

**Minutes of the October 2018 Municipal District of Ennis Committee Meeting  
held at 10.30am on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 2018,  
in the Council Chamber, Áras Contae an Chláir,  
New Road, Ennis, Co. Clare.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** J. Breen, C. Colleran Molloy, P. Murphy, M. Howard, P. Daly, A. Norton, T. McNamara & J. Flynn.

**Officials:** Carmel Kirby, Director of Services, Eamon O’Dea, Senior Executive Engineer, Bernie Haugh, Meetings Administrator, and Fiona Whelan, Staff Officer.

**Item No. 1. Minutes of the September Meeting of the Municipal District of Ennis Committee held on 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.**

The Minutes of the September 2018 meeting of Ennis Municipal District were proposed by Cllr. P. Murphy, seconded by Cllr. A. Norton and agreed by members.

***Matters Arising from the Minutes.***

*E. O’Dea, S.E.E., updated members in relation to the proposed installation of bollards to combat illegal parking at Turnpike Ennis. A Section 38 process now needs to be initiated in this regard. Further parking spaces also need to be identified to resolve parking problems in the area. The Gardaí have been contacted to continue to monitor the area.*

*E. O’Dea further confirmed that Ballymachill Cross is on the list for 2019 under the Low Cost Safety Measure Funding. Shanaway Road onto the N85 is also high priority on the list for safety measures.*

*Members welcomed the updates.*

**Item No. 2. Sale of property - Industrial Estate, Gort Road, Ennis.**

This item was proposed by Cllr. J. Flynn, seconded by Cllr. P. Murphy and agreed by members.

**Item No. 3. Section 38 - Traffic Calming Measures - St. Flannan’s College to Kilrush Road, Ennis.**

Ann Cronin, S.E.E., Road Design, was present at the meeting for this item.

Following on from the September meeting of Ennis MD, and further consultation with the residents in the area, E. O’Dea, S.E.E., outlined the revised traffic calming measures.

The revised measures outline that the temporary bollards will **not** now be installed at College View.

Members welcomed the outcome of this item and congratulated the Council on further communicating with residents in the area and that a compromise had now been reached.

This item was proposed by Cllr. T. McNamara, seconded by Cllr. P. Daly and agreed by members.

*It was further suggested that the Council give consideration to extending the safety measures to Cootes Cross which would incorporate Éire Óg GAA Club into the scheme.*

#### **Item No. 4. Christmas Report 2018.**

This item was proposed by Cllr. J. Flynn, seconded by Cllr. A. Norton and agreed by members.

*It was further confirmed that since the report had issued, confirmation had been received that the Christmas Radio project would be going ahead again in 2018.*

*Members further queried if High Street could be added to the pedestrianisation measures already outlined in the Christmas Report 2018. E. O'Dea, S.E.E., confirmed that it would be possible to include High Street but he would need to revert with the proposed layout as requested.*

*Cllr. J. Flynn wished to confirm that he did not support the inclusion of High Street in the pedestrianisation plans for Christmas 2018.*

*Members also suggested that Christmas Lights should be extended to the Lifford area of Ennis from College Road to The Copper Jug. A Christmas Tree was also suggested for this area. Carmel Kirby, Director of Services, confirmed that a budget would need to be considered before any extension of the festive lighting at any new location in the town. A no. of members suggested they would financially support this project once a costing was done and that some businesses in the area had also offered to financially support this initiative.*

#### **Item No. 5. Notices of Motion**

##### **No. 1. NOM submitted by Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy was seconded by Cllr. T. McNamara.**

That the following as pertains to the Ennis Municipal District be provided:-

- (i) Full Listing (by name & location) of unfinished estates in the district that are "Taken in Charge";
- (ii) Full Listing (by name & location) of unfinished estates in the district "Not Taken in Charge";
- (iii) Full Listing (by name & location) of finished estates in the district "Not Taken in Charge";
- (iv) With specific reference to the Cappahard Estate on the Tulla Road, that a progress report be provided on the efforts underway to "Finish" and "Take in Charge."

