

**Minutes of Proceedings of Monthly Meeting of
Nenagh Town Council held in the Civic Offices, Nenagh
on Monday, 26th May, 2008**

Councillors Present: Cllr. S. Morris Cllr. T. Sheary
Cllr. T. Moylan Cllr. S. Farrell
Cllr. V. O'Dowd Cllr. T. Morgan
Cllr. H. McGrath Cllr. J. O'Connor
Cllr. T. Mulqueen

Also Present: P. Heffernan, Town Manager
S. O'Callaghan, A/Town Clerk
M. Woulfe, Town Engineer
K. Callanan, A/Senior Engineer
D. Fahy, Assistant Engineer
K. Clifford
M. Ryan

Apologies: Cllr. T. Morgan
D. Purcell

The Mayor, Cllr. S. Farrell presided.

Cllr. Farrell proposed that a Vote of Sympathy be passed to Mr. Paddy Heffernan on the death of his wife Kathleen. All Members wished to be associated with same.

Cllr. Sheary proposed that a Vote of Sympathy be passed to Cllrs. McGrath and Farrell on the death of Michael McGrath. All Members wished to be associated with same.

Mr. Michael Woulfe, Town Engineer, wished to be associated with the Votes of Sympathy on his own behalf and on behalf of all the staff of Nenagh Town Council.

2. To Consider Minutes Action Plan

The Mayor advised the meeting that she proposed to deal with the Action Plan first, as Acting Senior Roads Engineer was in attendance to give his report on the status of the Dromin Road. Mr. Callanan stated that the County Council would look favourably on improving that portion of the Dromin road located in the County Council area, subject to availability of funding. The Members welcomed this news.

Cllr. Sheary queried the up-to-date position regarding the colouring and signage of disabled parking spaces. Town Engineer stated the position was being checked with the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government and would revert with Members once a reply had been received.

Cllr. Morris queried whether or not a planning application had been lodged for the Nenagh Castle Visitor Centre. Town Manager replied that no application had yet been received and

he had no further update on same. Cllr. O'Dowd stated that she had tried to make contact with the OPW regarding the taking over of the Castle Field and was unsuccessful.

Town Manager stated that major staff changes had taken place in the Department due to decentralisation and both the Visitor Centre and the Castle Field were two separate projects. His understanding was that the Lease for the Castle Field was with the State Solicitor at present, awaiting a decision. Town Manager felt that difficulties may arise with same as palisade fencing was going through the area in question and scaffolding was erected for works on the Castle.

Cllr. O'Connor stated that it was great to see the scaffolding in place but that the remainder of the Castle field was a disgrace. Members agreed that this was the case. The Manager advised the Members that Council Staff were removing litter from the Castle Field on a regular basis.

The Mayor requested that an invitation be forwarded to Minister Hocht to attend the June meeting to update the Council on outstanding issues on the Castle and the Visitor Centre.

A discussion also took place with regard to the Military Barracks and Members requested a meeting with Minister O'Dea.

Cllr. O'Connor queried whether an invitation had been sent to the Nenagh Hospital Action Group to attend meeting and Mayor replied stating that apologies had been received from Paul Malone and representatives from the Action Group would attend the July Monthly Meeting. Cllr. Morris queried whether a reply had been received from Deputy Maire Hocht with regard to invitation forwarded to her to attend Council meeting to address staffing issues at Nenagh Hospital and other issues.

1. To consider Minutes of March Monthly Meeting

It was proposed by: Cllr. S. Morris
Seconded by: Cllr. T. Sheary
and agreed that the minutes be adopted.

The Mayor requested an update on Unfinished Estates. The Town Manager stated that he was not in a position to update the Members on same. Cllr. Sheary queried whether the Council was obliged to take over Estates if everything was satisfactory. Town Manager clarified that this would be the position provided that the Council was requested by the developer or the majority of the residents to take an estate in charge. He stated that there would be financial implications for the Council arising from taking estates in charge.

