

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF MONTHLY MEETING OF  
NORTH TIPPERARY COUNTY COUNCIL HELD IN THE  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CIVIC OFFICES, LIMERICK ROAD,  
NENAGH ON MONDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2011 AT 2P.M.**

**Present** Cllr. John Kennedy, Mayor - Presided

Cllrs. Dr. Phyll Bugler; John Carroll; Jim Casey; Billy Clancy; Pauline Coonan; Ger Darcy; Seamus Hanafin; John Hogan; Micheál Lowry; Hughie McGrath; John 'Rocky' McGrath; Jonathan Meaney; Eddie Moran; Virginia O'Dowd; Michael O'Meara; Denis Ryan; Jim Ryan; Mattie Ryan; Michael Smith.

**Apologies** Cllr. Séamus Morris

**Also Present** Joe MacGrath, County Manager; Liam McCarthy, Head of Finance & Corporate Services; Marcus O'Connor, Director of Services; Matt Shortt, Director of Services; Karl Cashen, Director of Services; Brian Beck, Senior Planner; Rosemary Joyce, Meetings Administrator/Senior Executive Officer; Gerry Robinson, Senior Executive Engineer; Michael F. Hayes, Senior Engineer; Áine McCarthy, Staff Officer

**Suspension of Standing Orders** The meeting was convened and on the proposal of Cllr. M. Smith seconded by Cllr. M. Ryan it was agreed to adjourn the meeting until 2.25 p.m.

**Votes of Sympathy** Votes of Sympathy were passed to the following:-

- The Guerin Family on the death of Ml. Guerin

**Item 1.1**  
**Minutes of March 2011 Monthly Meeting** It was proposed by Cllr. J. Carroll, seconded by Cllr. J. Casey and unanimously agreed that the minutes of the March 2011 Monthly Meeting be adopted.

**Item 1.2**  
**Action Plan** Members noted the Action Plan Progress Report, copy of which had been sent to them via e-mail.

**Item 2.1**  
**Part 8 Report – Proposed Development at Lachtacarn, Arderoney, Nenagh** It was noted that the Council was not in a position to go ahead with this item at this time and it was agreed to defer consideration of same.

**Item 3.1**  
**2011 Roadworks Programme** It was proposed by Cllr. S.Hanafin and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll and agreed to approve the 2011 Roadworks Programme, copy of which was circulated via email.

Cllr. S. Hanafin enquired as to when the Thurles By-Pass route would be selected. Mr. M. O'Connor advised members that the route selection was currently being finalised by the Road Design Office in Mungret and North Tipperary had been advised that it would be ready in approximately one month. He added that once the route selection process was finalized it would be the intention to include the preferred route in the Town and County Development Plan following a public consultation process. Funding would then have to be secured in order to allow construction to commence. Thurles Area Members stressed the importance of completing the route selection process as quickly as possible because of the implications for planning applications.

Cllr. J. Kennedy expressed concerns regarding litter on the motorways and the upkeep of roundabouts and rest areas.

Mr. M. F. Hayes advised members that the Council is aware of the problems with litter particularly in the rest areas and would arrange clean ups. Enforcement options would also be pursued.

Cllr. J. Carroll requested an update regarding the local road numbering programme which he felt was important particularly for areas with walking routes.

Mr. M. O'Connor advised members that the Roads Regional Signage Scheme has not been completed in any of the 4 areas and the allocation for 2011 should allow the Council to complete the scheme.

Cllr. M. Ryan expressed concern at the condition of the R503. He was advised that it was hoped to deal with the worst sections in the current year.

**Item 4.1**  
**Quarterly Report-**  
**Water Services**

Members noted the Water Services Quarterly Report, copy of which was circulated via email.

Cllr. J. Ryan requested an update on the Thurles Regional Water Supply Scheme. He also commented on the Unaccounted For Water figures for 2010, complimenting the Council on achieving a reduction and querying if the Council would be able to reduce this figure even further.

Mr. M. O'Connor updated members on the Newport Regional Water Supply Scheme stating that the contract would be signed on the 28<sup>th</sup> of April. He advised that the same contractor would be engaged for the Thurles Scheme. The selection of resident engineering staff for Thurles was being finalized and it would be a number of months before the contract would be signed. In relation to the Unaccounted for Water figures he stated that 7000 m<sup>3</sup> were being saved as a result of the Water Conservation project – usage had been at a level of 26000 m<sup>3</sup> and was now 19000m<sup>3</sup> per day.

Cllr. H. Mc Grath raised concerns about the smell emanating from some of the drains on Pearse Street and Kenyon Street in Nenagh.

Mr. M. O'Connor informed members that the Council is currently preparing a preliminary report to upgrade the sewerage scheme in Nenagh Town but a key issue is that some businesses are releasing fats, oils and grease down drains. The Council is calling to relevant businesses and checking if they have appropriate grease removal units in place.