##### **Siobhan O'Reilly, Administrative Officer, Economic Development, replied as follows:-**

The Estates Team currently have 21 estates on the Estates Register that come under the Ennis Municipal District. These estates have come to our attention for various reasons i.e. taking in charge application received from a developer (3 estates); a section 180 request to take in charge received from residents (6 estates) ; further to a claim on the bond and/or bond monies received; or on foot of a complaint or a representation made from a Councillor etc. There may be other estates in the Ennis Municipal District that are finished/unfinished but have not come to our attention. Work is ongoing in a number of newer developments and while these are ongoing they are not considered 'unfinished' as the developer is still active and the estates are being monitored under the taking in charge procedures.

Below provides a breakdown of estates in the Ennis MD currently on our register along with a list of the 47 estates taken in charge since 2008.

##### **Taking in Charge Applications for the following estates**

1. Haggart View, Clarecastle
2. Noughaval Drive
3. Cuirtn an Fhile, Tulla Road (Developer in receivership)

## Section 180 requests from Residents

1. Ballyalla Grove, Ballyalla – Bond monies received – works being tendered and will be taken in charge
2. Abbyville/AbbeyCourt - Bond monies received – works being tendered and will be taken in charge
3. Acha Bhile, Lahinch Road – awaiting taking in charge application from developer
4. Gort Leamhan, Roslevan – Developer still on site on part of development
5. Radharc na hInse, Ballybeg – minor works no bond monies
6. Woodstock Hill, Shanaway Road – under review

## Other

1. Radharc na Locha, Ballyalla, Ennis – not taken in charge – no request for TIC
2. Parklands, Ballyalla, Ennis – Works outstanding – no Bond monies
3. Sli an Fheargais, Clarecastle - Bond monies received – works being tendered and will be taken in charge
4. Westwood, Showgrounds, Ennis – works outstanding – bond in place
5. Kilquane Grove, Shanaway Road, Ennis- minor works to be done – bond in place
6. Shanballa, Lahinch Road – Bond monies received – works to be tendered and will be subject to TIC
7. Doire More, Tulla Road, Ennis - Bond monies received – works to be tendered and will be subject to TIC
8. Oakleigh Wood/The Maples, Tulla Road, Ennis – Developer to submit TIC application
9. Aughanterroe, Gort Road – not taken in charge
10. Cul na Coille, Tulla Road – minor works – bond monies received
11. Showgrounds Court, Ennis – works outstanding – bond in place
12. **Cappahard, Tulla Road** – The bond pertaining to this development was a former Anglo Irish Bank bond, which subsequently became IBRC, now in liquidation. The Planning Authority is currently negotiating the claim made on this bond with the Special Liquidators of IBRC. Outstanding works on this development can only be progressed when bond monies have been received or funding is otherwise made available.

## Ennis Municipal District - Estates Taken in Charge 2008-2018(47 Estates)

Woodlands	Ennis	19/05/2008
Ardlea Close	Ennis	02/09/2008
Iniscarragh	Ennis	05/11/2008
Fioruisce	Ennis	05/11/2008
Glensheen	Ennis	05/11/2008
Maiville	Ennis	05/11/2008
Tobarkeel	Ennis	05/11/2008
Verdant Hill	Ennis	05/11/2008
Woodhaven	Ennis	05/11/2008
Castlerock	Ennis	12/05/2009

