

In the Chair:	Cllr. D. Dunne
Members Present:	Cllr. K. Bourke, Cllr. I. Goldsboro, Cllr. K. O'Meara.
Apologies:	Cllr. M. Fitzgerald Mr. Jonathan Flood, A/Senior Executive Planner.
Attending from- Carrick on Suir MD	Mr. B Beck, A/Director of Services; Ms. M O'Gorman, Meetings Administrator; Mr. W Corby, District Engineer; Ms. H. Cahill, Staff Officer; Ms. S. Holloway, Assistant Staff Officer.
Planning Directorate:	Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer
Library, Cultural Service and Biodiversity Directorate	Ms. Anne Marie Brophy, Senior Executive Librarian Ms. Jayne Sutcliffe, Collections and Documentations Officer

1.0. Welcome and Introduction

Item 1.1. Summons and Prayer:	The summons was taken as read
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2.0. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Council

Item 2.1. Conflict of Interest Declaration	None to record
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3.0. Consideration of Minutes

Item 3.1. Minutes of the Monthly Meeting held on 26 January 2023	The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 26 January 2023 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. K. O'Meara, and signed by the Cathaoirleach.
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4.0. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

Item 4.1. Report of Planning Directorate:	A report compiled by the Planning Directorate outlining its activities, was circulated and taken as read. With apologies from Mr. Jonathan Flood, A/Senior Executive Planner who was unavoidably absent, Mr. Ladden addressed concerns and clarified matters for the Councillors as follows;
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Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Queried the timeframe for review of the Carrick on Suir Local Area Plan

Cllr. K. O'Meara:

- Sought update in relation to the taking in charge of Slieveardagh Housing estate in Grangemockler, advocating on behalf of the residents who were now 4 years on from 'completion' with no end in sight.

- Noted the Department's allocation of €1million in the previous year and sought details on its purpose

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Sought update on proposed taking in charge of Dualla Heights at Rathclough, and Glengoole North, New Birmingham.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Queried the status of Hazel Close at Greenhill Village, Carrick on Suir, expressing concern that the roads were in a deplorable condition and outlining the frustration of the residents affected.

In response to Cllr. Bourke's query, Mr. Brian Beck A/Director indicated that the statutory process for adoption of **Local Area Plans** [LAP's] for Clonmel, Roscrea and Nenagh would commence in 2023. LAP's for Carrick on Suir, Cashel and Templemore would commence in Q.1 and Q.2 of 2024.

Mr. K. Ladden indicated that the Minister undertook a review of Irish Water legacy issues and to that end, the Council included Dualla Heights, Glengoole North and Slieveardagh in its submission under DPI Developments in 2019. While an evaluation report was produced in relation to resolution of the outstanding issues, no budget allocation followed. He assured the members that the matter was receiving follow up and was the subject of ongoing engagement and discussion with the Department. Notwithstanding same, he clarified that the Slieveardagh road was a private road and still in the hands of the developer.

He concluded that the Council was obliged to go through the DPI Unit as the only available process to taking-in-charge and noted that similar engagement was ongoing in relation to Dualla Heights and Glengoole North.

In relation to Hazel Close at Greenhill Village, Mr. Ladden clarified that there were wayleave issues outstanding to be resolved. He spoke of recent engagement with the developer in relation to clean-up arising from antisocial behaviour and undertook to re-engage again.

Referring to the allocation of €1million in 2022, Mr. Ladden stated that this was funding of a 'demonstrator project' involving analysis carried out by Ryan Hanley Consultants of technical and financial issues pertaining to 5 developments with a view to informing future policy to resolve DPI's nationally.

This was noted.

**Item 4.2.
Report of Library,
Culture and Biodiversity
Directorate**

A report compiled by the CULTURE team outlining its activities, was circulated and taken as read. Ms. Anne Marie Brophy, Senior Executive Librarian discussed the programme and initiatives undertaken, ranging from its free access to LOTE (Languages Other Than English), the introduction of C-Pen Readerspens designed to support independent reading and learning; and the ACORN Tablet which is Ireland's first Age-Friendly Smart Tablet designed and made in Ireland targeting older persons as an easy-to-use, uncluttered and easy navigable means of communication and access to internet. She updated members in relation to the Library Service's community engagements through Culture Night, Summer Stars, Line Dancing, Poetry workshops, live music gigs in association with the Tudor Artisan Hub, mental health workshops, tea and sing-along events at Christmas.

