

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 2023 MONTHLY MEETING OF THE CARRICK ON SUIR MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN
THE DISTRICT CHAMBER, NEW STREET, CARRICK ON SUIR AT 14:00 ON THE 28 SEPTEMBER 2023

In the Chair: Cllr. K. Bourke

Members Present: Cllr. D. Dunne, Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, Cllr. I. Goldsboro,
Cllr. K. O'Meara.

Apologies:

**Attending from
Carrick on Suir MD:** Mr. B Beck, A/Director of Services; Ms. M O'Gorman, Meetings
Administrator; Mr. D. Power. A/District Engineer;
Ms. S. Holloway, Assistant Staff Officer;

Planning Directorate: Ms. Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner;
Mr. Kieran Ladden, Senior executive Engineer

**Libraries, Cultural
Services, Biodiversity
Directorate:** Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian

1.0. Welcome and Introduction

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

2.0. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolution of the Council

Item 2.1.
**Conflict of Interest
Declaration** None to record

3.0. Consideration of Minutes

Item 3.1.
**Minutes of the Monthly
Meeting held on 27 July
2023:** The minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 27 July 2023
were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. I. Goldsboro, seconded by
Cllr. K. O'Meara, and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

Item 3.2.
**Minutes of the Special
Meeting held on
5 September 2023 –
Vote of sympathy on the
death of former Town
Councillor John Dowley
R.I.P.** The minutes of the special meeting held on the 5 September 2023
were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. D. Dunne, seconded by Cllr.
M. Fitzgerald, and signed by the Cathaoirleach.

The Cathaoirleach paid tribute to the late John Dowley on account
of being unavailable to attend the special meeting and all present
stood for a minute's silence at his behest.

4.0. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations

Item 4.1.
**Report of Planning
Directorate** With Ms. Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner and Mr.
Kieran Ladden, Senior Executive Engineer in attendance, the
report as circulated was taken as read. Planning officials offered
to address any queries raised and clarified as follows;

Cllr. D. Dunne- Sought update in relation to the taking in charge
processes for Greenhill Village and Slieveardagh Grangemockler.

Cllr. K. O'Meara – queried the number of Section 5 Declarations issued in Tipperary/Carrick on Suir MD associated with Croí Conaithe grants.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald – sought update in relation to Cluain Áird, Fethard.

Cllr. I. Goldsboro – queried the position in relation taking in charge of Oakwood, Ballingarry and to DPI developments at Glengoole North and at Rathclough Dualla.

Cllr. K. Bourke – queried the timeframe for commencement of the Local Area Plan for Carrick on Suir.

Responding to queries raised, Mr. Kieran Ladden, S.E.E., indicated that taking in charge processes would proceed in the following month for Mill House Park, Carrick on Suir and shortly thereafter for Oakwood, Ballingarry, subject to resolution of some outstanding issues.

Referring to ongoing legacy issues at Slieveardagh, Grangemockler, he stated that a working group comprising representatives from the CCMA, the Department and the LGMA was nearing its conclusion in drafting the guidelines for local authorities to resolve the DPI [Developer Provided Infrastructure] developments at Grangemockler, and Rathclough Dualla, which could not progress without said guidelines. He noted that the issue at Cluain Áird, Fethard related to a wayleave that was proving very difficult to secure landowner's agreement and signature. Similarly, the issues at Greenhill Village required the resolution of wayleaves before it could be taken in charge.

Ms. Caroline Conway, Senior Executive Planner stated that there were between 100-130 applications for Section 5 Declarations on the books. She did not have the information to hand to confirm how many related to Croí Conaithe properties but undertook to supply the information at a later date and stated that she and her colleagues would go out of their way to ensure that applicants had timely decisions to avail of the grant.

Ms. Conway also stated that the Local Area Plan for Carrick on Suir was scheduled to commence in Q.2_2024.

She also clarified the enforcement process that resulted from complaints to the planning authority where warning letters issued within 6 weeks of receipt of complaint.

Referring to the exemptions that applied on foot of Article 10 (6) (a) of the Planning and Development (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations of 2018, she noted that a proposed change of use of certain vacant commercial premises to residential use must be

notified to the planning authority in writing at least 2 weeks prior to commencement of proposed change of use. The applicant must meet certain terms and conditions and complete an application form in order to have the project assessed. She further noted that Croí Cónaithe projects may fall under Article 10 (6) (a) exemption.

Item 4.2.
Report of Culture Team,
June – September 2023.

