

**Minutes of Proceedings of Monthly Meeting of
Nenagh Town Council held in the Civic Offices, Nenagh
on Monday, 28th May, 2007**

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

Also Present: P. Heffernan, Town Manager
 S. O'Callaghan, A/Town Clerk
 M. Woulfe, Town Engineer
 K. Clifford
 A. Melia

Apologies: Cllr. T. Mulqueen

Prior to Monthly Meeting Members met with Mr. Paul Lemass, IPA to discuss Sharing of Services.

They also met The Parish Team to discuss their proposals re the Scouts Hall.

The Mayor, Cllr. T. Moylan presided.

1. To consider Minutes of April Monthly Meeting

It was proposed by: Cllr. T. Sheary
Seconded by: Cllr. J. O'Connor
And agreed that Minutes be adopted.

Cllr. O'Connor referred to his request at Meeting held on 16th April, for a priority list for outstanding housing repairs & an up-to-date housing list without personal details which he had not yet received. Town Manager was of the understanding that both had been circulated, and agreed to have both distributed.

Cllr. Farrell queried whether a reply had been received back from the Gardai in regard to installation of 2 yellow boxes at Ballyragiue Rd. Town Engineer advised her that no reply had been received.

2. To consider Minutes Action Plan

Housing Repairs

All Members expressed their delight at the outstanding work been carried out at Shamrock Court. A general discussion took place regarding housing in general.

Mayor advised Members that following distribution of the above mentioned lists, Members would then be in a position to review the situation and a possibility of "Housing/Housing Repairs" be placed as an Item on the Agenda for future meetings.

Cllr. Morris referred to his request for the results of Part V legal agreements to be forwarded to Members on a monthly basis. Town Manager advised that since his request at the February Meeting, no Part V legal agreements had been completed.

Cllr. McGrath referred to correspondence recently distributed to tenants in Private Rented Accommodation regarding long term contracts & wished to have same clarified.

Town Manager advised the Members that no housing repair requests were to be given to outdoor staff. All repairs should come through the office & logged. He acknowledged Members satisfaction in regard to works at Shamrock Court & reminded them that the amount of works which could take place related to the amount of resources available to the Council, .i.e. funding/manpower. He stated that a lot of work is being done by contract, the pace of which is dictated by the Contractors themselves.

Town Manager stated that a change had taken place in the approach to housing repairs. Up until 1st January 2007 proceeds of the sale of houses went into the Departments Capital Allocation for the construction of new houses. Now proceeds from sales can be used to finance a Planned Maintenance Campaign and such a plan is being drawn up.

In regard to Cllr. McGraths query, Town Manager explained that tenants in Private Rented Accommodation had received correspondence advising them of Rental Accommodation Scheme (R.A.S). The major factor being to formalise & give a more stable tenancy over a longer period. This scheme is being administered by North Tipperary County Council. Any tenant in Private Rented Accommodation, receiving rent allowance for a period in excess of 18 months automatically transfers over to this scheme. North Tipperary County Council enters into a long term lease with the landlord and pays rent on the property. The tenant pays a weekly rent in accordance with the Differential Rent Scheme and the balance is then recouped from the Department.

Cllr. Sheary referred to Cluid Housing, in Ballygraique and queried how the applicants will be chosen. Town Manager advised the Members that the full 100% must be approved housing applicants. Cllr. O' Connor queried

whether applicants should apply separately to Cluid. Town Manager advised him that this is not the case as the Town Council housing list will be issued to them.

Recycling Centre

Town Manager advised Members that North Tipperary County Council are considering the request for a Deputation to Nenagh-Newport Area meeting with regard to the recycling centre. He reiterated that it was not possible to extend the date regarding acceptance of commercial waste but was assured by the AES that they are ready, willing & able to assist all commercial businesses in disposing of recyclable waste.

Members felt that it was unfair that the County Council had made this decision, without consulting Nenagh Town Council. Town Manager advised members that this was an Executive decision taken on grounds of health & safety due to the size constraints in the existing site. Efforts are being made to identify a larger site to resolve these problems.

Mayor advised the Members that it was best to await the outcome of the request for Deputation to the area meeting.

Traffic Lights at St. Conlons Road

Town Engineer informed the meeting that a delay of 2 ½ weeks had arisen for the contractor to get on site but was on site today & hoped lights would be installed by Wednesday of this week. He hoped that they would become operational by the following week once the old ESB pole has been removed.

Decorative Lighting Kenyon Street

Town Engineer advised Members that the ESB were working on Mitchel Street at present and would be moving to Kenyon Street within the next few days.

Part VIII Process at Nenagh North

On Agenda

3. To Note Managers Orders

Noted.

4. To Note Planning Register

Noted.

