

**DÚICHE DHÚN GARBHÁN AGUS LIOS MHÓR  
COMERAGH DISTRICT MEETING**

**HELD ON 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2019, COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,  
DUNGARVAN at 11.00AM.**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. Liam Brazil
Cllr. John O'Leary
Cllr. Seanie Power
Cllr. Ger Barron

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services Housing, Community & Emergency  
Mr. G. Hynes, Senior Engineer, Roads  
Mr. N. Flynn, Executive Engineer, Roads  
Mr. R. Moloney, Senior Executive Officer, Environment  
Mr. D. Ó Murchadha, Senior Executive Engineer  
Mr. V. O'Shea, Administrative Officer, Economic Development  
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY**

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

- Terry Kent
- Peter (Don) Doyle

**VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

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

- St. Declan's College on celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary where all former students are invited to attend. Cllr. O'Leary acknowledged the administration of the college over the last 50 years and the principals who have led the school during this time.
- Sharon Cunningham winner of Irelands Best Young Entrepreneur 2019

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Minutes of District Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Power and seconded by Cllr. Brazil and agreed.

Minutes of Special District Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019 were proposed by Cllr. O'Leary and seconded by Cllr. Power and agreed.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

None

**3. PLANNING LISTS**

Planning Lists noted

**3(b). PLANNING PART VIII – DEVELOPMENT OF GREENWAY CONNECTION TO KILMEADEN VILLAGE FROM KILMEADEN RAILWAY STATION – Completion of Process**

Details of the Part 8 outlined by Vinnie O'Shea stating that there was significant support from land owners and his recommendation was to proceed with the project as proposed.

Proposed by Cllr. Barron and seconded by Cllr. O'Leary and supported by all councillors. Members outlined that is a positive addition to the greenway and will add to the safety of access to Kilmeaden.

#### **4. PROGRESS REPORTS**

##### **(a) Environment**

Cllr. Barron raised concern in relation to the asbestos roof on the old mill in Kilmacthomas and the unsightly nature of the buildings. Requested update on potential planning application for the site and addressing issues.

Cllr. Brazil highlighted ongoing issue with illegal dumping in the county and asked what measures can be put in place to deter it. Requested that the Comeragh district leads the county in addressing it.

Cllr. O'Leary outlined that the Climate Action Strategy adopted by Plenary will influence how the council approaches plans into the future. The PPN raised issue of occurrence of ragwort across the county, he asked who has responsibility for it and measures in place to eradicate it.

Cllr. Power stated that when treating ragwort need to ensure that the correct spray is used.

R. Moloney, SEO stated that discussions are ongoing with the developer in relation the old mill in Kilmacthomas. There are a number of issues on the site that have been dealt with and it is hopeful that a planning application will be forthcoming. He confirmed that regular checks and monitoring of known black spots are carried out across the county and they run the 'man in the van' campaign to ensure that people are using licensed operators to collect domestic waste. Currently looking at procedures in relation to the use of CCTV. He stated that the Climate Change Strategy is a five year plan and sets out measures to ensure that all plans are climate proofed. He outlined that ragwort is a noxious weed and is the responsibility of the landowner to address.

G. Hynes, SE stated that the most effective way of treating ragwort is to pull it up, there is a specialised spray to deal with it and this is being utilised by the council, cutting of it only spreads it.

##### **(b) Roads**

Cllr. Barron asked if the Well Road, St Anne's Terrace in Kilmacthomas could be reviewed due to safety issue with spend and lack of footpath. He outlined that the parents committee in Fews School raised the need for footpath between the school and village and that traffic calming is needed in Newtown village.

Cllr. O'Leary raised concern in relation to recent events at Carroll's Cross, he highlighted the need to look at requesting a motorway for the N25 and asked what course of action needs to be taken in order to progress this proposal. He enquired if the council needs to request landowners to carry out hedge cutting.

Cllr. Power welcomed CLÁR funding for Rathgormack and Clonea Power and asked if tarmacadam resurfacing could be carried out in Clonea Power. Also outlined that Scatlea hill needs to be reviewed..