With Mr. Damien Dullaghan, County Librarian in attendance, his report as circulated, was taken as read. He outlined some of the initiatives undertaken by his team, with particular reference to the success of the Tipperary Studies digitisation of the collection of the late Thurles photographer, Ned O'Shea which was a wonderful archive and donated by his family free of charge. He noted that the Tipperary Studies initiative had garnered such reaction that people tended to donate material ex gratia, to the extent that a marvellous archive was building up.

The Councillors in turn commended the great work of the Culture Team, and extended their support for colleagues in the Library Service who were subjected to deplorable harassment in a recent campaign by a group of activists protesting against the availability of certain educational material.

SUSPENSION OF
STANDING ORDERS

The Cathaoirleach proposed to deal with his notice of motion 2690 while the County Librarian was in attendance in view of the latter's remit in implementing the Council's Civic Memorial Policy. This was seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne and agreed.

Item.7.1.
Notice of Motion 2690

Cllr. K. Bourke proposed as follows:

"I am calling on Carrick on Suir Municipal District to formally name the Town Park in Carrick on Suir, "CLANCY PARK".

The motion was seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne.

The Meetings Administrator circulated a written response which indicated that the matter came under the scope of Tipperary County Council's Civic Memorial Policy and was handled by the Culture Team. In the event that the motion was agreed by the Municipal District, an application would be prepared and submitted to the Culture Team for processing in the context of the aforementioned policy (*appended to the report for information purposes*)

Speaking to his motion, Cllr. Bourke outlined the historic connection between the Clancy Family and the Town Park from

when it was in the ownership of the Earl of Bessborough, and where the Clancy Brothers' father was gamekeeper on the estate. He was subsequently appointed as caretaker of the Town Park where he lived with his family in a cottage - *long since demolished* - prior to moving to William Street, and this important connection was therefore very pertinent.

Speaking in support of the motion, Cllr. D. Dunne stated that it was a fitting tribute to the Clancy Brothers' legacy and world renown.

Cllr. Bourke stated that he was happy with the response and he undertook to lodge an application in due course.

**Item 4.3.
District Engineer's
Report:**

Mr. Denis Power, District Engineer circulated *Schedule of Municipal District Works-September 2023* for consideration, along with extract from *Roads Capital Report* pertaining to Carrick on Suir Municipal District which was noted.

He advised that the major refurbishment of dwelling at Ballinastick was nearing completion with approximately 1 week's work remaining. With the N24 Carrick on Suir Pavement Strengthening works ongoing, he noted that the N76 Grangemockler Pavement Improvement Scheme was now in the 'maintenance period' with final account being settled. The major inter-urban route, N24 Waterford to Cahir-Phase 2 was due to be completed in 2023 which would provide a proposed transport solution.

With the majority of the roads programme completed, Mr. Power would now turn his attention to outstanding projects including paving repairs at entry to Castle Heights, bridge repairs to be completed in 2-3 weeks, Killenaule and Ballynonty public lighting, Community Improvement Schemes, Climate Change projects, rates money allocation, IPB works at Grangemockler and tree maintenance programme. He noted that sign cleaning had commenced along with the development levy-funded works at Ballingarry, and that CLÁR playground works were completed at Drangan. He also informed that works were ongoing at the Bog Field, Carrickbeg. He anticipated that Active Travel works would commence at Carrickbeg in early October.

Mr. Power responded appropriately to the following issues raised by the Councillors:

Cllr. I. Goldsboro:

- Acknowledged the work of outdoor staff during the course of Storm Agnes.

- Commended the work of contractors engaged in installing footpaths at Ballingarry.
- Noted that public lighting survey was underway for the Carrick on Suir Municipal District and queried whether results were available. She also noted that some of the school lights were out of order.

Cllr. M. Fitzgerald:

- Commended the District Engineer and his team for the substantial works completed under the 2023 Roads Programme.
- Queried the duration of the guarantee period for the N76 Grangemockler Pavement improvement Scheme
- Commented on the outcome of speed survey conducted at Kickham Tree and thanked the District Engineer for his attention to same.

Cllr. D. Dunne:

- Wished to be associated with compliments to outdoor staff, working in all weathers.
- Complimented progress and conduct of N24 contract
- Welcomed the proposed rollout of window/door replacement programme
- Recommended an educational programme for tenants on the operation of air-to-heat systems and the 'pay-as-you-go' options for utilities.
- Queried whether the local authorities had any role in the proposed change to speed limits reported in the media
- Welcomed the clean-up of the playground at Carrick on Suir but deplored the anti-social behaviour in the area.
- Welcomed the proposal to commence Active Travel Scheme at Carrickbeg and sought update in relation to proposed second car park on Tirlán property.