Dun na hInse	Ennis	05/10/2009
Rockmount Manor	Ennis	14/12/2009
Garrán na Coille	Ennis	08/06/2010
Park Avenue	Ennis	08/06/2010
Hawthorns -E.T.	Ennis	01/11/2010
Ard Caoin	Ennis	08/12/2010
Bishops Court	Ennis	07/06/2011
Parnell Grove	Ennis	03/09/2012
Ros na Rí	Ennis	08/10/2012
Brookville	Ennis	05/11/2012
Willsgrove	Ennis	05/11/2012
Gleann na Coille	Ennis	07/01/2013
Drumbiggle Drive	Ennis	04/02/2013
An Sean Dún	Ennis	04/06/2013
Hawthorns & Bramble Lane	Ennis	14/10/2013
Glassan	Ennis	04/11/2013
Drumbeg (Golf Links Road)	Ennis	04/11/2013
Fionnur	Ennis	07/04/2014
Lissaniska	Ennis	07/04/2014
Roslea	Ennis	07/04/2014
Leanabeg	Ennis	07/04/2014
Knockaderry Grove	Ennis	01/09/2015
Tobar an Mheala-Honeywell	Ennis	01/09/2015
Rockmount Grove	Ennis	02/02/2016
Woodstock Drive	Ennis	05/04/2016
Woodstock View	Ennis	05/04/2016
Silvergrove	Ennis	05/07/2016
Hillcrest	Ennis	07/10/2016
French Court	Ennis	02/12/2016
Riverside	Ennis	02/12/2016
Cluain Ros Leamhain	Ennis	12/09/2017
Dromard	Ennis	12/09/2017
Gort na mBláth	Ennis	13/03/2018
Rathbán	Ennis	13/03/2018
Lios Ard	Ennis	13/03/2018
Aisling	Ennis	08/05/2018
Clover Hill	Ennis	11/09/2018

*Members queried if this was a complete list for the entire area of the Ennis Municipal District or if it was just Ennis environs. Members further sought clarity in relation to a possible claim from the Liquidators on the bond for Cappahard Housing Estate, Tulla Road, Ennis.*

*B. Haugh, Meetings Administrator, agreed to ascertain further clarity on the queries raised on this Notice of Motion.*

**No. 2. NOM submitted by Cllr. J. Breen was seconded by Cllr. M. Howard.**

That a basketball court be erected at the Lees Road Facility.

**Tim Forde, General Manager Active Ennis, replied as follows:-**

As part of the strategic development of Sports & Recreation in the County of Clare, of which the erection of Basketball Courts is part, CCC continues to seek and apply for any and all Regional, National and European funding available in order to achieve our aims. We are committed to providing facilities that will permit **all** of the community the opportunity to partake in physical activity, irrespective of sporting discipline.

**No. 3. NOM submitted by Cllr. M. Howard was seconded by Cllr. P. Daly.**

This Municipal District Council acknowledges and welcomes the increase in passenger figures on the Western Rail Corridor.

This Council requests that Irish Rail detail what improvements are planned to build on this performance?

Furthermore, with the increased passenger numbers at Ennis Station also accessing Bus Eireann routes, we request that Bus Eireann place an appropriate person at Ennis Station to give information regarding routes, issue tickets etc.

*(To be referred to Bus Eireann/Irish Rail)*

*Members aired their concern in relation to the lack of personnel at Ennis bus and train station. Over one million tourists travel through this station every year and a first impression of the capital town and County needs to be considered. It was being left to the taxi drivers and bus drivers to give information to visitors to the town and it was felt that a staff member at the station is required.*

*It was suggested by the Members that the land to the East of the Bus Station be considered for Student/Tourist accommodation which would give travel options to students commuting to both Limerick and Galway Third Level Colleges. This would provide an opportunity for the town and would also provide extra tourist accommodation during the Summer holiday period.*

*C. Kirby, Director of Services, confirmed that all options will be considered as part of the 2040 Masterplan for Ennis. Rail, road and bus services are critically important for Ennis and this will all be considered by GVA in the consultation process for the 2040 master plan.*

**No. 4. NOM submitted by Cllr. P. Murphy was seconded by Cllr. P. Daly.**

That Ennis Municipal District explore the potential provision of additional public parking in the heart/core of Clarecastle, and to consider alternative traffic flows to the situation that urgently exists at "the Pound" (between the dispensary and The Castle/Powers Pub junction)

**E. O'Dea, S.E.E., replied as follows:-**

It will be necessary to do a detailed assessment of existing parking in Clarecastle to identify which properties have access to private parking and if there is facility to develop access to private parking, and the purpose of potential car parking provision. The Ennis MD Office will contact the Clarecastle Development Company to identify the particular concerns and the purpose of potential additional car park provision.

The proposed adjustments to the Patrick Street-Main Street-Barrack Street-Quay Road Junction will reduce the capacity for higher speed access from Main Street onto Patrick Street.

