

**Minutes of Proceedings of Monthly Meeting of  
Nenagh Town Council held in the Civic Offices, Nenagh  
on Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> May, 2011**

**Councillors Present:** Cllr. H. McGrath      Cllr. S. Morris  
Cllr. V. O'Dowd      Cllr. L. McGee  
Cllr. J. Moran      Cllr. T. Moylan  
Cllr. C. Delaney      Cllr. T. Mulqueen  
Cllr. T. Morgan

**Also Present:** M. O'Connor, Town Manager  
D. Purcell, Town Clerk  
K. Callanan, Town Engineer  
S. O'Callaghan  
K. Clifford

**The Mayor, Cllr. S. Morris presided.**

The Mayor proposed votes of sympathy with Cllr. McGrath on the death of his sister, Winnie Molloy, and with the families of Stephen Toohey and Micheál Collins. Cllr. Mulqueen proposed a vote of sympathy with Cllr. Moylan on the death of his aunt, Patricia Healy. All present wished to be associated with these sentiments.

**1. To consider Minutes of April Monthly Meeting**

It was proposed by: Cllr. J. Moran  
Seconded by: Cllr. T. Moylan  
and agreed that the minutes be adopted.

Cllr. Moylan referred to a discussion at the April meeting regarding the car park at Tyone and asked if that matter had been raised at the area meeting. The Mayor said that the matter had been discussed at the area meeting and it had been agreed to leave the decision with the Town Council with regard to the introduction of pay parking. Cllr. O'Dowd said she was not in favour of pay parking but felt that the area could be used for road safety education for secondary school children as a means of generating revenue. Cllr. McGrath said that the car park was owned by the County Council and they should resurface it. He was not in favour of pay parking and felt that the car park was important for the future of the hospital.

The Town Manager said that the car park was in a very poor state, pot holes had been filled on umpteen occasions but the surface was unsafe and it needed to be resurfaced at a cost of €80,000. If the County Council were to spend this money pay parking would have to be introduced from Monday to Friday to recoup the cost. He said that if pay parking could not be introduced the County Council may take the decision to close the car park for safety reasons. The County Council had been in negotiations

with the HSE with regard to the car park to no avail. He had some reservations regarding Cllr. O'Dowd's proposal.

Cllr. Moylan said that he did not know why the Town Council was making decisions on the issue when they did not even own the car park. He suggested a letter be sent to the County Council outlining the Town Council's position on the issue, i.e. the Town Council is in favour of the car park being resurfaced by the County Council as owners but is not in favour of Nenagh Town Council invoking parking bye-laws for the car park. Cllr. Moran supported this.

The Town Clerk suggested that the HSE also be written to as efforts had been made by the County Council over the last number of years to try to deal with the HSE. It was agreed that a letter be sent to the HSE encouraging them to negotiate with the County Council regarding the future of the car park.

## **2. To consider Minutes Action Plan**

### St. Paul's Playground

The Town Clerk informed the Members that a response had been received from the Gardai agreeing to include the playground in their nightly patrols. Cllr. O'Dowd said that the situation had improved. The Town Clerk said that the Tenant Liaison Officer had circulated leaflets to all the houses in St. Joseph's Park in an effort to arrange a meeting to form a new committee to run the playground. He encouraged people to get involved. Cllr. Moylan welcomed this initiative and said that some signage had been defaced. Cllr. Mulqueen said that the playground needed to be managed. Cllr. McGrath felt that that last committee should be thanked and a letter sent acknowledging their work. He said he would give any new committee his full support.

### Pedestrian Crossing at St. Joseph's Park

The Town Engineer said that he was waiting on the ESB to turn off the power so that works could proceed. He expected works to be completed by the end of the week.

## **3. To note Manager's Orders**

Noted.

Cllr. McGee asked if there was any update on the Town Park Project at the Leisure Centre. The Town Manager replied that final documents were ready to be circulated to the seven consortia which had been shortlisted to design the project. He said that they would then have five weeks to price the project. He said an independent selection board would be appointed within the next six to seven weeks. Consultation with the Members and the public would then take place.

## **4. To note Planning Register**

Noted.

**5. To consider adoption of the Draft Housing Allocation Scheme in accordance with Section 22 of the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009**

The Town Clerk said that the Draft Scheme had been circulated and was very similar to the existing scheme with new provisions regarding transfers for existing tenants, consideration of time on housing list and refusal of offers of housing. He said that a new national scheme would probably be introduced within a year.

Cllr. Moylan welcomed the Draft Scheme stating that it added clarity for the Members. He said that this scheme would only be relevant once a person had been qualified for housing, getting people qualified was a problem in some cases where people had owned property in the past or had their houses repossessed. The Mayor said that he understood the last Government had brought in measures to deal with this.

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

“That we, the Nenagh Town Council, pursuant to the Housing (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 2009 and the Social Housing Allocation Regulations, 2011 hereby adopts the 2011 Allocation Scheme.”

Cllr. Mulqueen asked for an update on the 23 houses at Castlewood. The Town Clerk replied that the lease was being finalised with Tuath Housing Association and that housing applicants had been interviewed.

