



MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE OCTOBER MEETING OF NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN NENAGH MUNICIPAL DISTRICT CHAMBER AND via ZOOM AT 10.30 AM ON 20th OCTOBER 2022

Present in chamber	Cllr's Fiona Bonfield, Joe Hannigan, Hughie McGrath, John "Rocky" McGrath, Michael O' Meara, Seamus Morris, John Carroll and Ger Darcy
Present via zoom	Cllr Phyll Bugler
Also Present	Mr. Marcus O Connor, Director of Services; Ms. Rosemary Joyce, District Administrator; Mr. Barry Murphy, District Engineer and Sinead Moriarty, Staff Officer. Finance: Mr. Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance, Ms. Claire Ryan, Financial Management Accountant
Item 1. To note any Disclosures/ Conflicts of Interest	None
Item 2. To consider and adopt Minutes of September meeting held on 15th September 2022	It was proposed by Cllr. Morris, seconded by Cllr. Bonfield and resolved that the minutes of the September Meeting held on 15 th September 2022 be adopted.
Item 3. To consider & adopt Budgetary Plan for 2023	<p>Mr. L. McCarthy outlined that the figures presented were indicative and may change subject to Roads allocations. Cllrs. Hannigan and O'Meara were concerned as to the adequacy of the level of funding for voids and the slow turnaround on some of the properties. Cllr. Morris supported this and informed members that under a FOI request he was notified that €626,000 had been spent on consultants.</p> <p>Mr. M. O'Connor outlined that the spending on consultants was funded from different sources e.g. RRDF and URDF and that steps have been taken to address the issue with voids.</p> <p>It was proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll and seconded by Cllr. Morris, and resolved, that, pursuant to the provisions of Section 102 of Local Government Act 2001 as amended by Section 58(e)(c) of the Local Government Reform Act 2014 the Draft Budgetary Plan prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Act as considered by the members be and is hereby adopted without amendment.</p>



	<p>Mr. L. McCarthy reminded members that there is training available in relation to Cyber Security and stressed its importance in the current climate.</p>				
<p>Item 4. To approve allocation of funding</p>	<p>It was proposed by Cllr. Morris and seconded by Cllr. Bonfield and resolved that in accordance with the terms of the Contribution to Clubs & Organisations Grant Scheme the payment of grants be made to the following:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="504 533 1407 616"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="504 533 1027 577">Club/Organisation</th> <th data-bbox="1027 533 1407 577">Recommendation</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="504 577 1027 616">Ballycommon/Puckane CE CLG</td> <td data-bbox="1027 577 1407 616">€450</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Club/Organisation	Recommendation	Ballycommon/Puckane CE CLG	€450
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Ballycommon/Puckane CE CLG	€450				
<p>Items 5. To update members on projects & events</p>	<p><u>Killaloe Bypass, Shannon Bridge & R494 Upgrade</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main contractor is John Sisk & Sons (Holdings) Ltd. Works commenced on site in August 2022 • The scheme will take approximately 3 years to complete. <p><u>R498 Latteragh Realignment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CPO was published in August 2020, an Oral Hearing was held on 1st & 2nd December and the CPO was confirmed on April 16th, 2021 without modifications. • DoT approval has been received to appoint RPS consultants and it is anticipated that this appointment will be made before the end of October 2022. • The consultant is expected to have the tender documentation prepared by Q3 2023 so that a works contractor can be appointed by Q4 2024 <p><u>N65 Carrigahorig to Balleiragh Bridge Strengthening</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding of a short section of the N65 north of Carrigahorig results when Lough Derg lake rises significantly during severe flooding events. The most recent flooding events took place in 2019, 2015/2016 and 2009. • The Council cannot carry out physical works to raise the road level at present due to a number of significant constraints and engineering challenges in determining a suitable solution/road scheme to prevent the road from flooding. • The main issue here is there are two Natura 2000 sites (Lough Derg, North-east Shore SAC and Lough Derg (Shannon) SPA) located immediately adjacent to the proposed project. Natura 2000 sites are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) designated under the Habitats Directive and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) designated under the Conservation of Wild Birds Directive (79 / 409 / EEC). • The road in this location is also built on soft peaty ground. 				