**No. 5. NOM submitted by Cllr. A. Norton was seconded by Cllr. J. Breen.**

Can a visibility study be done to see if it is possible to provide a footpath from Ballyalla Lake to Ballyalla Cross for the safety of residents and children walking to school.

**E. O’Dea, S.E.E., replied as follows:-**

The roadway width between the existing property boundary walls will not facilitate the provision of a footpath of adequate width at this location. The existing 50kph speed limit will be extended north of Ballyalla Cross and the Ennis MD office will review the walking and cycling signs along this section of the Ruan Road.

**No. 6. NOM submitted by Cllr. J. Flynn was seconded by Cllr. A. Norton.**

1. Corrovorrin Junction.

Due to the dangerous Corrovorrin junction layout , High traffic levels and at times excessive vehicular speed on the main Tulla road - I am asking on behalf of residents of Corrovorrin Estate and Kevin Barry Avenue for the construction of either a Roundabout or the installation of traffic lights at the Corrovorrin junction on health , safety and access grounds.

**E. O’Dea, S.E.E., replied as follows:-**

A proposal for a revised priority junction at the Corrovorrin- Tulla Road Junction by means of a Section 38 Traffic Calming process funded as a low cost safety scheme was brought before Ennis Town Council and subsequently withdrawn due to concerns regarding the effect of the proposed layout on the commercial viability of the local business at the location.

The provision of a junction layout in compliance with present standards will alter the present footpath – streetscape layout on the Tulla Road at the Corrovorrin Junction. Ennis MD Office will need to ensure appropriate consultation in advance of bringing any proposals for upgrades at this junction in order to have a reasonable expectation that a Section 38 Traffic Calming proposal will get approval from the Ennis MD Councillors.

The Ennis MD has installed a trial traffic calming measure at this location which has reduced the speed of traffic entering Corrovorrin thus assisting traffic in exiting onto the Tulla Road.

*Members further discussed this Notice of Motion and confirmed that a petition had been signed by up to 300 people to alter the current junction layout. There are quite a number of elderly residents in the area who don’t feel safe with the current layout. This problem has been significantly heightened since the motorway and the new roundabout at Oakleigh Woods were installed.*

*Members commended residents on their persistence with regard to this matter and offered to communicate further with the residents and business in the area to come to an amicable resolution.*

*E. O’Dea confirmed that it is the Dept. of Transport, Tourism & Sport who will need to fund any proposed measures. There had been a Low Cost Safety Scheme approved in the past but it was withdrawn. He further confirmed that Ennis MD Office will need to ensure appropriate consultation in advance of bringing any proposals for upgrades at this junction*

**No. 7. NOM submitted by Cllr. P. Daly was seconded by Cllr. J. Flynn.**

I request Ennis Municipal District to provide an update on the no. of expressions of interest from landowners, developers and other property owners for potential social housing development in Ennis and indicate how many housing units will be developed in the next 2 years.

**Siobhan McNulty, SEO Housing, replied as follows:-**

Following the current ‘Expressions of Interest’ campaign the Council has to date received 10 expressions of interest submissions, three in the Ennis MD area. The detail of the submissions are at this stage commercially sensitive but suffice as to say we are assessing the applications to ascertain viability for the development of social houses.

Hereunder is the status of the Councils construction programme relative to the Ennis MD:

SHIP Capital	No. approved	Current stage	Commencement Date	Completion Date
Roslevan, Ennis	8	Stage 3 approved. To go to tender in October	January 2019	Q1 2020
Ashline, Ennis	40	Stage 2 to be submitted to Dept October	June 2019	Q2 2021
Ballyboy TAU	5	Consultant appointed.	Q2 2019	Q3 2019
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>53</b>			
CAS - Cahercalla Phase 2 <i>(Cuan an Chlair)</i>	15	CAS Construction Stage 2 approved AHB project	March 2019	Q2 2020
Acha Bhile, Ennis <i>(Cluid)</i>	31	CALF Construction	Q2 2018	Q4 2018
Roslevan <i>(CoOperative Housing Ireland)</i>	5	CALF Turnkey	Q1 2018	Q4 2018
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>AHB delivery</b>		
<b>Total</b>	<b>104</b>			

**No. 8 . NOM submitted by Cllr. J. Breen (this NOM was not seconded)**

In view of my proposal, I call on Ennis Municipal District to do a feasibility study on the provision of a car park on the 8 acres of land at Lahinch Road within a 5 minute walk from the centre of the town, a facility that is badly needed and would eliminate the shortage of car parking space in the centre of the town.

