

South Tipperary County Council

Minutes of South Tipperary County Council Meeting held in The Council Chamber, County Hall, Clonmel On Monday 12th January, 2009.

- In The Chair** Cllr. Tom Ambrose
- Present** Cllrs. L. Ahearn, M. Anglim, K. Bourke, J. Crosse, J. Crowe, J. Donovan, S. Healy, J. Fahey, M. Fitzgerald, D. Foley, R. Kennedy, C. Kinahan, D. Landy, S. Lonergan, S. McCarthy, A. Moloney, S. Meagher, P. Norris, S. Nyhan, J. O'Brien, R. O'Meara, B. Shoer, T. Wood.
- Apologies** Cllrs. D. Ryan and M. Maguire
- In Attendance** Mr. E. O'Connor, County Manager, Mr. B. McEvoy, Director of Services, Ms. E. Drennan, Head of Finance, Mr. S. Keating, Director of Services, Mr. D. Holland, S.E., Mr. A. Fennessey, S.E.O., Ms. H. Houlihan, S.O.
- Good Wishes** The Cathaoirleach wished members and officials a happy and prosperous New Year.
- Casual Vacancy – Co-option** The Cathaoirleach welcomed members of the family of the late Denis Bourke to the meeting and in particular his widow Evelyn.
- It was proposed by Cllr. R. Kennedy,
Seconded by Cllr. S. Meagher
And Resolved:-
- “That pursuant to the provisions of Section 19 of the Local Government Act, 2001, Kieran Bourke, be appointed to the Casual Vacancy which exists on South Tipperary County Council”
- As there was no other proposal Cllr Kieran Bourke was deemed elected.
- The Members welcomed Cllr. Bourke and the continuation of the Bourke family tradition in the membership of the South Tipperary County Council. Cllr. Bourke thanked the members and stated it was a great honour to occupy his late uncle's seat.
- Minutes** On the proposal of Cllr. R. Kennedy and seconded by Cllr. J. Fahey the minutes of Council Meeting held on 1st December, 2008 were agreed.

Matters Arising

Disruption to Water Supply

In reply to an enquiry by Cllr. Fahey regarding the water supply serving the Killenaule/Fethard area, it was confirmed that disruption has arisen due to leaks and the frosty conditions. These issues were being dealt with, with a view to increasing water levels at Killenaule Reservoir.

Fethard/Burncourt Scheme

In reply to an enquiry by Cllr. Foley, it was confirmed that funding for the Fethard Burncourt Water Supply Scheme was included in the Water Services Investment Programme and approval had been granted to proceed to contract document stage. However the project involved a new abstraction of water and this process could take in the region of 2 years to complete. Therefore it was not envisaged that the contract would commence for some time.

Planning Refusals

The Meetings Administrator advised that there were none.

Public Notice of Proposed Works

The Meetings Administrator advised that there were none.

**Conferences/
Seminars**

On the proposal of Cllr. R. Kennedy, seconded by Cllr. S. Lonergan it was agreed that:-

Cllrs. Seanie Lonergan and Pat Norris be nominated to attend conference entitled "Irish Language Course for Councillors" organised by Esperanza Enterprises on 2nd – 4th January, 2009.

Cllrs. Pat Norris, Seanie Lonergan and Tom Wood be nominated to attend conference entitled "The Local Government Planning Service" organised by Esperanza Enterprises on 9th – 11th January, 2009.

Cllrs. Sean McCarthy, Jimmy O'Brien and Tom Wood be nominated to attend conference entitled "2009 Turning Change into Opportunity; Our next steps" organised by UCC Commerce Society on 20th January, 2009.

Cllrs. Jimmy O'Brien, Derry Foley, Tom Wood, Christy Kinahan, Michael Maguire, Liam Ahearn and John Crosse be nominated to attend conference entitled "4th Annual Conference – Achieving Balanced Regional Development" organised by ICLRD on 22nd – 23rd January, 2009.

Cllrs. Darren Ryan, Seanie Lonergan and Denis Landy be nominated to attend conference entitled "Activities Tourism" organised by Antrim Borough Council & Clare Tourist Council on 23rd – 24th January, 2009.

