

**Monthly Meeting of the Councillors for the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District
held via Zoom at 2.00pm on the 28th of January, 2021.**

In the Chair: Cllr. Kevin O'Meara

Members Present: Cllr. Kieran Bourke.
Cllr. David Dunne.
Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald.
Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro

In Attendance: Mr. Brian Beck, A/District Director of Services.
Mr. Willie Corby, District Engineer.
Ms Liz McGrath, A/District Administrator.

1.0 Welcome

Item 1.1 The summons was taken as read.

Summons and Prayer

Suspension of Standing Orders On the proposal of Cllr. Kieran Bourke seconded by Cllr. David Dunne it was agreed to suspend standing orders.

Item 1.2

Conflict of Interest None to record.
Declaration

2.0 Minutes of Meetings

Item 2.1

Minutes of Monthly Meeting

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 17th December 2020 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Kieran Bourke seconded by Cllr. David Dunne and agreed.

Matters arising

Cllr. Kieran Bourke expressed his disappointment at the response received from the private secretary to the Minister for Health in response to a request from the elected members to meet with her. Cllr. Bourke also stated that the letter was not factual because he knew of one privately owned nursing home that had not been approached by the H.S.E. to utilise their facility.

Both Cllr. Dunne and Cllr. O'Meara expressed disappointment regarding the contents of the letter.

3.0 Attendance of Directorates

The order in which the directorates made their presentations deviated from the order on the agenda

Item 3.3

Environment and Climate Action.

Following a presentation by Ruairi Boland, E.E. responded to queries from the councillors as follows:

Acknowledged the positive comments received from all the elected members regarding the

installation of the "big belly bins." Mr. Boland clarified that after the trial period and if the bins were retained by the L.A. there would be some form of maintenance contract, but it was envisaged that the efficiencies achieved would offset the cost of this.

R.B. informed the meeting that the appointment of an enforcement officer, is in hand.

Regarding the collection of bags of litter collected by volunteers, R.B. advised that the Environment and Roads Sections would, in conjunction with the Carrick M.D. examine the possibility of doing so.

He advised there should be no difficulty in providing bags and litter pickers prior to The Spring Clean.

R.B. informed the meeting that a truck which had been upgraded to carry out sweeping was being used on a trial basis. It encountered operational and mechanical difficulties and has been re deployed.

R.B. acknowledged the positive comments received from Cllrs. Dunne and Bourke regarding the works carried out at St. Marys Burial Ground in Carrick and also the proposed purchase of the site adjacent to it.

He also acknowledged positive comments in relation to the Goldcrop site and informed the meeting that he is in consultation with the

owners of a derelict site on the Main Street in Carrick. (former public house).

Councillors Dunne and Bourke spoke about another derelict site on Main Street and Cllr. Bourke requested that the L.A. explore the possibility of purchasing it with a view to increasing permeability to Strand Lane.

The poor condition of the Old Post Office was also discussed.

Cllr. Dunne requested that the owners of both un occupied premises and derelict premises be pursued with a view to improving the street scape in the town.

R.B. informed the meeting that provision has been made for the installation of a roundabout at the burial ground in Fethard.

Ms. Annemarie Clifford, A/S.S.O. addressed the issue of dog fouling. She advised that efforts will be increased during 2021 and the provision of additional signage will addressed.

Item 3.1

Fire and Emergency
Services

Ms. Kate O' Keeffe attended the meeting to answer any queries arising of which there were none.

Item 3.2

Library and
Culture

Mr. Damien Dullaghan , County Librarian gave a

brief presentation outline the initiatives undertaken by the library service during the pandemic:

- Home schooling resources.
- Concentration on online resources.
- New Instagram page.

He acknowledged the appreciation of the elected members in relation to the projects undertaken by the library service i.e. improvement to the entrance to the library; the launch of the Mick Del C.D. and the Hogan Jersey. Mr. Dullaghan noted the request for extra hours to be provided in the library in Killenaule.

Item 3.4

District Engineer's Report

Mr. Corby informed the members that he did not have details of the grants schedule as yet. Once available he will arrange a workshop for the members. He responded to queries from the members as follows:

- The possibility of providing salt for volunteers to salt strategic locations will be examined. He clarified that only strategic regional roads are treated during icy weather. It was agreed that the A/District would check the position with the Director of Roads and also with Co.

Laois who had piloted a programme of this type.

- W.C acknowledged appreciation expressed for the footpath extension in Cloneen and informed the meeting that he made the decision to install a big belly bin in Killenaule as opposed to Drangan as the need was greater in that location.
- He will enquire if the contractors carrying out the works in Drangan/ Cloneen can have it completed before the judging for the Tidy Towns Competition starts.
- He informed the meeting that he will enquire if the starting point for the N24 works be at the Pill Road, before the schools reopen.
- Mr. Corby acknowledged positive comments received regarding the work of the outdoor staff during the cold weather and he undertook to address the following: ensuring that salt is kept dry; ensuring the adequate provision of sandbags; uneven surface of paving bricks at the crèche on New Street; cleaning of paving on Kickham Street and cleaning of flood walls. He informed the meeting that a bin was not installed in Carrick Beg as the bins have been installed on a trial basis.

- The contractor has been appointed for the footpath works in Fethard Street, Mullinahone and is due to start shortly.
- W.C. will examine the possibility of having the graveyard wall in Mullinahone plastered.

Item 3.5

District Administrator's
Report:

The A/ District Administrator reported as follows:

Attendance of Directorates.

The Planning and Water Services Directorates will attend at the February Meeting.

Item 3.6

General Municipal
Allocation Update.

The A/District Administrator informed the meeting that the G.M.A. for 2021 is €116,057 and that she recommended approval of €50,000 to be allocated towards the community grants. This was proposed by Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro, seconded by Cllr. Kevin O'Meara and agreed.

Item 3.7

Assistance of Bodies
under Section 66 of the
Local Government Act
2001.

The A/District Administrator recommended approval for the following grants:

- Carrick on Suir Brass Band €1,900
- Carrick on Suir Tourism, Economic and Development Committee (CoSTEDC) €1,500
- Carrick on Suir Development Association €3,500
- Sean Kelly Sports Centre €60,000

The payment of these grants was proposed by Cllr. David Dunne, seconded by Cllr. Kevin O'Meara and agreed.

The meeting was informed that it is intended to hold a workshop for the members to brief them on the status of the RRDF project in Carrick. Peter O'Donnell and Nic de Jong will be in attendance. Following this a workshop in relation to the GMA to be held.

It was agreed to defer allocating money to the tidy town's awards pending the announcement of whether or not the Tidy Towns Competition would go ahead in 2021. At this stage in the meeting, Cllr. Kevin O'Meara, Cathaoirleach welcomed Mr. Brian Beck as District Director and expressed he was looking forward to working with him in the future. Each of the councillors in turn welcomed Mr. Beck and expressed the same sentiment.

Item 4.1

Chief Executive/ Delegated Officers Orders

Order No's 23903 and 24589. Noted.

Item 5.1

Items of Correspondence

Letter from the Secretary to the Minister for Mental Health and Older People.

This matter had already been discussed under matters arising.

This concluded the business of the meeting.



A/District Administrator



Cathaoirleach - 25th February 2021