**6. To receive update on Derelict Sites**

The Town Clerk advised the Members that there were currently 10 properties on the Derelict Sites Register and the owners of 14 properties had been written to requesting that specific works be carried out in order to render the sites non-derelict. Of these 14:-

- 4 have carried out the works required
- 2 have carried out some works but have yet to be completed
- Inspections on the remaining 8 properties have commenced with a view to issuing a notice of intention to place the property on the Derelict Site Register.

He said it was also intended to carry out a street by street survey in order to identify any other properties that may be considered derelict.

Cllr. Delaney said he was disappointed with the figures. The Town Clerk said that good progress had been made. The Mayor said that he was happy that there was now movement.

**7. To set date for Annual Meeting**

It was agreed that the Annual Meeting would be held on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> June at 8.30 p.m.

It was also agreed that the next Joint Policing Committee meeting would be held on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> June at 7.00 p.m.

## 8. Correspondence

Cllr. Delaney asked the Mayor to clarify whether a letter he wrote to Moyle District Council was in his capacity as Mayor or as a Councillor. The Mayor replied that he had been asked by two people from Nenagh to encourage Moyle District Council to twin with Gaza. He said he had sent the letter as Mayor of Nenagh and had a discussion with the Mayor of Moyle on Tipp FM. He said that the twinning had since gone ahead. He assured the Members that he had great respect for the people of Moyle and apologised if he had ruffled any feathers. Cllr. Delaney felt that the office of Mayor should not have been used to write this letter.

Cllr. Moylan wished to support the following motions: -

### Motion received from Wexford Borough Council

*"That the members of Wexford Borough Council appeal to the Government to urgently review and change the legislation relating to the method used to assess rateable valuations of commercial rates – replacing it with a more fair and equitable method of assessing and calculating rate liability with a cost neutral effect on local authorities. That this motion be considered by all Town, Borough, City and County Councils."*

### Motion received from Monaghan Town Council

*"That this Council calls on the Minister for the Environment, Phil Hogan, T.D. to address as a matter of urgency the crippling cost of rates on commercial premises."*

Cllr. Moylan said that the Council needed to prioritise engagement with the Chamber of Commerce as businesses in the town were really struggling. He referred to the closure of O'Connors Shopping Centre the previous week with the loss of 70 jobs stating that his thoughts and wishes were with the staff and management of O'Connors. All the Members supported Cllr. Moylan in this. Cllr. Moran suggested that the AMAI should write to the Department of the Environment regarding rates. The Mayor agreed and said that he would draft a letter and circulate it to the Members.

Cllr. Delaney wished to support the following motion received from Kilkee Town Council: -

*"That this Council calls on the incoming Taoiseach to please take into account the views of the Town Councils regarding any reform of Local Government in the future."*

Cllr. Moran also supported this.

Cllr. O'Dowd reminded the Members of the Nenagh Rail Partnership Conference to be held in Nenagh and asked the Members for their support. The Mayor wished the partnership luck with the conference.

## **9. Town Mayor's Business**

The Mayor informed the Members that he had received three letters thanking the people of Nenagh for their hospitality for the St. Patrick's Day parade.

The Mayor sent his congratulations to the Tipperary Under 16 Camogie Team, the North Tipperary Under 16 Hurling Team and the North Tipperary Under 12 Soccer Team on their recent achievements.

The Mayor said it was good to see progress on the Nenagh Castle Project and advised the Members that he had written to Minister Brian Hayes requesting a full breakdown of works to be completed.

## **10. Town Manager's Business**

None.

## **11. Town Clerk's Business**

The Town Clerk informed the Members that the Manager's Report on submissions received on the Issues Paper on the review of the Nenagh and Environs Development Plan, 2007-2013 and the preparation of the Draft Nenagh and Environs Development Plan, 2013-2019 had been circulated and advised as follows: -

- Councillors have 9 weeks to consider and issue direction at Council meeting in July.
- Before that date Councillors will have an opportunity at workshops to discuss the Plan with the Planners and that the outcome of this discussion will form part of the Pre-Draft Plan.
- After the Council meeting in July there will be 12 weeks to prepare draft and submit draft i.e by 17th October
- Councillors will then have up to 6 weeks to consider and adopt the draft.
- There will then be 2 weeks to advertise for display in Nov 2011-Jan 2012.

## **12. Town Engineer's Business**

The Town Engineer advised the Members that some works had been carried out clearing the area to the rear of Woodview Close and it was intended to fence the area. He said that the footpaths on the Limerick Road were just finished and he hoped to commence road surfacing later in the week.

Cllr. Morgan asked if anything could be done to improve the appearance of the entrance to the Machinery Yard where there were boulders. He also referred to loose stones from the front of the Town Hall going out onto the footpath. The Town Manager replied that the entrance to the machinery Yard had been discussed with the Tidy Towns Committee and they had agreed to do some landscaping there. He said the stones in front of the Town Hall had been discussed with the Arts Centre.

Cllr. McGee asked if the road around the green at Knockanpierce could be looked at. He also referred to a problem with parking on William Street since the double lines had been installed, people could not now park outside their own houses.

**13. To consider Notices of Motion**

None

**14. Any Other Business**

The Town Clerk informed the Members that the Tyone Youth Group had won a Special Merit Award at the Permanent TSB Foróige Youth Citizenship Awards recently. The Members congratulated the group on this achievement.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Mayor:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Town Clerk:** \_\_\_\_\_

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