

**wMINUTES  
COMERAGH DISTRICT MEETING**

**DÚICHE AN CHUMARAIGH  
HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2020 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,  
DUNGARVAN**

**PRESENT:**

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

**OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Mr. I. Grimes, DoS, Housing, Community & Emergency Services  
Mr. G. Hynes, SE, Roads.  
Ms. M. Goff, A/SEE Roads.  
Mr. R. Moloney, SEO, Environment.  
Mr. S. Doran, Administrative Officer, Planning  
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

**VOTES OF SYMPATHY:**

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

- Maura Power, Portlaw
- Pamela Mansfield, Portlaw
- William O Brien, Stradbally

**VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:**

It was unanimously resolved that this Council extends its congratulations to:

- Carrick Wheelers and clubman Sam Bennett on his achievements in the Tour de France

**1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:**

Minutes of District Meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020 proposed by Cllr. Brazil, seconded by Cllr. O’Leary and agreed by all.

Minutes of District Budget Meeting held 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020 proposed by Cllr. Brazil, seconded by Cllr. Power and agreed by all.

**2. MATTERS ARISING**

None

### 3. PLANNING

- (a) **Planning Lists** – noted.

### 4. REPORTS

- (a) **Environment**

Cllr. Clune outlined that Coillte are stripping areas of forest in Portlaw Woods and requested that Coillte are contacted to enquire if the areas will be replanted. Noted there is a void area in the Cúl Rua estate between houses number 3 and 5 in Portlaw with issues of illegal dumping and rodents requesting clean up of the area.

Cllr. Brazil requested update on Knockeylan woods in Lemybrien.

R. Moloney, SEO confirmed that timber is being harvested from the Coillte lands in Portlaw and will enquire about their replanting plans for the area. He outlined that the cleaning of the void site in Portlaw is the responsibility of the landowner and will have inspectors investigate. Inspectors have inspected area in Knockeylan, site is not owned by Coillte, have identified the owner and will request that the site is secured.

- (b) **Roads**

Cllr. Barron requested that a programme for public lighting is put in place and to identifying sources of funding for the work.

Cllr. Clune requested that the footpaths along Ballyshunnock Lake are sprayed and enquired as to the possibility of appointing a townsman to look after the village of Portlaw and to develop a plan for the village.

Cllr. O’Leary asked for update on making provision for a one-way system in the village of Kilmacthomas, welcomed the work at Knockaderry Bridge in Kilmeaden requesting an outline of costs for the works. .

Cllr. Brazil requested update on Lemybrien traffic calming project, noted complaints received about parking for the Greenway at Carroll’s Cross. He outlined his concerns about one way system for Kilmacthomas as may cause issues for buses, it would need a comprehensive review.

Cllr. Power asked for resident’s views to be considered in relation to proposed development of a one-way system in Kilmacthomas, requesting extra parking spaces in the location also. Outlined that work is required at Tinhalla due to issue of flooding on road along with drainage works required at Carrickbeg. Noted issue with need for cycle lanes at Fingerpost at Clonmel boundary.

Cllr. Barron congratulated all involved in the works carried out in Bonmahon, Annestown and footpaths in Kilmacthomas and acknowledged that a one way system for Kilmacthomas would need considerable consultation noting that there is a more pressing need for additional parking in the village.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that will evaluate the options for a one-way system in Kilmacthomas and revert to council in the New Year. Confirmed that there is a workforce plan in place for staffing levels, to have a permanent staff member in Portlaw would not give maximum efficiency within current resources. Currently working on design for Lemybrien, final design to be approved by TII and plan to have on agenda for December meeting. Will also have commencement of Section38 for Carroll’s Cross on December agenda. Majority of resources for public goes into maintenance with considerable work in relation to underground works, will discuss options for small capital fund as part of the 2021 Roads Work Programme noting that other sources of funding need to be accessed for public lighting. The Fingerposts project went out on public consultation and received no submissions for the inclusion of cycle paths; outlined new pedestrian crossing and wide footpaths have been put in place that can act as a combined cycle and walkway. Provision of cycle paths in the area needs to be looked at in conjunction with Tipperary County

Council and needs to be developed for long-term use. Outlined that it is important to acknowledge the work undertaken as a result of the Stimulus funding and is hopeful that will get additional funding for other locations in 2021.

