

**DRAFT Monthly Meeting of the Members for the Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District held via ZOOM on the 22 July 2021**

**In the Chair:** Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald

**Members Present:** Cllr. David Dunne, Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro, Cllr. Kevin O'Meara, Cllr. Kieran Bourke.

**Apologies:**

**In Attendance:** Mr. Brian Beck, A/Director of Services;  
Ms. Marie O'Gorman, District Administrator;  
Mr. Willie Corby, District Engineer;  
Ms. Liz McGrath, Staff Officer;  
Ms. Marion O'Neill, S.E.O., Environment & Climate Action  
Mr. Ruairí Boland, S.E.E., Environment & Climate Action  
Ms. Anne Marie Brophy, A/County Librarian.  
Mr. Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services, Road Transportation and Infrastructure.  
Mr. Oliver Tierney, Senior Executive Engineer, Roads

**Item 1.1**

**Summons and Prayer:**

**1.0. Welcome**

The summons was taken as read

**Item 1.2.**

**Suspension of Standing Orders:**

On the proposal of Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro seconded by Cllr. David Dunne it was resolved to suspend standing orders to permit conduct of the meeting via ZOOM.

**Item.1.3.**

**Conflict of Interest Declaration:**

None to record

**2.0 Minutes of Meetings**

**Item 2.1**  
**Minutes of Monthly District Meeting held on the 24 June 2021**

The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 24 June 2021 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. David Dunne seconded by Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro and were signed by the Cathaoirleach.

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**Item 2.2:**

**Minutes of Annual Meeting held on the 24 June 2021**

The minutes of the annual meeting held on the 24 June 2021 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro seconded by Cllr. Kevin O'Meara and were signed by the Cathaoirleach.

**Item 2.3:**

**Minutes of Meeting held with Mary Butler TD., Minister for Mental Health & Older People held on the 04 June 2021:**

The minutes of the meeting held via Zoom on the 4<sup>th</sup> June 2021 with Mary Butler T.D., Minister for Mental Health and Older People in relation to the closure of St. Brigid's Hospital, were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. D. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. K. Bourke and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Cllr. D. Dunne expressed his satisfaction with the fact that the meeting had taken place, notwithstanding the unsatisfactory outcome of same. He considered that too much time had been expended on the fact of ongoing protests rather than the substantive issues. He noted that an on-line petition was gaining great support and vowed to continue with the campaign.

Cllr. K. Bourke also expressed disappointment with the minister and her staff in the context that most of the questions were ignored or not answered. He also considered that a 'face-to-face' meeting would have been more satisfactory than a 'Zoom' engagement.

**3.0. Attendance of Directorates**

**Item 3.1.**

**Update from the Environment & Climate Action Directorate.**

A comprehensive report on the activities of the Environment and Climate Action Section was circulated with the agenda and taken as read.

Discussion ensued in relation to the trial of 'big belly' solar compactor bins in the Carrick on Suir MD and of the efficiencies achieved from same. Ms. Marion O'Neill outlined the position in relation to the allocation of €100,000 from the Department to purchase additional solar compactor bins throughout the County and

indicated that her Department was engaging with the District Engineers in this regard.

A number of issues were raised and addressed as follows;

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald

- Sought update in relation to Fethard Cemetery;
- Queried the position re. funding for Drangan Cemetery;
- Requested attention to signage at Drangan bottle bank.

Mr. Boland undertook to revert to Councillor Fitzgerald in relation to these matters at a later date.

**Item 3.2.**

**Update from the Culture/Library Services Directorate.**

A detailed report on the recent activities of the Culture and Library Services Directorate was circulated and taken as read. The Cathaoirleach welcomed Ms. Anne Marie Brophy who addressed issues raised as follows;

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Spoke of his recent visit to Carrick on Suir Library in his capacity as Cathaoirleach and commended the amazing work and projects undertaken by the staff and their commitment to same.