- On the basis of its proximity to the two Natura 2000 sites any significant works to raise the road level at this location requires planning consent from An Bord Pleanála.
- Preparations for a planning submission to An Bord Pleanála are underway and due to the significant environmental and ecological sensitivities several studies have been conducted and completed to-date by the Council to determine flood risk, ecological, environmental and other impacts/constraints and also an initial assessment of ground conditions has been completed.
- Once planning consent is obtained, the Council will complete the detailed design process.
- A ground investigation has now been completed and the scheme has been formally categorized as a Minor Improvement Scheme.
- The Council has now received approval from TII to appoint a consultant to continue with the preliminary design and procurement for same is now underway with the preparation of tender documents.

N65 Carrigahorig Village Pavement Improvements

- Tipperary County Council is preparing a pavement improvements and safety scheme for the N65 at Carrigahorig Village. The scheme involves:
 - road pavement improvement works
 - addressing a number of road safety issues
 - the renewal and widening of footpaths in the village
 - the extension of footpaths to the speed limit on the Portumna side and to the R493 Terryglass Road on the Borrisokane side of the village
 - public lighting improvements
 - some public realm improvements.
- Feasibility work has been completed and the Preliminary Design stage has commenced.
- Land acquisition for footpath widening and extension works is at an advanced stage.
- On the basis of the scheme's proximity and likely impacts on two nearby Natura 2000 sites, a Natura Impact Statement must be prepared and the scheme therefore requires planning consent from An Bord Pleanála.
- Preliminary Design
 - The Council has received approval from TII to appoint a consultant to continue with the preliminary design and procurement for same is now underway.
 - The tender for consultants was published on July 15th, 2022 and tenders have been received and are currently being assessed.
 - Following appointment of a consultant later in 2022 it is anticipated that the Preliminary design will be completed in 2023
- Planning Process



- it is anticipated that an application to An Bord Pleanála will take place in 2023.

Newport Town Park:

- Notification has been published of adoption of bye-laws for Newport Town Park in Nenagh Guardian and Iris Oifigiúl.
- Signage for the Town Park is being finalised.
- Snagging is being carried out and work is in progress on completion of the pump track.
- A site visit will take place on Friday 21st October following which a date for full opening will be confirmed.

Outdoor Enhancement – Covid Measures, Nenagh:

- Kenyon St – further installations have now been undertaken and planting will now be arranged.

Ely O Carroll Place / Ball Alley Lane:

- The final item to complete this project is the installation of lighting in the arch way – awaiting response from Energia. Claim for grant draw down for the Town & Village Renewal Works has been submitted to the Department.

Newport Enhancement Plan:

- Zoom meeting has taken place with new consultant in relation to traffic management following which revised proposals have been received.
- These are currently being examined.
- When this aspect is finalised a briefing for elected members will be arranged on the Draft Plan prior to further public consultation.

Nenagh Historic & Cultural Quarter:

- Design Team are currently working on preparation of high-level costings for potential concepts.
- Scope of works was drafted by the Design Team for consideration by the OPW and the National Monument Service and meeting took place with the Design Team to discuss prior to submission to OPW/NMS.
- Meeting held with OPW/NMS and feedback has been provided to the Design Team.
- Site visits of the Gaol Complex have been undertaken by members of the Design Team and initial consultation has taken place with the Fire Service and Building Control staff of the Council in relation to regulatory requirements.
- Information has been provided to CHL in relation to current operational structures for the various facilities in the Historic & Cultural Quarter as well as details of procurement and risk management procedures to feed into the Business Case.
- The programme aims to have design and planning completed by April 2023 so that a funding application can



be submitted for the next Category One call under the RRDF.

Nenagh Centre of Excellence:

- Meeting has taken place with the Department on the Preliminary Business Case and sign off on same is currently awaited.
- Work has commenced on preparation of the tender documentation for the Design Team and consultation is taking place on the technical requirements for the project brief.

Nenagh Traffic Management Plan:

- Consultants are currently progressing the design work required.
- Works at Emmet Place/Mitchel St. are now substantially completed. The plastering is almost complete. It is ready for the final coat of plaster which will be done this week weather permitting. As it is lime plaster it will need protection for a week or 10 days after the final coat is applied so the scaffolding will remain in place for another 2 weeks approx.
- Once the scaffolding is removed the landscaping will be completed within 1 week.

Nenagh Transport Hub:

- Engagement with NTA on the development of a Transport Hub and the proposed relocation of the bus stops to the Railway Station is on-going.

