

In the Chair:	Cllr. K. Bourke, Cathaoirleach
Members Present:	Cllr. D. Dunne, Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, Cllr. I. Goldsboro, Cllr. K. O'Meara.
Apologies:	None
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;
Housing Directorate:	Mr. Shane Grogan, Administrative Officer
Economic Community & Rural Development Directorate:	Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services

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 25 May, 2023:	The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 25 May 2023 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. I. Goldsboro, 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 Housing Directorate.	The report of the Housing Directorate was circulated and taken as read. With Mr. Shane Grogan, Administrative Officer in attendance, the issue of mutual transfers between tenants of local authority houses, was discussed at the request of Cllr. M. Fitzgerald. Mr. Grogan clarified that any such transfers needed advance consideration and approval of the housing authority and should be directed to his colleague, Ms. Deirdre Flannery, who had responsibility for managing tenancies. It was important that tenants did not arbitrarily effect a mutual transfer contrary to the terms of their respective tenancy agreements. This was noted.
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**Item 4.2. –
Report of Economic,
Community & Rural
Development
Directorate.**

The report of the Economic, Community & Rural Development Directorate was circulated and taken as read. Mr. B. Beck A/DoS outlined the salient points concerning the **Local Economic & Community Plan** for 2023-2028 with a citizen survey portal opening online.

He updated members on the **Local Development Strategy** and noted that a decision was awaited in relation to the Council's application under **Buildings Acquisition Measure [BAM]** to the Department of Rural and Community Development, relating to the North Quay property adjacent to Goldcrop site at Carrick on Suir. If unsuccessful, he indicated that a 'back-up' project would be submitted instead.

He further informed that **Community Support Fund** allocations were announced by the DRCD with some €31,185 shared among 15 community groups within the Carrick on Suir Municipal District.

Mr. Beck indicated that the Carrick on Suir and Thurles Municipal Districts were identified as eligible for consideration for funding for projects in the recently established EU and Government of Ireland €169million **Just Transition Fund** designed to facilitate a just transition towards a low-carbon economy in the Midlands. Of particular note was the Fáilte Ireland €68million allocation for a Regenerative Tourism Scheme to invest in sustainable development of tourism within an identified area in Tipperary. Fáilte Ireland intended to launch the Regenerative Tourism Scheme in July/August 2023. It was noted that projects to provide 'Tracks and Trails' would be lead by Bord na Móna but would need to connect up to hubs (towns and villages). The Council would be invited to make an application for the Carrick on Suir District and under the heading of 'Bioeconomy', applications were geared towards SME's. Responding the query as to whether other areas could be included, Mr. Beck stated that the districts were set at European level, but that the matter was the subject of a query via the Plenary Council.

Referring to the **Community CCTV Schemes**, both current and proposed, Mr. Beck reminded the Councillors of the forthcoming workshop to be held on the following Monday examining the cost implications for their funding and management. He urged the members to attend given that there were a large number of requests for these facilities, and it would fall to the local authority to finance their operations. The workshop would be an opportunity for open discussion on this important matter.

**Item 4.3.
District Engineer's
report.**

The Schedule of Municipal District Works- June 2023, was circulated and examined. It was noted that housing voids for June 2023 showed significant progress on the previous month.

The property at Ballinastick requiring '*major refurbishment*' was currently at tender stage and the number of properties '*awaiting minor repairs*' was reduced to 5 with works underway in each case.

Mr. Denis Power. A/District Engineer outlined progress under respective headings, noting that surface dressing would commence mid-July. Referring to the Active Travel Scheme at Carrickbeg, he anticipated that surfacing would take place at the car park imminently and he circulated reports in relation to IPB works undertaken and speed surveys carried out at Mullinahone respectively. He responded to issues raised by the Councillors as follows:

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Welcomed the Active Travel Scheme for Carrickbeg

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Welcomed the Active Travel Scheme for Carrickbeg
- Requested that an Emergency Plan be put in place to deal with flooding incidents, given that such events were coming with increasing frequency. He thanked that outdoor staff for their prompt response to the weekend flooding event at Mill Street.
- Referring to Slieveardagh Housing Estate at Grangemockler, he suggested that the Council need to put pressure on the Department to address the needs
- Indicated that there was good progress in relation to the N24 works contract
- Requested that sprayed stencil signage be employed on pavements to dissuade the scourge of dog-fouling.

