

**Minutes of the May Meeting of Cashel Town Council held in the Council Chamber,
Civic Offices, Friar Street, Cashel on Monday 14th May 2007 at 7.30pm**

Members Present: **Councillor Eddie Bennett**
 Councillor Martin Browne
 Councillor Michael Browne
 Councillor Dan Dillon
 Councillor Sean McCarthy
 Councillor Joe Moloney
 Councillor Maureen O'Donoghue
 Councillor Tom Wood

Officials Present: **Mr Sean Keating, Town Manager**
 Mr Seamus Maher, Town Clerk
 Mr. Tom O'Reilly, Town Engineer
 Mr Darby Mullen, Executive Engineer
 Ms Mairead Ryan, Staff Officer

Mayor: **Councillor Paddy Downey**

Minutes of April Town Council Meeting

The Minutes of the April Town Council Meeting were proposed by Councillor Michael Browne seconded by Councillor Dillon and adopted.

Councillor Michael Browne asked that the parking situation at Chapel Lane be looked at, as there have been difficulties experienced in the area. The Town Engineer confirmed that double yellow lines were being put on the road to the junction of Chapel Lane/Back of the Pipes.

Rent Collection

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the rent arrears at the end of April amounted to €14,450.

Managers' Order:

Councillor Michael Browne queried the position in relation to Managers Order No. 17826 where planning permission was refused for a sign outside the Friary Pharmacy at Friar Street. The members were unhappy with the refusal. It was felt that this was the internationally recognised sign for a pharmacy. The Town Clerk indicated that the type of sign was an internally lit sign and it is contrary to the Cashel Town & Environs Development Plan and it was therefore refused. He said that the sign needed to be removed and would need to be replaced with an externally lit sign. Councillor O'Donoghue asked that the Council write to the DOEHLG requesting that pharmacies be exempt from this rule.

Planning:

The planning report was read.

Proposed Weight Restriction on HGVs through Main Street

It was agreed to defer this item until the June Town Council meeting to allow the members to meet with the Town Engineer. This meeting was arranged for Monday 28th May 2007 at 7pm.

Development Contribution Grant Scheme 2007

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that there had been 5 applications received under Development Contribution (Recreation & Amenity) Grant Scheme. He indicated that the applications were being examined and that the recommendation would be brought before them at a future meeting for their approval.

Housing Capital Allocation 2007

The Town Clerk outlined that the Town Council had received an allocation of €1.75m for 2007 from the Department of Environment, Heritage & Local Government. This would be used for purchase of houses agreed under the Part V procedure of the Planning & Development Act 2000. This allocation was welcomed by Councillor Martin Browne. Councillor Bennett requested that the plans for the Spafield Refurbishment Works be fast tracked. The Town Clerk agreed that this would be followed up.

Housing Report

The report circulated to the meeting was noted. There was a discussion on the allocation of the RESPOND housing to applicants on the Town Council housing list.

Fix Date for the Annual Meeting

It was agreed that the Annual Meeting would be held on Monday 18th June 2007.

Notice of the AMAI Conference

The Town Clerk referred to the notice of the AMAI Conference and their request for motions for the Conference. He outlined the topics on which motions could be submitted and asked that motions be submitted for the June meeting. It was noted that the Council is limited to 2 motions.

Irish Walled Towns Network Fund 2007

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the Heritage Council had allocated funding of €90,000 for a Conservation and Management Plan for the Town Walls and a Public Realm Plan. This would be proceeding during the month of June.

Notices of Motion:

Councillor Dillon

“That delay in providing traffic calming measures, as promised, in certain areas of the town is causing great concern for the residents. I am requesting that these measures be put in place before a serious accident/incident occurs”

A written response was given as follows:

Traffic calming measures were designed and approved by the members for Clonmel Road/Friar Street/Sunnyside. Partial funding was provided for the scheme and this was utilised in the construction of the urban street element of the scheme. Funding for the balance of the scheme including the provisions of the gateway and public lighting element has yet to be identified by the Council and efforts are currently underway in this regard.

In respect of the installation of the raised table crossing part of Deerpark Road the contractor will be commencing this work within the next couple of days.

The Council employed Consultants to design improvement works for Spafield Crescent and the Council has included traffic control measures as part of the brief to the Consultants. The final plan for these works will be notified to the elected members.

