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**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE MEMBERS OF THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF TRALEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRALEE ON MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2016.**

**MIONTUAIRISCÍ NA CRUINNITHE DE CHEANTAR BARDASACH THRÁ LÍ A THIONÓLADH I SEOMRA NA COMHAIRLE, ÁRAS AN CHONTAE, TRÁ LÍ, AR AN LUAIN 7 SAMHAIN, 2016.**

**PRESENT/I LÁTHAIR**

**Councillors/Comhairleoirí**

P. Daly  
T. McEllistrim  
P. McCarthy

N. Foley  
T. Ferris  
J. Finucane

S Locke.  
T. O'Brien  
G Spring.

**In attendance/i láthair**

Mr. M Scannell	Delegated Executive for the MD of Tralee
Ms. J. Foley	Meetings Administrator
Mr. E Scanlan	SEE
Mr. F Hartnett	SEE
Mr. C Mangan	SEE
Ms. B Conway	AO
Mr. C. Lynch	EE
Mr. J. Fitzgerald	EE
Ms. N O'Connor	MD Officer
Ms. S Broderick	SO

The meeting commenced at 10.30am.

Mayor T O'Brien took the Chair.

Mayor T O'Brien said that he had recently attended the launch of the Tralee 800 Conference in Siamsa Tire Tralee. He said that it was a lovely positive evening and very well attended. He complimented John Griffin County Tourism Officer and Helen Carroll Curator Kerry Museum and all involved in making this a very successful event.

**16.11.07.01 Confirmation of the minutes of the following meetings:**

(a) Minutes of the meeting of the Municipal District of Tralee 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2016.

Cllr. P Daly referred to page 3 Item 2 Notice of Motion No. 1 and said that **Wethers Well** had been misspelled and asked that the minutes be amended to reflect the correct spelling.

(a) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. N Foley SECONDED by Cllr. P Daly it was agreed that the Minutes of the Meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee held on the 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2016 **as amended** be confirmed.

(b) On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. J Finucane SECONDED by Cllr. P McCarthy it was agreed that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee held on the 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2016 be confirmed.

**(b) Business prescribed by statute Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meeting.**

**(a) Section 38 between the N86 and L-6725 Ballymullen Road.**

Mr. M Scannell briefed the members on the following report which was circulated in advance of the meeting:

Dáta/Date: **3 November 2016**  
Chuig: **Mayor Terry O'Brien and each member of the Tralee Municipal District**  
**Gach ball de Cheantar Bardasach Thrá Lí**

Ábhar/Subject: **Section 38**  
**Junction improvement works at the junction between the N86 and the L-6725 Ballymullen Road (Munster Bar Road) at Ballymullen, Tralee.**

The Council proposes to introduce junction improvement works at the junction between the N86 and L-6725 Ballymullen Road (Munster Bar Road) at Ballymullen, Tralee Co. Kerry.

The proposed works include a revision to the junction layout making it a One-Way Exit from Ballymullen Road (Munster Bar Road) onto the N86 by narrowing the existing junction with traffic calming measures in the form of Table Top Ramps and Build Outs in order to improve safety for vulnerable road users. It is also proposed to introduce ghost island road markings on the N86 in order to deter traffic from making a right turn manoeuvre onto L-6725 Ballymullen Road (Munster Bar Road) while also incorporating an uncontrolled crossing point including a Central Island Refuge to provide additional traffic calming and a safer route for crossing the road.

A Public Notice was published in the Kerry's Eye on Thursday, 22 September 2016 and drawings of the proposed works were put on display. The closing date for receipt of submissions and observations was Monday, 24 October 2016. In total 2 submissions / observations were received (which are outlined in the attached report).

Having regard to the submissions received, I am recommending the adoption of this scheme as proposed to Council, without amendments, for your approval, in accordance with Section 38(4) of the Road Traffic Act, 1994.

Is mise le meas,

**Cathal O Súilleabhain, Charlie O'Sullivan**  
**Stiúrthóir Seirbhísí, Director of Services**  
**An Roinn Oibríochtaí, Sláinte agus Sábháilteacht,**  
**Operations, Health & Safety**

**Section 38 - Junction improvement Works**  
**At the junction between the N86 and the L-6725 Ballymullen Road (Munster Bar Road) at Ballymullen, Tralee.**

Kerry County Council proposes to introduce junction improvement works at the junction between the N86 and L-6725 Ballymullen Road (Munster Bar Road) at Ballymullen, Tralee Co. Kerry.

The proposed works include a revision to the junction layout making it a One-Way Exit from Ballymullen Road (Munster Bar Road) onto the N86 by narrowing the existing junction with traffic calming measures in the form of Table Top Ramps and Build Outs in order to improve safety for vulnerable road users. It is also proposed to introduce ghost island road markings on the N86 in order to deter traffic from making a right turn manoeuvre onto L-6725 Ballymullen Road (Munster Bar Road) while also incorporating an uncontrolled crossing point including a Central Island Refuge to provide additional traffic calming and a safer route for crossing the road.

<b>Persons or bodies who responded within the prescribed period:-</b>	<b>Submissions or Observations Raised</b>
<i>(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)</i>	Not in favour of proposed improvement works at this junction.
<b>2. Transport Infrastructure Ireland, Parkgate Business Centre, Parkgate Street, Dublin 8</b>	No recommendations or objection to the proposed works

**SUMMARY OF ISSUES RAISED**

*(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* on behalf of residents of Ballymullen raised the following concerns / reservations:

1. They would prefer a controlled pedestrian crossing  
They are unsure if the parking space in front of *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* house will be eliminated
2. The narrowing of the southern end of St. Stephen's Terrace to 3.5 metres making the slip road one way for 3-4 houses at the southern end is

unnecessary.

Recommend the elimination of the shrubbery at Munster Bar side of road.

This would allow for a two way traffic system for those 3-4 houses. This would make access safer rather than crossing directly on the N86.

3. Request confirmation that all parking spaces at the western side of the slip road would be retained
4. Shrubby should be avoided on the eastern side of road as vandalism is not uncommon in the area.
5. Strongly object to the narrowing of the road. This is unnecessary as the N86 road will be clearly marked with no access to slip road.

**Reply:**

1. The provision of a controlled pedestrian crossing is not warranted based on the number of pedestrians crossing the road at this location.

The parking space in front of *(Name withheld for data protection purposes. A paper copy of unedited Minutes available on request)* house will not be eliminated

2. The narrowing of the southern end of St. Stephen's Terrace is necessary. It is not possible to have two way traffic on this section of St. Stephen's Terrace due to its close proximity to the N86.
3. As outlined on the attached drawing all parking spaces at the western side of the slip road will be retained
4. The purpose of the shrubbery is to replace the existing paved area and to define clear access points to the individual dwellings.

This scheme was designed to address the issue at the junction of St. Stephen's Terrace and the N86. It will prevent vehicles turning right from the N86 to St. Stephen's Terrace and this turning manoeuvre has caused accidents at this junction. The uncontrolled pedestrian cross will facilitate pedestrians crossing the N86 at this location.

Cllr. P Daly complimented the Tralee Municipal District engineers for meeting the residents to discuss their concerns but felt that the provision of a slipway should be considered to accommodate the residents of three houses.

Mr. M Scannell recommended that the proposal be adopted as outlined in the report.

On the PROPOSAL of Cllr. P McCarthy SECONDED by Cllr. J Finucane it was agreed to consider the introduction of junction improvement works at the junction between the N86 and L-6725 Ballymullen Road (Munster Bar Road) at Ballymullen, Tralee Co. Kerry pursuant to Section 38 of the Road Traffic Act, 1994, as amended by Section 46 of the Public Transport Regulation Act, 2009.

A vote was taken on the proposal which resulted as follows:

For **(6)**: Cllrs. J Finucane, N Foley, P McCarthy, T McEllistrim, T O'Brien, G Spring.