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Commended the great work undertaken at O'Sullivan's Cross.
- Sought update in relation to the old graveyard and R691 at Copper Cross
- Commended the excellent works undertaken at Gullet Bridge and looked forward to its reopening.
- Sought update on provision of flashing lights at Killenaule.
- Requested that car park opposite Fethard Ballroom be surfaced and lined.
- Requested attention to road at Ballynonty which she considered gone beyond patching
- Noting that a number of poles/signs were in poor condition, requested replacement of same from stock.

Cllr K. O'Meara:

- Commended works to bridge at Ballylanigan, Mullinahone.
- Requested that the trees at Blackthorn Way, be examined with a view to cutting back same.
- Expressed his thanks for speed survey data pertaining to Mullinahone

- Requested an immediate decision in relation to speed display sign at Mullinahone as the installation was out of order over three years.
- Expressing his thanks for information as provided pertaining to IPB works completed, he requested the same information for previous 3 years.
- Requested attention to flooding at Linaun Park, Grangemockler
- Suggested that village enhancements should incorporate trees and planting of green areas in order to alleviate some of the prevailing flooding issues.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Welcomed progress on CLÁR funded playground works at Drangan.
- Concurred that the car park at Fethard was in a bad condition.
- Spoke of ramps at Cloneen Village where there was no advance warning and where motorists not familiar with the area, tended to hit them at speed – sought signage and/or road markings to counteract same.
- Requested site visit to accident locations on the R692 Fethard to Cashel road where barriers may be required.
- Sought update on speed survey at Kickham's Tree.
- Commended the progress of road crews working on Cloneen to Milestown and suggested that there were 2 further areas on this road requiring attention.

Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Stated his support for establishment of Flood Plan, noting that present incumbents were not party to the commitment for a Plan to be put in place for Carrick on Suir town, setting out the context of the tidal river, dependence on electric pumps, the location of sewerage treatment plant at Carrickbeg and the combined network with limited capacity. He suggested that the situation at Mill Street the previous weekend could have been avoided but he commended the efficiency of the response noting that the situation was cleared by 9:00am.

Responding to this matter, the A/Director, Mr. B. Beck informed that the flooding issue was at this top of his agenda to the extent that a dedicated **Flood Alleviation Team** was established in-house some time ago. The team comprised of MD staff, the Senior Engineer in Roads, and colleagues in Climate Action Section and was tasked with developing short, medium and long-term actions based on the 2015 report.

There was close liaison with the OPW on these matters and with Uisce Éireann, the latter evidenced by the CCTV survey work incorporated in the RRDF programme with a view to separating out storm and foul sewers. Recent works undertaken to clear a significant amount of silt within the network increased its

capacity. Other initiatives undertaken involved the commission of a new computer system monitoring weather and flooding predictions; a number of flex valves on the system identified as not working were replaced and were subject to ongoing monitoring to ensure their operation. Where problems had arisen – such as electricals shorted out – actions were taken to prevent recurrence. The team was investigating the purchase of temporary generators and portable pumps to deal with emergency situations at short notice and these could be deployed at other locations within the district as necessary.

One of the team's actions included the preparation of tender documents for consultants for long term flood management with a view to developing a scheme to deal with a 1:100-year flood event into the future, retaining consultants to advise on same.

In the meantime, protocols were being put in place, *similar to those that obtained in Clonmel*, for maintenance and operation of flood measures in emergency situations in order to react quickly and a number of meetings had taken place in this regard. The team generally operated on the basis of carrying out the necessary work, with associated costs recouped from the OPW.