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Commended the great work undertaken, particularly on-line, by the Library staff;
- Noted the recent retirement of the Librarian at Killenaule Library and queried when he would be replaced.
- Queried whether an increase in opening hours was planned for Killenaule Library.

Cllrs. K. Bourke, D. Dunne, K. O'Meara:

- Joined in commending the work carried out at Carrick on Suir Library as a showcase for every local authority,

and congratulated the proactive team engaged in providing numerous educational activities throughout the holiday period.

In response, Ms. Brophy indicated that she would convey the Councillors' compliments to her colleagues; she indicated that the appointment of a Librarian for Killenaule was imminent and while there was no plan to extend opening hours, the matter of opening hours was always under constant review.

**Item 3.3.**

**Update from the  
Fire &  
Emergency  
Services  
Directorate.**

Mr. Brian Beck. A/Director of Services for Fire and Emergency Services indicated that he would field any questions in relation to this item. The following issues were discussed;

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Spoke of fire alerts in hot weather and of the need to spread the message on social media.
- Requested that lifebuoy be installed at the Anner River between Cloneen and Killusty in an area popular for bathing.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Expressed concern in relation to water safety during summer months, particularly in relation to privately-owned lands at the rear of Ormond Castle.
- Queried whether a lifeguard could be appointed for Carrick on Suir.

In response, Mr. Beck indicated that the issue of a lifeguard was the subject of a recent notice of motion to the Plenary Council and he would address the matter to the Environment Section.

The District Administrator indicated that she had engaged a firm to provide replacement lifebuoys at the Carrick on Suir Marina and would instruct them to provide lifebuoy at Killusty also.

**Item 3.4.**

**Part 8 Planning Process –N76 Grangemockler Pavement Strengthening Scheme 2021:**

The Chief Executive's report in relation to the Part 8 Planning Process for the N76 Grangemockler Pavement Strengthening Scheme 2021 was circulated and considered by the elected Members. The scheme as recommended was adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro, seconded by Cllr. David Dunne.

Expressing his support for the project, Cllr. K. O'Meara complimented Mr. Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services and Mr. Oliver Tierney, Senior Executive Engineer and the Roads Division for the manner in which they conducted their consultation with the local people at Grangemockler.

**Item 3.5:**

**Part 8 Planning Process – Ormond Castle Park Ecological & Amenity Enhancement Scheme 2021:**

The Chief Executive's report in relation to the Part 8 Planning Process for the Ormond Castle Park Ecological and Amenity Enhancement Scheme 2021 was circulated and considered by the elected Members. It included a revision to the original layout to take account of matters raised by Castle Park householders in their joint submission.

In proposing its adoption, Cllr. K. Bourke complimented the Director and his team on the manner in which residents' concerns were addressed and he applauded the number of shovel-ready projects on hand at Carrick on Suir which he attributed to the arrival of Brian Beck as Director.

In seconding the proposal, Cllr. D. Dunne alluded to the 'leave no trace' nature of the proposal which he fully supported and looked forward ultimately to the rollout of the overall project proposed for RRDF funding.

The scheme was adopted unanimously.

**Item 3.6.**

**District Engineers Report:**

The District Engineer's report had been circulated in advance of the meeting, and the District Engineer gave an update on various projects as follows:

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- The commencement of the N24 Contract was imminent and likely to be October; it was presently at detailed design stage.
- A significant diversion would be needed at South Lodge for the duration of N76 works.
- With prevailing hot weather, surface dressing works had relocated to quieter roads.
- Road improvement works were almost complete with the exception of Killenaule and Drangan as specialist technical advice would be required to make safe the tanks in both locations in advance of works.
- Works were completed at Castle Heights, Carrick on Suir.
- Bridge rehabilitation works were required at Clashnasmuth, Ahenny where iron girders would be replaced; consultancy and construction costs were included in the budget.
- The 'Red Roads' allocation of €113,000 at Carrickmaclear would be a significant benefit to the area. The present condition was very poor, being rated 2-3.
- The Community Improvement Scheme [CIS] was closing on the 6<sup>th</sup> August; he indicated that previously-included schemes needed to reapply and that cul-de-sacs and local secondary roads were eligible.
- In relation to Local Improvement Scheme [LIS] he indicated that there were 4 projects starting shortly.