Cllr. Brazil requested update on Lemybrien traffic calming and finger posts in Clonmel. He outlined that hedge cutting needs to be undertaken and the council need to work with landowners to address. Requested update on possible extension of car park on the Comeragh drive. Supported need for upgrade of N25 and the works requested for Fews School.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that the optimum solution for the N25 is a dual carriageway/motorway from Kilmeaden to Middleton, it is not included in Project Ireland 2040 so there needs to be political support to progress it. He confirmed that the restriction period on hedge cutting has ceased and it is the responsibility of the landowner to carry out works where necessary. There is a media campaign to inform landowners and the GSS carries out inspections. Where hedge cutting is not been carried out a hedge cutting notice can issue and ultimately prosecution of the courts if not complied with. He confirmed that 18 schemes in total were submitted for CLÁR funding and only 3 were successful. He outlined that speed monitoring device can be put up on St. Anne's Terrace and Newtown Village and noted that addressing the issue is a matter of resources and asked the members to be cognisant of this when reviewing the roads budget. He confirmed that tender documents are being finalised for Lemybrien and the intention is to go to tender towards end of 2019 and commencing works in Q1 2020. The tender for fingerpost in Clonmel have been returned, need to evaluate and discuss with department and will update at next meeting. The car park in Comeragh drive needs a funding source but agrees that the work needs to be done. Fews School is part of the CIS submissions to the department next week and is dependent on receipt of funding. Clonea Power tarmacadam resurfacing will need to be done as part of 2020 roads programme which will go before council in February 2020.

N. Flynn, SEE confirmed that work in Clonea Power due to finish out in next 12 months, flood defence scheme work to be completed by end of September.

Cllr. Power complimented work being carried out in Clonea Power and noted that tarmacadam work will complete the work for the area.

Cllr. Barron agreed that the development of a dual carriage way/motorway from Kilmeaden to Middleton is a political decision. He suggested that this is discussed with the Oireachtas members and Junior Minister John Halligan, requesting that the Chief Executive call a meeting with them.

### **(c) Housing**

Cllr. Barron outlined report in Irish Times by Minister Eoghan Murphy and disregarded the comments that Local Authorities should have no involvement in housing provision.

Cllr. Brazil asked for update on housing in Kilmacthomas and outlined that delays in housing repairs in social housing are not acceptable requesting what can be done in the medium term to address issues.

Cllr. Power agreed with unacceptable delays with housing repairs.

I.Grimes, DoS agreed that Local Authorities have a very good track record in provision of social housing. He outlined that it is the intention to commence the Part VIII for the housing scheme at next month's district meeting. He outlined that housing repair jobs are batched and tendered on a weekly basis, this ensures value for money. There is a plan to move the maintenance programme to pre-planned maintenance which will enable replacement of items based on detail knowledge of housing stock. The maximum duration for completion of repairs is twelve weeks and the council are well within that timeframe.

### **(d) Planning**

Cathaoirleach introduced Donal Ó Murchadha to the meeting. D. Ó Murchadha informed the members that he will be updating the members at the next meeting in relation to taking in charge in Comeragh district.

## **5. SECTION 38 ROADS TRAFFIC ACT 1994 – Traffic Calming Scheme on R681 at Kill Village – Commencement of Process**

G, Hynes, SE outlined details of scheme, construction of a raised table that will reduce speed of vehicular traffic on the cross roads and creating a safer environment for all.

Proposed by Cllr. Barron, seconded by Cllr. Power and agreed by all

## **6. SECTION 38 ROADS TRAFFIC ACT 1994 – Traffic Calming Scheme on R677 Tech Road Kilmacthomas – Completion of Process**

G, Hynes, SE outlined details of scheme, controlled traffic lights with the construction of a raised table. No submissions received.

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

## **7. Standing Orders**

Amended Standing Orders proposed by Cllr. Brazil, seconded by Cllr Barron and agreed by all.

Cllr. Barron requested that the members review the date that the district meeting meets in order to accommodate the AILG meetings, this will be considered at the October meeting.

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

## **8. Correspondence**

H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator outlined details of two letters of acknowledgement received from Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

## **9. A.O.B**

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Cathaoirleach**

**Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_