Against **(2)**: Cllrs. P Daly, S Locke.

Abstain **(1)**: Cllr. T Ferris

The Cathaoirleach declared the proposal to be carried.

#### **16.11.07.02 Job Creation/ Sustainable Economic Development Directorate**

##### **(a) Notices of Motion**

**1. Cllr. T Ferris:** That the canal would be improved and developed to provide opportunity for tourism and other commercial developments in Tralee

**Reply:** Significant investment has been undertaken in the canal/canal bank as an amenity for Tralee over the past number of months. The pathway has been upgraded, widened and made accessible to all users. Lighting along the pathway has been provided and additional seating has also been installed. The green areas associated with the canal have also been improved.

The Council has actively been proactive in the use of the canal for various events and the Rowing Club have their newly constructed clubhouse on land leased from the Council and are currently in the process of installing a pontoon on the canal which will again improve the amenity of the facility.

Currently the main issue with the canal is the repair of the lock gate at the seaward (Tralee Bay) end so as to allow traffic through. These works must proceed if the canal channel is to be opened up to the Bay and Fenit once again. The canal is a tidal waterway, 2.6kms long, with the water levels controlled by lock gates at the seaward end of the canal. The 4 gates were damaged during the storms in early 2013 and since September 2014, the outer 2 gates have been functional. The inner 2 gates would need to be refurbished at a cost of " 20,000 before they could become operational again. The repairs would bring the entire canal lock back into full operation. Control of the water levels is key to the ongoing usage of the canal as an amenity area in particular by the local rowing club. A comprehensive submission was recently sent to the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs for funding under the Recreational & Amenity category. To date we have not received confirmation to proceed.

**Cllr. T Ferris said that she could not advocate enough for the works that are required on the canal. It is vital that the €20,000 is spent on the refurbishment of the lock gates. If the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs does not provide the funding Kerry County Council must fund the work. The improvement and development of the canal would provide opportunities for tourism and encourage visitors to stop in the town. It would also enhance the economy with the development of café's and small shops in the vicinity of the canal.**

**Cllr. J Finucane referred to the site of the old dump in Tralee and said that this site which is owned by Kerry County Council has significant potential for the**

development of an urban beach adjacent to the Wetlands. He asked that Kerry County Council would examine this matter with a view to the preparation of a development plan for the site.

Cllr. N Foley said that a huge amount of work has been carried out in terms of the amenities in the town over the past few years. The town park is an excellent resource and the canal has the potential to become the jewel in the crown. She agreed with Cllr. T Ferris that the €20,000 refurbishment cost for the two inner lock gates must be provided.

Cllr. P Daly said that the development of a Blueway on the Ilan river in Skibbereen has been a huge success.

Mayor T O'Brien asked if the draw bridge on the canal is operational.

Cllr. T McEllistrim moved notice of motion No. 3 Item 6 as follows:

**3. Cllr. T McEllistrim:** To fix the Lock Gates and to make them operational again

**REPLY:** The canal is a tidal waterway, 2.6kms long, with the water levels controlled by lock gates at the seaward end of the canal. The 4 gates were damaged during the storms in early 2013 and since September 2014, the outer 2 gates have been functional. The inner 2 gates would need to be refurbished at a cost of " 20,000 before they could become operational again. The repairs would bring the entire canal lock back into full operation. Control of the water levels is key to the ongoing usage of the canal as an amenity area in particular by the local rowing club. A comprehensive submission was recently sent to the Dept. of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs for funding under the Recreational & Amenity category. To date we have not received confirmation to proceed.

**Mr. M Scannell** said that the submission made to the Department includes an application for funding for repair works. The cost of making the swing bridge operational is €15,000. He anticipated that a response would be received in early 2017. He said that a grant for the Creation of new Urban Space in Fenit was received last week under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme, therefore, substantial investment is being made on Tralee Municipal District in 2016/2017.

Cllr. T Ferris said that a capital fund of €10m had been transferred from the former Tralee Town Council to Kerry County Council following the amalgamation of the Local Authorities. She requested clarification on this fund.

It was agreed that a letter would issue to the Minister for Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs to request that serious consideration be given to the funding of this project so that the canal can be fully operational and emphasising that it is vitally important for Tralee that the necessary refurbishment works are carried out.

### Use of funding for the 1916 commemoration

Cllr. T Ferris said that she was concerned that funding for the 1916 commemoration was used to support a recent event organised by Listowel and District Historical Society to commemorate the lives and deaths of the O’Rahilly and Herbert Kitchener who were born in North Kerry. She said that that the 2016 commemorations are about the people who tried to fight imperial power while Herbert Kitchener was a British officer who tried to impose British imperialism throughout the world. She asked that a report be prepared detailing the amount of funding allocated by Kerry County Council towards this event.

Cllr. P McCarthy said that the full history of all those involved should be included in historical events.

Cllr. T Ferris said that Herbert Kitchener was not involved in the 1916 Rising.

### **16.11.07.03 Water Services Directorate**

#### **(a) To note update report from the Water Services Directorate**

It was agreed to note the following report which was circulated:

#### **Funding Priorities for Major Capital Projects**

Irish Water has indicated that it will prioritize funding, based on the key issues to be addressed, for capital projects.

In Water, priority will be given to any Scheme to which a Boil Water Notice (BWN) applies, and any Scheme on the EPA Remedial Action List (RAL) and/or on a legal Direction from the EPA.

In Wastewater, priority will be given to towns (agglomerations) to which ECJ Ruling apply, and on meeting the requirements of the EPA Discharge Licenses.

### **IRISH WATER MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME 2014-2016**

The Irish Water Capital Investment Programme 2014-2016 was launched in May 2014. A total of 8 wastewater Schemes (total value of " 10.7 million) and 7 Water schemes (total value of " 24 million) in Kerry are included in the CIP.

**It is expected that IW’s new national CIP 2017 – 2021 will be published in late 2016 or early 2017.**

The schemes listed in the current CIP which affect the Tralee Municipal District are outlined in the following tables:

<b>MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME WASTEWATER PROJECTS</b>	
<b><i>Tionscnamh Project</i></b>	<b><i>Stádas Status</i></b>
<b>Ardfert SS</b>	Tenders have been received by Irish Water and their Assessment and the Contract Award process is currently underway. It is anticipated that the

	Contract will be commenced later this year. This is a <b>Design And Build</b> project.
<b>Fenit SS</b>	The Scheme is included in Irish Water's national <b>Capital Investment Programme 2014 - 2016</b> . Contract Documents have been submitted for review to Irish Water. Agreement has been reached with the landowner for the purchase of the site, the budget for which was approved in 2015 by Irish Water.

<b>MAJOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMME WATER SUPPLY PROJECTS</b>			
<b><i>Tionscnamh</i> Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b><i>Stádas</i> Status</b>
<b>MAINS REHABILITATION PROJECT</b>	Tralee Estates St Brendan's Pk., Connolly Pk., Riverside, Kering's Pk., Lohercannon and Marian Pk. Mains Replacement Works	" 1.835M	Completed
<b>MAINS REHABILITATION PROJECT</b>	Removal of Long Lead Connections in <b>Tralee</b> at O'Rahilly's Villas, James Street/Green View Terrace, St. John's Park, Brewery Road, Boherbue and Oakpark Demesne.	" 0.196M	Approved
<b>MAINS REHABILITATION PROJECT</b>	Replacement of Cast Iron mains and Lead connections in <b>Tralee</b> at Boherbue, Brewery Road, Cahill's Park, Canal New Road, Castle Street, Cloondara, James Street/Greenvue Terrace, Mitchell's Area, O'Rahilly's Villas, Oakpark Demesne, Racecourse Road, St. John's Park, Strand Street/High Street, Lisbeg, Cloonalour, Brogue/Market Place, Church Place, Tansley Court, Ashe Memorial Hall, Moyderwell School, Cloonbeg Terrace.	" 4.15M	Approved
<b>CENTRAL REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY SCHEME</b>	Lough Guitane Water Treatment Plant . Design, Build and Operate	" 22M	Construction work on a full water treatment plant is ongoing by Contractor <b>Glan Agua Ltd.</b> . the completion date is April 2018.