Cllr. Pat Norris be nominated to attend conference entitled “Effective Communications for Councillors” organised by Kadenza to be held on 30th January – 1st February, 2009.

**Section 183 Notice
Property at 16
Mountain View,
Ballylynch,
Carrick-on-Suir**

It was proposed by Cllr. D. Landy,
Seconded by Cllr. E. O’Meara
And Resolved:-

“That in accordance with the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001 we hereby approve of the disposal of the property at 16 Mountain View, Ballylynch, Carrick-on-Suir to Carrick-on-Suir Town Council, Carrick-on-Suir, Co. Tipperary in accordance with the terms of the Notice under the above Section, as circulated on the 22nd December, 2008”

**Application of
Special Speed
Limits**

- **R639 (old N8Cashel-Mitchelstown Rd)**
- **On/Off Ramps M8**

Mr. McEvoy informed the meeting that it was intended to apply special speed limits for the following roads after completion of the Cashel-Mitchelstown (M8) Road Improvement Scheme.

- M8 – it was proposed to introduce Byelaws to cover the speed limit of 80kmph on the on-off ramps at the junction on the M8.
- R639 (old N8 Cashel – Mitchelstown Road) The current default speed limit was the standard 80kmph for a regional road and it was now the intention to increase this to 100 kmph where the road allowed this.

Mr. McEvoy outlined the process involved whereby the Gardai, NRA, adjoining local authorities and the public would be consulted and any submissions received would be taken into account. This was a reserved function and the matter would be brought back before the members at a later date.

In reply to an enquiry by Cllr. Kennedy regarding a section of the N8 from Cashel to Horse & Jockey, Mr. McEvoy informed the meeting that as the Cashel to Cullahill roadway passed through three local authority areas a co-ordinated approach would be taken to any alterations to this section of road.

Some members referred to signage for Kilcoran and it was confirmed that standard signage for tourist facilities would be erected on the motorway at the relevant junction.

N24 issues

The Cathaoirleach informed the meeting that Oireachtas Members suggested that a possible way of advancing the members concerns over issues affecting the N24, was for the Oireachtas Members together with the County Manager and Cathaoirleach to meet with a Senior Official of the N.R.A. Some members expressed reservations. However, following

discussion it was agreed to proceed as proposed as an initial step.

**South Tipperary
County Council
Climate Change
Strategy Update**

Mr. Denis Holland informed the meeting that the preparation of the Climate Change Strategy for South Tipperary County Council was at an advanced stage and a formal launch of the strategy was recommended. It was suggested that an invitation would be issued to Mr. Eamon Ryan, Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources to do the launch. This was agreed.

**Finance
Approval to
Overdraft
Accommodation in
the amount of
€250,000 for the
year to 31st Dec, 09**

It was proposed by Cllr. R. Kennedy,
Seconded by Cllr. D. Foley,
And Resolved:-

“That Overdraft Accommodation in the sum of €250,000 be approved for the year to 31st December, 2009”.

**Fix Date for
February Meeting**

It was agreed that the February Meeting of the Council would take place on Monday 9th February, 2009.

**County Manager’s
Orders**

County Manager’s Orders for the month of December were noted.

*Arising from
Manager’s Orders
Derelict Sites*

Queries in relation to various sites were responded to as follows:-

Ballingarry - the property was in the ownership of the Council and previous attempts by the Council to re-develop this site as an infill scheme did not proceed due to title difficulties and objections from the local community council, which are still unresolved. Discussions have also taken place with Thornsett Developments Ltd, acting on behalf of the OPW, in relation to utilising it as a site for a Garda station, however there has been no further progress to date in relation to this matter. In the interim, the site will be examined with a view to carrying out works to make it non-derelict. In the long term, it will be necessary for the Council to examine a number of different proposals for the site and to revert back to the Fethard Area Cllrs for further consideration.