To consider Minutes of April Monthly Meeting

It was proposed by: Cllr. S. Morris
Seconded by: Cllr. T. Sheary
and agreed that the minutes be adopted.

To consider Minutes of Adjourned April Monthly Meeting

It was proposed by: Cllr. V. O'Dowd
Seconded by: Cllr. T. Moylan

and agreed that the minutes be adopted.

3. To consider Auditors Report on Annual Financial Statement 2006

The Members noted the Auditors Report on the 2006 Annual financial Statement. Cllr. Moylan complimented the high percentage collection for Rates and Rents. All Members wished to be associated with same.

4. To consider and authorise Loan Facility to fund Construction of Affordable Houses

The Manager advised the Members that it was necessary to raise the proposed loan for cash flow purposes during the construction of the Council's Affordable Housing Scheme.

It was proposed by: Cllr. T. Sheary

Seconded by: Cllr. J. O' Connor

and agreed that we, the Nenagh Town Council, pursuant to the Local Government Act 2001 and subject to the sanction of the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, approves the raising of a loan with the Housing Finance Agency (HFA) in the sum of €4,500,000 (four million, fivehundred thousand euro) for the purpose of constructing an Affordable Housing Scheme at Nenagh North, Nenagh.

5. To Consider Managers Report and Recommendations on submissions received on Draft Traffic & Parking Bye-Laws, 2008 and to adopt Bye-Laws

The Members considered the Manager's Report on submissions received following the statutory public consultation period for the proposed Traffic & Parking Bye-Laws. The following revised limits on parking in Car parks were proposed.

Carpark	Duration
Kenyon St Carpark	4 hr
Friar St Carpark	4 hr
Abbey St Carpark	4 hr
Railway Carpark	All Day

It was agreed by all that the above durations were acceptable.

The following proposed changes were considered in relation to Parking Restrictions and Traffic Regulation -

- *Yewston* – provide double yellow lines on both sides of existing through road. Council to also consider supplementary proposals to eliminate rat-running through Yewston. This will be possible when junction improvements at Clare Street/William Street are completed.

It was proposed by: Cllr. J. O'Connor

Seconded by: Cllr. S. Morris

and agreed to provide double yellow lines on both sides of existing through road. The consideration of further changes in this area would not be pursued at this time.

- *Ballalley Lane* – provide double yellow lines along both sides for entire length of road

It was agreed by all that above was acceptable

- *Knockanpierce* – introduce one-way system around green with double yellow lines adjacent to the green as part of initial parking improvements and traffic management scheme for the estate. Further supplementary parking and green protection works can be progressed with agreement of residents.

It was agreed by all to omit the above proposals from the Bye Laws and suggested that the Town Engineer would work with the Residents of Knockanpierce.

- *William Street* – provide double yellow lines along entire western side with unregulated parking on the eastern side. This is aimed at improving access to and from town via this important link and to protect existing and new footpath construction
Stafford Street – replace single yellow line parking with double yellow line system along northern side of street with parking only on southern side.

It was proposed by: Cllr. J. O'Connor

Seconded by: Cllr. S. Morris

And agreed to omit these proposals.

- *New Line Road* – provide double yellow lines on both sides of road at junction with O'Rahilly Street/Drummin Road/Melrose to remove parking close to junction on New Line Road approach. These would extend for a distance of 10m from the junction.

It was agreed by all that above was acceptable

- *Ciamaltha Road//Silver Mews* – extend double yellow lines for a distance of 15m eastwards to improve sightlines on exit from estate. Double yellow system already in place to the west.

It was proposed by: Cllr. S. Farrell

Seconded by: Cllr. T. Sheary

and agreed *Silver Street//Silver Mews* – extend double yellow lines for a distance of 10m eastwards to improve sightlines on exit from estate.

- *Ciamaltha Road/Thomond Place* – extend double yellow lines for a distance of 15m either side of entrance to Thomond Place to improve sightlines on exit from estate.