Platforms for Growth- Dromineer:

- An Bord Pleanála have now granted permission for the construction of a facility centre for water sports activities and all associated works at Dromineer, Nenagh.
- A meeting is being arranged with Fáilte Ireland to agree the next steps in progressing the project.

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme:

- Measure 2 2020: Beara Breifne Way - contractor has substantially completed the works including a 650-meter footpath which has been constructed through bog. Signage and circa 11 stiles will be completed subject to agreement.
- Nenagh MD have been successful in the two applications under the 2022 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS). These are:
 - Measure 1: Approved funding of €26,784 for the Ballinderry River Walk Phase II. This is an upgrade of 2 km of river walk along the Ballyfinboy River. The application was made in conjunction with the



Ballinderry Development Association who will be responsible for progressing same.

- Measure 4: Approved funding of €48,600 for the Clare Glens River Walk Enhancement Plan. The funding will enable the council to engage consultants to undertake preparatory planning and design works for the Clare Glens River Walk Enhancement. A scope of works will now be agreed and a co-ordination meeting arranged with Limerick City & County Council.

Discovery Points (Castlelough & Lookout Portroe)

- This project is being undertaken jointly by Tipperary, Clare and Galway in conjunction with Fáilte Ireland.
- Each local authority involved is required to submit an architectural conservation overview for each site. Tipperary has provided the information in relation to Castlelough and the Lookout and the submissions are awaited from Clare and Galway.

Stereame Housing Development

- Following assessment of submissions received, notification of outcome of this stage and invitation to tender will issue within the next two weeks.

Rialto, Banba Square Nenagh

- The tenders received for Architect Led Integrated Design Team Consultancy Services for the Rialto Digital & Enterprise Hub and Rialto Residential Development have now been assessed and a meeting held of the Tender Assessment Panel.
- Requests for clarifications, where required, will issue within next week.
- When this process is complete approval will be sought from the Department for the appointment of the Design Team.
- Work will then progress on the planning and design stages after which a funding application for delivery of the project will be drafted.

Wheelchair Accessible Parking Spaces

- The refreshing of existing on street wheelchair accessible parking spaces in Nenagh has been substantially completed. Friar Street and Abbey Street car parks have their wheelchair accessible spaces pre-marked and the council are now waiting on the line marking company to complete the new markings.

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2022

- The following applications have been submitted under the above Scheme in respect of Nenagh MD:



- Project Development Measures – Newport Courthouse and Bridewell Complex
- Ballina Access Promenade and Viewing Area
- Lorrha (community led application)
- Decisions on applications are awaited.

Street Furniture

- New benches for Nenagh Town Centre have been procured and installation is substantially complete – two further benches to be installed.
- The new benches continue the use of the cobalt blue colour which was also used for the bins and the outdoor dining area in Kenyon St.
- Where possible, previous benches have been re-used in conjunction with community groups – this has facilitated the provision of benches in Portroe, Killoscully, Kenyon St. Graveyard and Ballygraigue.

Mural

- A new mural was commissioned from Draw Out and completed by artist Liam Madden at Wolfe Tone Terrace/Hanley's Place.

E-Charging Points

- Easy-Go will be providing e-charging points in the following locations in Nenagh MD:
 - ✓ Kenyon St. Car Park, Nenagh
 - ✓ Borrisokane
 - ✓ Ballina
 - ✓ Newport

Active Travel

- Footpath scheme at Rathcabbin is complete.
- Birdhill Phase 1 from Railway Station to Junction of R445/R446 has commenced.
- Riverstown combined cycleway/footpath will be substantially complete by the end of this week.

Bus Shelters

- Installation of bus shelters in Borrisokane is complete.