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- ORIS [Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Scheme] works on Blueway completed with final account drawn down.
- A further application for ORIS funding was submitted and if successful would facilitate additional widening to achieve 3km of 3-metres-wide walk/cycleway from Miloko westward to Arrigan's Boreen.
- Part 8 drawing and information for the Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan would be displayed in Nenagh, Clonmel, Carrick on Suir and at Carrick on Suir Library. It was anticipated that the Chief Executive's Report would be finalised for the October 2021 monthly meeting to permit a construction grant application to be submitted by November.
- There were 4 projects approved under the Active Travel initiative – Cloneen (*complete*), Killenaule (*negotiating with landowner*), Mullinahone (*moving ahead*) and at Carrickbeg (*footpaths - design work with consultants*).
- The VMS signs were in place on the approach roads with a view to supporting traders.
- The accumulation of debris at the Marina required an engineering solution and a suitably qualified contractor to carry out works; this would go to tender in due course.
- The Rates Allocation was approx. €5,000 in the current year, and he proposed to upgrade 80 metres of road at Ash Park, Carrick on Suir with this funding, subject to the Councillors' approval.
- Development levies were generally focussed on bridges and any surplus funding would be diverted to road and footpath projects.



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Following consideration of the report, Councillors raised the following issues:

Cllr D. Dunne:

- Queried how operations would change in relation to addressing sewerage problems once the current service level agreement expired with Irish Water.
- Suggested that N24 works would be more appropriate to commence during school holidays
- Expressed concerns of residents regarding speeding traffic on R680 in vicinity of Castle Court entrance
- Sought update in relation to railway Bridge at Sir John's
- Queried whether byelaws could be extended to regulate parking in housing estates
- Requested that a PARKING sign be provided to direct traffic to Strand Lane Car Park
- Expressed support for the proposal to include Ash Park in the Road Programme
- Welcomed the provision of tap at St. Mary's Cemetery
- Requested provision of car parking spaces at right hand side of St. Mary's Cemetery.

Cllr. K. O'Meara:

- Welcomed the proposed works at Carrickmaclear in context of it being a bus route and the route to Mass rock.
- Requested the District Engineer to contact Coillte to address overgrowth hindering sight lines
- Reported water leak at Cloneen, in view of possible damage to road
- Queried how traffic diversion from N76 through Mullinahone would be managed
- Sought update in relation to repairs to cemetery wall at Mullinahone.
- Stated that footpaths at Fethard Street, Mullinahone required immediate attention



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- Queried whether roads in housing estates were categorised in the same manner as other roads and thereby included in roads programme
- Queried whether the CE Scheme in Carrick on Suir could share a worker with other groups in the District.

Cllr. K. Bourke.

- Complimented the works completed at the Blueway
- Requested that conditions be examined in relation to the entrance at Castle Court dealing traffic calming as this was an issue of enormous concern to residents
- Requested that road markings be provided on the Ballyrichard Road at the entrance to the Swan Club
- Welcomed the budget provision for the Marina to deal with accumulation of debris as it was a health and safety issue
- Conveyed his thanks to the District Engineer for including Ash Park works in Roads Programme
- Requested additional footpaths to be provided at St. Mary's cemetery to deal with winter conditions.

Cllr. I. Goldsboro

- Queried when road marking contractors would commence
- Sought provision of signage at Old Graveyard, Ballingarry
- Queried when works would be carried out at Killenaule school
- Conveyed her thanks to the outdoor staff engaged in cutting back overgrown hedgerows
- Requested provision of bollards at Killenaule
- Sought update in relation to traffic calming measures at River Street and Crosscannon.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald

- Conveyed his thanks to the District Engineer in relation to provision of tarmac at Cloneen and

highlighted that there were 2 or 3 leaks evident in new surface.