5. To consider Section 183 Notice for disposal of land at Hospital Car Park

It was proposed by: Cllr. S. Farrell

Seconded by: Cllr. V. O' Dowd

and agreed that pursuant to the provisions of Section 183 of the Local Government Act, 2001, this Council hereby agrees to the disposal of lands comprising 0.473 hectares or thereabouts at Tyone, Nenagh which was purchased from Elizabeth Flannery, Ballintoher, Nenagh to Health

Services Executive in accordance with the notice issued to the Members of this Council on the 18th day of April, 2007.

Cllr. Morgan queried whether the Health Board intended leaving the palisade fence as it was in a very bad condition. Town Manager stated that he would seek to encourage the HSE to look at improving the fence and the overall appearance of the site.

9. To agree proposed funding for Town Hall

It was decided to take this item as members of the public were present to hear this matter being discussed.

On the proposal of Mayor Tom Moylan, seconded by Councillor Tony Sheary it was unanimously agreed that Nenagh Town Council would contribute to the provision of additional facilities in the amount of €600,000 from its Community Development Fund. However, Members hoped that funds from North Tipperary County Council would be forthcoming in the amount of €300,000 as already committed.

6. To receive Manager's Report on Part VIII Procedure on construction of 21 no. 3-bed and 4 no. 4-bed houses and Roadway at Nenagh North, Nenagh.

Town Manager circulated his report and recommendation for consideration by the Members in accordance with the requirements of Part 8 of the Planning and Development Regulations as amended. The report set out a summary and comments on the submissions received and an intention to proceed with the works subject to the conditions attached.

7. To consider Draft Litter Management Plan

Town Manager advised the Members that it was a statutory obligation to have a Litter Management Plan in place. Members agreed to place this item on the June Agenda as Item 1 for adoption.

A general discussion took place regarding litter. All Members expressed their delight at the presence of the green machine on the streets. Cllr. Morgan referred to bags of rubbish & the general conditions of the Castle Field and he called on the O.P.W. to close it down completely until Nenagh Town Council took it over. Town Manager accepted that the Castle Field is a cause of grave concern & could not understand the delay in obtaining the lease. Cllr. Farrell queried whether the Gardai could enforce drinking bye-laws in the Castle Field. Town Manager advised that bye-laws passed by the council with regard to drinking in public places cannot be applied to the Castle Field until Nenagh Town Council obtains the lease.

Town Manager was delighted to hear the views expressed on the green machine but problems had arisen with signs being placed on footpaths &

thereby making it difficult to operate. He appealed to the business community to facilitate the use of the machine in moving freely by removing the offending signs.

Town Engineer informed the Members that the Council was at the final stage in awarding the Contract for Gum Removal. The cost involved is €20,000. In the event that the operation of this machine proves successful, Nenagh Town Council may purchase their own equipment in the future.

Cllr. Farrell requested that media attention be given to the cost of gum removal to encourage people to adopt a more responsible approach to disposal of gum.

8. To discuss CCTV System for Nenagh

Mayor informed the Members that a Feasibility Grant had been obtained for Stage 1. He advised Members that a sub-committee should be formed to include local business groups, Councillors, local Vintners & Gardai to make a proper application for Capital Grant. Cllr. Farrell queried how long it would take before Stage 2 is completed. Town Manager informed the meeting that the proposal had to be with the Department before 29th June & would be seeking outside expertise to make this application.

9. To agree proposed funding for Town Hall

Previously dealt with.

10. To agree proposed funding for new facilities at Vocational School

Town Manager advised Members that he had spoken with the Principal of the Vocational School and wished to clarify that the money being awarded was not directly to the VEC, but to a “body” to manage the facilities which would be available to community groups outside of school hours. All Members were in agreement with this.

It was proposed by: Cllr. T. Morgan
Seconded by: Cllr. S. Farrell
that €250,000 be allocated from the Community Development Fund for this project.

11. To discuss Nenagh Castle Project

Town Manager informed the members that there was no update on the Nenagh Castle Project and a planning application had not been received by this Council as of yet.

Cllr. O'Connor requested the Council to write to the Board of Works informing them of our concern at the delay in lodging a Planning Application.

12. To discuss Town Centre Car Parking

Town Manager advised Members that the Part 8 process had commenced for Construction of Car park at Railway Station. Plans & particulars are available for inspection until Friday 22nd June. Submissions/Observations can be lodged until Thursday 5th July 2007. Cllr. Farrell requested update on Kenyon Street Carpark, Town Manager replied that it was at pre-planning discussion stage & no planning application had been lodged to this office as of yet. Cllr. McGrath referred to a plaque that had been misplaced when development took place in the vicinity. Town Manager assured him that a similar plaque would be erected.

13. To discuss Scouts Hall

Previously dealt it.

14. To set date for Annual Meeting

It was agreed to hold the Annual Meeting at 9 p.m. on Monday 25th June, after Monthly meeting.