Nenagh Tourist Office

- Since opening on 1st December 2021 Nenagh Tourist Office has welcomed 6,291 to the end of September 2022. 1st anniversary celebrations are planned to mark this on 3rd December 2022.
- A very active social media presence has been developed, primarily using Facebook and Instagram – these are used not only to promote the Tourist Office but also to promote local events and attractions.
- A monthly calendar of events in the area is being produced.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposals are currently being developed for a Christmas Fair to be held on Saturday 10th December in conjunction with Nenagh Arts Centre.• Other activities and events to date include:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Live music sessions➤ School tours➤ Events in conjunction with Dromineer Nenagh Literary Festival➤ Visits from Nursing Homes with attendance by staff from Nenagh Heritage Centre and Nenagh Castle to provide insights into their attractions➤ Arranged itinerary for visit of Tipperary Rose, Aisling O’ Donovan➤ Introduction of Nenagh Historical & Cultural Quarter passport for Heritage Week in conjunction with Nenagh Library, Nenagh Arts Centre, North Tipperary Genealogy & Heritage Centre and Nenagh Castle➤ Facilitated bookings for Hanley’s Woolen Mills for talk during Heritage week on their site➤ Launch of Nenagh Live and in Colour CD➤ Garda Exhibition to celebrate 100 years of the Gardai <p>Cllr. Hannigan asked if there was engagement with the community in Dromineer regarding the provision of the facilities. Cllrs. Carroll and Morris complimented the artwork at Wolfe Tone Terrace/Hanley’s Place. Cllr. H. McGrath requested an update on the traffic management plan.</p> <p>Ms. R. Joyce confirmed that the proposals for Dromineer were on public display and were brought to the attention of the locals and no submissions were received from them. The District will be looking for other suitable walls for murals for further public artwork. Mr. O’Connor agreed that the artwork really brightens up the area and any help to source another suitable wall would be appreciated. He also complimented the work that Ms. R. Joyce has put into the Tourist Office. In relation to the traffic management plan, there were 30 submissions made on the moving of the bus stops to the railway station and 1 submission was not in favor of it, discussions are ongoing with NTA regarding this.</p>
Item 6. To update members on Works Programme 2022	<p>The update on the Works Programme was circulated to members.</p> <p>The members complimented the work that has been completed to date. Cllr. H. McGrath asked if there would be disruption due to the drainage works on the Dublin Road coming up to Christmas. Cllr. O’Meara enquired if the CIS/LIS schemes will be opened again.</p>



	<p>Mr. M. O'Connor outlined that there will be no restrictions due to the drainage works on the Dublin Road after the 8th December. He informed members that €20,000 had been allocated in the budget for a feasibility study for RV parking in Dromineer, this money won't be spent this year but the approved funding could be reallocated to improvement works on the inner harbour and footpaths in Yewston. There should be an engineer appointed to the Active Travel project in the next few weeks. A lot of money has been spent on improving footpaths and they need to be protected. People cannot park on them as it causes damage, it blocks access for pedestrians, wheelchairs and buggies. It also effectively widens the road and encourages people to go faster. Residents in William St were approached and the situation has been improved. There is now at €80 fine for parking on footpaths.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy explained that the CIS programme is a 2-year cycle and is closed for next year. The LIS scheme is annual and everyone will have to reapply. Some applicants have been on the list since 2018, it is a difficult scheme to get right and it changes from year to year. The scheme is oversubscribed, there are approximately 20 applicants on the list.</p>
<p>Item 7. To note Engineer's Checklist on roads matters</p>	<p>The Engineer's checklist was noted.</p> <p>Mr. B. Murphy asked members to email any items for the checklist as these items will be used when compiling the next road works programme. Cllr. Bonfield asked that the flood wall at Greenane, Templeberry would be examined as part of it seems to have come away. Cllr. Darcy asked for the inclusion of road at Tinakelly, Carrig on the checklist. He also referred to the road from the Meat Factory to the Old Birr Road. Cllr. Hannigan referred to one section of footpath at Cuan Deirg that needs work to be done and the road from the Knigh side of Ballycommon towards Dromineer Junction. Cllr. Bugler referred to flooding issue on Main St., Ballina.</p>
<p>Item 8 To consider Notices of Motion</p>	<p>Notice of Motion 2487 was proposed by Cllr. O'Meara and seconded by Cllr. Morris</p> <p>Notice of Motion No: 2487 submitted by Cllr. M. O'Meara I am requesting that Nenagh municipal authority contact the Department of Roads and Transportation seeking extra funding for roads transgressing bog and peatland areas. I understand that other local authorities have benefited from pilot programs in the past and I am requesting similar assistance for our area. Because of climate change and a lack of investment, these roads have deteriorated to a deplorable standard. Afforestation also has contributed to the depletion of moisture under these roads causing the structure of the road to collapse and in some cases are almost impassable. This is a safety issue for rural family.</p>