Ms. Jayne Sutcliffe, Collections and Documentations Officer with the COUNTY MUSEUM brought the Members up to date in relation to exhibitions, lectures and workshops run by her department over the course of the last quarter, engaging with An Post Curator and Archivist, Stephen Ferguson to create an exhibition connected to the Centenary celebration of the Irish stamp. She noted that over 250 schoolchildren had visited the Civil War Exhibition entitled '*UNTOLD STORIES*' and covered initiatives such as the Heritage Stewardship Scheme Exhibition involving the transfer of traditional skills amongst diverse communities. Participants for this pilot project were chosen from among male students at Coláiste Sliabh na mBan, Ferryhouse and a group of Syrian women based in Clonmel.

The Councillors thanked the officers for their comprehensive reports and welcomed the very worthwhile initiatives undertaken in their respective fields.

**Item 4.3.
District Engineer's
Report:**

The District Engineer, Mr. Willie Corby, attending his last Municipal District Meeting before his impending retirement, noted that with allocations just announced in the previous week, a draft Schedule of Municipal District works would be listed for consideration and adoption at the March monthly meeting.

He duly circulated a report in relation to housing voids in the Carrick on Suir Municipal District for the members information.

Mr. Corby noted that the Road Improvement programme was already agreed in 2022 and this would be incorporated in the new Schedule for 2023. Reviewing the works carried out during 2022, he noted that 6 out of 20 projects were allocated €200,000 under Climate Action funding and referred to the re-opening of Gullet Bridge at Ballingarry for which tenders were recently sought. He indicated that the two main roadworks projects currently underway, were making good progress and it was anticipated that

the Grangemockler contract would finish in April. The Carrick on Suir N24 works were also on schedule and while there was unavoidable disruption to business and residents, the traffic management was working very well.

Issues raised by the councillors were addressed as follows:

Cllr. K. Bourke:

Expressed his thanks to Mr. Corby for his assistance during his tenure and wished him very well in his retirement.

- Reiterated his call for a splayed entrance from Long Lane (Pearse Square) to the point of access to rear of the houses on northern side of the street.
- Potholes on laneway from Connolly Park to St. Mary's Cemetery required urgent attention
- Reported that there was fly-tipping evident in the $\frac{3}{4}$ acre plot at rear of new housing development abutting St. Mary's Cemetery.

Cllr. K. O'Meara:

Conveyed his appreciation for the manner in which Mr. Corby was available to him and always responded to calls. Expressed the hope that the 'wish list' of issues would be part of the 'handover' to his successor.

- Sought update on speed survey planned for Mullinahone, the subject of his recent notice of motion.

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

Wished to be associated with well wishes on the occasion of Mr. Corby's retirement and concurred with the previous speaker's hope that items requested would pass to the new incumbent for action.

- Queried timeframe for works to be carried out at Máiread's Cross and Copper Cross
- Sought update in relation to traffic calming at Killenaule
- Expressed disappointment that Active Travel projects appeared to be weighted in favour of urban rather than rural areas
- Questioned whether there were plans to site smart bins in rural areas.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

Thanked Mr. Corby for postponing his retirement in the face of an unenviable staffing situation. He stated that he was a pleasure to work with and sought to deliver where and whenever he could.

He wished him well in his retirement and expressed the hope that it would afford him the time and space to pursue his many interests.

- Stated that the N24 works were going well with very little complain in relation to traffic management.
- Suggested that shops along the N24 needed support
- Deplored the standard of reinstatement carried out by previous contractor, noting that shore coverings were sinking.
- Sought timeframe for commencement of Cláirín Bridge
- Urgently sought attention to tenanted houses requiring wraparound insulation to address dampness and mould conditions not of their making.

