

Minutes of Meeting of Planning & Emergency Services Strategic Policy Committee held on Tuesday 4th October 2016 at 10.00a.m. in Cashel-Tipperary Municipal District Offices, Rosanna Road, Tipperary Town.

Present: In the Chair - Cllr. Denis Leahy
Councillors – John Carroll, Martin Browne.

Matthew Mounsey, Lyn Mather.

In Attendance: Karl Cashen, Director of Services
Dave Carroll, Chief Fire Officer
Nuala O’Connell, Senior Executive Planner
Sonja Reidy, Senior Executive Planner
Clare Lee, Executive Planner
Ann Marie Devaney, Executive Planner
Brian Clancy, Administrative Officer
Liz McGrath, Staff Officer

Apologies: Cllrs. Ger Darcy, Michael O’Meara, David Dunne.
Brian Beck, Senior Planner,
Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner

1. Minutes of last meeting held on 21st June 2016

The minutes of the previous meeting were proposed by Cllr. M. Browne, seconded by Cllr. D. Leahy and agreed.

Arising from the minutes a discussion took place on public lighting in unfinished estates. Where the developer is no longer in place and the estate has not been taken in charge it was recommended that residents could be advised of the cost of lighting involved if they wished to pay the electricity provider themselves as an alternative pending processing of a taking in charge application.

2. Briefing on Variation (Settlement Plans) of North & South Tipperary County Development Plans

Anne Marie Devaney, Executive Planner, gave a presentation on Variation (Settlement Plans) of North & South Tipperary County Development Plans. There are 120 Settlements in the county. The zoning matrix has been rationalised. Each settlement will have a zoning map which outlines the land use objectives and a written statement outlining the characteristic features of the settlement and specific development objectives. CAAS Consultants carried out the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) in conjunction with Roads & Environment Sections and the OPW & EPA and regard was had to CFRAM. In response to queries Anne Marie clarified that a concise consistent approach is being taken

countywide and there are no new zonings proposed. Preparation of the draft plans is ongoing. It is anticipated that the Plans will be finalised and adopted in Q2/Q3 2017.

3. Irish Town Walls Network Capital Programme

Clare Lee, Executive Planner gave a presentation on the Irish Town Walls Network Capital Programme. There are 6 medieval walled towns in Tipperary, the towns of Cashel, Clonmel, Carrick-on-Suir and Fethard have the most significant remains of the old town walls. An annual contribution is made by the Council as part of the Irish Walled Towns Network. Funding was approved by the Heritage Council for conservation works to the Town Walls in Carrick-on-Suir (€30,000) and Cashel (€15,000) in 2016 and the works have been completed.

4. Conservation Grant Schemes

Built Heritage Scheme

Clare Lee, Executive Planner, gave a presentation on the Built Heritage Schemes administered by the Council in 2016. The Department for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, launched a Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2016, with the purpose to encourage the leveraging of private capital to invest in a number of small-scale, labour-intensive projects to repair and conserve structures protected under the Planning and Development Act 2000.

Tipperary County Council was allocated €50,000 under the Scheme and 14 no. projects across the county were approved for grant assistance by the Department. The projects have been completed and grants have issued from the Department.

Structures at Risk Scheme

Anne Marie Devaney, Executive Planner, gave a presentation on the Structures at Risk Grant Scheme 2016 and replied to queries raised. The Department for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht, launched a Structures at Risk Scheme in March, 2016. The purpose of the scheme is to assist with works to safeguard structures protected under the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended). The Minister for Arts, Heritage & The Gaeltacht has allocated a grant of €7,000 for "Alla-Aileen", Dublin Road, Cashel and a grant of €16,000 for Water Tower, Arravale Rovers, Tipperary Town. Project works have been completed and claims have been recouped from the Department. 12 applications were received in 2016 for the entire county. Cllr. J. Carroll stated it was important that people with properly trained native crafts such as stone masons are used when working on heritage properties.

5. Update on Renewable Energy Strategy

Clare Lee, Executive Planner gave a presentation on the Renewable Energy Strategy. The Renewable Energy Strategy is a Strategy for County Tipperary to realise the renewable energy potential of the county while preserving the cultural, natural and built environment of the county.

Presentations on the Renewable Energy Strategy were made to the Planning & Emergency Services SPC on 27th May 2015, 1st March 2016 and 19th April 2016. Workshops with the Elected Members took place on 7th March 2016 and on 4th April 2016.

The Draft Renewable Energy Strategy, Wind Energy Strategy and Landscape Character Assessment was presented to the Members for noting at the plenary meeting of the Council

on 11th April 2016. Public consultation commenced and submissions were invited from the 22nd April to the 23rd May, 2016.

Following completion of the public consultation programme, a Chief Executive's Report was prepared on the submissions received and was circulated to the Elected Members in June 2016 for their consideration. A Members' Workshop was held in the Anner Hotel, Thurles on Monday 20th June 2016 to consider the report.

The proposed Variation No. 3 of the North and South Tipperary County Development Plans was adopted by the Members at the plenary meeting of the Council on the 11th July 2016.

Cllr. J. Carroll complimented the organisers of the Conference held in Gurteen Agricultural College.

6. Date of next meeting

It was agreed to leave open the fixing of the next meeting of the Planning & Emergency Services SPC until 2017 when a suitable date will be arranged. Cllr. D. Leahy thanked everyone for their contributions to the meetings throughout the year.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.