**E. O’Dea, S.E.E., replied as follows:-**

The land referred to in the motion is along the banks of the Fergus and Claureen Rivers on the Cusack Road. There is a restricted entrance from the Cusack Road with very poor exit sight lines onto the Cusack Road near Victoria Bridge. The strip of land between the River Fergus and the adjacent property is narrow. The primary access route is only suitable for one vehicle and approximately 60% of the 8 acres is part of the flood plain.

It may not be appropriate to carry out a feasibility study, at this time, given that the Island Carpark which is closer to the town centre in Cloughleigh is a long stay public car park operating at less than 40 % capacity.

The lands might be considered for future riverside amenity area in conjunction with lands behind Victoria Court and lands between Glassan, Lissaniska and Leanabeg on Drumcliff Road giving pedestrian and leisure cycling access between Cusack road and Drehidnagower Road.

*Cllr. Breen queried the response to this Notice of Motion and would like the evidence produced in this regard. He agreed that he would have to accept the democratic wish of the members and will look forward to future proposals for car parking in Ennis in the near future.*

**No. 9. NOM submitted by Cllr. M. Howard was seconded by Cllr. P. Daly.**

Can the executive of this Municipal District provide an update report on a proposed new site for car parking in Ennis Town.

**E. O'Dea, S.E.E., replied as follows:-**

The Ennis MD Office has examined locations in the control of the Council including the Waterpark Campus on Drumbiggle Road to evaluate whether provision of parking is feasible. Enquiries have been made with the Economic Development Section of the Council regarding preplanning meetings for perspective developments adjacent to the Town Centre, where brown field sites could be used for car parking while awaiting planning permission for larger developments .

*Members raised their concern on the large number of permit parking in the town centre by both residents and employees in the town.*

*The car park to the rear of The Cloister was suggested as an option, however, it was confirmed that there is a Japanese Knotweed problem on part of this site which is currently being dealt with.*

*C. Kirby, Director of Services, confirmed that she wishes to see a holistic approach to the town with the right use of each space for the right project. The Ennis 2040 strategy that is currently underway will inform the terms of reference for a mobility plan to ensure all plans are factored in.*

**No. 10. NOM submitted by Cllr. A. Norton was seconded by Cllr. J. Breen.**

Can Clare County Council put footpaths at either side of the Flyover coming from Barefield to Crusheen on the old N18.

**E. O'Dea, S.E.E., replied as follows:-**

The Ennis MD Office is drafting a streetscape layout for Barefield Village Centre with the intention of consulting with the Councillors and Local Development Group in Barefield. This proposal will then be put through a formal public consultation process. This will define the development of the streetscape as funds become available for this work. Following the completion of this process the Ennis MD Office will then examine methods of connecting the outlying areas along the R458 to the village centre and the R458 bridge over the M18 and its embankments will be examined in this process.

**No. 11. NOM submitted by Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy was seconded by Cllr. J. Flynn.**

That the Clooney Bog road from the 4 way cross to Quin Clooney GAA Grounds be addressed for works as it is seriously cracked & in a dangerous state.

**E. O'Dea, S.E.E., replied as follows:-**

The Ennis MD work crews are presently finishing the road works programme between Spencilhill and Barefield. Once these works are completed some immediate repairs will be carried out to the roads from Moyreisk to the Ballyhickey Cross L8176 and Ballyhickey Cross towards Norrie Henchys on the L41041. The MD Office is examining roads that were affected by the warm temperatures this summer and a list is being prepared for submission to the DTTAS for additional funding in the 2019 RWP

**No. 12. NOM submitted by Cllr. P. Murphy was seconded by Cllr. C. Colleran Molloy.**

That Ennis Municipal District conduct a survey of all trees in St. Joseph's terrace, Clarecastle and consider ascertaining/acknowledging/mark appropriately the true boundary between the back lane of houses 37-50, St. Joseph's terrace and the neighbouring properties in Clareabbey, Clarecastle.

