

MINUTES OF JULY MEETING OF THE CASTLECOMER MUNICIPAL DISTRICT HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL ON MONDAY 17TH JULY AT 10.30AM

Chair: Cllr J Brennan

Cllrs: M H Cavanagh, P Fitzpatrick. McCarthy, P Millea and M Shortall.

Officials: M Delahunty, N Byrne, P Beuby, A Waldron & D Malone

Apologies: S Walton

1. Confirmation of Minutes of :-

(a) Ordinary Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held on 2nd June, 2017

The minutes were proposed by Cllr P Fitzpatrick, seconded by Cllr M McCarthy and agreed.

(b) Annual General Meeting of the Castlecomer Municipal District held on 2nd June, 2017

The minutes were proposed by Cllr P Millea, seconded by Cllr P Fitzpatrick and agreed.

2. Reception of Deputation:-

Reception of Deputation from Ballyragget Business Community

Cllr J Brennan welcomed deputation consisting of John McGrath, Caroline Phelan and Eamonn Foley on behalf of Ballyragget Business Community. The group made a detailed presentation setting out their concerns at the proposed and impending increase in rates for Ballyragget.

Contributions were received from the members in relation to the following:

- Work completed by M Prendiville and his team acknowledged.
- Rates increase proposed is disproportionate.
- Proposed increase unsustainable for rural communities.
- Question of rates being deferred in light of previous road works in the town raised and A Waldron to investigate.
- Formation of Business Group welcomed.
- Possible inclusion of town under Town and Village Renewal Scheme discussed and volume of applications received under this scheme acknowledged.
- It was agreed that copy of presentation together with general letter would be sent to the Valuation Office.

A Waldron outlined key dates going forward. M Delahunty acknowledged that Ballyragget was an ideal candidate for inclusion under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme and highlighted the need for communities to drive themselves and maximise available resources.

3. Consideration of Reports and Recommendations Castlecomer Local Area Plan

D Malone provided detailed presentation to the members in respect of the draft Castlecomer Local Area Plan.

Contributions were received from the members in respect of the following:

- Request to leave publication of draft plan to as late as possible in August.
- Clarification sought in respect of OPW site.
- Constraints on site for proposed Sue Ryder homes discussed.
- Allow proposed site opposite Ormond Brick to remain in Plan.
- Need for parking difficulties in Castlecomer to be addressed.
- Details of proposed public consultation welcomed.
- Possibility of side discussion with key drivers as the need arises.
- Requirement for installation of ducting in footpath extension on N78 during construction.

D Malone was thanked for presentation provided and withdrew from the meeting.

Road Works Programme

P Beubry circulated to the members update on the 2017 Road Works Scheme.

Kilmanagh Car Park

P Beubry outlined details of car park to be provided in Kilmanagh which will involve investment of €40,000 with €25,000 from Special Works and €15,000 Clar funding.

Contributions were received from the members as follows:

- Investment in rural community welcomed.
- Increased safety measures welcomed.
- Request for P Beubry to consult with the local community
- Request for works to be done on phased basis to maximise Clar funding.
- Sewerage issues in Kilmanagh Village raised.

4. **Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Council for transaction at such meeting**

None

5. **Other business set forth in the Notice convening the meeting**

None

6. **Notice of Motion**

None

7. **Correspondence**

None

8. **Matters arising from minutes**

None

9. **Any other business**

(a) **Provision of car park at Freshford Graveyard – update.**

It was agreed that this item would be deferred to the September meeting unless Simon Walton spoke to the members on the issue in the interim.

(b) **Freshford Bottle banks - update.**

N Byrne circulated report prepared by M Good, Environment Services to the members. Cllr M McCarthy confirmed that the bottle banks are to remain in situ and that an application has been submitted to the Department for funding to upgrade all bring banks. M Delahunty confirmed that Freshford will be a priority site for attention under the upgrade.

(c) **Hedges, Weeds and Roadside Trees**

Members enquired whether it would be beneficial to have a dedicated team to tackle weed control going forward. P Beubry advised details of trained staff in each Overseer's area. P Beubry also advised details of grass verge cutting ongoing since 12th of June.

Contributions were received from the members as follows:

- Cllr M McCarthy sought update from D Murphy in respect of overhanging trees after Rock Bar in Kilkenny Area.
- Cllr M H Cavanagh sought details of rules and regulations governing hedge cutting and burning for next meeting.
- Cllr P Fitzpatrick requested that P Beubry investigate overgrown verges in the Jenkinstown area.

- Members sought clarification as to responsibility for roadside trees.
- (d) **Ownership to the middle of road in front of Galmoy school**
Cllr M H Cavanagh sought details as to who owns to the middle of the road in front of Galmoy school.
- (e) **Bridge on Old Ballyragget Road**
Cllr M Shortall enquired whether Bridge on Old Ballyragget Road could be included for bridge rehabilitation works.
- (f) **Reception of Deputation**
Cllr M Shortall sought permission for reception of deputation from Moneenroe Community Council at the September meeting to which members agreed.
- (g) **Regional Assembly**
Members expressed their congratulation to Cllr J Brennan on his appointment as Chairperson of the Regional Assembly.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Chaireperson: _____

Date: _____