

**MINUTES
COMERAGH DISTRICT MEETING**

**DÚICHE AN CHUMARAIGH
HELD ON 15TH JANUARY 2020 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,
DUNGARVAN**

PRESENT:

Cllr. Liam Brazil, Cathaoirleach

Cllr. Declan Clune

Cllr. Seanie Power

Cllr. John O'Leary

Apologies: Cllr. Ger Barron

It was agreed to send a note of well wishes to Cllr. Barron on behalf of the district.

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. G. Hynes, SE, Roads

Ms. M. Goff, A/SEE Roads

Mr. R. Moloney, SEO, Environment

Ms. T. Morrissey, SO, Housing

Mr. L. McGree, Senior Planner

Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:

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

- Conor Murray, Rathgormack on receiving Footballer of the Year
- Mary Flynn on receiving lifetime membership of IFA

VOTES OF SYMPATHY:

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

- Alice Dunphy
- John Butler
- Fintan Kiely
- Maurice Lenihan

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Minutes of District Meeting held 20th November 2019 were proposed by Cllr. O'Leary and seconded by Cllr. Power and agreed.

2. MATTERS ARISING

Cllr. Clune requested update on the Tannery report and an indication on when it will be available. Also requested update on report on Carroll's Cross update and progression of solutions with Transportation Infrastructure Ireland (TII).

R. Moloney, SEO stated report received last week, steering committee due to meeting to consider report and will bring the report to the attention of the members at the February district meeting.

Cllr. O'Leary asked what the plan is for the Tannery site

R. Moloney, SEO stated the site is in private ownership, the council has carried out investigation works to determine any constraints to the development of the site and options for development into the future.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that the report is near completion and are due to meet with the TII at the end of the month. This will be followed by the submission of a feasibility report to TII which will outline the options in relation to the junction, short term measures, long term measures and a cost analysis. Finalised report will be circulated to members when completed.

Cllr. O'Leary enquired about the timeframe to works commencing at the junction.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that on approval from TII it will take about six months from development of a detailed design to having a contractor on site.

3. PLANNING

- (a) **Planning Lists** – noted
- (b) **Taking In Charge** - noted

4. REPORTS

(a) Environment

Cllr. Clune highlighted issue of scramblers destroying the tracks in Portlaw Woods and enquired about the legal stance on them using the woods for this activity. He asked if the Waterford Walls could be extended into towns and villages across the County.

Cllr. Power thanked the environment section and Coillte for cleaning up the Lough Morha walk in Rathgormack and suggested installation of barrier and CCTV to deter future occurrences of illegal dumping.

Cllr. O'Leary outlined good campaigns ran last year for preventative measures in relation to illegal dumping and asked what the plans are for the coming year.

Cllr. Brazil asked for plans for 2020 in relation to tackling illegal dumping and investigating people who are not disposing of their rubbish properly and the need to carry out checks with householders.

R. Moloney, SEO will follow up on issues regarding scrambling with the trails officer. He outlined that Waterford Walls partner with local businesses to undertake the murals in the area, he will pass on contact details to the members. Acknowledged the comments of Cllr. Power in relation to Lough Morha walk and working with Coillte to address access issue. Outlined that there will be a regional campaign in relation to fly tipping that they will be participating in. Under waste presentation byelaws the council has the power to check how private householders are disposing of waste, the environment section will be progressing with investigating this.

(b) Roads

Cllr. Clune outlined issue with road surface on Laharden road, enquired as to who incurs the cost in relation to road signs and barriers damaged through road traffic accidents. Acknowledged and expressed thanks in relation to works carried out outside school in Portlaw and enquired if there have been any reports of significant damage as a result of Storm Brendan.

Cllr. Power asked for update on options for additional parking in Kilclooney woods and welcomed commencement of fingerposts and asked for timeline on completion of the works.

Cllr. Brazil asked when works on N25 at Downey's Cross will be completed, requested update on commencement of traffic calming works at Lemybrien. Outlined that road by Centra in Kilmacthomas needs to be resurfaced.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that contractors have commenced work on site for fingerposts and envisages a six month programme for completion. Outstanding works at Downey's cross to be reviewed and currently finalising design for Lemybrien.

M. Goff, A/SEE will review road at Laharden, repair of barriers depends on location and incident. There were a number of call outs in relation to Storm Brendan for trees down but no significant damage. Have met with Coillte in relation to Kilclooney woods and currently developing design for the additional parking. Road near Centra in Kilmacthomas can be added into the Road Works Programme.

Cllr. O'Leary raised issue regarding local road markings from Faha onto N25 and asked for it to be addressed and enquired if there is a plan for road markings for the year. Cllr. Brazil supported this. Cllr. Power stated that address issue of potholes, particularly in light of heavy rain over last number of weeks.

G. Hynes, SE stated that there are statutory road markings that have to be in place and asked members to bring issues to their attention for addressing.

(c) Housing

Cllr. O'Leary raised concern regarding access to the new development proposed for Kilmacthomas.

Cllr. Brazil agreed with Cllr. O'Leary outlining that need to be careful not to add the traffic issues in the area.

T. Power, SO outlined that the completion of the Part V111 for this development will be addressed at the February district meeting which will also include the entrance.

(d) Planning

Cllr. Clune enquired if there is an option for campervan parking in Kilmacthomas off the Greenway and asked if the members can have an input into the traffic plan preparations for the 2020 All Together Now festival. This was supported by Cllr. Power.

Cllr. Brazil enquired if there has been an increase in one off houses applications, highlighted his concerns in relation to the delays for the housing development in Lemybrien and welcomes planning application for mill in Kilmacthomas.

L. McGree, Senior Planner stated that there has been a significant increase in pre-planning meetings, planning applications and developments with activity spread across the county. He will investigate options for campervan parking in Kilmacthomas in support of the Greenway. He informed the members that there have been a number of meetings regarding the 2020 All Together Now festival with a particular focus on traffic management. The festival have engaged a traffic management consultant who will be submitting a report as part of their application, can meet with members to discuss.

(e) Fire

Cllr. Clune outlined that natural firebreaks in Portlaw Woods are now overgrown and enquired if the fire service can review the location and ensure they are maintained.

Cllr. Brazil outlined that there was always controlled burning in the Comeragh mountains but in recent times this has ceased, he is concerned about the impacts of a fire starting in the area.

Meetings administrator will refer issues to Chief Fire Officer.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Cllr. Brazil outlined his disappointment in response from Niall Rooney in relation to relocation of polling stations.

Cllr. Clune questioned reasons for move of polling station from community hall to primary school in Portlaw and is also disappointed in response.

Cllr. O'Leary raised issue with change in Ballyduff/Kilmeaden area and resulting closure and inconvenience caused to voters as a result.

6. NOTICE OF MOTION

None

7. AOB

Cllr. Clune raised his concern in relation to the situation with Portlaw Garda station being an unmanned station. In recent time there has been an increase in criminal damage, anti-social behaviour and asked if a satellite service could be put in place. Requested that the Superintendent is contacted to seek its reopening.

Cllr. O'Leary asked at JPC about future of small Garda stations and the need for a decision on future use of the buildings. The OPW are in ownership of many of these buildings and they could be used by the community, he requested that the OPW is contacted as to the future of these buildings.

Cllr. Power and Cllr. Brazil supported the need to for community Garda in rural villages and the need to use the vacant premises.

Cllr. Clune requested that invitation is sent requesting a meeting with Superintendent John Mulligan and Sergeant Deirdre O'Neill in Kilmacthomas.

It was agreed that the meetings administrator would issue the necessary letter.

Meeting concluded.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____