**E. O’Dea, S.E.E., replied as follows:-**

There is an old stone wall to the rear of the properties in Clareabbey, Clarecastle and a chain link fence along the margin of the rear lane of St Josephs Terrace. There are hazel and elder growing along this stone wall with vegetation growing between the wall and fence. There are a number of mature beech trees in the rear of the properties in Clareabbey.

Further detailed examination of land registry documents and discussion with adjoining land owners to confirm the boundary on any land purchase or sale drawings in their possession or the Council’s possession before any determination of the actual property boundary could be made.

**No. 13. NOM submitted by Cllr. J. Flynn was seconded by Cllr. T. McNamara.**

That a report be provided with regard what use has been made of circa €50,000 funding allocated by the former Ennis Town Council in May 2014 to be used equally to improve recreational amenity at both The Rocky Road and at Ballyalla Lake.

**Bernadette Haugh, Administrative Officer, Ennis Municipal District, replied as follows:-**

As per a Resolution passed at the May 2014 Meeting of Ennis Town Council Specific funding was approved as follows:

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| - Rocky Road Amenity Scheme                  | €22,697 |
| - Water Based Leisure Facilities (Ballyalla) | €25,765 |

In relation to the allocation for Ballyalla, the Ennis MD Members will be aware of the proposal by the local community group, Barefield Tidy Towns Committee, with the support of the Planning Department and the funding of CLDC, to prepare an Amenity Plan for Ballyalla Lake. It is considered more appropriate, most cost effective and most prudent to wait until proposals are set out in any such plan prior to spending any element of the funding on amenity or infrastructural interventions. Moreover, to assist the environmental appraisal of any Amenity Plan and in particular to provide a heritage and wildlife resource for the community, student, and wildlife enthusiasts, the Planning Department of Clare County Council has recently completed a Wildlife and Bird Survey of the Ballyalla and will make the publication available to the public on completion of the print run. It is noted this resource was paid from the Planning Authority budget and not the aforementioned funding. In 2017 Ennis MD members allocated a further €25,000 to this project, therefore, the balance of funding in the sum of €50,765 remains ring-fenced for Ballyalla.

In relation to the Rocky Road Amenity Scheme, the nearby residential estate of Riverside was taken in charge at the December 2016 meeting of Ennis Municipal District which includes an area of ground required for the proposed amenity scheme. The allocated funding of €22,697 remains ring-fenced for the Rocky Road Amenity Scheme.

*On the proposed Rocky Road Amenity Scheme the Members queried if the option to purchase the lands at the Rocky Road could be re-visited. A valuation was done recently on this property and members considered its value to the town exceeds the asking price at this time. C. Kirby confirmed that she would investigate this matter and revert to members.*

**No. 14. NOM submitted by Cllr. P. Daly was seconded by Cllr. T. McNamara.**

I ask Ennis Municipal District to provide speeding ramps on the road adjacent to Doora Church as the traffic on this road travels at enormous speed.

**E. O’Dea, S.E.E., replied as follows:-**

The Ennis MD propose to carry out works at the Doora Church Cross from Municipal District funding. The Ennis MD will examine the exiting advance junction signs and line marking on the

approach to the Doora Church Cross from Doora School and provide additional signs and line marking.

**Item No. 6. Correspondence**

*Email from businesses in Lower Market Street Car Park to all eight members of Ennis Municipal District - to be considered ahead of the November, 2018, meeting of Ennis Municipal District.*

**Item No. 7. Any Other Business**

***Suggestions from Members***

- *Clare County Council should consider purchasing the building (old Hostel) on Carmody Street, Ennis, to accommodate the homeless.*
- *The Lane at Lifford should revert back to its original name The Bótharín and signage erected to reflect this and ensure its identity.*
- *On the proposal of Cllr. J. Flynn, seconded by Cllr. C. Collieran Molloy, it was agreed to suspend the Standing Orders for the Meetings of Ennis Municipal District in order to hold the November 2018 monthly meeting on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, 2018, at 10.30am. This was agreed by members.*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Meetings Administrator

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor of Ennis

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