Cllr. K. O'Meara

- Referred to speed survey carried out on foot of his notice of motion of July 2022 and requested that appropriate controls/enforcement be put in place.
- Requested patching to hollow on road at Mullinahone.
- Sought update in relation to proposed CCTV survey of Bulls Hole at Mullinahone in order to provide assurances in relation to critical infrastructure.
- Commended the roll out of climate action works
- Requested that attention be given to water locking at Trap Bar, Grangemockler.

Cllr. K. Bourke

- Requested that attention to road gulley be prioritised by road crews to avoid build-up of leaves likely to block drains

- Expressed disappointment that many of the flood points on the N24 appeared to remain after completion of new road surfaces.
- Queried the timeframe for windows and doors programme
- Queried timeframe for completion of five Councillors' projects allocated under rates vacancies budget.

The District Engineer confirmed his intention to seek additional funding from IPB. He noted that road markings were completed and anti-skid surface installed at Killenaule. He also confirmed that a driver feed-back sign was ordered for this location and it was intended to have it installed in the next couple of weeks; he expressed the hope that these measures would assist in addressing the community's concerns. Similarly, he noted that signage and markings were ordered for Ballingarry.

14:57 - At the request of the Cathaoirleach, Cllr. D. Dunne took the chair temporarily.

In relation to public lighting survey underway, he noted that while surveying was completed in the Carrick on Suir MD, the project was continuing with surveying in other MDs currently, such that the outcome/data were not yet available.

Mr. Power informed that the maintenance period for the N76 contract was 3 years hence with a 'defects liability period' of 1 year in operation. He also undertook to examine the road condition at Kilvemnon and he assured the members that General Services Supervisors were involved in ongoing maintenance of gulleys. With regard to the N24 he undertook to examine the issue of water-locking and to refer to Roads Capital to resolve as necessary.

14:59 – Cathaoirleach, Cllr. K. Bourke resumed his position in the chair.

The District Engineer stated that the request for guidance to tenants on operation of heating systems would be conveyed to Housing Section for attention and that the issue of antisocial behaviour at the playground would be referred to An Garda Síochána.

Responding to Cllr. Dunne's query in relation to proposed car park at Carrickbeg, the District Administrator clarified that Tirlán were unable to secure agreement of their shareholders to lease the car park to the Council; however, they had indicated that agreement may be forthcoming were the Council to purchase the land outright. Mr. Brian Beck, Director, confirmed that all options were being explored in this regard.

With regard to the windows and doors replacements, Mr. Paul Farrell, Executive Engineer confirmed that the first tranche of the programme would commence at the end of October. This was welcomed by the members. He also confirmed that he would examine the option of 'rumble strips' as a safety measure for Copper Cross.

TII Priorities 2024

The impending annual meeting with TII required the Members to put forward their priorities for the District; arising from discussion it was proposed by Cllr. K. O'Meara, seconded by Cllr. K. Bourke and agreed to put forward the request for traffic calming measures at the N76 between Callan and Grangemockler at Poulacapple NS.

It was further proposed by Cllr. M. Fitzgerald, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne and agreed to put forward the requirement to acquire land at N76 South Lodge-Glenbower to provide a 2+1 climbing lane at this location.

Item 4.4. District Administrator's Report:

The Meetings Administrator circulated report incorporating the following items;

The Carrick on Suir Regeneration Plan – R.R.D.F. Update

Phase 1 – evaluation of tenders had concluded and it was intended to appoint a contractor shortly, once Departmental approval was received in the coming days. The District Administrator stated that she would be in touch with the Members when the formal contract signing was organised in order to arrange their attendance at the meeting.

The Director of Services, Mr. B. Beck informed that MWP Engineering and Environmental Consultants were appointed to oversee the construction on Phase 1, and that a Resident Engineer and Clerk of Works would also be on hand to supervise and work with the public for the duration of the contract.

Phase 2 – detailed design of was progressing well and it was expected to proceed to tender stage in Q.4 of this year.

Phase 3 – Design was progressing well in relation to the Digital and Enterprise Hub at Old Post Office with surveys supporting the design scheduled to take place in the following weeks.