#### **IRISH WATER MINOR CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2014-2016**

Irish Water has also launched a Minor Capital Works Programme 2014-2016. This is a rolling programme of **Minor Improvement Works** which can be added to as the need arises. The list of works in the Tralee Municipal District for which Kerry County



Council has applied under the Minor Capital Works Programme is outlined in the following table:

<b>MINOR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME</b>			
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Status</b>
Fenit Waste Water Scheme	Replace 50M of storm damage (Feb 14) sewer.	" 25,000	Complete
Fenit WWTP	Repair storm damage Feb. 2014	" 13,000	Complete
Fenit WWTP	Upgrade Outfall Pipe	" 23,000	Complete
Fenit WW Tawlaght and Tralee Rd	Upgrade pump stations	" 65,000	Complete
Ardfert South WSS	Install 3No. PRVs and 9No. Air Valves	" 25,000	Complete
Brosna Knocknag. RWSS	Dooneen reservoir . security fencing	" 8,000	Complete
Lyreacrompane RWSS	Provide Sludge Treatment Plant	" 50,000	Complete
Tralee WW (Knockmoyle)	Lay 100M of 225MM storm pipe	" 14,000	Complete
Tralee WWTP - UV	Ultra Violet disinfection system	" 32,000	Complete
Tralee WW Mulgrave's Bridge	Upgrade PLC Pumpstation	" 6,000	Complete
CRWSS Dromultan Scartaglin	Lay 300M of 100MM new uPVC main to eliminate existing pump station	" 35,000	Complete
CRWSS - Knockawaddra	Install inline booster pumps	" 18,000	Complete
CRWSS Kilflynn	SCADA/Telemetry Cloonafineela Rsvr.	" 6,000	Complete
CRWSS Tralee	Replace C. I. mains Castle Demesne	" 30,000	Complete
CRWSS Tralee	Decommission C.I. main Pembroke St	" 6,000	Complete
CRWSS Tralee Prince's St	Replace 30M of 100MM C.I. main	" 6,000	Complete
CRWSS Tralee The Kerries	Replace 200M of 100MM C.I. mains	" 31,000	Complete
CRWSS Ard Na Lí Tralee	Replace 610M of 100MM C.I. mains	" 88,000	Complete
<b>CRWSS The Mall Tralee</b>	<b>Replace 200M of 250MM C.I. mains</b>	<b>€60,000</b>	<b>Underway</b>
<b>CRWSS Ballintobeenig</b>	<b>Replace Valves, Meters etc</b>	<b>€17,000</b>	<b>Underway</b>
<b>CRWSS Kielduff</b>	<b>Upgrade pump station</b>	<b>€15,000</b>	<b>Underway</b>
CRWSS Castlecountess Tralee	Decommission Lead connections and cast iron main . circa 35 houses	" 103,000	Approved
			<b>Continued...</b>
<b>CLÁR OIBREACHA BEAGA CAIPITIL - MINOR CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAMME <i>cont'd</i></b>			
<b>Project</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Status</b>
Brosna Knocknagoshel	Replace 10 Sl. Valves and 3 Mag	" 15,000	Approved

RWSS	Meters		
Brosna Knockosheal RWSS	Storage Tank for Meenleirim Pump	" 12,000	Approved
Tralee WW Castlemaine Rd.	Upgrade waste water pump station	" 15,000	Approved
Fenit Water Supply Tawlaght	Replace 300M of 2+main; cul-de-sac	" 12,000	Approved
CRWSS Reservoirs Refurbishment	Cloonafineela, Tubrid and Barrow	" 19,000	Approved
CRWSS Ballintobeenig	Replace 2 Pumps	" 12,000	Approved
Tralee SS; Mulgrave's Br	Sewage Pump Replacement	" 25,000	Approved
Camp WSS	Replace 800M of 90MM watermain	" 50,000	Approved
Tralee SS: Garryruth and Cloghers Pumping Stations	Mobile electricity generator	" 20,000	Requested
	<b>Total Minor Capital Works APPROVED</b>	<b>€836,000</b>	

### THE RURAL WATER PROGRAMME

The administration and development of the Group Scheme sector continues to be a function of the Local Authorities under the guidance and supervision of the DoEC&LG and Irish Water has no authority, responsibility or involvement.

A total Block Grant Allocation of " 780,100 was allocated to Kerry County Council for the various measures under the Rural Water Programme in **2015**.

**The funding for 2016 was announced on the 29<sup>th</sup> August and €690,000 has been allocated for Kerry.**

#### Takeover of Group Schemes

Since 1 January 2014, responsibility for the Takeover of Group Schemes has transferred to Irish Water.

Nationally, discussions are ongoing between the DoEC&LG, the County and City Managers Association and Irish Water to develop a protocol to facilitate the Takeover of Group Schemes.

#### **Alderwood Road proposed Group Sewerage Scheme**

This Road is located north east of Oakpark in Tralee. There are approx 100 houses on the route and a sewer line of approximately 3.1Km is necessary. There is a difficulty in that sections of the existing sewer system downstream on the main Oakpark Road etc are unable to cope with flooding. A **Feasibility Study** for the proposed connection of this district to the existing public sewer has been completed by a local Consulting Engineer in October 2015.

The Alderwood Road proposed G.S.S. was allocated " 650,000 in late August 2016 by the Dept. Of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in its annual Grants for Group Water and Sewerage Schemes. This money is to be spent over a three-year period.

**Tenders for the selection and appointment of a Consulting Engineer to manage the project have been received by the Council on behalf of the Group in mid-October.**

It is important now that the Group is formalised.

The main issues include the collection of signatures of members and the selection of a Chairman and Secretary.

#### **Killeen Road Group Sewerage Scheme**

The scheme, which involved the connection of seven existing houses that were previously served by private septic tanks, on the Killeen Road, which is located off the Oakpark Road, Tralee has been completed.

**Mr. C Mangan referred to the report and said that approval has been granted for the replacement of cast iron mains and lead connections.**

**The Replacement of 200M of 250MM cast iron mains at the Mall Tralee is ongoing and on schedule and it is expected that it will be completed by 26<sup>th</sup> November.**

**With regard to the proposed Group Sewerage Scheme for Alderwood Road Mr. Mangan said that management of the Group Scheme has been contacted by Kerry County Council and it is expected that a meeting will take place very soon. The Alderwood Road proposed G.S.S. was allocated €650,000 in late August 2016 by the Dept. Of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government in its annual Grants for Group Water and Sewerage Schemes.**

**Cllr. J Finucane said that the work which is being carried out at the Mall is very efficient and with minimum disruption to business in the town. This investment in infrastructure is the key to industry and development in Tralee.**

**Cllr. J Finucane welcomed the progress with the proposed Alderwood Road Group Sewerage Scheme and thanked management of Water Services for prioritising this project.**

**Cllr. P Daly complimented Kerry County Council on carrying out the works at the Mall with minimum disruption in the town.**

**He referred to the proposed Group Sewerage Scheme for Alderwood road and asked if works could be carried out to prevent raw sewage from entering the Big River.**

**Mr. C Mangan said that a manhole on the main Listowel road was blocked and this has been addressed in the past week. He anticipated that this would result in decreased overflow.**

**He said that a holding tank on the Alderwood road may be deployed when the scheme is being designed.**

**Cllr. P McCarthy said that he has been made aware that there is a leak in the roof of the public toilet building in Fenit.**

Mr. Mangan said that public toilets no longer come within the remit of Water Services.

Mr. F Hartnett said that this matter will be examined by the Operations, Health & Safety Department.