	<p>Response was given to Cllr. O’Meara as follows:</p> <p><i>This has been previously raised and discussed with Department Officials. The Department outlined that they regularly work with Local Authorities on pilot projects and one had previously been undertaken in Offaly to a value in the region of €100,000 on Bog Roads. The Department also highlighted that Tipperary had been chosen as a Pilot County in recent years for Former National Roads and subsequently received funding in excess of €4 million. The Department also highlighted that Tipperary is benefitting from funding for the largest non-National Road Capital project countrywide, for the new Shannon River Crossing Project in Ballina/Killaloe.</i></p> <p>Cllr. O’Meara expressed his disappointment at the response. While he acknowledged the funding that has been received for various projects in the District he stated that there was as much bog roads in Tipperary as there was in Offaly and the condition of the roads is leading to issues with access for school buses and milk lorries. There are 3km in Ballymacegan and 300m at Ballyea that need repair. It is not bad weather that is causing these issues but dry weather and forests, the water goes to the trees and causes the unevenness of the road. Cllrs. Hannigan and Darcy supported this.</p> <p>Mr. M. O’Connor agreed that more funding should be available for roads but wouldn’t agree that any area in the District is left behind. He advised that pilot schemes are just pilots and that there is a need to look at the overall allocation received. Every county can make its own case for roads. The only way of dealing with roads is through the Roadworks Programme.</p>
<p>Item 9. To note Delegated Employees Orders</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Item 10. To consider items of correspondence</p>	<p>There were four items of correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Letter from NORFC acknowledging the good wishes of the members and extending an invitation to attend a home AIL game. • Letter from Department of Defense regarding the registration of title for the Military Barracks • Letter from TCC to the Department of Defense in response to the correspondence received on the Military Barracks. • Email from Irish Water acknowledging the Notice of Motion regarding a booster pump at Portland, Lorrha <p>Cllrs. Morris and O’Meara stated that it is important that the results of the title search on the Military Barracks are known to see exactly what is owned by the Department and it is</p>




	<p>understandable that Tipperary County Council are not in a position to acquire the property without an allocation of funding towards the refurbishment/development of the area.</p>
Item 11. To agree date for workshops	<p>It is proposed to hold a workshop on active travel, the proposed greenway, casual trading bye-laws and marinas. Ms R. Joyce will come back with a proposed date.</p>
Item 12. Votes of Sympathy/ Congratulations	<p>Votes of congratulations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nenagh Éire Óg Camogie club on winning county u13 title• Kilruane GAA club winning County U13A and D County Hurling titles• St Mary's convent soccer team who are All Ireland soccer champions• Rory Grace, Lahorna and Owen Healy, Newport on claiming All Ireland U21 handball title• Jerry Cahill, Lahorna and James Prestice, Ballina on becoming All Ireland Intermediate handball champions• Ballina GAA Club for winning the Intermediate County Football final, their second successive win after claiming junior last year• Ben Banaghan who is continuing his great charitable walks by walking the length of Britain following up on his walk the length of Ireland <p>Votes of Sympathy - None</p>
Item 13. Any other business.	<p>Cllr. Hannigan outlined to members that there is a proposal to house families as part of the asylum seeker process in Puckane. In 2019 when a similar proposal was made for Borriskane there was very good approach to providing the service. The local community met and representatives were nominated, they then met with the executive, property company and the Department of Justice and 16 families moved into the properties with the necessary supports.</p> <p>A public meeting was held in relation to the Puckane project and the public was amazed at the lack of research/information that the property group seems to have done on Puckane. They seemed to be unaware that the school doesn't have capacity for additional students or capacity to extend, the shop closes at 9 o'clock and there isn't public transport. The company stated that they could bus students to other schools and have now taken out an ad in the Nenagh Guardian on the proposal which was not considered to be the correct way to engage with the community. Cllr. Hannigan was looking for members to meet with the Minister. The members supported Cllr. Hannigan on this and it was agreed that a letter would go from Cllr. Hughie McGrath as Cathaoirleach requesting a meeting with the minister and that local Oireachtas members should also be contacted on the issue.</p>



This concluded the business of the meeting, a true copy of which we hereby certify:-

Signed: 
Cllr. H. McGrath
Cathaoirleach

Date: 17/10/2022

Signed: 
Ms. Rosemary Joyce
District Administrator

Date: 17/10/2022