Mullinahone - two sites in the ownership of the Council were being examined with a view to incorporating them into the Council’s Social Housing Investment Programme as infill schemes, however the timeframe for the re-development of the sites would be dependant on demand in the area and available capital funding. It is intended in the interim to examine the sites and for relevant works to be carried out to make them non-derelict.

Cahir - the building known as the “silo” had been inspected and the Council was satisfied that works could be carried out to improve the overall appearance of the property.

Adaptation Grants

In reply to queries Mr. G. Walsh clarified that it had been necessary, having regard to its current commitments, to suspend the adaptation grant schemes pending the notification of the Council’s 2009 capital allocation. Some applicants would have received approval letters in principle indicating their qualification under the scheme but these applicants would have been advised not to proceed with the works until further notification of approval to proceed by the Council.

Mr. Walsh also confirmed that in cases where works had been completed prior to Christmas, that the Council had paid these grants from its own resources and they would be taken out of its 2009 allocation.

**Notices of Motion
Laneway at Boulea,
The Commons**

The Council considered the following Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. S. Healy:-

“That the laneway at Boulea, The Commons serving Ivors, Maher & Norton families be resurfaced, as it is in very poor condition”.

The reply stated that this Notice of Motion referred to the townland of Bolintlea, The Commons (Road Nos L21091-0 and L21092-0). These roads were not included in the Multi-Annual Roadworks Programme 2008 – 2010 for re-surfacing works. Normal maintenance work was carried out as necessary.

However, the roads were eligible for consideration under the Community Involvement Scheme. Applications for the 2009 Community Involvement Scheme should be submitted to Roads Section by 29th January 2009.

Correspondence

(a) Reply dated 26th November, 2008 from Office of the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government regarding submissions and observations on planning permissions.

(b) Reply dated 4th December, 2008, from Office of the Minister for Education regarding budget measures relating to education.

(c) Reply dated 9th December, 2008, from Office of the Minister for Environment, Heritage and Local Government regarding department contacts for Councillors.

Cllr Landy requested that the provision of contact numbers be pursued further.

(d) Acknowledgement dated 11th December, 2008 from office of the Minister for Education and Science regarding pupil teacher ratio.

(e) Letter dated 15th December, 2008, from Senator Phil Prendergast regarding budget measures relating to education.

(f) Reply dated 17th December, 2008, from Office of the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food regarding the Young Farmers Installation Grant.

(g) Reply dated 18th December, 2008 from office of the Minister for Health regarding the HPV school vaccination programme.

(h) Circular letter RST 4/2008 – Special Speed Limits

(i) Reply dated 30th December, 2008 from D.O.E.H.L.G. re. €200 non-principal private residences charge.

Cllr. Landy requested that further clarification on the collection and revenue received from the levy be sought.

Any Other Business *Gaelscoil*

In response to an enquiry by Cllr. Healy, the County Manager confirmed that an agreement had been made to dispose of a site for the erection of a Gaelscoil but that the transfer of the site could not be carried out until the boundaries of the site were defined. This would be contained in the Masterplan for the HSE lands at Ardgaioithe which was expected to be received in late February.

Task Force

In response to an enquiry by Cllr Wood, the County Manager confirmed that a local Task Force comprising representatives from various agencies was in operation.

House Insurance

Cllr Fahey requested that tenants of local authority dwellings be alerted to the need to have the contents of their dwellings insured.

Traffic Calming Bansha

Cllr Fitzgerald referred to traffic calming measures that were carried out in Bansha and asked that safety issues relating to an island created at the junction into Galtee View Estate be examined.

Icy Road Conditions

The Cathaoirleach thanked the road crews who worked during

the recent icy weather conditions to keep the roads safe. Cllr Landy enquired about the provision of a contact point for people to report icy sections of road. This was to be considered.

Votes of Sympathy

Votes of sympathy were passed to the following:-

- Cllr. Jack Crowe on the death of his sister Ms. Phyllis O'Dwyer
- Mrs. Carrie Atcheson, Kilmanahan on the death of her husband Hugh.

Conclusion

The meeting then concluded

Signed/_____. Dated/_____.
Cathaoirleach.

Signed/_____. Dated/_____.
Meetings Administrator