#### 16.09.26.04 Sustainable Communities / Quality of Life Directorate

(a) To note update report from the Sustainable Communities / Quality of Life Directorate

It was agreed to note the following report which was circulated:

### REPORT

#### Library Service Report

#### ***Business Unit Manager – Tommy O'Connor, Co. Librarian***

~ Kerry Library has completed the digitisation of a further set of 8 Kerry newspapers and they are now available fully searchable, free of charge at each library. These are: **Kerry Reporter** (1924 - 1935); **Kerry Champion** (1928 - 1958); **Tralee Liberator** (1914-1939); **Kerry Press** (1914 -1916); **Kerry Advocate** (1914-1916); **Kerry People** (1902 - 1922; 1925 - 1928); **Kerry Evening Star** (1902 - 1914); **Kerry News** (1894 -1920; 1924 -1941).

20 Kerry newspapers are now available in this format and this completes the available resources that can be digitised. This constitutes a continuum of newspaper coverage for the county from 1829 (**Kerry Evening Post & Tralee Mercury**) to the present (**The Kerryman**). [*Kerry's Eye* and *The Kingdom* are copyright restricted and do not form part of the offering].

In addition, national titles (***Irish Independent, Cork/Irish Examiner & Irish Press***) are also available and this is a huge resource with free access across the library network. In relation to ***The Irish Times***, this is available on the Ask About Ireland website [[www.askaboutireland.ie](http://www.askaboutireland.ie)] and access is not restricted if used through the public library network.

~ Library Ireland Week 2016 will take place nationally from Monday, 28 Nov. to Saturday, 3 Dec. Kerry Library will have 2 main initiatives (i) a fines amnesty on any overdue books (ii) User education events at each library to promote the library online resources [e-books; e-learning courses, e-audio, e-magazines, e-newspapers, e-languages, etc.] & update users on the catalogue search, book renewal and book request services capabilities of the new Library Circulation Management system

~ Library events programme [countywide details at [www.kerrylibrary.ie](http://www.kerrylibrary.ie)]

#### **Forthcoming Tralee Library events:**

until Friday, 11 Nov. [during library opening	Exhibition: Casement memorials and memorabilia
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hours]	
Tue., 8 Nov. 7.30pm . 8.30pm  7.00p.m. launch	Lecture: <del>F</del> iries 1916 & Volunteers actions by Dr. Tim Horgan.  Preceded by the launch of The Kerry Magazine, No. 27 (2017) by Moira Murrell, C.E., Kerry Co. Council.
Thurs., 10 Nov 6:00pm - 8:00pm	Tralee Diverse Writers Group Anniversary lecture [ <i>Diverse Kerry: a list of Kerry writers and diverse writings from old and new</i> ] and Book Launch [ <i>A woman, her struggle continues: Her life, My story</i> ] by Jane Beatrice Ejim]
Tue., 15 Nov 6:00pm - 8:00pm	Kerry Women Writers Network Open Mic - Readings by members of their own work followed by 'Open Mic' event
Monday, 21 Nov. . Sat., 3 Dec.	Exhibition: Ardfert Camera Club Winter Exhibition  Official launch on Tuesday, 12 Nov. at 7.00p.m.
Thursday, 8 December - Monday, 19 Dec.	Rehab and Women's Resource Centre Art Exhibition - Joint exhibition between Rehab Care and Tralee Women's Resource Centre -Promotion of mental health, inclusion and self-esteem while encouraging creativity  <i>Launch on Thursday, 8 December, 7.00 pm</i>

### Emergency Services Report

**Business Unit Manager: Michael Hession CFO**

#### Fire Safety and Prevention:

- Fire Officers carried out inspections of premises on foot of licensing applications and forwarded fire officers recommendations to the Annual Licensing Courts during September.
- Carbon Monoxide awareness week (26<sup>th</sup> September ff) was strongly supported by Kerry County FRS and plans and preparations were put in place for a strong programme and outreach for Fire Safety Week (03 October ff) 2016.
- See Appendix on Fire Safety Week 2016

#### Fire Service Operations – September Statistics:

Fire Service Operations		
	Jan – Sept	Jan – Sept

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>
Total Incidents	731	711
Total Mobilisations	810	849
Number of Fires	464	384
Of which: Chimney Fires	108	83
Gorse	217	146
Special Service Incidents	232	191
Of which: Road Traffic Accidents	105	98

### **Building Control:**

The number of Commencement Notices/7 Day Notices received to the end of September 2016 was 330 which is a:

- 22.67 % increase on the figure of 269 for the same period last year.

The trend has remained similar comparing 2016 with 2015 over several months. This suggests an increase in construction activity in the county in that percentage area.

The building control section continues to process Disability Access Certificate applications and also Fire Safety Certificate applications. Up to the end of September 2016 a total of 70 Disability Access Certificate applications and a total of 123 new Fire Safety Certificate applications had been received. This represents increases of

- 9.37 % in Disability Access Certificate applications and
- 25.5 % in Fire Safety Certificate applications over the same period in 2015.

This trend with Fire Safety Certificate applications has also remained similar comparing 2016 with 2015 over several months. Combined with the trend with commencement notifications, there is very strong evidence of an increase in construction activity in the county in the percentage bracket 22 to 25%

### **September statistics – Building Control:**

<b>Building Control</b>		
	<b>Jan – Sept 2015</b>	<b>Jan – Sept 2016</b>
Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received	98	123
Fire Safety Certificate Applications Received	98	123
Disability Access Certificate Applications Received	64	70
Commencement Notices Received	269	330

**Emergency Services Report  
- Appendix  
Programme for Fire Safety Week 2016  
3<sup>rd</sup> October to 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

1. The week prior to Fire Safety Week: a substantial advert in The Kerryman and Kerry's Eye newspapers advertising Fire Safety Week and communicating this year's fire safety message (STOP FIRE - Smoke alarms save lives)
2. A substantial article in The Kerryman newspaper during the week promoting Fire Safety Week and giving fire safety advice.
3. A programme of 45 advertisements over the week on Radio Kerry: 3 No. adverts giving fire safety advice - each advert to run 3 times a day. An advert on smoke alarms, an advert on chimney fires (and the importance of cleaning the chimney) and an advert on fire safety and the elderly.
4. A Radio Kerry interview with Fire Officer publicising Fire Safety Week and giving fire safety advice
5. A Radio Na Gealtachta Irish Language interview (nationwide transmission) with Fire Officers publicising Fire Safety Week and giving fire safety advice
6. Fire Safety demonstrations in Killarney (Deerpark Shopping Centre Saturday 2-4 pm) and Tralee (Manor West Shopping Centre 2-4 pm) on the weekend 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> October with Fire Safety Demonstration Unit.
7. Fire safety leaflet distribution to local communities in all station areas. Meet and distribute to local people. To Station Officers plan locally in collaboration with the relevant station senior supervisor (ACFO). Irish language distribution to Gaeltacht areas.
8. Posters on Fire Safety Week in public buildings around the county promoting this year's theme and publicising the fire safety message.
9. Report on the week's activities to the National Directorate for Fire and Emergency Management

**Oifig na Gaeilge Report**

**Business Unit Manager - Roibeard Ó hEartáin, Oifigeach Forbartha Gaeilge**

**TEASTAS EORPACH NA GAEILGE (TEG)**

Tá spéis ollmhór á léiriú ag daoine fásta i gcúrsaí (TEG) Teastas Eorpach na Gaeilge ar fud Chiarraí i láthair na huaire, go háirithe i dTrá Lí. Ó 2005 i leith tá cúrsaí TEG á sholáthar ag Oifig na Gaeilge d'hoireann na Comhairle mar aon le bheith ag tacú leo siúd lasmuigh den eagraíochta chun freastal ar ranganna Gaeilge.

I mbliana tá méadú ollmhór tagtha ar líon na gcúrsaí, uaidh 3 chúrsa go 6/8 chúrsa i dTrá Lí amháin; 2 cheann uaidh BOO Chiarraí, 2/3 chinn uaidh IT Thrá Lí agus 2/3 chinn ó Chomhairle Contae Chiarraí.