It was proposed by: Cllr. V. O'Dowd

Seconded by: Cllr. T. Sheary

And agreed *Ciamaltha Road/Thomond Place* – extend double yellow lines for a distance of 10m either side of entrance to Thomond Place to improve sightlines on exit from estate.

Cllr. Moylan stated that he could not support this proposal and requested that same be recorded in the minutes.

- *Church View* – provide double yellow lines over entire length of western side to ensure unrestricted access for private entrances on this side. These will supplement existing double yellow line system on the eastern side.
It was agreed by all to omit this proposal.

Loading/Pay Parking

- *Abbey Street* – install formal loading bay along entire length of Quintin's Way development (reverts to 1 hour pay parking outside loading hours)

It was agreed by all that above was acceptable

- remove some double yellow lines and replace with 1 hour parking at the back of *Friar's Court*

It was agreed by all that above was acceptable

- *Emmett Place* – provide 1 hr parking across frontage of Flannery's

It was agreed by all to omit the above

Set Down

Ashe Road – takeover new set down area provided along frontage of St Mary's school.

It was agreed by all that above was acceptable

Box Junctions

Alter schedules to include already agreed yellow box junctions at:

- traffic light junction at hospital carpark
- Ballygraique Road/Thurles Road junction
- Belmont/Conlon's Rd/Cormack Drive

It was agreed by all that above was acceptable

Casual Trading

Include provision for parking restrictions on casual trading area in John's Lane carpark to ensure that this area is available for casual trading at the designated times.

It was agreed by all that above was acceptable

It was proposed by: Cllr. S. Morris
Seconded by: Cllr. J. O'Connor
And agreed to adopt the Bye-Laws subject to the amendments set out above..

6. To allocate Contributions to Local Organisations

A/Town Clerk stated that there were 27 applications received and a budget of €20,000 to be allocated.

Members discussed applications received and noted that applications had not been received in 2008, from NCN and Nenagh Triathlon Club

It was agreed to leave the allocation of Grants under Local Organisations on Agenda for June Meeting and to contact the above groups.

7. To allocate Contributions under The Arts Act

A/Town Clerk stated that there were 5 applications received and a budget €5,000 to be allocated.

Town Manager informed Members that World Taekwondo Academy applied under Contributions to Local Organisations and Arts Act and recommended that they not be considered for both.

Members agreed that Conradh na Gaeilge, Nenagh Choral Society, Nenagh CBS Band and Nenagh Players each be allocated €1,250.

8. To allocate Grants to Residents Associations

A/Town Clerk stated that there were 10 applications received and a budget of €10,000 to be allocated. Two of the applications had submitted no costings or details of work proposed to be carried out.

It was agreed to leave the allocation of Grants to Residents Associations on Agenda for June Meeting and to contact Bruach Tailte and Ciamaltha Meadows Resident's Associations requesting details.

9. To set date for Annual General Meeting

It was agreed to have the Annual General Meeting at 9pm on the 30th June, 2008 immediately after the June Monthly Meeting.

10. To Note Planning Register

Noted

11. To note Managers Orders

Noted

12. To discuss Scouts Hall

The Manager informed Members that a letter had been received from the Choral Society stating that they were no longer in a position to refurbish and run the Scouts Hall. Following a general discussion regarding the future of the Scouts Hall all Members present agreed that something had to be done as it was not acceptable to allow the building to remain in its current condition. It was agreed that all possible options for the future use of the site be explored. The Mayor suggested that the matter be further considered at the next meeting.

Members requested that Deputy Lowry be asked to clarify the current position regarding the proposed €4 million grant assistance for upgrading Nenagh Leisure Centre.

13. To discuss Town Centre Car Parking

Town Manager stated he was glad to see the uptake of usage of the Railway Station Car Park and hoped this trend would continue once Parking Meters were installed.

14. To discuss Nenagh Castle Project

This matter was already dealt with above

15. To discuss Unfinished Estates

This matter was already dealt with above

16. To discuss Military Barracks

This matter was already dealt with above

17. To discuss Nenagh Vocational School

Cllr. Morris requested that Nenagh Town Council write to Minister Batt O’Keeffe in support of Nenagh Vocational Schools application to go to the next stage i.e to submit a planning application for an extension to the School. All Members agreed to same.

