

**Minutes of Monthly Meeting of the Councillors for the Carrick-on-Suir
Municipal District held in the District Chamber, Municipal District Office,
Carrick-on-Suir at 2:00pm on the 28th of October 2021.**

In the Chair:	Cllr. Mark Fitzgerald
Members Present:	Cllr. David Dunne, Cllr. Imelda Goldsboro, Cllr. Kevin O Meara, Cllr. Kieran Bourke.
Apologies:	None
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, Carrick-on-Suir Municipal District Office.
Attending on Zoom:	Mr. Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance: Mr. Paddy Brennan, Financial Management Accountant; Ms Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner, Mr. Jonathan Flood, Executive Planner.
Press Attendance:	Ms. Anne Marie Magorrian, The Munster Express. Ms. Aileen Hahessy, The Nationalist. Ms. Sandra Quinn, Tipp FM.

1.0 Welcome

Item 1.1	
Summons and Prayer	The summons was taken as read.

Item 1.2	
Conflict of Interest Declaration	None to record

2.0 Minutes of Meetings

Item 2.1	
Minutes of Monthly Meeting 23 September 2021	The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 23 rd September 2021 were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. I. Goldsboro, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

3.0 Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

Item 3.1

**Finance
Directorate-
Carrick on Suir
Municipal
District Draft
Budgetary Plan
2022:**

A draft Budgetary Plan for Carrick on Suir for 2022 incorporating proposed General Municipal Allocation was circulated and taken as read. Mr. Liam McCarthy Head of Finance and Mr. Paddy Brennan, Financial Management Accountant attended on Zoom and outlined the provisions contained in the draft plan.

Mr. McCarthy indicated that the figure of €1million for housing maintenance (including provision for pre-letting repairs and voids) was an indicative figure as the allocation was not yet advised from the Department.

The draft budget was unanimously adopted on the proposal of Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne in accordance with the provisions of Section 102 of the Local Government Act 2001 as amended.

Item 3.2

**Part 8 Planning
Process.
Carrick on Suir
Regeneration
Plan 2021.
P8/21/15.**

The Part 8 Planning Process associated with the Carrick-on-Suir Regeneration Plan 2021 commenced with the publication of notices on the 4th August, reference to prescribed bodies and public display of plans and particulars for a period not less than 4 weeks (to 3rd September 2021); inviting submissions or observations in relation to the proposed development to be notified in writing to the planning authority not later than 17th September 2021. In accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Development Acts 2000-2014, the Chief Executive's report was presented to the elected members for their consideration and circulated with the agenda.

The report contained a description of the nature and extent of the proposal, site description and location, details of public consultation, submissions received, details of prescribed bodies' referrals, outlines of relevant planning policies, a planning assessment of the proposal

and a summary of submissions along with the Chief Executive's recommendations. The Members were required to consider the CE report and recommendations and to make a decision within 6 weeks (on or before 6th December 2021) to adopt the proposal as recommended or with specific amendments, or not to adopt the proposal.

The Director of Services thanked the Members for their diligent consideration of the Plan over the course of the past months from the initial consultation period, engagement in webinar and subsequent workshops in an effort to find consensus on a project that was arguably the most important undertaking for the future of Carrick on Suir.

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne and unanimously agreed to defer the matter to the November 2021 monthly meeting in order to carry out further engagement with businesses and residents in relation to the plan.

It was further agreed on the proposal of Cllr. I. Goldsboro and seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne, that a meeting would be convened of the Standing Orders Committee to decide on a proposal to bring forward the November monthly meeting to the 18th November 2021 to facilitate further engagement with businesses and residents in relation to the regeneration plan.

Item 3.3
District
Engineer's
Report

The District Engineer circulated his report and gave a comprehensive update in relation to the various projects included and their progress to-date. Following consideration, the District Engineer responded to various queries from the Members as follows:

In response to queries from Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Undertook to follow up with Housing to achieve satisfactory outcome to works at Hazel Close,

Greenhill Village, Carrick on Suir where 14 houses were acquired by the Council, prior to the Council taking the estate in charge.

