

**MINUTES  
COMERAGH DISTRICT MEETING**

**DÚICHE AN CHUMARAIGH  
HELD ON 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2019 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,  
DUNGARVAN**

**PRESENT:**

Cllr. Liam Brazil, Cathaoirleach
Cllr. Declan Clune
Cllr. Seanie Power
Cllr. John O’Leary
Cllr. Ger Barron

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services Housing, Community & Emergency Services  
Mr. G. Hynes, SE, Roads  
Mr. J. Leonard, EE, Roads  
Mr. R. Moloney, AO, Environment  
Mr. D. Ó Murchadha, SEE, Planning  
Mr. R. Walsh, Head of LEO  
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

**VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:**

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

- Kieran and Anne Hearne on winning quality Meat Awards
- Glasha Farm House on winning Georgina Campbell Awards
- Ballymacarbery women’s football team
- Rathgormack junior football team
- Ballyduff Lower GAA
- Stradbally Tidy Towns
- Solas Centre in Waterford for the Run to Life Solas Run

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY:**

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

- Brendan Cullinane

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of District Meeting held 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Barron and seconded by Cllr. Power and agreed.

## 2. Matters Arising

Cllr. Clune asked if any reply has been received from the County Registrar in relation to letter issued last month.

H. Dunphy, Meetings Administered confirmed that no correspondence has been received and will follow up on it.

Cllr. Barron requested consideration to change meeting time and proposed 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 11am. This was seconded by Cllr. Clune and agreed by all.

## 3. Planning

(a) **Planning Lists** – noted

(b) **Taking In Charge**

D. Ó Murchadha, SEE outlined details of the Taking In Charge report as circulated and stated that council are working with developers to progress issues on a number of developments as outlined in report. Overall exposure within Comeragh is limited but acknowledged that unfinished estates do have a large effect on small communities.

Cllr. Clune welcomes movement on developments, asked if bond for Culrua is sufficient to cover the costs and asked if residents can make submission in relation to the estate.

D. Ó Murchadha, SEE stated that they can make submissions as part of the formal Taking in Charge process. He outlined that bonds were never envisaged to be applied to cover the full extent of the requirements.

Cllr. Clune asked if bond does not cover the works where does the required funding come from.

D. Ó Murchadha stated recommendations need to be made to the relevant sections.

Cllr. O’Leary welcomes progress in relation to Fan Glás and welcomes appointment of staff to look after this area of work. Enquired about the timeline for completion of Taking in Charge process for Cois Cille.

Cllr. Barron welcomed progress on Cruachain View and asked for update on Respond Houses in Park Lane.

Cllr. Power requested update on Deerpark, Clonea Power.

Cllr. Brazil requested footpath repair in Cois Cille and outlined ongoing issues in relation to Copper Hill and Seascape.

D. Ó Murchadha stated that the Respond housing association would follow the normal process and would be included. He outlined that it is difficult to provide a timeline and stated that developers are engaging with the council and carrying out works. Working to completed Cruachan View as soon as possible. Currently in discussion with the receiver in relation to Deerpark and snagging is being actively pursued for Cois Cille. Copper Hill and Seascapes are small developments with a number of issues, currently focusing on the public and common infrastructure.

(c) **Planning & Development Act Part 8 – 16 No. dwelling development at Kilmacthomas, Co. Waterford – Commencement of Process**

I.Grimes, DoS requested approval to commence new development in Kilmacthomas outlining that the members of the public will be able to make submissions as part of the process and on completion of consultation period revert to district members with report.

Cllr. Barron welcomed development highlighting how it will address the housing need for the areas and proposed proceeding with the Part 8.

Cllr. O'Leary seconded the proposal, welcomed the development and requested details on timeline on completion.

Cllr. Power supported development and its positive impact for the community of Kilmacthomas.

Cllr. Clune delighted to see progress of this development and acknowledged work of Cllr. Brazil in keeping this proposal on the agenda and enquired about funding for the development.

I.Grimes, DoS outlined that this project is fully funded by the Department. He expects approval to proceed by Q2 of 2020 and followed by a 12 month period for completion.

Cllr. Brazil welcomed the new houses for Kilmacthomas, highlighting that it is a good news story for the Comeragh district and thanked proposer and seconder.

#### **4. Reports**

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

Cllr. Clune asked for update on report for the Tannery site in Portlaw and when members will have visibility of the report.

Cllr. Barron asked for update on proposed new fire station in Kilmacthomas and outlined unit on coast road in Knockmahon that needs to be removed.

Cllr. O'Leary outlined issue of illegal dumping in Annestown and asked for update on investigation.

Cllr. Brazil highlighted his concern over illegal dumping in the district and stated that all involved need to get serious about tackling the issue. He asked if any evidence found, if fines can be increased for prosecutions and if council can name and shame perpetrators.

R. Moloney, SEO stated that the Tannery report is over 18 months overdue but is hopeful that report will be concluded shortly. He acknowledged that there was significant dumping in Annestown and informed members that evidence was collected and is hopeful of a prosecution. The council can only name and shame if there is a court prosecution, there was a previous request to increase the fine which was brought to the Environment SPC for consideration. Subsequently requested increase with the Minister which was not agreed to. Will investigate unit on coast road. He acknowledged the success of all the Tidy Towns groups in the Comeragh area.