Mr. Corby thanked all for their well wishes and responded to matters raised as follows;

- Undertook to follow up the splayed footpath at Long Lane, Pearse Square.
- Noted the dumping at Connolly Park during site visit the previous day and stated that he would bring the matter of the attention of the developer.
- Stated that a speed survey was commissioned for Mullinahone and while he had intended to have it in place by then, it would be wrapped up over the following few weeks.
- Informed that he had met with Gardaí at Ballingarry with a view to providing justification required by the department under the Low-Cost Safety Scheme. It was intended to provide better definition of the junctions at Máiréad's Cross and Copper Cross as part of one application. He anticipated that works would commence in Q.3 or Q.4.
- Advised that smart bins were ordered for 6 locations to include Ballingarry and Carrickbeg. Management of the bins was by way of a smart phone app to maximise inefficiency, such that they would only be emptied as required.
- Addressing the matter of the N24 Carrick on Suir Pavement Improvement Scheme, he noted that people were seeing the benefit of the traffic management scheme in operation. Current focus was on the town centre before summer, with areas around schools upgraded during summer holidays. It was likely that O'Mahoney Avenue would be scheduled towards the later stage, and it was particularly tricky to manage in the context of Stage 1 of the RRDF project to commence at Castle Street, Ormond Castle Park and Sean Healy Park. In the meantime, slit trenching would take place at 15-20 locations to identify and document where services were located. That would involve inserting steel plates on the streets in preparation for later stage.
- He assured the members that their 'wish list' would be passed to his successor and that he intended to drive out to those locations with Executive Engineer so to make him aware of same.

- o Noted that investigations were underway to identify houses within the district to forward to the Housing Section for inclusion in the retrofit programme.

Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services informed that the Senior Executive Engineer post was being managed by the Public Appointments Commission and that the post was currently 'offered' to a candidate. He assured the members that the District Engineer's post was the priority post for first filling, but regretfully was unable to give a timeline for same.

He stated that it was intended to encourage every community to apply for funding for project including Active Travel Projects. While the Council was happy to submit those applications to the Department for funding, however, the decision rested with the Department who tended to prioritise where they could achieve 'bang for buck'. Notwithstanding, there were many opportunities under Town and Village Renewal and CLÁR programmes and it was intended to exploit those opportunities to the greatest extent possible.

Referring to the RRDF Project, he noted that there was no provision for underground services within the scope of the scheme. However, engagement with Irish Water achieved a commitment to fund CCTV surveying required to quantify costs associated with potential replacement of combined and foul sewers. This would benefit the town in the long term being delivered simultaneously with the Council's programme and utilising the Council's design team and contractor. He also indicated that it was intended to provide additional ducting for future use and stated that tenders for contractors would shortly be sought for phase 1 with a view to commencing on-site in Q.2. Phase 1 involved works at Sean Healy Park, Ormond Castle Park and (part of) Castle Street.

This was duly noted and welcomed by the members.

**Item 4.4.
District Administrator's
Report:**

COMMUNITY GRANTS SCHEME 2023

The Meetings Administrator informed that an invitation issued to community groups via the www.tipperarycoco.ie website to apply for funding to support their activities in 2023. She noted that the closing date for receipt of applications was 16 March 2023.

FESTIVALS AND EVENTS GRANTS 2023

The District Administrator stated that adjudication of applications lodged for funding for 2023 Festivals and Events would take place shortly. She noted that for the Carrick on Suir Municipal District,

there were 2 applications under consideration in the 'municipal' festival category, being

- The Clancy Brothers Music and Arts Festival, and
- The 1848 Sliabhnamhan Monster Meeting 175th Anniversary Commemoration to be held on 16 July 2023.

Under the 'community' festivals and events category, there were 7 applications under consideration;

- Ballynonty Community Festival
- Brewery Lane Writers Weekend 2023
- The Slieveardagh Mining Group /The Pit Songs
- Ballylynch Coming Together Group -
- Fethard Festival
- Kickham Country Weekend
- Fethard & Killusty Fancy Dress Parade

She indicated that she would revert in due course with a recommendation in this matter for purposes of obtaining approval by resolution.