- Agreed to arrange for removal of vegetation from flood walls to the extent where it could be removed safely from the roadside.
- Committed to examine the condition of tarmac at Cregg Lawns.
- Referred to correspondence issued to property owners outlining their responsibility to address the presence of invasive Japanese knotweed and the directions in accordance with advice from the National Biodiversity Unit.
- Agreed to examine the issue of provision of solar compactor bin at Carrickbeg;
- Confirmed that ongoing works at the Greenside entrance to St. Nicholas Car Park would be completed by the end of the following week.
- Also stated that works at New Street were on schedule for completion by Sunday 14th November.

In response to queries from Cllr. K. O'Meara:

- The District Engineer explained the difficulty associated with hiring contractors from a limited pool to carry out civil engineering works in responding to request for provision of footpaths at Fethard Street, Mullinahone.
- Agreed to examine and revert in relation to broken speed sign at the school in Mullinahone.
- Undertook to consult the NTA Team with a view to identifying a possible funding stream to provide safety measure at the school in Mullinahone.

In response to queries from Cllr. I Goldsboro:

- Confirmed that a portion of NTA allocation was assigned to road at Killenaule Primary School and he would examine the request for barriers.
- Agreed to look at additional locations for road markings.

In response to queries from Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Clarified that with N76 works underway, the contractor was planning the bad sections of the road initially, and would then complete the 450m with overlay.
- Agreed to examine request for speed signage at Drangan, Cloneen and Mullinahone.
- Indicated that he was happy to take suggestions for a list of works to outskirts of villages within the 50kph speed limit similar to Mullinahone, such as Millers Lane and the Paddocks at Drangan and The Valley in Fethard

In response to queries from Cllr. K. Bourke:

- Confirmed that the MD only received an allocation to deal with Japanese Knotweed on publicly owned lands.

Item 3.4

**District
Administrator's
Report:**

Streetscape and Shopfront Enhancement Scheme 2021

The District Administrator reported on progress to date, outlining the criteria used to evaluate 45 applications received under the Streetscape and Shop-front

Enhancement Scheme; she informed the meeting of additional monies allocated to the scheme from the Department of Rural and Community Development – a four-fold increase from €43,681 to €181,330 – and of the extension of the deadline for completion of works to the 30th

April 2022. This was welcomed by the Members.

She clarified that the 2021 scheme only applied in the current year to Carrick-on-Suir, which was chosen as an initiative to support the regeneration scheme; she stated that it was unclear at this stage whether the scheme would continue into 2022, but the initiative would be rolled out to other centres in the District in order to ensure equitable distribution of the funds in the event that the scheme was extended.

Outdoor Accessories Grants Scheme 2021

The District Administrator reported on progress in relation to the Outdoor Accessories Scheme with 32 applications on hands with 13 grants awarded to-date, totalling €44,647.

She noted that the deadline for drawdown of these funds was the 30th November 2021.

General Municipal Allocation Update – 2021

The District Administrator circulated a report containing a recommendation in relation to disbursement of funds from the Community Grants Scheme, bringing the total amount awarded under this heading to €20,034.

It was proposed by Cllr I. Goldsboro, seconded by Councillor D. Dunne and unanimously resolved 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 grant under the Community Grants scheme be made as follows:

- Manor Close Residents Association €450
- Moyglass Sports and Leisure Centre €1,000

Carrick on Suir Heritage Centre

The District Administrator informed the meeting that representations were made on behalf of Carrick on Suir Development Association seeking financial assistance in the sum of €7,000 in support of the refurbishment of the Heritage Centre.

It was proposed by Councillor K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne and resolved that 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, that a grant of €7,000 be made to Carrick on Suir Development

Association in support of its Heritage Centre refurbishment project.

Commencement of Part 8 Planning Process –
Old Post Office Digital Hub 2021.