Addressing other issues raised by the members, Mr. D. Power confirmed that

- A litter bin would be provided in Carrickbeg on completion of Active Travel works as committed.
- Mr. Kieran Ladden at Planning Section was unfortunately precluded from going outside of the present DBI structure to resolve Slieveardagh Estate's issues at Grangemockler.
- Stencilled signage would be applied to pavements as requested with anti-dog fouling visuals.
- The appropriate measure for the Old Graveyard was not yet decided as speed was the issue and its resolution would be found within the speed limit review.
- The out-of-order flashing signs at Mullinahone did not contain 'sockets' for batteries and were insecure, which was the nub of the issue. However, the technician was examining the provision of additional measures to prevent theft of batteries prior to reinstating the signs at Mullinahone and other locations.
- The patching unit was currently engaged at the car park at Fethard, and once completed, the markings would be applied.
- Some preliminary trimming was carried out to trees at Blackthorn Estate.
- If historical data were available in relation to IPB works previously carried out, he agreed to provide same.
- He would examine flooding issue at Grangemockler.
- He would examine the ramps at Drangan and re-mark the road as necessary.

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

Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan – RRDF Project.

The Meetings Administrator circulated her report containing updates in relation to the Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan – RRDF Project. It was noted that Phase 1 of the works was at tender stage with tenders closing on Friday 30 June, and anticipated that a contractor would be on-site in August 2023.

In the meantime, GLAS Civil Engineering Ltd was appointed to carry out 12 slit trenches and 2 infiltration trenches on-street at Carrick on Suir which would inform the detailed design of later stages of the project. Where road closures or diversions were needed to facilitate these works, she stated that details would be circulated to the members and published on the Council's website and social media platforms.

The design team was progressing with detailed design for Phase 2 incorporating upgrades to Chapel Street, (*part of*) William Street, Strand Walk, Castle Lane and North Quay (*east of Dillon Bridge*).

Phase 3 involved the Enterprise and Digital Hub at the Old Post Office at 43 Main Street and was commencing in the following week (26 June 2023) with JCA Architects appointed to carry out detailed design for this project.

Community Support Fund

The Department of Rural and Community Development recently announced allocations to community groups from its **Community Support Fund** administered by the LCDC to assist with bills/running costs. Of 173 groups supported throughout Tipperary sharing an allocation of €322,747, a total of 15 groups within the Carrick on Suir MD shared a total of €31,185 with grants ranging between €900 and a maximum of €2,500 as follows:

Ballingarry GAA - €2,000: 27th Fethard Scout Group - €2,500: Ballylynch Residents Group - €1,000: Carrick on Suir Athletics Club - €2,500: Fethard Regional Community Sport and Recreational Campus - €2,500: Killenaule Senior Citizens Club - €1,960: Lingaun Valley Tourism CLG - €1,325: Mullinahone Tidy Towns - €900: St. Mary's Community Hall, Killenaule - €2,500: Cloneen Sports and Social Club - €2,000: Moyglass Sports and Leisure Centre Ltd - €1,500: The Mill (Fethard) - €2,000: Ballynonty Community Field - €1,000: Cappanagarrane Horse Rescue - €2,500: Millennium Resource Centre - €2,500: Millennium Resource Centre - €2,500:

Item 4.5.
General Municipal Allocation 2023 No items for consideration.

Item 4.6.
Assistance of Bodies under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001: No items for consideration,

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

Item 5.1.
D.E. Order 34213. Appointment of Consultants for Appropriate Assessment Screening for Goldcrop Site, was duly noted.

Item 5.2.
D.E. Order 34247. Institution of legal proceeds related to unpaid fixed offence notices, was duly noted.

Item 5.3.
D.E. Order 34330. Appointment of GLAS Civil Engineering Ltd., to carry out site investigation associated with Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan was duly noted.

6.0. Correspondence

Item 6.1.
Notice of Motion 2623 The Meetings Administrator circulated a notice of motion distributed by Tipperary County Council seeking its consideration and support as follows -

"That Tipperary County Council would write to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage of Ireland about Circular PL 04/2023 announced on April 20th last and which details the Temporary Time Limited Waiver in respect of Development Contributions. The waiver of the development contributions is very welcome; however, the members of Tipperary County council request that the applicable date for this waiver should be from January 1st 2023 and not March 28th as stated in the circular."

This was noted.

7.0. Notices of Motion

Item 7.1. None

8.0. Any Other Business

Item 8.1. None

This concluded the business of the meeting. [14:52]



District Administrator.



Cathaoirleach

27 July 2023.