Councillor Dillon also referred to the Main Street Car Park and feels that a ramp would be effective at this location. He agreed to discuss this matter at the meeting arranged for Monday 28th May 2007.

Councillor Dillon

“That Cashel Town Council supports the Cashel Fairtrade Initiative and the campaign to achieve “Fairtrade Town” status for Cashel”

Councillor Dillon asked the meeting to support this motion.

It was proposed by Councillor Dillon, seconded by Councillor Martin Browne and agreed that:

“Cashel Town Council fully supports the Cashel Fairtrade Initiative and the campaign to achieve “Fairtrade Town” status for Cashel”

Councillor Dillon

“In light of the massive increase in Planning Applications for Cashel and the immediate area, the spiralling numbers of units being built and to allay public disquiet I would appreciate an up to date report on progress made by the relevant bodies on providing proper infrastructure to cope with this increase”

A written response was given as follows:

The following is the position in relation to the provision of enhanced infrastructure to cope with the increased level of development.

Council Consultants are finalising a preliminary report in relation to the servicing of Dualla Road, Clonmel Road, Old Road and Cahir Road, in relation to the improvement and provision of water supply and wastewater disposal. The Council expects to have this report to hand within the next two weeks. The elected members will be informed of the contents of the report when to hand.

The Council will seek to commence the necessary improvements through the development contribution fund and government grant assistance.

It should be noted that the capacity of the existing sewerage treatment plant following its recent upgrading is capable of meeting the future expansion of the town. The Council has recently commenced the development of a borehole at Castlelake Cross which will augment the existing supply to the town thus enabling the system to cope over the dry summer period.

This motion was supported by Councillor O'Donoghue and Downey.

Councillor McCarthy

“That ramps should be installed on certain streets in Cashel such as Friar Street, The Green, Ladyswell Street and John Street to slow down excessive speeding”

A written response was given as follows:

The installation of speed ramps is subject to the 1988 Road Traffic (Bollard & Ramps) Regulation and Speed Control Devices for Residential Roads 1993. The roads listed in the motion are mainly business streets and consequently do not qualify for the installation of speed ramps.

The installation of speed ramps at residential areas must comply with the above Regulations.

Councillor McCarthy asked that ramps be looked at in residential areas.

Councillor McCarthy

“That the Town Gardeners should be especially employed on a major programme of planting of trees, plants and flowers in all suitable green areas of Cashel and that if necessary this should be financed out of Development Charges”

A written response was issued as follows:

At the current time the Town Gardeners are employed doing annual maintenance works which include tree pruning, weed spraying and replacement trees. The Council are also about to commence the annual summer bedding planting in areas outside the church in Friar Street, weighbridge at the Green, Ladyswell Street, and hanging baskets on the Terrace and City Hall.

This year the Council will assist the Tidy Towns Committee with an ambitious plan to provide forty additional hanging baskets at Main Street on poles and new planters on the plaza. This work will be undertaken shortly.

The Council will provide new trees and flowers at new locations over the course of the next couple of years.

Councillor McCarthy accepted this response.

Councillor McCarthy

“That Cashel Town Council should engage urgently with all relevant bodies to install CCTV cameras in sensitive areas to prevent anti-social behaviour and violence and also to ensure detection and identification of the culprits”

A written response was issued as follows:

I have arranged a meeting with the Cashel Chamber of Trade and Tourism to organise the making of an application for community based CCTV.

The scheme was also discussed with the Gardai at our last meeting and they have given their approval to proceed with the application.

The Town Council will be amenable to support this process which I hope will shortly be initiated.

Councillor McCarthy accepted this response.

Conferences and Seminars:

The list circulated was noted.

Correspondence:

The Correspondence was noted.

Votes of Sympathy:

A vote of sympathy was extended to the following: -

Councillor Tom Wood on the death of his father in law
The Moloney family on the death of Ann
PJ O'Brien and Family on the tragic deaths in Wexford
The relatives of James Maher, McDonagh Court
The Walsh Family on the death of Paddy Walsh
Martin O'Dwyer, Friar St on the death of his father
Edel Hourigan on the death of her brother
The Ramsey Family, Thurlesbeg, Cashel
The Barry Family, Palmershill
The O'Donnell Family
Denise O'Donoghue

The meeting then concluded.

Signed _____
Mayor

Dated _____