

**MINUTES
COMERAGH DISTRICT MEETING**

**DÚICHE AN CHUMARAIGH
HELD ON 25TH FEBRUARY, 2019 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES,
DUNGARVAN**

PRESENT:

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

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
Mr. J. O'Mahony, SP, Planning
Mr. J. Brunnock, Trails Officer
Ms. H. Dunphy, Meetings Administrator, Corporate

VOTES OF SYMPATHY:

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

- Edward Lacey
- David Walsh
- Jimmy Flynn

VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS:

Haley Fitzsimons on winning 2 silver and 1 bronze medal at the International Wheelchair and Amputee World Games in the United Arab Emirates.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:

Minutes of District Meeting held 28th January, 2019 were proposed by Cllr. Brazil and seconded by Cllr. Power and agreed.

2. Matters Arising

Cllr. Clune asked for the life buoys on the river walk in Portlaw to be replaced and requested an update on the completion of the Tannery report.

M. Goff, A/SEE confirmed that Lifebuoys have been replaced and will have them re-checked.

Cllr. O'Leary asked for information on the plan and proposal for the Tannery site.

R. Moloney, SEO confirmed that the geotechnical report has been finalised and is currently being reviewed by the consultants for their recommendations. On completion of the review a report outlining

the remediation measures for the site will be outlined and will be submitted to the steering group for consideration and then submitted to the Department for funding.

Cllr. Murphy highlighted his disappointment in the length of time it is taking for the final report to issue. Cllr. O’Ryan asked for update on GSS areas for the new electoral areas.

G. Hynes, SE outlined that the areas have been reviewed and from an operational point on the ground there will be no change, the GSS and area engineer will remain as they currently are. There will be a realignment of budgets to reflect the changes.

3. Planning

(a) Planning Lists – noted

(b) Planning & Development Act. 2000 Part VIII – Development of a walking trail from Mahon Bridge to Crough Wood.

J. Brunnock, Trails Officer outlined the details of the Part VIII proposal, stating that no submissions were received and recommended approval without modification for the project. Cllr. Brazil outlined his support for this project and how the walkway will add to the tourism initiative for the Comeragh area and hoped that it will be connected in the future to the Greenway at McGraths. Cllr. O’Leary supported the proposal and complimented everyone involved in the project. Cllrs. Power, O’Ryan, Clune & Murphy supported the project and complimented the work being carried out by the trails office and development committee. It is a significant achievement and development for the area.

Proposed by Cllr. Brazil and seconded by Cllr. O’Leary

4. Reports

(a) Environment

Cllr. Clune highlighted increase in illegal dumping in Portlaw Woods and asked for a meeting to be called with Coillte to develop a plan to tackle the issue.

Cllr. Power asked will there be support from the council for annual community litter picking.

Cllr. Brazil asked for support for Easter litter picking, highlighting that there are particular areas that are still an issue. He enquired if work is being carried out on the Old Mill in Kilmacthomas to address issues.

Cllr. O’Leary outlined that former cheese factory in Kilmeaden is currently being demolished and enquired if there has been an application for the development of the site.

Cllr. Murphy outlined that dog control and dog fouling continues to be a problem and requested update on green walker initiative. Also requested an update on the anti-graffiti grant for schools. In relation to illegal dumping he suggested increasing CCTV signage as a deterrent.

R. Moloney, SEO agreed to have the environmental officer review the Portlaw site and will discuss with Coillte. The council will continue to support groups who are carrying out litter picking with provision of equipment. He confirmed that an asbestos and guttering report has been completed for the Old Mill and will form part of the planning application to the Council, he will revert with a timescale. Notes comments in relation to the former cheese factory in Kilmeaden. He outlined details of the grant scheme. He outlined that CCTV signage can be erected in areas of need and asked for members to provide details of problem areas.

(b) Roads

Cllr. Murphy complimented drainage works carried out in the area and asked for update on Coolfin works. Cllr. O’Ryan asked if council are open to signs being put up at junctions on regional roads to illustrate location. Outlined damage to ditch near half way pub on Clonmel side, issue with embankment that needs addressing. Area near Nire layby needs repairing L1049-47. Requested traffic calming signs in Ballymacarbery village.

Cllr. Power supported Cllr. O’Ryan issue with need for barrier on the Kilmanahan R671 road. Requested an extension of the car park at Kilclooney wood as cars parking on the road and causing a problem.

Cllr. O’Leary highlighted issue at Carroll’s Cross and re-occurring accidents at the junction. Requested that a further submission is made to Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) highlighting the accident history and request a reduction in the speed limit and traffic calming measures to be put in place.