- Sought update in relation to proposed replacement of footpaths at St. Patrick's Place, Fethard
- Report collapsed drain outside Lahart's Garage and The Creamery resulting in sewerage issues.
- Backfilling required on either side of road at Cloneen to counteract drop-off from edge of road.

In response, the District Engineer indicated as follows:

- He envisaged that the prevailing arrangements with Irish Water under the Service Level Agreement would continue virtually unchanged with the same crews operating in much the same manner.
- Agreed to investigate the speeding concerns relating to Castle Court on the R680
- Any amendments to byelaws would come about as a result of consideration of submissions received during the course of a public consultation associated with review of those byelaws.
- Confirmed that directional signage would be put in place to direct traffic to respective car parks
- Agreed to examine provision of car parking spaces at St. Mary's Cemetery.
- Informed that works to strengthen Cláirín footbridge would require its closure, but that he would endeavour to minimise the associated disruption
- Advised that he requested Overseer to contact Coillte in relation to maintaining sightlines and to investigate the water leak causing damage to road at Cloneen
- Assured that diversion of traffic on N76 through Mullinahone during course of roadworks would be a well-managed exercise and he would contact Kilkenny County Council in order to co-ordinate same
- Agreed to follow up the matter of cemetery wall at Mullinahone with contractor
- Informed that the condition of footpath at Fethard as reported was duly noted and would be addressed
- Indicated that he would consider including some estate roads each year going forward in context of 3-

year programme, where they were in same condition as 'red roads'

- Undertook to check position regarding the sharing of CE Scheme operative among groups
- Indicated that he would appoint a contractor to carry out road markings at Ballyrichard Road in vicinity of Swan Club entrance.
- Indicated that proposed berm to be constructed upstream of Marina would save money in the long term.
- Confirmed he would liaise with Environment Section in relation to provision of additional footpaths at St. Mary's Cemetery
- Agreed to follow up the provision of signage at Old Ballingarry Graveyard, bollards at Killenaule and to revert in relation to provision of traffic calming at Crosscannon.
- Undertook to investigate the report of collapsed drain in the vicinity of Lahart's Garage and the Creamery and to investigate the request for backfilling at either side of road at Cloneen.

Thanking the District Engineer for his detailed report, the Cathaoirleach sought a proposer and seconder for the revised road programme.

It was proposed by Cllr. D. Dunne, seconded by Cllr. K. O'Meara and agreed to adopt the Roads Programme 2021 as presented.

**Item 3.7.**  
**District**  
**Administrators**  
**Report:**

The District Administrator informed the Councillors of the tender process undertaken by the Arts Officer, Ms. Melanie Scott to secure a promoter for Outdoor Live Performance Programme Scheme proposed for Ormond Castle courtyard, subject to the approval of the OPW. The closing date for receipt of tenders was 12:00 noon on the following day, 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021.

This was duly noted.

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**Item 3.8.**  
**General**  
**Municipal**  
**Allocation**  
**Update:**

A report and recommendation circulated to the Councillors in connection with the roll-out of Community Grants, included 12 groups' applications for consideration.

It was proposed by Councillor I. Goldsboro, seconded by Councillor K. O'Meara and unanimously agreed in accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government act, 2001, to award grants totalling €9,380 to the following community groups;