**Item 5.1 Planning**  
**& Development**  
**Register**

Members noted the Planning & Development Register for the month of March 2011, copy of which was circulated via email.

A number of the members raised queries in relation to development bonds and if the Council had made any progress in calling in the bonds.

Mr. M. Shortt advised that eleven bonds had been called in and gave an update on same. He agreed to provide further information in the next quarterly report on Planning.

**Item 5.2 Draft  
County Retail  
Strategy 2011**

Mr. B. Beck made a presentation to the members on the Draft County Retail Strategy and advised members that this document would be placed on public display to facilitate a public consultation process. He encouraged members to bring the document to the attention of the Chambers of Commerce and businesses across the County and added that there would be a workshop for the members on the Strategy once the public consultation process was completed.

Members thanked Mr. B. Beck for the presentation and welcomed the document. A discussion followed on the importance of the Strategy to the viability of the retail sector and the need to ensure the protection of Town Centres.

It was proposed by Cllr. J. Casey and seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll and agreed to put the Draft County Retail Strategy 2011 on public display.

Mr. J. MacGrath welcomed the debate and underlined the importance of the Strategy to North Tipperary. He stated that the Council would ensure the document is accessible in the public domain and to the business sector. He advised that it is critical that the vibrancy of the Town Centres is maintained to ensure the economic viability of the County going forward. He added that it is critical that people participate in the public consultation process and submit their views. It would be further considered by the Strategic Policy Committee and a Workshop would be held before final adoption of the Strategy.

**Item 6.1  
Draft Annual  
Report 2010**

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll and agreed that the Draft Annual Report for 2010 be adopted.

**Item 6.2  
Implementation  
Reports on  
Corporate Plan &  
Customer Action  
Plan**

Members noted the Implementation Reports on Corporate Plan & Customer Action Plan to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010 copy of which was circulated to them via email.

**Item 6.3  
Service Indicators  
for 2010**

Members noted the Implementation Report on Service Indicators 2010, copy of which was circulated to them via email.

**Item 7.1  
2011 Business  
Action Plan for  
Corporate Plan  
2010 - 2014**

It was agreed to defer this item and that it be brought before members at a later date.

**Item 8.1  
Reports on  
Strategic Policy  
Committee  
Meetings**

Summaries of the following SPC Meetings were noted:

- Planning & Development/Community & Enterprise held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2011
- Joint Transportation, Roads & Water Services and Environment & Emergency Services held on 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2011
- Housing held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011

**Item 9.1  
Report on  
Meetings held by  
Area Committees**

Summaries of the following Area Committee meetings were noted:

- Thurles held on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011

**Item 10.1  
Attendance at  
Conferences**

It was proposed by Cllr. M. Ryan, seconded by Cllr. J. Carroll and resolved "That pursuant to Section 142 (5) of the Local Government Act 2001 and having regard to (i) the benefits likely to accrue, (ii) the general interest of this administrative area and of the local community (iii) the estimated cost of the proposed attendance and the provision made for such purposes in the annual budget, hereby nominate those listed hereunder to attend the following Conference/Seminar"

Seminar/Conference /Similar event	Dates	Venue	Nominees	Estimated Cost
Association of County & City Councils Annual Conference	24 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly	Cllr. Dr. Phyll Bugler Cllr. Jim Casey	€500
Smarter Travel, Traffic & Travel Information	23 <sup>rd</sup> March	River Lee Hotel, Western Road, Cork	Cllr Denis Ryan	€500
How to be an Effective Chairperson	01 <sup>st</sup> – 03 <sup>rd</sup> April	The Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, Co. Cork	Cllr Billy Clancy Cllr Virginia O'Dowd	€500
Developing the Social Economy to Stimulate Economic Growth	24 <sup>th</sup> & 25 <sup>th</sup> March	Listowel Arms Hotel	Cllr Denis Ryan	€500
Seminar on Planning & Development Amendment Act 2010	15 <sup>th</sup> April	Athlone I.T., Athlone, Co. Westmeath	Cllr. John Kennedy Cllr. Michael Smith Cllr. John Carroll	€500
NFLA All-Ireland Forum – Considering the impact of the current nuclear incident in Japan	1 <sup>st</sup> April	Newry Council Offices, Newry	Cllr. John Carroll Cllr. Pauline Coonan Cllr. Denis Ryan	€500
Seminar on Planning & Development Amendment Act 2010	8 <sup>th</sup> April	St. Angela's College, Lough Gill, Sligo	Cllr. Denis Ryan Cllr. Pauline Coonan Cllr. John 'Rocky' McGrath	€500
The Future of Local Politics	15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Celtic Ross Hotel, Rosscarbery, West Cork	Cllr. John 'Rocky' McGrath	€500
National Bioenergy Conference 2011 – Bioenergy: Wakening the Sleeping Giant	20 <sup>th</sup> April	Tullamore Court Hotel, Tullamore, Co. Offaly	Cllr. John 'Rocky' McGrath	€500
20 <sup>th</sup> Annual Kerry Environmental Conference	7 <sup>th</sup> – 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Meadowlands Hotel, Oakpark, Tralee, Co. Kerry	Cllr. John Kennedy	€500
The Good Friday Agreement – Local Government North and South	15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> April	The Kingsvalley Hotel, Merlin Park, Dublin Road, Galway City	Cllr. Michael Smith	€500

