigueshoneen, Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford -Completion of Process**

I.Grimes, DoS outlined that the access route was the main subject of the submissions received and outlined that vehicular access will be via the R677 and not through Riverview estate.

Cllr. Barron welcomed the changes that addressed the public concerns and outlined the requirement for footpath linkages in order to facilitate good access. Fully supported by Cllrs. O’Leary, Clune, Power and Brazil as a positive addition and requested details on timelines. Cllr. Clune enquired about the Irish Water report with particular reference to the issue with fire flow rates.

I.Grimes, DoS outlined details of the timelines for the project, confirming the next stage involved drawing up tender documents. These will be submitted to the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government in order to get approval before the tender process commences. He confirmed that the fire flow issue will be dealt with at design stage. He will investigate options under urban and village renewal in relation to the footpath connectivity.

Proposed by Cllr. Brazil, seconded by Cllr. Barron and agreed.

4. REPORTS

- (a) **Environment**

Cllr. Clune highlighted the issue of illegal dumping and burning in Portlaw woods and requested a joint approach between the council and Coillte to tackle it. He requested a meeting with Coillte to progress.

Cllr. Power supported Cllr. Clune and suggested a confidential line for the reporting of illegal dumping.

Cllr. Brazil welcomed a meeting with Coillte, he outlined that illegal dumping is a huge problem that has to be addressed and acknowledged the work of community groups who organise clean ups. He noted the need to investigate how rubbish is being collected to highlight those that have no service in place.

Cllr. Barron suggested a map to show locations of abandoned vehicles and where it indicates Coillte land that they are informed so they can secure entrances.

R. Moloney, SEO confirmed that there is a very good working relationship with Coillte and they arrange clean ups of their land as required. He confirmed that he will contact Coillte in relation to attending a meeting and outlined that currently there are 5 abandoned vehicles of which one is on Coillte land. He confirmed that the environment section have commenced campaigns in relation to checking who uses a waste collection services and those who use the civic amenity sites.

Cllr. Clune reiterated that prevention is needed and enquired if there is any way to incentivise confidential calls in relation to dumping and asked for detail on the response rate for checking on rubbish collections.

R. Moloney, SEO confirmed that they are working with Coillte to identify areas of illegal dumping and cameras at known dumping areas are being considered. He will provide information in relation to the queries and response rate regarding refuse collection at the next meeting.

(b) Roads

Cllr. Clune reported that the river walk in Portlaw is in a bad condition due to anti-social behaviour, dumping and burning. He requested painting and weeding in the area, for the bin to be relocated and asked if the bench which was recently burned to be looked at. He also noted concern about gaps in the fence of the playground in Portlaw. Enquired about report on taking in charge of estates for the area.

Cllrs. O'Leary supported Cllr. Clune with regard to taking in charge report and asked for update on Carrols Cross.

Cllr. Barron requested update on Cruachán View.

Cllr. Brazil, requested update on traffic calming in Lemybrien, progression of works for extension of carpark at Mahon Falls and update on fingerposts at Kilmacomma. He asked on behalf of the Tidy Towns committee in Kilmacthomas if the playground in Kilmacthomas can be closed earlier due to groups gathering in the location at night.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that work on the fingerposts is ongoing. With regard to Carroll's Cross the visibility report is almost finalised, due to meet with Transportation Infrastructure Ireland (TII) to discuss. A number of measures have been recommended which include an overall traffic calming scheme which includes raised island, lighting and reduced speed limit. He confirmed that TII are happy with the current proposal apart from the reduced speed limit.

Cllr. O'Leary hopes TII will respond to the report quickly and enquired as to the timeline before the proposed changes are made.

Cllr. Clune requested a copy of the submission to TII to be circulated, the details of costs and confirmation of funding for the works. He noted that there is a campaign by Knockmahon National School to reduce the current speed limit of 50km to 30km and enquired if this was possible.

Cllr. Barron thanked and supported the proposed works for Carroll's Cross.

Cllr. Power supported works at Carroll's Cross and requested update on the lighting in Rathgormack.

G. Hynes, SE confirmed that the report goes to TII and will come back for approval to council as a Section 38. He is hopeful that the traffic calming measures proposed will not require the reduction in speed limit. It will be early 2010 before works on the junction will proceed. He outlined that a review of speed limits in general will be carried out in 2021 and councillors can list areas to be addressed, he noted that a substantial report was done on speed in estates already.

M. Goff, A/SEE confirmed that she will review the Riverwalk in Portlaw and acknowledged that they are aware of an element of antisocial behaviour in the area. She will review speed limit issue at Knockmahon and issues at playgrounds in Portlaw and Kilmacthomas. Preliminary report has been completed for Mahon Falls carpark and is due to be reviewed.

G. Hynes, SE confirmed that report on Carroll's Cross will be circulated once it has issued to TII, the works will be fully funded by TII.

Cllr. O'Leary referred to the new speed point detection points and asked has the council any input into this as there are a number of local roads which are narrow with reoccurring speeding issues.

Cllr. Brazil has a request from Tidy Towns Committee in Stradbally regarding regularity of the emptying of bins during the summer months.

G. Hynes, SE confirmed that the council would pass on information on problem areas for speeding to the Gardaí who have control over the location of the speed vans, he will review Stradbally.

(c) Housing

Cllr. Clune enquired if there are other sites being considered for development in Kilmacthomas/Portlaw and if the Development Plan would address re-zoning of lands.

Cllr. Brazil requested that the members are provided with a list of land banks.

I.Grimes, DoS outlined that the availability of land has to be considered and the council has the Part V policy to avail of for 10% from any development of over nine houses. Council does not have land in the area but continue to actively investigate options. A list of land banks can be provided with zoning details that can be considered as part of the Development Plan process.

(d) Planning

D. Ó Murchadha, SEE confirmed that a taking in charge report will be circulated for the next meeting. He outlined that in relation to Cruachán View a number of issues sent to Irish Water and currently waiting on response, on completion of works by developer the Council will take in charge. Critical works are being identified in Cúl Rua to enable estate to be taken in charge. Bond holder contacted in relation to Deerpark, Clonea Power, surfacing works are to be completed in Fán Glas and public lighting reviewed.

Cllr. Brazil raised his concern over the refusal of planning permission for development of 16 houses in Lemybrien as a result of inadequate water and waste water services at the site. This issue needs to be addressed with Irish Water and planning as a matter of urgency. A new Development Plan is due to commence and these issues need to be addressed and serviced sites are essential. Cllrs. Clune and O’Leary supported Cllr. Brazil. Cllr. O’Leary mentioned a similar refusal with a development of 27 houses in Dunhill, noting that these areas need the development of small housing schemes.

I.Grimes, DoS confirmed that the issues outlined are problems affecting every local authority, he will look at a meeting between Irish Water and planning being facilitated to discuss the issues raised by the members.

5. ROADS WORK PROGRAMME

G. Hynes, SE confirmed a cost of €5.5m for the roads work programme for the Comeragh district which is a 7.5% increase on 2019. Roads Work Programme proposed by Cllr. Power, seconded by Cllr. O’Leary and agreed by all.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

None

7. NOTICE OF MOTION

None

8. AOB

None

Meeting concluded.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____