**Item 4.5.
General Municipal
Allocation 2023**

A report and recommendation in relation to budgets for distribution of the General Municipal Allocation was considered by the Councillors for the 2023 fiscal year.

Following discussion of this matter, an adjustment was made to the suggested allocation - effectively reducing the provision of €22,500 to €15,000 - in order provide 1/3 of match funding required for the Suir Blueway ORIS Measure 2. This took account of the fact that 2/3 of the project area was located within Clonmel Borough District.

It was proposed by Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. I. Goldsboro and unanimously agreed to allocate budgets totalling €94,250 to support community initiatives and projects as follows-

- ORIS Measure 2 – Suir Blueway
(1/3 of required match funding of joint project with Clonmel Borough District) 15,000
- Town & Village Renewal – Bog Field 10,000
- Mullinahone Community Digital Hub 4,750
- Killenaule – Slieveardagh Development Company 1,000
- Community Grants 50,000
- Festivals & Events 13,500

**Item 4.6.
Assistance of Bodies
under Section 66 of the
Local Government Act,
2001:**

A report outlining the provisions in the 2023 Annual Budget for 'legacy' groups funded through the Local Property Tax was circulated with the Meetings Administrator seeking approval to

allocate funding in accordance with the provisions of section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001.

It was proposed by Cllr. K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne, and unanimously agreed –

In accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001 and being of the opinion that it is desirable to so do to promote the interests of the local community, and having regard to the recommendation of the District Administrator, that grants be and are hereby approved for payment in respect of the following recipient bodies;

<i>Body assisted</i>	<i>Grant awarded</i>
<i>Sean Kelly Sports Centre</i>	<i>€54,200</i>
<i>Carrick on Suir Brass Band</i>	<i>€1,900</i>
<i>Carrick on Suir Development Association</i>	<i>€3,500</i>
<i>Carrick on Suir Tourism & Economic Development Committee</i>	<i>€1,500</i>

5.0. Chief Executive's / Delegated Employee's Orders

Item 5.1.

**D.E. Order 32797-
Appointment of Project
Management Service**

Delegated Employee's Order 32797 was circulated and noted by the members with respect to the appointment of KSN Project Management Consultants for preparation and management of tender stage in the appointment of Architect-led/Engineer-led design team for Stage (iv) Construction and Stage (v) Handover and Defect Period for the Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan.

6.0. Correspondence

Item 6.1.

**Carrick on Suir Lions
Club publication of 'The
Little Green Book'**

The District Administrator circulated 'The Little Green Book' published by the Carrick on Suir Lions Club and launched the previous evening at the Sean Healy Memorial Library as a useful guide to sustainable living, for distribution to the public. The Cathaoirleach congratulated all associated with the project/

7.0. Notices of Motion

Item 7.1.

The Meetings Administrator noted that there were no items for consideration under this heading

8.0. Any Other Business

Item 8.1.

Staffing levels in Garda Division within the Carrick on Suir Municipal District.

With the permission of the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. I. Goldsboro raised the issue of Garda staffing levels within the Carrick on Suir Municipal District in view of recent media reports which were a cause for concern. She called on the Chief Superintendent of An Garda Síochána to provide a breakdown of staffing levels of all ranks in the Carrick on Suir Municipal District (*i.e. Thurles and Clonmel Divisions*) year by year for the last 5 years.

In seconding the motion, Cllr. K. O'Meara stated that community policing was a policy that worked but it was clear that personnel were not on the ground within the District to deliver.

Cllr. K. Bourke stated his support for the motion, suggesting that the council needed to bring the matter a step further as the situation on the ground was very clear.

The motion was unanimously supported.

Item 8.2.

Safety & Security Meetings with An Garda Síochána

On a related matter, the Meetings Administrator indicated that she would revert with a date for meetings with the Garda Síochána once availability was confirmed.

This concluded the business of the meeting. [15:12]



District Administrator.



Cathaoirleach.

23 March 2023

