

**Minutes of Proceedings of Monthly Meeting of  
Nenagh Town Council held in the Civic Offices, Nenagh  
on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2011**

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

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

**Apologies:** Cllr. J. Moran

**The Mayor, Cllr. V. O'Dowd presided.**

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

It was proposed by: Cllr. Lalor McGee  
Seconded by: Cllr. Conor Delaney  
and agreed that the minutes be adopted.

Cllr. McGrath proposed a vote of sympathy to the family of Séan Dunne, RIP, Knockanpierce, Nenagh. Members wished to be associated with this.

Cllr. Morris proposed votes of sympathy to the family of Sheila Whelan, RIP, Richmond, Nenagh and to the family of Maureen Whelan, RIP, Wolfe Tone Terrace, Nenagh. All present wished to be associated with this.

Cllr. McGee referred to an in-committee meeting held prior to September Monthly Meeting and subsequently the contents of same had been raised outside of the Council Chamber by a Member. Members agreed that this was the case and a general discussion took place with regard to the benefits of in committee meetings. Town Manager advised that in committee meetings were meetings where no official decisions were made and no minutes were recorded. He stated that they were a useful mechanism to share information with the Members and if they were to continue it would be vital that all business conducted remained in committee. Cllr. Delaney stated that he was disappointed with the time wasted discussing this item as no Member had contacted him previously regarding any concerns that they had. He also stated that an apology was not warranted as requested by the Members.

Cllr. Moylan felt that the residents of Knockanpierce should be contacted without delay with regard to any plans that the Council may have.

Cllr. McGee requested a timetable showing the days and the estates where the sweeper operates. Town Manager advised that this was difficult enough to draw up as the schedule was likely to change if a situation arises with regard to rubbish on approach roads etc. He further advised that each estate is swept once every two weeks.

Cllr. McGrath queried the starting date for works on Springfort Cross and Town Engineer advised that works there had to be postponed. He stated that the works on the N52 Cycleway/Pathway were being concentrated on during November as they were Grant related and had to be completed on schedule.

Cllr. Morris queried whether workers involved in these works were getting their contracts extended. Cllr. Moylan queried whether the Town Council's Works Programme be curtailed as a result of workers being engaged otherwise, and felt that Nenagh Town Council's Road Maintenance Grant needed to be spent also. Cllrs. Morris & McGrath supported this. Town Engineer advised that he could get the cycle paths and the town works done using a split gang of workers but could not get works done on Springfort Cross as well. Cllrs. Morris & McGrath requested that correspondence be forwarded to the relevant authorities asking that temporary workers be retained until all the works are done. Town Manager acknowledged the great works that had been done and agreed that a letter could be forwarded to the County Manager as they were employed by North Tipperary County Council.

Cllr. Morgan queried the position with regard to the raised storm sewers in Hamilton Drive and Town Engineer replied that a survey had been completed and would have some more information in the next couple of weeks.

Cllr. Morris congratulated the Nenagh Eire Og U12A Camogie Team who won a County final recently.

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

### Pedestrian Crossing at St. Patrick's Terrace

Town Engineer stated that an order had been placed with the ESB and should be completed in a couple of weeks

### Public Lighting at Melrose

Town Engineer informed the Members that an order had been placed to increase the strength of the lighting at Melrose.

### Insulation of Council owned properties at St. Joseph's Park

Cllr. Morris felt that it would be beneficial if representatives from SEAI would address the Council with regard to Grants and applications for works. Cllr. Moylan supported this and if this was not possible he felt that a number of Members should go to Muintir Na Tire offices located in Tipperary town for an update. Mayor agreed to correspond with SEAI querying how many North Tipperary and Nenagh applicants were on their list and the Warmer Homes Scheme. It was agreed to leave this item on the Agenda and Members to follow up with their contacts.

### Derelict House at Tyone

Town Clerk advised that a report would be available at the next meeting.

### Notice re. Posters/Advertising/Banners no longer being allowed on Pedestrian Barriers at Junctions

Town Clerk informed the Members that advertisements had been placed in the paper advising the public that all advertising material would be banned on pedestrian railings from 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2011. Mayor felt that not having any advertising medium available to the public in the long term may do damage to the town stating that a Musical was coming up shortly and other sporting events and if something was visual to the public it would gain more attention. Cllr. O'Dowd suggested an electronic screen with a possible location on the wall of Nenagh Arts Centre. Cllrs. Delaney & McGrath supported this suggestion. Cllr. McGrath felt that a banner looked well if it was secured properly mid-way up Pearse Street. Town Manager advised that the banner suggestion was a good idea secured with stainless steel brackets and proper plates bolted in to walls etc.

Cllrs. Morgan & Delaney commended the Executive and staff on the fantastic work carried out at the Boys National School.

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

Noted.

Town Manager advised the Members that ABK Architects have been appointed to design the Leisure Centre Upgrade and the Town Park. He stated that the wood chip boiler is up and running and a further grant in the amount of €144,000 had been received to replace the roof sheeting bringing it to a higher quality standard along with insulation works replacing windows and doors and improved accessibility works would also be carried out. Members agreed that this was welcome. Cllr. Morgan expressed concern about the presence of mildew visible on the gable end wall of the Leisure Centre and hoped that this could be remedied. Cllr. Morgan hoped that a large portion of monies set aside by the Council for the Leisure Centre Upgrade and Town Park would not be lost on Consultancy fees. He also referred to the area being prone to flooding and this would have to be considered in any development going to take place. Town Manager advised that two projects were being undertaken, the development of a Town Park and the Upgrading of the Leisure Centre to include jacuzzi, gym, reception area and toilets where experts were needed in this area. He further advised that the Members will meet with the Design Team and any issues raised, i.e. flooding etc will be part of their brief.