<i>Galtee Mór Kickboxing Club, Fethard</i>	<b>€1,000.00</b>
<i>Friends of Bridgewater House,</i>	<b>€200.00</b>
<i>Old School House, The Commons</i>	<b>€205.00</b>
<i>Castle Heights Residents Association</i>	<b>€925.00</b>
<i>Cloneen Sports and Social Club</i>	<b>€550.00</b>
<i>Killenaule Community Enhancement Group</i>	<b>€1,000.00</b>
<i>Carrick Swan, Hurling/Football &amp; Camogie</i>	<b>€1,000.00</b>
<i>Carrick United AFC Limited.</i>	<b>€1,000.00</b>
<i>Ballynonty Community Group</i>	<b>€1,000.00</b>
<i>Grangemockler Community Sportsfield</i>	<b>€1,000.00</b>
<i>Slieveardagh Rural Development CLG</i>	<b>€1,000.00</b>
<i>Carrick-on-Suir &amp; District Angling Association.</i>	<b>€500.00</b>

**Item 3.6**  
**Assistance of**  
**Bodies under**  
**Section 66 of the**  
**Local**  
**Government Act**  
**2001.**

A list of 6 no. Burial Ground Committees was included in a report circulated to the Councillors and considered for funding in accordance with Section 66 of the Local Government Act 2001.

It was proposed by Councillor K. O'Meara, seconded by Councillor I. Goldsboro and unanimously agreed to award grants totalling €3,600 as follows;

<i>St. Michael's Burial Ground, Mullinahone.</i>	<b>€600.00</b>
<i>Isertkiernan Burial Ground, Mullinahone.</i>	<b>€600.00</b>
<i>Killaghy Burial Ground, Mullinahone.</i>	<b>€600.00</b>

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<i>Kilvemnon Burial Ground, Mullinahone.</i>	<b>€600.00</b>
<i>Red City Burial Ground, Fethard.</i>	<b>€600.00</b>
<i>Ballingarry Old Graveyard.</i>	<b>€600.00</b>

**Item 4.0.**

**Chief Executive/Delegated Officer Orders**

None for consideration

**Item 5.0**

**Items of Correspondence**

None for consideration

**Item 6.0**

**6.1. Vote of Sympathy**

**Any Other Business**

The Cathaoirleach imparted the sad news of the untimely death of former Councillor Martin Lonergan whose sudden death at the age of 39 years came as a shock to all.

On the proposal of Councillor I. Goldsboro, seconded by Councillor D. Dunne, a vote of sympathy was unanimously adopted to convey condolences to Martin's mother and family.

Speaking to her motion Councillor I. Goldsboro described him as a great friend and a hard-working Councillor and alluded to the great shock of his loss.

Councillor D. Dunne recalled a lovely man who embodied the role of a Councillor, and who would be fondly remembered; he conveyed his sincere condolences to the Lonergan family.

Councillor K. Bourke wanted to be associated with the tributes to Mr. Lonergan whom he described as an excellent Councillor, who always knew his brief and had acquitted himself so well on weekly interviews on Tipp FM. He in turn expressed his sympathies to the family.

Councillor K. O'Meara in tribute, spoke of the tragic loss of a thorough gentleman and conveyed his condolences to the Lonergan family.

The Cathaoirleach spoke of a lovely man, who was always thoughtful and polite and expressed his hope for the family in weathering their grief at this time.


The Director of Services, District Administrator and District Engineer were also associated with the tributes and condolences.

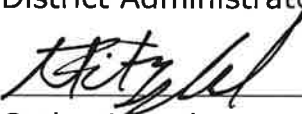
## **6.2.**

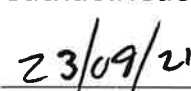
### **Part 8 Process Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan**

The Director of Services, Mr. Brian Beck, informed the Councillors that the proposed Part 8 planning application for Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan would shortly go to public consultation, following its validation currently underway. He indicated that notices would be published in the following fortnight notifying of the 4-week period of display, to be followed by a 2-week period for receipt of submissions or observations. At this stage, there would be no further facility to comment online once the formal process commenced; he further noted that submissions or observations would be made in writing only (hard copy), and indicated that if the Councillors wished to have a further workshop at this stage, he would be happy to arrange that. Having considered the matter, the Councillors declined the offer.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
District Administrator

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cathaoirleach

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date