Village Enhancement Plans/ Town Centre First Plans

On further discussion, Mr. Beck informed that the **Village Enhancement Plans** drafted for Killenaule and Mullinahone were now 're-branded' as '**Town Centre First Plans**' given that

settlements with a population exceeding 400, would be eligible to apply for funding under TCF. *Regretfully, he stated that Ballingarry Village did not meet the population threshold but would continue to be put forward for other funding streams.*

This was particularly significant in that no other district had as yet embarked on preparation for village enhancement plans and the Carrick on Suir District was therefore in pole position to lodge applications for this funding stream. This was warmly welcomed by the Councillors.

The Draft Local Authority Climate Action Plan 2024–2029

The Meetings Administrator informed that the Draft Local Authority Climate Action Plan for the 5-year period 2024 – 2029 opened to the public for consultation on the 21 September last and would conclude on 6 November 2023. She circulated details of the advertisement published online and in the print media which also contained instructions on how/where to make a submission and where to view the hard copy document. This was noted.

Item 4.5. General Municipal Allocation 2023

The Meetings Administrator circulated a report for consideration by the Members noting that the Carrick on Suir Municipal District Community Grants Scheme went 'live' on the 16 March 2023, with a net total of 47 applications received *[48 received, 1 withdrawn]*.

This represented a significant increase of 30.5% on the 36 applications processed in 2022 and in the current year, projects with an aggregate of €154,000 were supported throughout the district. She then sought approval for the award of final grants totalling €4,324 to remaining applicants.

Accordingly, it was proposed by Cllr. K. O'Meara, seconded by Cllr. D. Dunne and 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 from the District Administrator, that grants totalling €4,324 be and are hereby approved for payment in respect of Community Grants to the following applicant groups:*

Applicant Group	Grant
Castle Court Residents Association, Carrick on Suir	€1,200.00
Fethard Men's Shed	€674.00
Glengoose Community Council	€700.00
Mullinahone Tidy Towns	€1,750.00

Item 4.6.

Assistance of Bodies under Section 66 of the Local Government Act, 2001:

The meetings Administrator indicated that there were no items for consideration under this heading.

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

None.

6.0. Correspondence

Item 6.1.

A letter from Minister Heather Humphreys T.D., dated 31 August 2023 in response to correspondence from Carrick on Suir Municipal District concerning Child Benefit, was circulated and noted.

Item 6.2.

A letter from Chief Superintendent Colm O'Sullivan dated 22 August 2023 in relation to changes in An Garda Síochána Operating Model in the Clare/Tipperary Division, was circulated and noted.

7.0. Notices of Motion

Item 7.2

Notice of Motion 2689.

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. K. Bourke:

"I am calling on Tipperary County Council to seek out funding to carry out much needed work on the Town Clock, Carrick on Suir."

Cllr. D. Dunne seconded the motion and it was unanimously agreed.

The Meetings Administrator circulated a report in response which stated that "following engagement with the owner, and having obtained her permission, Tipperary County Council commissioned Bluett & O'Donoghue Consultants to prepare a Preliminary Conservation Plan for the Town Clock, funded by the Community Monuments Fund. The Clock Tower is included in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage [NIAH] Ref:22123011 and is classified as being of "regional importance and of special archaeological, architectural, historical and social interest". The Conservation Plan contained a comprehensive set of recommendations on the next steps required in the conservation of this important landmark.

In addition, a Section 57 Declaration issued by the Planning Authority in 2021 outlined the works permitted to be carried out to the structure – both with and without the need for planning permission. An interim intervention involved the recruitment of a

contractor to undertake minor repair/repainting of the structure by the Carrick on Suir Business Association, duly funded by the Community & Rural Development Section's Town Centre Initiatives – Painting and Enhancement Scheme."

The report concluded that it was intended to continue engagement with the owner to proceed with an application under the **Built Heritage Investment Scheme** for the necessary funding to deliver the refurbishment of this Recorded Monument. It was anticipated that applications would be invited in November with approvals issuing in January 2024 and the matter would be prioritised in the new year, subject to the availability of funding.

Councillor Bourke in speaking to his motion, contended that the Clock Tower had always been the responsibility of the local authority and in his opinion, it was ranked in importance with Ormond Castle and The Old Bridge as an iconic landmark. He concluded that he was happy with the response.

8.0. Any Other Business

Item 8.1.

None for consideration.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

[15:20]



District Administrator.



Cathaoirleach.

3rd October 2023