### **4. Planning Register**

Noted.

**5. To set date for Special Meeting to consider Draft Nenagh Town & Environs Development Plan 2013-2019 in accordance with Section 11, Planning & Development Act, 2000 (as amended), and to adopt Draft Plan to proceed with public consultation in accordance with Section 12, Planning & Development Act, 2000**

It was agreed that Special Meeting be held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 at 7.00 p.m., with 2 Workshops to take place beforehand on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> November, 2.30 p.m. and Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> November, 2.30 p.m.

Cllr. Morris expressed concern that NAMA may have a big say in the Development Plan. Town Manager advised that no Nenagh property was listed on the list of properties on NAMA's website. Cllr. Moylan stated that this Council had already amended the plan last year to comply with strict guidelines laid down by the Department of The Environment with regard to zoning. Town Clerk advised that zoning was already largely dealt with, with no major changes.

Mayor advised the Members that a discussion on the Scouts Hall would take place prior to the first Workshop.

**6. To discuss Fairs and Markets**

Town Clerk informed the meeting that advertisement would be placed in the next week's paper regarding Fairs & Markets.

**7. To consider insulation of Local Authority houses at St. Joseph's Park**

Item previously dealt with. Leave on Agenda.

**8. Correspondence**

Cllr. McGee referred to correspondence received with regard to an incident in Scout's Hall Car Park and which was reported to Gardai without much satisfaction.

Cllr. Morris expressed concern with the continuing downgrading of Nenagh Hospital referring to the transfer of the Cardiologist which has recently taken place. A general discussion took place on same and it was agreed to correspond with local hospital representatives and Oireachtas members requesting a meeting to discuss Nenagh Hospital.

**9. Town Mayor's Business**

Mayor informed the Members that the Hospice requested the loan of Town Council Ballot Boxes for placement in Banks with regard to 2011 Christmas Tree of Remembrance.

Mayor referred to talk in Nenagh Arts Centre by Stephen Kinsella which was very well attended and which gave some very good suggestions with regard to enhancing the town.

Cllr. O'Dowd advised the Members of the forthcoming events in the run up to Christmas organised by the Chamber of Commerce including a Santa's Elves Guinness Book of Records attempt and a Ball Run in the town. Cllr. McGrath queried the amount of financial support agreed for the Chamber of Commerce. Mayor advised that €3,000 was set aside in the budget. Cllrs. Moylan, McGrath and Delaney queried whether it was possible to have this amount increased to €5,000 to cover a shortfall experienced by the Chamber. Town Manager advised that the Council did not have specific provision in the budget for the Chamber of Commerce and it wasn't the Council's responsibility to make up their shortfall.

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

None.

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

Cllr. McGee referred to the qualified housing applicant list which was increasing rapidly and queried the Council's plan for same. Town Clerk reported that 24 new houses had been allocated and that the Council were in the process of purchasing 5 houses in estates. He further advised that the Council is writing out to people who have applied for housing to ascertain whether they are still interested in housing. Town Clerk stated that the Council had offered 2 Local Authority houses to about 10 different people and they all had declined. Cllr. Morgan replied stating that people are in very good accommodation receiving Rent Allowance and some would not be interested in Local Authority housing.

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

Cllr. McGee queried whether a "No Dumping" sign could be erected at Bulfin Crescent/Sallygrove where littering was becoming an issue. Town Engineer agreed to look at same.

Town Engineer reported that works at Burkes Corner, Dublin Road Corner and ramp on Dromin Road would take place during mid-term break.

Cllr. McGee referred to an ongoing problem with a manhole outside No. 14, St. John's Terrace.

### 13. Notices of Motion

#### **1. Notice of Motion in the name of Cllr. Hughie McGrath**

*“That Nenagh Town Council put in place a more comprehensive traffic management plan to deal with speeding vehicles using the new road between the Library and St. Conlan’s Road and also to increase awareness signs for children at play.”*

Proposed by: Cllr. Hughie McGrath

Seconded by: Cllr. Séamie Morris

Cllr. Morgan stated that he was appalled at the speed some individuals have been doing on this road which he felt was very well signed with 20 sign posts and 8 ramps in total. He felt that the Council had spent a lot of money there and that it was a very good job. Cllrs. O’Dowd and Morris supported this.

Cllr. McGrath requested that the Town Engineer look at one bend on that road where three bollards are placed to the back of Cormack Drive. Town Engineer agreed to same.

### 14. Any Other Business

Town Clerk advised that the official opening of the Nenagh Arts Centre may take place on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 which would coincide with November Meeting of the Town Council. If this was the case it was agreed to hold the November Meeting on 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2011.

Mayor informed the Meeting that representatives of the Irish Wheelchair Association have requested to address the Members at 6.45 p.m. prior to the next meeting.

Cllr. Morgan queried whether it would be possible to have the ivy removed from the tower at Kenyon Street graveyard. Town Manager reported that the Council were aware of this and were in contact with the Committee and the heritage people.

Cllr. Mulqueen queried whether works had stalled on the Castle. Mayor advised that this was the case because of a shortfall in funding. Town Clerk advised that carpenters were still at work inside and would have more clear information for the next meeting. Cllr. Mulqueen queried whether the weeds could be removed from the outside of the Castle as it was very unsightly. Town Clerk advised that it was determined that the weeds were prehistoric vegetation and could not be removed.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

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

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

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