18. Correspondence

Town Manager advised Members that closing date for submissions of Motions for AMAI Annual Conference 2008 is Monday June 30th.

Notice of Motion received from Passage West Town Council

“A large proportion of Motor Cycle Accidents resulting in serious injury and death are directly related to road conditions and in particular to road repairs. In light of this I would call on this town council and all other councils throughout Ireland to insist that road works be finished to a high standard for all road users, and that in

particular the practice of “bedding in” new surfaces be stopped, and adequate warning of roadworks be monitored on a daily basis”.

This motion was noted.

Notice of Motion received from Mullingar Town Council

“That this Council calls on HSE and the Department of Health to improve neurological services in this country as a matter of priority”.

It was agreed to support this motion.

Notice of Motion received from New Ross Town Council

“That this council calls on the Minister for the Environment to allow local authorities to decide housing policy in their respective areas and that we further call on the minister to ensure that the acquisition of land banks for social housing continues as a central plank of housing policy at a local level”.

It was agreed to support this motion.

Notice of Motion received from Clonmel Borough Council

“That Clonmel Borough Council ask the Minister for the Environment to overhaul the current driving test, as the current failure rate of 50% is not acceptable and that Cahir Testing Centre or another suitable venue be opened in order to reduce waiting time to sit a test which is 6 months or more at present and that this Motion be circulated to all Local Authorities”.

It was agreed to support this motion.

Notice of Motion received from Killarney Town Council

“We, in Killarney Town Council, believe the Immigration, Residence and Protection Bill 2008 represents the ideal opportunity to comprehensively reform outdated and inadequate immigration legislation; however, we believe, the bill as it stands, fails to capitalize on this opportunity.

If enacted without significant amendments, the legislation will seriously erode migrants’ rights while at the same time failing to address some of the serious flaws in the system, namely, unacceptable delays in the decision-making process, inconsistent decision making, an over-reliance on the courts to resolve problems and a lack of clarity about the rights, entitlements and obligations of migrants in Ireland. We call on the government to amend the bill accordingly”.

It was agreed to support this motion.

19. Town Mayors Business

Mayor advised the Members that she had been requested by the Ladies Basket Ball Club to support them in their quest to utilise the facilities of the PE Hall at St. Marys Secondary School, where a Caretaker had been funded by NCN but the Hall is not available to the public after 4pm. Cllr. Moylan stated he had attended a meeting at

which the Board of Management of the School were not refusing access but did raise concerns about the proposal as it was outlined. The Mayor further informed Members that a refusal had been issued since that meeting. Cllr. Moylan agreed to support Mayor if this was the case but asked that the matter be clarified.

20. Town Managers Business

Town Manager informed Members that Michael Woulfe, Town Engineer was taking up appointment as Acting Senior Engineer, Environment Section and was being replaced by Mr. Eoin O’Donoghue. Manager thanked Town Engineer for all his work and commitment to Nenagh Town Council over the years. All Members wished to be associated with this. Town Engineer complimented the Members and Staff of Nenagh Town Council.

21. Town Clerks Business

None

22. To consider Notices of Motion

NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR HUGHIE MC GRATH

“That Nenagh Town Council put in place a proper wheelchair entrance into St. Josephs Playground and also put up signs on the road to say that there is a play ground and a pedestrian crossing and that we change the barrier at the pedestrian crossing and put in some more litter bins and also we need a no dogs sign”.

Town Engineer stated that it would be more appropriate to have the access adjacent to the pedestrian crossing and felt that the alteration of the existing access could be achieved *Stafford Street* – replace single yellow line parking with double yellow line system along northern side of street with parking only on southern side. . Cllrs. O’Connor, Moylan and Farrell supported the motion.

23. Any Other Business

None

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Mayor: _____

Town Clerk: _____

Date: _____