

**MINUTES
COMERAGH DISTRICT MEETING**

**DÚICHE AN CHUMARAIGH
HELD ON 23RD APRIL, 2019 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, DUNGARVAN**

PRESENT:

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| Cllr. Ray Murphy, Cathaoirleach |
| Cllr. Liam Brazil |
| Cllr. Seanie Power |
| Cllr. Michael J. O' Ryan |
| Cllr. John O'Leary |

Apologies: Cllr. Declan Clune

OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mr. I. Grimes, Director of Services Housing, Community & Emergency Services
Mr. G. Hynes, SE, Roads
Ms. M. Goff, A/SEE, Roads
Mr. R. Moloney, SEO, Environment
Ms. A. O'Sullivan, EP, Planning
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:

Cathaoirleach acknowledged Cllr. MJ O'Ryan as this is his last council meeting with the Comeragh district and for his work over 10 years as a councillor. Cllr. O'Leary outlined that it is sad to see the end of Cllr. O'Ryan time with the council, his policy of Comeragh first was always to the fore, his representation and fight for the district. He was dedicated to the job, diligent to follow up on his work and is a great loss to the Fianna Fáil party. He acknowledged the history of his family's involvement in the politics of Waterford and his role as principal. Cllr. Power stated that it is the end of an era of O'Ryans serving on the council and is a great loss to the area of Ballymacarbery. Cllr. Brazil outlined that Cllr. O'Ryan has served the council well and the people of Ballymacarbery and thanked him for this help over the last 10 years, acknowledging the loss to the people of the area

IGrimes, Dos wished Cllr. O'Ryan well in his early retirement and acknowledged this contributions at both district and plenary meetings outlining that they were always communicated well and well thought out.

Cllr. O'Ryan thanked all colleagues stating the history of the O'Ryans is 102 years on the ballot paper and he is proud to have represented his constituents for 10 years and having the honour of being Cathaoirleach for the district. Comeragh district has worked well together as a collective group and highlighted the disappointment of reducing the number of seats for the district. Thanked officials for their assistance over his term and will continue to be involved in his community going forward stating that there is a lot of good public service ethos in politics.

Cathaoirleach thanked Cllr. O'Ryan for his experience, expertise and contribution to the Comeragh district in his time on the council.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Minutes of District Meeting held 25th March, 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Power and seconded by Cllr. Brazil and agreed.

2. Matters Arising

Cllr. O'Leary asked if further meetings with South East region of TII have occurred.

G. Hynes, SE stated that there was a meeting with the safety officer of the TII and raised issues on behalf of councillors. He outlined that new paving scheme from Lemybrien to the top of the Pike is planned, Downey's Cross improvements due to start in Q4 2019 and improvement works to commence at Kilmeaden roundabout. He stated that the Carroll's Cross junction is in accordance with standards and will continue to be monitored.

Cllr. O'Leary asked if it could be considered to reduce the speed limit at Carroll's Cross on the approach from both sides.

G. Hynes, SE stated that the TII are not in favour of speed reductions at junctions on national and primary network.

R. Murphy welcomed work on the N25 and welcomed addressing of the issues on the Kilmeaden Road roundabout. Supports Cllr. O'Leary in relation to Carroll's Cross and lighting of the junction would assist at night time.

G. Hynes, SE responded stating that suggestion of lighting was raised but research indicates that lighting up rural locations can increase hazards and therefore the TII are not in favour of this option.

3. Planning

- (a) **Planning Lists** – noted

4. Reports

- (a) **Environment**

Cllr. O'Ryan thanked the council for their continued assistance with community clean ups.

Cllr. O'Leary raised the continued problem with littering pointing out the increase in littering around the Mount Congreve estate.

Cllr. Brazil thanked council for assistance with the Comeragh clean-up over Easter and the need to follow up on how people are disposing of their rubbish. Need to look at increasing the litter fine and having stricter laws.

Cllr. Power outlined that there are a small number of people disposing of black bags of rubbish and supports Cllr. Brazil in the need to get details of people who are not disposing of rubbish properly.

Cllr. Murphy thanked Environment section for work during the term of this council and the initiatives that community groups have been able to avail of. Asked for update on the All Roads Lead Home campaign and if signs could be issued to tidy Towns groups.

R. Moloney, SEO acknowledged that 7.5 tonnes of waste collected over the weekend clean ups and expect this to further increase. He commended the continued community spirit and support for the clean ups, regretting that it has to be continuously carried out. Feedback received in relation to illegal dumping is that it is small scale dumping, electrical items and tyres were picked up which should not be occurring as these items can be returned to suppliers free of charge. The aim of the All Roads Lead Home campaign is to educate people that everyone has responsibility for our public roads that all lead home and the need to 'bin it not fling it'.

Cllr. Brazil pointed out that there needs to be a renewed initiative in schools to assist with education.