Cllr. Clune supports Cllr. O’Leary and the need to alter the junction. Welcomed Kill village speed report and concern with speeding that it illustrates and requested that traffic calming measures near the school. Highlighted the need for zebra crossings in Portlaw, entering Portlaw by soccer pitch, Coffey’s corner and Cúl Rua. Outlined that damage to playground in Bunmahon and remedial works are required, Kilmeaden playground also needs remediation.

Cllr. Brazil supports Cllr. O’Leary regarding Carroll’s Cross. Highlighted that issues at Downey’s cross needs addressing and noted that road by Archer’s pub in Kilmacthomas is in poor repair.

Cllr. Murphy supports issue at Carroll’s Cross and requested lighting for the junction. Requested signage on Fiddown Bridge to signify entering into Comeragh area, existing signs need to be cleaned and redundant signs removed.

G. Hynes, SE stated that currently looking at costs involved in installing signage on the local roads in the Comeragh district. He outlined the position of the TII regarding Carroll’s Cross and that the predominant main cause of accidents is driver behaviour and speed. He acknowledges the issue and will revert to the TII with a further submission. He outlined that there is a 50kph on the approach to school in Kill village with a pedestrian crossing. He will review reports from driver feedback signs as to the impact on driver behaviour and revert at the next meeting. Works on Downey’s cross will be carried out in Q3.

M. Goff, A/SEE stated that 300m of footpaths have been completed in Coolfin and installation of kerbing to follow, to be completed by end March. Confirmed that there is a new welcome to Waterford sign on Fiddown Bridge, will look at other signage issues and will cut back vegetation. Signs for the naming of cross roads needs further discussion and is dependent on funding. Will review area on the Kilmanahan road and layby in the Nire. Traffic calming signage in Ballymacarbery will need to be reviewed. The extension of Kilclooney car parking needs additional funding source and will refer to economic development to address. There will be footpaths at Coolfin Woods and towards soccer pitch which will assist with traffic calming. Coolrua needs additional funding but on the town renewal plans. Weekly inspections are carried out on playgrounds and will review issues as highlighted. Will review road at Archer’s pub.

(c) Housing

Cllr. Murphy requested update on completion and allocation of 12 houses in Coolfin.

Cllr. Brazil asked if there is progress on development of housing in Kilmacthomas and requested location map for the development.

Cllr. O’Leary asked for status of Kilmeaden Village Centre in relation to the availability of social accommodation at this site.

I.Grimes, DoS stated that scheme in Coolfin, Portlaw is due to finish in coming weeks, it is the intention that a number of the houses will be advertised on Choice Base Letting (CBL). He stated that there is a proposal to increase investment in the Comeragh area with a number of schemes. There is no current update on Kilmacthomas scheme and will provide map when available. The council are not aware of proposals for the Kilmeaden Village Centre which is privately owned.

(d) Planning

None

5. Roads Work Programme 2019

G. Hynes, SE outlined details of the 2019 Roads Work Programme and acknowledged increase in budget of €500,000 to cover regional and local roads, public lighting, bridge rehabilitation and low cost safety

schemes. Noted additional allocation of €500,000 for works in Kilmacomma and outlined details of overall allocations within the overall budget of €5.1million. He sought approval of the works programme.

Cllr. O’Ryan complimented the progress that has been made with the roads programme and urged that improvements continue in the area. Asked for investment in junctions on regional roads and welcomed the fingerposts. All councillors complimented the work of the area engineers and outdoor staff, welcoming the increase in the budget and supported the need to continue the investment in the area. Cllr. Murphy highlighted his disappointment that there is no capital footpaths programme.

Roads Work Programme was proposed by Cllr. O’Ryan, seconded by Cllr. Brazil and agreed.

G. Hynes, SEO stated that while footpath funding is limited, he is hopeful of additional funding through CLAR and the urban and rural regeneration schemes.

6. Correspondence

None

7. Notices of Motion

1. Motion in the name of Cllr. Liam Brazil

Cllr. Brazil outlined motion and asked council to write to Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) and seek clarity on ruling and outlined details of a specific case where families are being affected.

Cllr. Power seconded motion and outlined the importance of families being able to build on their land.

Cllr. O’Ryan highlighted the need to support rural communities and this was supported by Cllr. Murphy.

J. O’Mahony, SP outlined that the TII are the statutory consultees and operate under their own regulations, legislation and guidelines and Waterford City & County Council has no say in their decision. Confirmed that the council can write to TII and outline the issues with their decision.

G. Hynes, SE has discussed the case outlined with the TII inspectors and in the interest of road safety it is causing additional traffic problems.

Agreed that a letter will be sent to the TII.

8. AOB

Meeting concluded.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Dated: _____