European Certificate in Irish (TEG) courses are currently experiencing a huge interest among adult learners across the county, in particular in Tralee. Since 2005 Oifig na Gaeilge has been providing TEG courses for Council staff while facilitating those with an interest outside the organisation. This year sees a huge increase in the number of courses now being delivered, from 3 courses to 6/8 courses in Tralee alone; with to be 2 delivered by KETB, 2/3 by IT Tralee and 2/3 by Kerry County Council.

## ENVIRONMENT SERVICE REPORT

### ***Business Unit Manager – Ger O'Brien, Senior Executive Officer***

#### **Update on Water Framework Directive – River Basin Management plans**

The second cycle of the river basin management planning process has commenced at national level. The outcome of this process will see the publication of revised national river basin management plans in 2017. The plans will form the basis for much of the scheduled water-quality inspection work (eg. septic tank inspection, farm inspections etc.) which will be undertaken by local authorities over the coming years. In preparation for this, Kerry County Council recently held preliminary discussions with the EPA about the establishment of an investigation assessment work-programme. This would entail carrying out desk-top and field-based investigation work to identify possible water quality issues in a number of surface water catchments in the County.

Local Authority Water & Community Offices (LAWCOs) have also been established in each of the Water Management Regions and these have been given the role of ensuring improved coordination between the various local authorities in carrying out their water quality management functions and of engaging with local communities on issues of local importance in the water quality area and to promote public awareness, knowledge sharing and participation in the protection and management of our natural waters.

Kieran Murphy has been recently appointed as the Community Water Officer based in Inniscarra, Co Cork. His primary role will be to provide on the ground support to communities in the delivery of Water Framework Directive objectives (i.e., good water, ecological status). Kieran will provide support for the Cork County Area and will (in the short term) provide a caretaker role for Co. Kerry until the new Community Water Officer, to be based in Tralee, takes up her position. Kieran can be contacted by email on [kmurphy@lawco.ie](mailto:kmurphy@lawco.ie) or by mobile on 085 8083059

A South West Region Water and Environment Management Committee, is also being established, chaired by the Chief Executive of Kerry County Council initially, to co-ordinate and share experience and best practice among local authorities and catchment communities in the South West Region.



## **Farm Hazardous Waste Collection**

Collection of farm Hazardous waste will take place in the Milltown Mart on the 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016. There is a charge for disposal of Pesticides and biocides - Veterinary medicines - Doses, dips, wormers - Dry cow & mastitis tubes - Needles and syringes - Waste paints - Aerosols - Corrosives (acids, detergents) - Oil and air filters .

Oily wastes - Brake fluids - Brake pads - Antifreeze - Adhesives - Coolants - Grease cartridges . Creosote. All empty plastic and metal containers.

With free disposal of - Waste Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE) - TVs - Computers - Fridges - Freezers - Power tools, kettles - Fluorescent lamps & CFLs, waste engine and hydraulic oil and all batteries including tractor car, fence, portable

For queries LoCall: 1890 33 55 99 [www.epa.ie](http://www.epa.ie) or contact your local Teagasc office

### **Tralee Municipal District Meeting Community Department Report November 2016**

#### **Town & Village Renewal Scheme**

An application has been submitted for Fenit Village under the 2016 Scheme. We are seeking funding of " 76,000 and there are two aspects to this project:

- Develop a Public Realm Improvement Plan focusing on the creation of an economic and social centre for the village. This will focus on the design of a new central public space taking in the car park/promenade and provide an integrated and costed design ready for planning for this area.
- Village entrance improvement works including road realignment and footpaths to improve access and enhance the entrance to the village.

We are still awaiting a decision from the DAHRRGA on successful applications.

#### **Tidy Towns 2016 results**

Two towns/villages from the Tralee MD participated in the 2016 Competition. The results are listed below and both areas recorded an improved performance this year.

<b>Town/Village</b>	<b>2016 Marks</b>	<b>2016 vs 2015</b>
Brosna 268 (+6)	268	+6
Tralee 312 (+7)	312	+7

Tralee retained its Tidy Town Gold Medal for the 5th year in a row.

#### **Purple Flag**

The Purple Flag initiative is designed to enhance the vibrancy of the centres in the hours 5pm to 5am and represents good quality evening & night time economy, where people can enjoy a safe night out in a pleasant environment.

Tralee is applying for the Purple Flag in 2017. This is a joint application between Kerry County Council and Tralee Chamber Alliance and the Tralee Purple Flag Working Group has been formed.

The application process is very detailed. To pursue Purple Flag status and be successful, collaboration and partnership between stakeholder groups is key; particularly buy in from private interests, the gardai and local authority. Purple Flag is about town centre management which is broad and requires participation and buy in from all businesses (pubs, restaurants, cafes, cinema, theatre, nightclubs, etc). It caters for all ages and includes family entertainment, arts & culture, shopping, dining, pubs and nightclubs. Tralee must demonstrate that our town centre is welcoming, safe, appealing, well-managed and offers a positive experience to consumers with diverse amenities and that all the necessary stakeholders are informed and collaborating.

### **Ashe St Traders**

At the request of the Ashe Street Traders a meeting was held to discuss possible small enhancements works for the area (seating, signs for car parks, bins, flower baskets, etc) and the progressing a plan for the redesign of the Market Quarter. A follow on meeting is to take place in the coming weeks.

### **Ashe Street – Street Festival on 19 November**

The traders and business services in Ashe Street have come together to arrange a street event on the 19<sup>th</sup> November with busking, food tastings, live entertainment, etc.

### **Tralee 800 Update**

In 2016 Tralee Town is celebrating 800 years in existence. The Tralee 800 Working Group was set-up to bring all relevant bodies together to develop a programme of events to celebrate this occasion. Cllr Pat McCarthy & Cllr Pa Daly represent KCC on the working group and the group is chaired by Cllr McCarthy.

Over the coming weeks the Working Group will consider how the legacy of Tralee 800 can be built on with the possibility of an additional theme developed to add to the annual Féile na mBláth weekend.

### **Upcoming events**

- **Tralee 800 School Education Programme** in conjunction with all local primary and first year of secondary schools. This programme will start in September and run until March 2017.
- **Tralee 800 International Conference** on 4 & 5 November jointly hosted by Kerry Archaeological and Historical Society and Tralee Municipal District Council and funded under the 2016 Community Tourism Diaspora Initiative. This two day conference will explore the 800 year history of Tralee and will take place in Siamsa Tire Theatre and the Rose Hotel.

### **LEADER 2014-2020**

**Implementation of LEADER Local Development Strategy (Rural Development Programming period 2014-2020)**

The Kerry LCDC is the Local Action Group (LAG) under the LEADER Programme with the 3 Local Development Companies (LDCs) implementing the programme on the ground.

A LAG workshop to explore the application process took place on 10 October. The application process will be in two stages . Expression of Interest & Full Application. The LDCs invited Expressions of Interest on Time-Bound Targeted Calls for Applications basis.

EOIs from potential applicants were invited from 3 . 28 October with the first call covering the following 4 sub-thematic areas: Rural Tourism, Enterprise Development, Rural Towns, Basic Services.

Eligible EOIs will be invited to submit a full application for funding by the deadline of 6 January, 2017 (deadline to be confirmed).

### **Community Support Fund**

The 2016 applications approved under the Community Support Fund are being implemented by the successful applicants.

It is proposed to invite applications for the 2017 Fund in November of this year, subject to budget approval. The Municipal District Officers will facilitate pre-application advice clinics in advance of the closing date for receipt of applications in order to assist and advise applicants regarding the eligibility of projects within the terms of the Fund.

The Guidelines for the 2017 have also been revised to provide more clarity to groups.