R. Moloney, SEO outlined that the Green Flag programme is still in operation within schools.

(b) Roads

Cllr. Power outlined issue of parking at Kilclooney Woods, the dangers on the road and the number of cars parked on the road continues to be an issue. He acknowledged and welcomed that the trails section is intending on making an application for funding to improve the area and its facilities.

Cllr. O’Ryan raised issue regarding Kilmacomma and its development into the future. Work needed on the Scroutey by Clonmel and highlights the state of the regional roads as regards highlighting the markings, lining and cat’s eyes. Would like to see lighting of the new bridge on the N25 by Kilmacthomas, complimented the work of the council and requested the need for resurfacing around Ballymacarbery village.

Cllr. O’Leary supported Cllr. O’Ryan for work carried out by the council, outlined that Orchardstown cross at Butlerstown is a difficult junction to negotiate particularly now with increasing traffic using it for access to the Greenway and asked if there are future plans for its improvement. Highlighted the need for site cleaning of roads from Dunhill to Fenor (Ballydermody road).

Cllr. Brazil asked for update on Downey’s Cross stating his disappointment that it hasn’t commenced during the term of the current council. Outlined that the road by Centra in Kilmacthomas is in very poor condition.

Cllr. Murphy supports issue regarding Kilclooney woods and that is a treacherous road that needs addressing. Supported Cllr. O’Ryan regarding the need for a re-lining programme. Requested an update on project in Coolfin, Walsh’s Place in Kilmacthomas and the Cúl Rua pedestrian crossing.

G. Hynes, SE stated a long term solution is required for Kilclooney with additional parking facilities, in the interim will consult with the Garda regarding additional signage and road markings. Currently finalising tender documents for Kilmacomma and hopeful the project will commence in Q3, of 2019. With regard to lining and cats eyes there is not an adequate budget to tackle all roads but will review high risk areas, this is subject to available resources. Raised issue with TII regarding changing the colours of lighting on the bridge and will consider when receive a response. Acknowledged that there have been a number of accidents at Kilmeaden Cross, it is on the priority list for addressing and some land acquisition is required. Site cleaning programme in place and will look at issues that arise from the work. There is a commitment from the Department for Downey’s cross and will be progressed on completion of pavement works.

M. Goff, A/SEE stated that works are planned for Ballymacarbery in Q3, 2019. There is a plan to address the surface dressing for a section of the Fenor road in the current year with additional sections to be addressed in the coming years. Will review road by Centra Coolfin and repairs to footpaths at Walsh’s Place have commenced. Cúl Rua pedestrian crossing is dependent on funding being available.

Cllr. Power asked for update on flood relief for Clonea Power.

M. Goff, A/SEE stated that the tender for this work has gone out to tender.

Cllr. Murphy thanked all work undertaken in Coolfin development, under the town and village renewal scheme and Clár scheme.

(c) Housing

Cllr. Brazil asked for update on housing in Kilmacthomas and welcomed announcement of 16 new houses for Kilmacthomas.

Cllr. Murphy supported Cllr. Brazil also the completion of 12 houses in Coolfin.

Cllr. O’Ryan hopes that there will be more housing choice for the Comeragh area.

Cllr. O’Leary outlined fire issue in houses in Ceol na Mara in Kill, the necessary works have not been carried out to address issue and asked if there are any funds available to assist private householders.

I Grimes, DoS stated no formal confirmation has been received in relation to application for Kilmacthomas. The Coolfin Woods project has been completed and houses are up on Choice Based Letting. Currently no update on resolution of issues in private houses in Ceol na Mara, there are no grants for private householders but council provided information. All issues in council owned houses have been addressed.

(d) Planning

Cllr. O'Leary enquired about the taking in Charge of the Fán Glas estate and numerous issues that need addressing in the estate and requested update.

Cllr. Murphy asked if there has been any planning application for the old site in Kilmacthomas and concern regarding the concrete silo at the side of the building causing an eyesore. Enquired about the solar farm planned for Mothel and Curraduff

A.O'Sullivan,EP will follow up on Fán Glas issue. No formal application to date submitted for the old distillery and application for solar farm has been lodged.

G. Hynes SEO stated there is a upcoming meeting regarding Taking in Charge and Fán Glas will be on the agenda.

5. Correspondence

Cllr. Brazil noted his disappointment with the reply from the TII and feels that families are being discriminated against building on their own land. He will be pursuing the matter further.

Cllr. Murphy and Cllr. Power supported Cllr. Brazil

6. Notices of Motion

None

7. AOB

Cllr. Power outlined details of the Skills for Work Programme.

Cllr. O'Leary complimented and acknowledged Cllr. Murphy in his role as Cathaoirleach on the Comeragh District. All councillors supported Cllr. Murphy for his term as Cathaoirleach and his fairness as chairperson.

Cllr. Brazil thanked staff and press for their support and thanked all cyclists who participated in the Mental Health cycle last week.

Cllr. Murphy thanked all councillors for their support, formally thanked the media for their support, the staff representing all sections in the council and Ivan Grimes as District Manager.

Meeting concluded.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____