

Minutes of April Meeting of Cashel Town Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices, Friar Street, Cashel on Monday 7th April 2008 at 7.30pm.

Members Present:	Councillor Patrick Downey Councillor Joe Moloney Councillor Dan Dillon Councillor Tom Wood
Officials Present:	Mr Sean Keating, Town Manager Ms Mairead Ryan, Staff Officer Mr Tom O'Reilly, Town Engineer Mr Darby Mullen, Executive Engineer
Mayor:	Councillor Eddie Bennett
Apologies:	Councillor Martin Browne Councillor Michael Browne Councillor Sean McCarthy Councillor Maureen O'Donoghue Ms. Marie McGivern, Town Clerk

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed the group from Bord Gais which included Rory Somers, Ger Cunningham, Ken Breen and Declan Burke. They had come to the meeting to update the Town Council on their current progress regarding the proposal to extend the gasline to Cashel. Rory Somers began by giving a presentation to the members which he later circulated to the meeting. He indicated that Bord Gais commenced a new Towns Study in 2006. In phase 2 of this process, 16 towns were evaluated and of these 6 were selected which included Cashel. It is intended that work will commence on the Cashel Project in May 2008. Bord Gais are in the process of appointing a contractor and will give details of the work schedule to the Council as soon as it is available. It is anticipated that there will be live gas in the town by December 2008. The proposal was welcomed by the members and they were delighted to hear the confidence that Bord Gais has in Cashel. The members stressed the importance of having minimum disruption to the town. It was also suggested that there be discussions/meetings with interested parties to ensure that the public is well informed. Rory Somers acknowledged the problems with works in the town on previously occasions and assured the members that they would learn from these experiences. He also indicated that there would be an open evening to inform the public at large. The Mayor thanked Bord Gais for their informative presentation.

MINUTES OF MARCH MEETING:

The Minutes of the March Meeting were adopted on the proposition of Councillor Joe Moloney and seconded by Councillor Dan Dillon and adopted.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Councillor Dillon enquired regarding the light outside the church in Friar Street. The Town Engineer indicated that a new connection had to be applied for and he was arranging to have this done.

RENT COLLECTION

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the rent arrears at the end of March amounted to €14,500.

MANAGER'S ORDER

The Managers Orders were noted.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS:

The Planning Report was noted.

THE ROCK OF CASHEL WORLD HERITAGE STATUS

Mairead Ryan indicated to the meeting that Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government Officials and an International Consultant are visiting the Rock of Cashel on Tuesday 8th April 2008. They are in the process of revising the tentative list of sites in Ireland to be put forward for World Heritage Status and are visiting all sites presently. They will meet with the working group from Cashel which includes Councillor Tom Wood following their visit. This group will make a presentation to the officials on why the Rock of Cashel should be considered for World Heritage Status. This information was welcomed by the members.

CONSIDERATION OF THE CASHEL CITY WALLS CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mairead Ryan indicated to the meeting that there had been a workshop on this plan held on 31st March 2008 and asked that the members adopt this plan if they were in agreement with it. It was proposed by Councillor Joe Moloney and seconded by Councillor Patrick Downey and resolved:-

“That the Draft Conservation and Management Plan for Cashel City Walls be and is hereby adopted”

NOTICES OF MOTION:

Councillor Dan Dillon

“In relation to providing the public with a safe pedestrian path on the Circular Road at St. Patrick’s Rock what progress, if any, has been made in the provision of same.”

A written response was issued as follows:

Following the discussion on this matter at a previous meeting, the Council is currently finalising a preliminary plan and costing for the provision of the pedestrian path and will then proceed to seek funding for the works from the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government, OPW and any other relevant agency.

In conjunction with the above, the Council will make contact with the Landowner and try to reach agreement on acquiring the land for the path.

Councillor Dillon was pleased with the response. He felt that this path would be of benefit to the people of the town and visitors alike. He also felt that this is necessary to avoid accidents on the Circular Road. Councillor Downey, Bennett and Wood supported this motion. Councillor Wood suggested that there might be funding available from LEADER for this project.

Councillor Dan Dillon

“What steps are the relevant authorities taking in removing the burnt out vehicles on the approach roads to Cashel.

A written response was issued as follows:

The current practice in the county for dealing with burnt out and abandoned cars is as follows;

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Once the Council become aware that a car has been abandoned every effort is made to establish the ownership of the vehicle. The owner is given three days to remove the vehicle and failure to do so will result in the Council making arrangements to dispose of it. Occasionally the owner removes the vehicle, however, it generally falls on the County Council to carry out the disposal. The above actions are carried out under Section 69 (4) of the Roads Act 1993.

The foregoing procedures were employed to good effect in recent times to have burnt out and abandoned vehicles removed from the roadside on the outskirts of the town.

Councillor Dillon accepted the response. He said that he raised the motion as cars were left on the approach roads in prime locations. He added that he hoped that the Section 69(4) would be enforced. Councillor Downey concurred that this was becoming a common occurrence. He also highlighted the number of caravans parked at various locations in town.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS:

The Conference list was noted.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The correspondence was noted and supported.

VOTES OF SYMPATHY:

Votes of sympathy were extended to the following: -

Michael Doyle, The Green on the death of his brother
Fr. Bernie Moloney on the death of his brother
Christy Hewitt, Cathal Brugha Street on the death of his brother
Mrs Nash and Family, Dualla on the death of her husband
Josephine Barry, Spafield on the death of her mother

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Dan Dillon queried the car parking arrangements at the TESCO site on the Cahir Road and the closure of the footpath from the Spafield estate to the Cahir Road.

The Town Engineer indicated that he had a meeting on site on Tuesday 8th April and would raise the issue of car parking. He indicated that it was necessary to close the footpath from Spafield for safety reasons.

Councillor Wood reminded the Council that Scoil Aonghusa bring children down town in their wheelchairs and any obstruction on the footpath makes this very difficult.

The SkyFest was congratulated for the wonderful show that was staged but concern was raised regarding the closure of the carpark at the Hospital for the event. It was felt that this was unnecessary.

The Meeting then concluded.

Signed _____
Mayor

Dated: _____ 2008

Signed _____
Town Clerk

Dated _____ 2008