### **Comhairle na nÓg**

The aim of Comhairle na nÓg, is to ensure that the voice of young people is heard when developing policy and local services. Kerry County Council works with the Kerry Diocesan Youth Service to ensure the success of this project at local level. Kerry Comhairle na nÓg's AGM took place on 13 October, 2016, at the Rose Hotel in Tralee from 10.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. The event is totally planned and managed by the current Comhairle na nÓg members. Young people aged 12-18 were invited from all 26 secondary schools and this year 22 out of the 26 schools sent attendees.

The past year was a busy one for the Kerry Comhairle na nÓg which has taken part in several consultative processes: CDP 2015-2021, LECP 2016-2022, work plans of the Children & Young People Services Committee, KETB and KDYS.

Recent topics that the Comhairle have progressed as part of their annual programmes include mental health, sexual health plus drug and alcohol awareness. In terms of mental health the young people organised a mental health first aid training course for teachers and youth workers, and they also organised a colour run on Banna Beach to promote positive mental health. For their drugs and alcohol topic they designed and developed 'Hugs not Drugs' wristbands, ran information stands in their schools and helped launch an information booklet with information on support services. You tube videos showcasing the work of the Comhairle in relation to these

topics were shown as part of the day's events and a very informative speech on Sexual Health was given by Máire O'Leary HSE Sexual Health Worker.

Members also organised a "Reeling in the Years Fashion Show 1916 -2016" held at the Ashe Hotel to commemorate the Easter Rising and a video of the fashion show was shown at the AGM.

Also the Kerry Comhairle na nÓg was invited by Sean Kelly MEP to attend the European Youth Event (EYE) which took place in the European Parliament seat in Strasbourg from 20-21 May 2016. It was a unique opportunity for thousands of young Europeans, including members of the Kerry Comhairle, to make their voices heard, and the members who attended described their experiences.

One of the objectives of the Comhairle na nÓg programme is to raise awareness around how people can influence policy decisions, and this is done in a practical way on the day of the AGM. Facilitated workshops take place and those present identified the issue of education as the chosen topic to work on for the coming year.

Also, on the day there is an election process which elects young people to the Kerry Comhairle na nÓg for the next two year term and 57 new members were welcomed following this year's AGM. Those elected are afforded opportunities to attend national events and to represent young people on a number of policy making bodies both at county level and nationally. Outgoing members who are 18 years old and now have to leave the Comhairle as their term is over, were presented certificates by Cllr. Norma Foley on behalf of the Cathaoirleach of Kerry County Council. Finally attendees warmly welcomed Deputy Michael Healy-Rae TD who attended briefly and spoke with the youngsters present.

## Housing Services Report

**Business Unit Manager – Mrs. Christina Farrell, Senior Executive Officer**

### Restructuring In Housing

The Housing section now consists of 3 sections as follows:

- 1. Asset Management Services** led by Brigid O'Riordan  
Contact No (066) 718549, Mobile (087) 6401889 Email: [bwalsh@kerrycoco.ie](mailto:bwalsh@kerrycoco.ie)
- 2. Support Services** led by Kathleen Curtin  
Contact No (066) 7183933, Mobile (087) 9305777 Email: [kcurtin@kerrycoco.ie](mailto:kcurtin@kerrycoco.ie)
- 3. Customer Services** led by Brenda Conway  
Contact No (066) 7183932, Mobile (087) 6898866 Email: [bconway@kerrycoco.ie](mailto:bconway@kerrycoco.ie)

### Enhancement to Service for Public Representatives

A dedicated helpline will be available in November to allow our public representatives contact the Housing department in relation to any queries or representation they wish to make. Our aim is to answer the call on receipt and to ensure that it is responded to in a timely manner. The phone number and operational date will be circulated in the near future.

### **New Reporting Format for MD meetings**

We intend adding to the standard report for the MD meetings which will give full visibility on activity in Housing in the previous period.

We intend on developing this further into the future and are putting data collection and logging systems in place to allow us to do this in an efficient manner.

We welcome feedback on this and indeed any other suggestions of reports that you would like us to include for future meetings.

### **Tenant Purchase Scheme Update**

The total number of applications received to date is **209**.

We have agreed to sell **76 properties** in total throughout the County.

To date, **75** applicants did **not** qualify based on the Terms of the Scheme and these applicants have all been notified of decision.

The total number of properties which Kerry County Council have agreed **not** to include in the Tenant (Incremental) Purchase Scheme is **11**.

The other applications are currently under consideration at the moment.

### **Turnkey Expressions of Interest**

The Council advertised in the Examiner, the Kerryman & Kerry Eye for persons to submit applications for Expressions of Interest in relation to the delivery of Turnkey Units in Kerry. The closing date for the receipt of these Applications for Expressions of Interest was Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2016. After the closing date the applications will be examined on a number of factors e.g. housing need in the area, costings, date of delivery. A submission will then be made to the Department of Planning, Housing, Community & Local Government for approval for these schemes.

### **Local Infrastructure Activation Fund**

The Council advertised in the Examiner, the Kerryman & Kerry Eye inviting submissions for large-scale developments, at minimum in excess of 150 houses. The closing date for the receipt of these submissions was 23<sup>rd</sup> September, 2016. No submissions were received.

### **HAP Implementation**

The Housing Assistance Payment scheme will Circular be introduced in Kerry on the 01 December 2016. The Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) is a new social housing support. HAP will replace Rent Supplement for those with a long term housing need.

### **Voids Programme**

We received an allocation of " 771,700 from the DPHCLG early in the year for the purpose of returning 54 vacant Social Housing properties to productive use and 49 of these units have been completed and claimed to date. A further allocation was

approved and notified on the 03 October 2016 for 47 units at the cost of " 665,620 and works have been completed on these units and will be claimed by the 23 November 2016.

Social Housing Activity Report as at 24th October 2016				
Tralee Municipal Area (T.M.A.)				
<b><u>Social Housing Applicants</u></b>				<b>2016</b>
Accommodation offers made for property located within Municipal Area				92
New Tenancies Commenced				64
Accommodation refusals				23
Awaiting Decision				5
<b><u>Social Houses</u></b>				
<b>Vacant properties within Municipal Area</b>				
Under/awaiting Repair (excl those subject to major refurbishment)				20
Awaiting Allocation				9
<b><u>Rental Accommodation Scheme</u></b>				
		<b><u>County</u></b>		<b><u>T.M.A.</u></b>
Total Active Tenancies		924		429
New tenancies in 2016		79		46
Tenancies terminated in 2016		72		42
<b><u>Leasing</u></b>				
		<b><u>County</u></b>		<b><u>T.M.A.</u></b>
Leased Properties		201		68
New Tenancies in 2016		52		21
Leases under Negotiation		20		11
<b><u>Housing Adaptation Grants (County Wide)</u></b>				
Housing Adaptation Grants (County Wide)		<b>No.</b>		<b>€</b>
Grant Allocation 2016				" 2,096,050
New Grants Allocated 2016		351		" 1,650,555
Total Commitment		269		" 1,279,099
Grants Paid		208		" 1,092,435
<b>Construction Programme 2016:</b>				
<b>Single Rural Dwellings:</b>				
Single Rural Dwellings - Site Transfer Stage				0
Single Rural Dwelling - In Planning Process				0
Single Rural Dwellings - under construction				0
<b>Bedroom Extensions:</b>				
Extensions - Applications on hands				0
Extensions - Tender Stage				0
Extensions - under construction				0
<b>Capital Tralee MD:</b>				
<b>Proposed Developments:</b>				<b>No. Units</b>
<b>Bill Kinnerk Road, Tralee:</b>				4
Preparation of contract documents will be carried out in October 2016. The project will proceed to tender at the end of November.				
<b>Killeen, Tralee:</b>				21
Part 8 Approval received on 19th of July. Construction stage due to commence in mid 2017.				

**Cllr. T Ferris** referred to the update on the Tenant Purchase Scheme and said that she was concerned about the length of time decisions on applications were taking. She referred to delays with regard to leasing contracts and said that she would appreciate an update on a specific application from a constituent.