15. To consider appointment of nominee of Irish Public Bodies

Town Mayor advised the Members that he is unable to attend the forthcoming General Meeting of IPBMI to be held on Thursday 31st May. It was agreed that Cllr Hughie McGrath would represent the Council instead.

16. To consider Contributions to Local Organisations

To be advertised in this weeks paper. Closing date 13th July.

17. To consider Contributions under The Arts Act

To be advertised in this weeks local paper. Closing date 13th July.

18. To consider Grants to Residents Associations

To be advertised in this weeks local paper. Closing date 13th July.

19. Town Manager's Business

None

20. Town Mayor's Business

Mayor wished Jacqueline McGrath, Town Clerk every good wish on her maternity leave.

21. Town Clerk's Business

None

22. Correspondence

Correspondence received from AMAI in respect of Annual Conference, 2007. Mayor advised the Members that any Notices of Motion intended for the Annual Conference should be brought before July Meeting.

Cllr. O'Connor referred to correspondence received from Tipperary North County Enterprise Board regarding meeting in Abbey Court Hotel on Tuesday, 5th June, 2007. He felt that the time of meeting would not be suitable and wished that this information be forwarded on.

23. To consider Notices of Motion

NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR HUGHIE MC GRATH

“That Nenagh Town Council by way of resolution adopt a proposal that the boundary of the town be altered, as per map to be agreed by Town Council”.

Cllr. McGrath asked that this Notice of Motion remain on the Agenda for next meeting.

NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR SEAMIE MORRIS

“That this Town Council recognises its promise to the residents of Summerhill and provides them with residential parking as already agreed at a Council Meeting”.

Town Manager advised the Members that it was not his recollection that any such promise was made in relation to resident parking in Summerhill. He confirmed that the issue had arisen in the context of residents who worked late having to have their cars removed from the street very early next morning. A compromise had been reached which allowed residents to park in controlled areas until 10.30 each day. There would be major implications for the availability of parking throughout the town if residents were allowed to park outside their premises all day. Such an arrangement would have to apply throughout the town as it would not be acceptable to have special arrangements applying in one area alone.

NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR SEAMIE MORRIS

“That this Town Council calls an emergency meeting on housing issues like anti-social behaviour (ASBOS), repairs and lack of houses in general”.

Cllr Morris queried whether ASBOS are in force or not. Town Manager advised that he would check with the Department of Justice.

NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR SEAMIE MORRIS

“That this Town Council provides this meeting with all up to date information, regarding all Planning Enforcements in place at the present moment”.

Town Manager advised the Members that this Council is actively pursuing all planning enforcements & will take court action if necessary.

NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR HUGHIE MC GRATH

“That Nenagh Town Council ask the ESB to replace the spotlights that were in the Abbey Lane Car Park”.

Town Engineer advised Cllr. McGrath that he would investigate same.

NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR VIRGINIA O'DOWD

“I am calling on Nenagh Town Council to box off street parking to ensure maximum use of parking spaces”

Town Manager stated that difficulties would arise if such works were carried out as markings would have to be made large enough to accommodate larger vehicles and this could lead to an overall reduction in the number of spaces available. It was accepted that under the current system some people do not use spaces efficiently thereby causing difficulties for other motorists.

NOTICE OF MOTION IN THE NAME OF COUNCILLOR SEAMUS MORRIS

“In light of the Residents of Landsdowne being offered up to 120,000 euros for loss of light to their homes by Dublin City Council I am calling on Nenagh Town Council to come up with a financial package to offer to the Residents of St. Josephs Park affected by loss of light as a result of Abbey Furniture”.

Dealt with in conjunction with Notice of Motion No. 4

24. Any other Business

Cllr. Farrell queried the possibility of this Council writing to Young Nenagh Project with regard to anti-social behaviour taken place in the vicinity of their premises. Town Manager felt that anti-social behaviour on public roads was a matter for the Gardai.

Cllr. Farrell queried whether Town Engineer had investigated parking in Annbrook Heights. He advised the Members that he had a design prepared for Knockanpierce & he hoped he would have same completed for Annbrook Heights for the next meeting.

Cllr. McGrath queried whether a bench could be replaced at Brook-Watson. Town Engineer advised him that this matter is on works list for outdoor staff.

Cllr. O'Connor queried whether a start date/completion date had been received from the Contractor in respect of St. Conlons Road. Town Manager stated that no start date had been received but the contractor would be pursued to start as quickly as possible.

Cllr. Morgan queried when the new public convenience would become operational. Town Engineer advised that a public light had been ordered but not installed. In the meantime it was considered advisable to continue use of the existing convenience where lighting was adequate.

Cllr. Morgan referred to Johns Lane Carpark where casual trading is taking place at a loss of an estimated 10 spaces. Town Manager advised that there is no designated area in the town for casual trading. However, if the Council agree to designate an area & put a charge on each space it might alleviate this problem.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Mayor: _____

Town Clerk: _____

Date: _____