**Item 10.2**  
**Reports on**  
**Conferences**

Members noted the following Reports on Conferences: -

Conference/Seminar Title	Date Of Conference	Reports Received from:
Taking Care of Business 2011	16 <sup>th</sup> February 2011	Cllr. John Carroll
Planning & Development (Amendment) Act 2010 Seminar	8 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	Cllr. John 'Rocky' McGrath
NFLA All-Ireland Forum – Considering the impact of the current nuclear incident in Japan	1 <sup>st</sup> April 2011	Cllr. Denis Ryan
Planning & Development (Amendment) Act 2010 Seminar	8 <sup>th</sup> April 2011	Cllr. Denis Ryan

**Item 11.1**  
**Mayor's Business**

Cllr. J. Kennedy informed members that a meeting with Oireachtas members had been arranged however none had been available to attend. It had now been deferred to the May Meeting and it was hoped that all would be available as there were a number of issues on which the Council wanted support.

**Item 12.1**  
**County**  
**Manager's/**  
**Directors Business**

Mr. J. MacGrath informed members that a presentation by RPS Consultants in relation to Ballaghveny Landfill would take place at the May monthly meeting.

**Item 12.2**  
**County**  
**Manager's/**  
**Directors Orders**

Members noted the County Managers/Directors of Services/Heads of Functions Orders for month of March 2011.

**Item 13.1**  
**Tenders**

Members noted the following Schedule of Tenders:-

John Molumby, Building Contractor, 4 St. Ailbe's Terrace, Bohernanave, Thurles in the sum of €33,600 excluding VAT for Energy Efficiency Upgrade Works and General Works to houses at 5 and 20 Gleann Ri, Holycross
Knockrath Construction Ltd., Knockane, Toomevara, Nenagh in the sum of €18,620 excluding VAT for Energy Efficiency Upgrade Works and General Works to house at 2 Ashbury, Roscrea
Ryan Hanley Consultants, Sherwood House, Sherwood Avenue, Taylors Hill Galway in the sum of €90,634 inclusive of VAT plus expenses of €9,063 – to act as Consulting Engineer for the Water Conservation Project Stage 3 Thurles Advanced Rehabilitation Works
Priority Construction Ltd., 162 Clontarf Road, Dublin 3 for capping of Cell 10A at Ballaghveny Landfill, Ballymackey, Nenagh in the sum of €237,773.00 excluding VAT
Jons Civil Engineering Company Ltd., Carranstown, Dunleek, Co. Meagh in the sum of €766,134.24 exclusive of VAT – Thurles Link Road

**Item 14.1**  
**Notices of Motion**

None

**Item 15.1**  
**Correspondence**

Members noted the following correspondence copy of which was circulated to them via email: -

1.	Letter of thanks from Deputy Noel Coonan to Council's Vote of Congratulations on his recent re-election to Dáil Éireann.
2.	Acknowledgement from Health Service Executive to Council's letter regarding the proposed transfer of ICU beds from Nenagh General Hospital to Limerick.
3.	Reply from the Water Services & Policy Section of the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government to Council's letter requesting a national publicity campaign in the run-up to winter.
4.	Reply from the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government to Council's letter requesting a national publicity campaign in the run-up to winter.
5.	Resolution from Leitrim County Council regarding Quinn Insurance Group.
6.	Resolution from Leitrim County Council regarding proposed changes to Primary School Transport Scheme.
7.	Resolution from Thurles Town Council expressing revulsion at the callous and cowardly murder of Ronan Kerr.
8.	Resolution from Monaghan Town Council regarding the preservation of the Irish language.

9.	Email from Hazel Maher, C.O. expressing her gratitude for Council's Vote of Sympathy passed to her on the death of her grandmother.
10.	Acknowledgement Card from the family of the late Peter Fogarty.
11.	Acknowledgement Card from the family of the late Brian Lemass.

**Item 16.1**  
**Any Other**  
**Business**

Cllr. G. Darcy reminded members that a meeting of the Joint Policing Committee would be held on 19<sup>th</sup> April.

Cllr. J. Hogan requested the Council to review the facilities offered to the members.

Mr. J. MacGrath agreed to discuss facilities with the Corporate Policy Group. He reminded members that the Motor Taxation department would be moving to the Civic Offices before the end of the year and this would take up any available space in the building.

This concluded the business of the Meeting, a true copy of which we hereby certify.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Cllr. John Kennedy,  
Mayor**

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

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Ms. Rosemary Joyce,  
Meetings Administrator**

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