M. Goff, A/SEE noted that while there is limited funding for the provision for lighting that when carrying out works provision is made for the installation of service ducting. Aware of the issue at Ballyshunnoch and plans to carry out improvements to the area in early 2021. Will revert with costs for Knockaderry Bridge, noting that significant works are being carried out in the area and will take a few more weeks for completion. Will review parking issue at Carroll's Cross. Plan to do works at Tinhalla and will review Carrickbeg. Due to meet with the Kilmacthomas Tidy Towns group in coming weeks.

Cllr. Power noted that lighting at Carrickbeg needs to be addressed.

Cllr. Clune outlined that a number of lights are not working in Portlaw; he's been informed that they are the responsibility of the ESB and enquired as to how the issue can be resolved.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that any lighting issues need to be logged using the Deadsure system, in relation to problems that lie with the ESB, the contractor informs the council of the issue so that it can be addressed. He will follow up on issue raised for Portlaw.

#### **(c) Housing**

Cllr. Brazil asked for update on houses in Kilmacthomas enquiring if work is on track to commence in 2021.

Cllr. Power outlined that the new housing rents have increased and has caused concern to some residents, welcomed increase to €60,000 for the Repair and Lease scheme noting it needs to be publicised to encourage uptake. Outlined issue that people are having in relation to contacting EIR in relation to the need for repairs enquiring is anything can be done to highlight the issue with EIR.

Cllr. O'Leary and Cllr. Barron supported Cllr. Power about difficulties with EIR and general dissatisfaction with the service they provide.

I.Grimes, DoS informed the members that the tender has closed for the Kilmacthomas development with contract to be awarded by year-end and is on track to commence early 2021. Adoption of new single differential rent scheme has resulted in changes for some tenants, tenants can contact the rents team if they have any concerns and arrangements can be put in place with MABS if experiencing difficulties. Increase in amount for the Repair and Lease scheme is very welcome and will allow for targeting of other properties. Issue with EIR is not an issue for council, however the Governments 'Staying Connected' scheme is putting together a network to assist vulnerable people and any issues that they need support with.

Cllr. O'Leary enquired as to how long it will take for increased amount to take affect for the Repair and Lease scheme.

I.Grimes, DoS confirmed that the increase takes immediate effect.

#### **(d) Planning**

S. Doran, AO informed the members that planning applications are being processed within the normal timelines. Currently in the phase of the new City and County Development Plan and informed members that are planning to hold a number of consultation meetings with each of the districts, if current restrictions allow it is hoped that these will be face to face meetings and will advise once confirmed.

Cllr. Barron outlined concerns raised in relation to planning application by the Commissioner for Public Works for amendments to the previously granted planning application at the Irish Coastguards site on the

coast road in Bunmahon. He has received numerous representations with respect to the requirement for a 30metre high communication mast which is not in keeping with the development of the Copper Coast area. Cllr. Brazil welcomed having meetings for development plan stating that 2 hours would suffice to cover the relevant business and welcomed that planning applications are being processed as normal. Raised concern over difficulties in the public having pre-planning meetings.

S. Doran, AO noted that a number of submissions have been received in relation to the planning application in Bonmahon and as it is a live application he is not in a position to discuss further at this time. Noted the agreement for 2 hour face-to-face meeting if they are possible and outlined that there is a current backlog with pre-planning meetings that the planning section is looking to address.

Cllr. Brazil asked if pre-planning meetings could be booked over the phone.

S. Doran, AO outlined that the process requires the applicant to submit an application in writing.

#### **5. CORRESPONDENCE**

None

#### **6. NOTICE OF MOTION**

None

#### **7. AOB**

Cllr. Brazil asked for confirmation on the holding of a District meeting in December.

G. Hynes, SE requested that meeting be scheduled for December as will need to bring a number of items to the attention and approval of the members.

Cathaoirleach confirmed that the December meeting as scheduled will proceed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

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