She also said that the reallocation of vacant properties should be expedited as the country is in a housing crisis. There are very few two bed room properties for renting. A resolution to this matter must be found sooner rather than later.

**Cllr. S Locke** said that the six week period for an applicant to make a decision on whether or not they will accept a property is far too long. This results in some houses being vacant for up to twelve months. He asked that this matter be examined.

**Cllr. N Foley** said that she felt that the Tenant Purchase Scheme is being made very difficult for applicants.

**Cllr. P Daly** referred to the update on the Tenant Purchase Scheme and commented that the number of houses that the Council has agreed to sell is almost the same as the number not legible for the scheme. He asked if the main reason for rejection of an application was financial.

**Ms. B Conway** said that a Housing Meeting will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> November and issues such as this can be discussed. She said that if **Cllr. Daly** was referring to a specific application she would examine the matter on receipt of details. She asked **Cllr. T Ferris** to contact her with details of the specific application for her constituent.

She said that the allocation of properties is a time based system and Kerry County Council endeavours to ensure that applicants are allocated a house as quickly as possible. Kerry County Council is piloting a scheme with a view to expediting the allocation of properties.

**Mr. M Scannell** said that additional resources have been allocated to the Housing Department as it is a priority for the Council to reduce the turn around time for the allocation of vacant properties.

**Cllr. P McCarthy** asked if BER rating applies to a Local Authority house. **Mr. Scannell** said that if there is a change of tenant a BER rating must be provided.

**16.11.07.05                      Operations, Health & Safety Directorate**

**(a) It was agreed to note the following Report from Mr. F Hartnett SEE which was circulated.**

**1. Works Programme for November/December 2016**



<b>Urban Area</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Paving repairs ongoing at The Mall/Square/Castle Street/Ashe Street Areas</li> <li>• Severe Weather Remedial Works . Monavalley Industrial Estate</li> <li>• Rath Graveyard Improvements</li> <li>• CSMDOF Works</li> <li>• Minor footpath repairs (maintenance)</li> <li>• Grass cutting and maintenance of roundabouts and open spaces</li> <li>• Cleansing and Sewer works</li> <li>• Some staff seconded to C.I.U.</li> </ul>
<b>Tralee Municipal District East</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoration Improvement Works Programme</li> <li>• Restoration Maintenance Works Programme</li> <li>• Severe Weather Works Programme</li> <li>• Community Involvement Schemes</li> <li>• Local Improvement Schemes / Hardship &amp; Emergency Schemes</li> <li>• Development Contribution Works</li> <li>• Local, Regional &amp; National Road Maintenance Works</li> <li>• CSMDOF Works (County Councillor Allocations)</li> </ul>
<b>Tralee Municipal District West</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restoration Improvement Works Programme</li> <li>• Restoration Maintenance Works Programme</li> <li>• Severe Weather Works Programme</li> <li>• Community Involvement Schemes</li> <li>• Local Improvement Schemes / Hardship &amp; Emergency Schemes</li> <li>• Local, Regional &amp; National Road Maintenance Works</li> <li>• Development Contribution Works</li> <li>• CSMDOF Works (County Councillor Allocations)</li> <li>• Housing Estate Bonds</li> </ul>

## 2. Housing

Maintenance work is ongoing

Fire alarm upgrading works is planned for 300 units in November/ December

Roof replacement works are planned to 5 number units in Ragoonane in November/ December

Work will be undertaken to the following vacant units in November/December 2016.

<b>Urban</b>	3 Ragoonane 36 Cois Coille 13 Muing 87 Marian Park 25 Tobar Naofa 1 Gleann breac 2 Cnoc Gorm
<b>Rural</b>	36 Casements view, Ardfert

This concludes our Report for November/December 2016

### **Report from Capital Infrastructure Unit (CIU)**

In relation to the Tralee MD area, attached is an update report on the relevant CIU infrastructure projects.

#### Tralee to Fenit Line Greenway:

The final pieces of the legal agreement in relation to the transfer of the ownership of the line from CIE to KCC are being dealt with. It is anticipated that the line will be in the ownership of Kerry County Council by the time the next MD meeting is held. The CIU section is also working on the detailed submission that will be lodged on the property with the Property Registration Authority (PRAI) to register the ownership of the line in Kerry County Council's name.

The next phase of works to be undertaken on the project would be the completion of the design for planning application purposes, the assessment of the environmental impacts and the lodging of the appropriate planning application. KCC hopes to progress these works before end of Q1 2017.

Funding for the development of the line as a Greenway has not yet been secured.

#### Active Travel Town Project

The Canal walkway/cycleway has been completed and opened and is attracting large numbers of users.

The section from the Basin to the Ashe memorial Hall has been designed and has planning approval but will not progress until funding is in place to complete.

Works will begin shortly on the enablement works for the Denny St two-way implementation with substantial completion expected before Christmas.

The finalisation of the tender for the shared space works on the Mall is ongoing. It is anticipated that this tender will be published in the coming days with a contractor to be appointed in advance of year end and works to commence in early 2017.

The section from Castle St to the ITT north Campus has been designed with the exception of one section along Edward St. It is hoped to bring the design through planning in early 2017. No progress is anticipated on the construction of these works until funding is in place to complete.

#### Dennys Site / Tralee West Development

The Demolition of the site to facilitate the future development of the site is out for planning approval with the Part VIII public consultation process ongoing. The closing date of the public consultation process is December 9th 2016.

**Cllr. P Daly** referred to the report and noted the ownership of the Tralee to Fenit line has not yet been registered in the name of Kerry County Council. He said that the focus must be on the preparation of a design for the greenway and asked if the Council is willing to put resources into advancing this.

**Mr. M Scannell** said that following the transfer of the line it will be a priority for the Council to advance the design of the greenway.

**Cllr. J Finucane** said that legal ownership of the land by Kerry County Council is crucial as there may be huge issues with regard to insurance in the absence of legal ownership.

#### **(b) Notices of Motion**

**1. Cllr. S Locke:** That a loading bay be installed outside Slattery's furniture shop in Boherbue and also a set down area.

**REPLY:** A review of the parking bye laws for the entire Tralee MD, including a review of loading bays, has commenced. This request will be considered as part of the review.

**Cllr. S Locke** asked if a timeframe for completion of the review is available.

**Mr. F Hartnett** said that there is a considerable amount of work involved and it is hoped to progress the review over the winter months.

**Mr. M Scannell** said that it is planned to have the parking bye laws for the town completed prior to the launch of the Smarter Travel programme for Tralee.

**Cllr. P Daly** said that a review of the parking bye laws for the town must be a priority for Senior Management.

**2. Cllr. T McEllistrim:** To put up a 100kmh speed limit sign on the ring road in Tralee on the section from the Killarney road roundabout to the Castleisland road roundabout.

**REPLY:** The default speed limit for a National Road applies on this section of road. But the commencement of that speed limit (100kph) is elsewhere. Therefore, in accordance with the Traffic Signs Manual, only Repeater Signs can be provided. These are smaller in size than the standard Speed Limit Signs but are recommended on dual carriageways where the speed limit is 100kph. A sign will be erected in due course.

**4. Cllr. P Daly:** That this council will install a pedestrian crossing on Mitchels road near the telephone kiosk.

**REPLY:** The entire junction between Mitchell's Road and Ballymullen Road adjacent to the Ballymullen Post Office is being examined in the context of overall

improvements associated with the Mitchells Regeneration and in this regard, pedestrian facilities will be considered if warranted.

**5. Cllr. T Ferris:** That designated coach parking and disability parking would be marked in Ardfert

**REPLY:** The Tralee Municipal District Operations Department has agreed to meet with the Ardfert Community Council in November to view Bus Parking & Disability Parking proposals in Ardfert Village.

**6. Cllr. P Daly:** That this Council will construct a ramp on the Old Killeen road in order to decelerate traffic which uses this road as a rat-run.