The District Administrator informed that notices were published in connection with the proposed development of Digital Hub at the Old Post Office premises at 43 Main Street, which was a protected structure. The notice invited interested persons to view the plans and particulars for a period not less than 4 weeks (from 21 October 2021 to 18 November 2021) and for those wishing to make submission or observations, the deadline for receipt of submissions was the 3rd December 2021. This was noted.

Cllr. D. Dunne requested that the media present would highlight the project in an effort to encourage the public to make submissions on the proposed development.

Item 4.0.

Chief Executive/ Delegated Employee Orders

A list and details of delegated employees orders was circulated with the agenda and noted.

Item 5.0.

Correspondence

An information flyer from National Broadband Ireland was circulated, advising of the pop-up information stand to be located at Tesco, Clonmel on the 29/30 October 2021. This was noted.

**Item 6.0.
Notice of
Motion:
2289**

Notice of Motion 2289: Cllrs. K. Bourke & D. Dunne

The following motion was proposed by Councillor K. Bourke, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne and considered by the members in the context of response report circulated as follows;

"We are calling on Tipperary County Council to contact whoever is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of fire hydrants in the town of Carrick on Suir and district, the reason being that we believe there should be an annual check and maintenance on all hydrants in the interests of health and safety"

A report was sought respectively from Water Services Directorate and the Chief Fire Office; the former in relation to where responsibility lay for upkeep and maintenance of fire hydrants within the Municipal District, and the latter in relation to an operational matter concerning the attendance of Fire Brigade at a house fire in Carrick on Suir on the 16 October 2021 which prompted the submission of this motion.

Mr. Denis Holland, Senior Engineer, Water Services confirmed as follows:

"The provision and maintenance of adequate pressure to fire hydrants is a matter for Irish Water as the water services authority. In this respect, Water Services acts as the agent of Irish Water.

In this regard, the appropriate contact is Mr. Colin Cunningham, Water Lead, Asset Operations, South East and Midlands Region, Irish Water (email: ccunningham@water.ie."

Mr. Dave Carroll, Chief Fire Officer reported as follows:

"Carrick on Suir were the first attending brigade and used high pressure hose reel and subsequently CAFS (Compressed Air Foam System) externally to 'knock' down the initial fire. Both of these systems are fed from the internal 1800-litre tank on the Carrick Fire Appliance. Clonmel Alpha 1 was mobilized to this call at the same time as the Carrick appliance (as per pre-determined attendance criteria for a house fire)

and arrived on the scene with a supplementary water supply of 1800 litres.

During the course of the incident, it did come to light that there appeared to be reduced pressure in a number of hydrants within 200-250m of the incident. This reduced pressure had no material impact on dealing with this incident. The Incident Commander had adequate water supplies at all times and did not seek to augment it with the deployment of a tanker from either Cahir or Clonmel, as would often happen. It should be understood that the mobilization of the tankers to incidents across the County does not necessarily point to a problem with water pressures in a particular area.

In this case, the Incident Commander has made a report on the reduced pressures encountered and a report will be conveyed to water services in respect of this matter."

The report concluded that with the agreement of the elected members, the notice of motion would be referred to Irish Water for attention.

Following further discussion of the matter, Councillors Bourke and Dunne expressed their disappointment with the response and requested that Irish Water and the Chief Fire Officer be invited to attend a monthly meeting of the Municipal District to address their concerns.

Item 7.0.
Any other
business:

Any Other Business

The Cathaoirleach advised the meeting of the upcoming local production by the Fionn MacCumhaill Players entitled "*The Year of 21*" set against the background of the closing months of the War of Independence which would be staged at the Abymill Theatre on the 5th November 2021 and he urged support for the production.

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Cllr. M. Fitzgerald also conveyed well wishes to the 2 local clubs taking part in the South Junior A Football Championship Final on the coming weekend – St. Patrick's Drangan and Carrick Swan.

This concluded the meeting (15:49)



District Administrator



Cathaoirleach

18 November 2021.