

**Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Callan-Thomastown**

**Date:** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 @ 4p.m.

**Venue:** Parish Hall, Green Lane, Callan, Co. Kilkenny.

**Chair:** Cllr Peter Chap Cleere

**Present:** Cllr Deirdre Cullen, Cllr Michael Doyle, Cllr Joe Lyons, Cllr Pat O'Neill, Cllr Matt Doran

**Apologies:** Ms Fiona Deegan, Meetings Administrator.

**In attendance:** Ms Mary Mulholland, Director of Service; Mr Declan Murphy, A/Area Engineer; Mr. Nicolaas Louw, Senior Executive Planner; Mr. Seamus Kavanagh, Senior Engineer; Ms Carmel Brett, Staff Officer; Ms Sian Moloughney, Kilkenny People.

**1) Confirmation of Minutes**

The Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting of Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> July, 2020 were proposed by Cllr Joe Lyons, seconded by Cllr Michael Doyle and agreed.

**2) Consideration of Reports and Recommendations**

**(a) Presentation of City and County Development Plan review**

Cllr Cleere welcomed Mr. Nicolaas Louw to the meeting.

Mr. Louw commenced by informing the members that the facilitation of workshops on the City and County Development Plan will be decided at the next plenary Council meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> September, with the intention to present the full draft Plan to members for their consideration at the October Council meeting.

Mr. Louw said the Plan unifies a number of strategies and plans such as Local Area Plans and the Waterford Metropolitan Area Strategic Plan, and it must also implement the provisions of the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy at local level.

He said compilation of the Plan, which was commenced in 2018, had been slightly delayed due to Covid-19 but substantial progress has been made to date in areas such as a transport plan for the City, Retail Strategy, developing measurable objectives around climate change, Rural Housing Policy, realignment of Ferrybank/Belview populations in conjunction with Waterford County Council and developing masterplans for the Western Environs, Abbey Quarter and Loughmacask. The Masterplans for the Fairgreen and St. Canices Campus (jointly with the HSE) has been delayed due to Covid-19.

Mr. Louw said a significant challenge is the continued viability of smaller settlements and how to reinvigorate them and make them more sustainable.

The members thanked Mr. Louw for his presentation and raised the following items:

- Degree of autonomy of the members from the National Planning Framework
- Rural Housing Policy and local flexibility from National Policy – guidance document not yet completed, economic and social need is being assessed nationally; a set of criteria is required to test eligibility of applicants
- Development of small rural villages lacking in water and wastewater services
- Restrictions on movement of county town and village dwellers to the broader rural parish area; objective in National Planning Framework to look at sites in small settlements to facilitate this.

#### **(b) Monthly Roads Update**

Mr D. Murphy A/Senior Executive Engineer circulated a report updating the members on the following road related matters:

- Roadworks Programme 2020 – Restoration Improvements/Maintenance, CIR & LIS works, Low Cost Safety Schemes update, drainage & footpath works
- Town & Village Renewal Schemes
- Town & Village Renewal Schemes Accelerated measures due to Covid Round 1
- Rural Regeneration Roads Project
- General – Callan and Graiguenamanagh Mobility Management Plans, ORIS Abbey Meadow.
- Additional Works (Active Travel and Climate Change projects)

The members thanked Mr. Murphy for his update and the following item was raised:

- Volume and speed on L1015/L1016 at Ballymack/Burnchurch:  
Mr. S. Kavanagh said traffic counters will be put in place at this location which will record traffic volume and number of HGVs using the route.  
He added that ongoing roadworks on the N76 has exacerbated travel volumes on this route and that results will be reviewed from the traffic counters.  
He added that there are plans for a countywide school survey to be conducted which will streamline works outside schools.

#### **b) Monthly Rural Development Update**

Ms Mary Mulholland informed the members that a number of projects may receive funding under a second tranche of Towns & Villages Covid-19 adaption supports.

These include provision of a mobile festival/cinema kit which would be available to community groups throughout the County, relocation of parking spaces to facilitate footpath widening in Graiguenamanagh, funding for camper van facilities which would allow campers to park safely without impacting on residential areas.

Also included are deep cleaning, signage and minor public realm improvements for each of the scheduled towns.

Ms Mulholland said the Standard Town & Village scheme closing date is 30<sup>th</sup> September, 13 submissions have been received with 10 going forward.

She said the Sessions House in Thomastown is being renovated under Rural Regeneration Funding in consultation with the Design & Craft Council of Ireland.

Additional funding is available to libraries for Capital works, and a submission has been made for funding to repair the roof of Graiguenamanagh library.  
Ms Mulholland concluded by informing members that the closing date is 11<sup>th</sup> September for Community Enhancement grants.

3) **Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District members for transaction of such meeting.**

(a) Resolution that:

"That Kilkenny County Council hereby approves of the proposal to publish Notice of Intention to extinguish Public Right-of-Way at the following location:  
Local Road No. L8203 at Jerpoint West, Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny for approximate length of 80 metres."

was proposed by Cllr Deirdre Cullen, seconded by Cllr Michael Doyle and resolved.

4) **Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting**

There were no items for discussion

5) **Notices of Motion**

There were no items for discussion

6) **Correspondence**

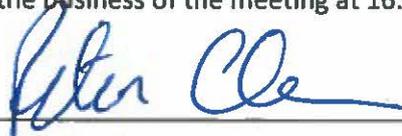
There were no items for discussion

7) **Any other Business**

- Increased signage requested for Brandon Hill, Graiguenamanagh
- Impact on schools of frequency of water outages and short notice of same
- Discussion with members of the Municipal Districts of Callan-Thomastown and Piltown scheduled for Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October in the Rhú Glen, start time of 12.00 requested to change to 13.00.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 16.43.

Chairperson: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: \_\_\_\_\_

14/10/20