**REPLY:** The request for a ramp at Old Killeen Road will be examined in accordance with Kerry County Council's Policy on Traffic Calming. If the road qualifies for traffic calming, the project would be suitable for funding under CSMDOF. This assessment can be carried out in early 2017.

**Cllr. P Daly said that this road is very dangerous due to speeding traffic and all the residents are in agreement that a ramp should be provided.**

**7. Cllr. N Foley:** That the Municipal District investigate the potential to put in place traffic lights on the Caherslee road on the entrance to the Lioscarrig developments as this is a highly populated area and the present system is causing huge difficulty and safety issues for residents.

**REPLY:** There are over 200 houses in the Lioscarrig Area, with one exit onto the R551 Caherslee Road. The junction has been identified in the Tralee Transportation Strategy as requiring improvement and MOVA signalisation. The budget estimate is " 120,000. This was not funded in the first tranche of the Active/Smarter travel allocation 2014 to 2016. The improvements can be considered for submission, along with proposed improvements to 15 other junctions, if the Active/Smarter travel funding is continued in 2017.

**Cllr. N Foley said that this is a highly populated area and the present system is causing health and safety issues for residents.**

**8. Cllr. N Foley:** That the area from Knockmoyle to Ashgrove, Ballyvelly be examined with a view to introducing appropriate traffic calming measures so as to curb excessive speed on the road.

**REPLY:** The request for traffic calming at Ballyvelly will be examined in accordance with Kerry County Council's Policy on Traffic Calming. As a main road, it would not be suitable for the provision of ramps, but other appropriate measures can be examined. This assessment can be carried out in early 2017.

**9. Cllr. N Foley:** That the free parking for the Christmas period be continued this year and an announcement regarding same be made as soon as possible so as to facilitate business and shoppers alike.

**REPLY:** It is proposed, with the members approval, to introduce free parking along the same criteria as last year to support and promote the businesses in Tralee Town. Parking would be free from 1pm in all areas where pay and display currently operates, both on-street and in Kerry County Council car parks. This would be effective from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2016 to Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2017 . both dates inclusive.

**Cllr. N Foley welcomed this response.**

**10. Cllr. N Foley:** That the water logging issue on St. Brendans road, Tralee be addressed and rectified as a matter of urgency.

**REPLY:** The Tralee Municipal District Operations Dept. has recently completed all accomodation works on the R556 Upper Rock Street to St. Brendans Park (St. Brendans Road) and is not aware of any water ponding / logging issues. The Tralee Municipal District Operations Dept. will investigate if necessary once details are provided.

**Cllr. P Daly said that there is a loose manhole cover on St. Brendans road.**

**11. Cllr. N Foley:** In co-operation with the Garda Siochána that the Tralee Municipal District seek specific funding to upgrade our current CCTV camera system and further funding for the purchase of new cameras.

**REPLY:** There are many factors to consider in relation to CCTV in Tralee, aside from funding, and on that basis it is considered appropriate that the matter be referred to the Joint Policing Committee for consideration.

**Cllr. N Foley acknowledged the response.**

**Mayor T O'Brien SECONDED the notice of motion.**

**12. Cllr. N Foley:** That the lights (4) currently not working in Blennerville be immediately replaced/repaired.

**REPLY:** Repairs were carried out to Public Lights in the Blennerville area by our Contractor on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November, following the completion of works by the ESB. Our Contractor will continue to monitor the lights in this area over the next few days to ensure they are working correctly.

**Mayor T O'Brien SECONDED the notice of motion and said that he has previously raised the issue of public lights on Spa Road which are not operating.**

**Cllr. J Finucane asked for details on the length of the contract for public lighting maintenance.**

**Mr. E Scanlan said that the contract would typically be multi-annual - approximately 2 to 3 years.**

**Cllr. J Finucane said that he would like to see local contractors being considered but the procurement process is precluding local contractors due to the required turnover.**

**Cllr. N Foley** agreed that local contractors should be considered and said that the non-operational public lighting is currently a health and security risk for people in the Municipal District.

**Mr. E Scanlan** said that there will be opportunities for local contractors to tender but due to specific guidelines the contract has to be tendered nationally.

**Mr. M Scannell** said that Kerry County Council must be confident that the contractor is in a position to carry out the contract.

### **Rath Burial Ground**

Cllr. N Foley asked for an update on works at Rath burial ground.

### **Deputation from the residents of Carrahane Banna received at March 2016 meeting.**

Cllr. T Ferris said that following the reception of a deputation from the residents of Carrahane, Banna at the MD meeting on 7<sup>th</sup> March, 2016, the members had requested that a progress report on works being carried out at Carrahane, Banna be included on the agenda for future meetings, this has not happened and she asked that a report on this matter be included on the agenda for Tralee MD meetings from now on.

### **Traffic Congestion at Fells Point**

Cllr. T McEllistrim referred to the junction at Fells Point and said that traffic turning right into Fells Point Hotel is causing traffic congestion on the road. He asked that this matter be investigated and a report prepared for the next meeting.

### **Tralee Town Centre**

Cllr. T Ferris asked when works on Denny St. will commence.

Cllr. P Daly said that he was aware that a pedestrian had fallen on the footpath at the Mall Tralee and asked that a review of the paving be carried out in the area near Costa Coffee.

Mr. E Scanlan said that water main replacement is ongoing and due to be completed by 26<sup>th</sup> November. Further works will be carried out including the construction of pedestrian crossings at the junction of the Mall and Denny St, adjacent to the public toilets on Denny St. and at Ivy Terrace. These works will start in the week commencing 14th November.

The tender for the main body of works is being finalised. It will be business as usual in the town for the duration of the works. There will be access through the town for pedestrians and deliveries.

It is hoped that the works will start at the beginning of 2017 and finish by June 2017.

## **16.09.26.06. Any Other Business**

### **(a) Notices of Motion**

**1. Cllr. S Locke:** That this Council call on the Minister for the Environment to allow

the Tralee MD Councillors to address the problematic pavements, through the Roads Funding which we were previously allowed to do so.

**REPLY:** Prior to the abolition of Tralee Town Council in June 2014, a Block Grant was allocated by the Department of the Environment to cover improvements to roads and footpaths throughout the town. These proposals would have come before the elected members for approval each year. With the abolition of the Town Councils, the Block grant was included in the overall Restoration Improvement grant allocation. But this allocation is intended for roads as per the adopted Multi-Annual roads programme.

**Cllr. S Locke said that he was concerned that this funding is no longer available for improvements to footpaths throughout the town.**

**Cllr. N Foley SECONDED the notice of motion.**

**Mr. M Scannell said that due to reduced resources in the Restoration Improvement Grant, this funding is no longer available. He reminded the members that major sections of the pavements on the Mall will be addressed in 2017.**

**Cllr. J Finucane said that there are several different types of paving on the footpaths in the town and he hoped that when works at the Mall are completed that a standard type paving will be used on all the footpaths.**

**(b) Dates for upcoming meetings**

**(a)** It was unanimously agreed that the next meeting of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee would be held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 at 10.30am

Cllr. P Daly requested that meeting for approximately half an hour be held before the meeting scheduled on 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 to discuss the spending of Councillor Specific Municipal District Operations Fund for the Tralee MD.

**Letters to Minister for Justice requesting a review of the conviction of Charlie Kerins.**

Cllr. P Daly referred to previous correspondence to the Minister for Justice requesting a review of the conviction of Charlie Kerins who was convicted by a Military Tribunal, sentenced to death and hanged in 1944. Despite a number of reminder letters having been sent to the Department, no response was received.

It was agreed that a Notice of Motion on behalf of the members of the Municipal District of Tralee would be forwarded for inclusion on the agenda for the December meeting of the Full Council.

**The meeting concluded at 12.30pm.**

**Ms. Jean Foley**  
**Meetings Administrator**

**Mayor of the Municipal  
District of Tralee**