I.Grimes, DoS stated that the new fire station for Kilmacthomas is on the Departments Capital project list.

Cllr. Brazil outlined need to propose allocation of €1,000 per Tidy Town group as part of the Supporting Waterford Communities Scheme. This would assist in paying for increased insurance costs. This was supported by Cllrs. O'Leary and Barron.

I.Grimes, DoS outlined that decisions for grants is the responsibility of the Plenary meeting and needs to be raised at this forum.

Cllr. Power raised concern regarding irregularity of meetings with Irish Water.

I.Grimes, DoS will follow up on this.

**(b) Roads**

Cllr. Clune highlighted need for raised table on Carrick Road, Browns Road, and Queen Street in Portlaw. Requested traffic calming coming into Kill, issue of weeds on footpaths at Ballyshunnock Lake weeds and asked if Gardaí investigation has been completed at Carroll's Cross on the N25.

Cllr. O'Leary requested update on Carroll's Cross and asked for implementation of a temporary speed limit on the approach to Carroll's Cross. He is receiving continuous representation in relation to ramps and asked what is the policy in relation to their installation.

Cllr. Barron reiterated concern over Carroll's Cross, stated that ramp at St. Declan's ramp is causing concern to users and queried the height of it.

Cllr. Power asked for update on fingerposts in Clonmel and CIS.

Cllr. Brazil welcomes work in Comeragh district, thanked roads section for work on Downey's Cross, asked for update in relation to Lemybrien and what is being done to promote hedge cutting. He noted that changes have been made to road markings at Daltons Cross.

G. Hynes, SE stated that speed tables are not the best solution in relation to tackling speed and need to look at engineering solutions to address the issue. He confirmed that the speed table at St. Declan's school in Kilmacthomas is installed according to standards. Section 38 process due to commence for Kill village and works are dependent on available budget. Currently gone to consultation for Kill Village and will be back to council for approval. He advised that a process is in place in relation to Carroll's Cross, report due to be submitted to Transportation Infrastructure Ireland (TII) by the end of the year, the TII have to approve any changes to be made at the junction. He confirmed that approval for fingerposts has been received and works due to commence shortly. No update on CIS, expects it early 2020. Currently finalising design for Lemybrien. He outlined that the hedge cutting season has commenced, adverts have been placed in local newspapers and on local radio outlining responsibilities of land owners. He will review Ballyshunnock and outlined that road markings at Daltons Cross are in accordance with new design standards from TII.

Cllr. Power stated that majority of landowners are complying with hedge cutting and need to follow up more on those that are not carrying out works.

**(c) Housing**

Cllr. Clune welcome development in Kilmacthomas and asked for update on additional developments for Portlaw. There is an issue with reporting of lighting issues in Coolfin Woods, the location is not apparent on the Deadsure App.

Cllr. Barron outlined that there are houses in Hillview in need of repair and boarded up and asked for update on addressing the issue.

I.Grimes, DoS outlined that the council has carried out a Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) on a house in Hillview with the intention of refurbishment. It is intention to look at other schemes throughout the City and County and will keep members informed.

G. Hynes, SE advised that the most appropriate way to report on lighting issues is through Deadsure and outlined detail of the system. He will review the system and have details updated.

D. Ó Murchadha, SEE outlined there is a review of the Deadsure programme underway, there are some issues with the updating of the base maps but this does not stop reporting of faults.

**(d) Planning**

No additional items

(e) **Economic Development**

Cllr. Barron welcomed announcement of extension of Greenway in New Ross and asked for details in relation to the Blueway project.

Cllr. Clune asked for update in relation to contacting Coillte in relation to development of recreational facilities for Portlaw Woods.

Cllr. O'Leary asked for update on Greenway connection in Kilmeaden.

Cllr. Power update on Town and Village renewal scheme for LEADER

Cllr. Brazil enquired about extension to Crough wood and need to advertise the amenity.

R. Walsh, Head of LEO recognised and welcomed extension of Greenway in New Ross and provision of additional connectivity to walking and cycling routes. He informed Cllr. Barron that the Blueway project had been previously presented to the previous council and will circulate to Cllr. Barron for his information. Contact has been made with Coillte regarding Portlaw Woods, currently concentrating on development of Kilclooney Woods but will follow up on. Greenway connection to Kilmeaden due to commence shortly, will check timelines and revert. Town and Village renewal scheme due to be decided in coming weeks, highlighting major application for Mount Congreve with is vital for its development. He outlined that work in Crough wood is not completed and there are current limitations with parking, these need to be completed before advertising more widely.

**5. Nomination to Waterford Comhairle na nÓg Steering Committee**

Cllr. Clune proposed Cllr. Brazil, seconded by Cllr. Power and agreed by all.

**6. Correspondence**

None

**7. Notices of Motion**

None

**8. AOB**

None

Meeting concluded.

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

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