

**Minutes of February Meeting of Cashel Town Council held in the Council Chamber,
Civic Offices, Friar Street, Cashel on Monday 9th February 2009 at 7.30pm.**

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

The Manager introduced the new Town Engineer, Mr. Willie Corby, and welcomed him to the meeting. He indicated that Mr. Corby had come from Clonmel Borough Council and looked forward to working with him in Cashel Town Council. The Mayor welcomed Mr. Corby to the meeting and the Town Council, this was echoed by the other members. Mr. Corby thanked the Manager and Members and said that he looked forward to working with them.

1. MINUTES OF JANUARY MEETING

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 12th January 2009 were adopted on the proposition of Councillor Eddie Bennett seconded by Councillor Patrick Downey.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Councillor Bennett queried if there had been any progress regarding the Aimsir Bia presentation. The Town Clerk indicated that she had arranged a meeting with representatives of the group which was scheduled for Tuesday 17th February to discuss the proposal. Councillor Wood asked for an update on the development contribution to be paid in relation to housing development “quote name of Estate “at Oliver Plunkett Park. The Town Clerk in response stated that the contribution agreed by the County Council with the developer was €70,000 approximately, she said that a payment of €12,000 has been received and planning section is following up payment of the balance with the Developer by way of enforcement proceedings.

Councillor Moloney queried if a response had issued to the deputation from the Boys National School. The Town Clerk indicated that a response had issued and she circulated a copy of the response to the members. The Mayor suggested that the road might need to be

widened. Councillor Michael Browne said that the land was not in the ownership of the Council and that the school should seek funding from the Department of Education. Councillor O'Donoghue suggested that the Council Officials should meet with all schools to address the issues raised. The Town Engineer indicated that he was at the school on that morning and felt that it was rather chaotic and needed some work e.g. road markings and lighting indicating school ahead . He said that he would be happy to meet with the school management. Councillor Wood agreed that this should be the first step.

Councillor Wood asked if there was an update on the Traffic Calming proposals for the town. Darby Mullen indicated that a Report on this would be brought to the March Meeting of the Council.

2. DRAFT CASHEL TOWN & ENVIRONS DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2009

Ms. Clare Lee, Executive Planner, Planning Section outlined the process to date. She indicated that the Draft Plan had been

- placed on public display during the period 21st July, 2008 to the 29th September 2008, during that period she stated that a total of 120 submissions had been received,
- two workshops were held with the members
- and the Members Directions had been circulated to them indicating that there are material changes to the plan and proposing that the Plan be placed on public display for a period of 4 weeks.

The members thanked and complimented the staff on the preparation of the Plan. Ms. Lee also indicated that there is a “sight lines “ amendment to the County Development Plan and she proposed that this amendment be also made to the Cashel Draft Plan. This was proposed by Councillor McCarthy, seconded by Councillor Wood and agreed that the sight lines amendment would be made to Draft Cashel Town & Environs Development Plan.

It was proposed by Councillor Michael Browne, seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue and resolved

“That having considered the following :

- Draft Cashel & Environs Development Plan 2009 to 2015 and Draft Environmental Report dated July 2008
- Manager's Report dated December 2008 prepared in accordance with Section 12(4) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000, as amended
- Members Directions, dated February 2009

It was unanimously agreed pursuant to Section 12(6) of the Planning & Development Act 2000 as amended to amend the Draft Plan” and put these material amendments on public display.”

3. DRAFT TRAVELLER ACCOMMODATION PLAN 2009-2013

Mr. Ger Walsh, S.E.O., Housing Section, informed the meeting that the County Council is required to prepare a 5-year plan for Traveller Accommodation for its authority area. He indicated the Draft Plan has been prepared for the period 2009-2013, was circulated to the members in November 2009 and placed on public display from 30th October 2008 to 2nd January 2009. He indicated that four submissions had been received in relation to the plan. He outlined the main changes for the Plan included the increase to 3 years for Travellers to be resident in the area to be considered for accommodation. He also indicated that there are 2 additional families in the Cashel Area bringing the total to 11 families. He asked that the Town Council endorse the plan as the plan is required to be adopted by the County Council. Councillor Wood said that as Chair of the SPC Housing Committee, he could concur with the amount of work that has been gone into the preparation of this plan. He proposed that the Town Council endorse the Draft Traveller Accommodation Plan 2009-2013 to go forward to be considered by the County Council. This was seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue. The Mayor thanked Mr. Walsh for his presentation.

4. DRAFT DEVELOPMENT CONTRIBUTION SCHEME 2009-2015

The Town Clerk stated that the Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2009-2015 had been circulated to the members at the December Meeting of the Town Council. She said that it had been on public display for the period 8th December 2008 to 28th January 2009 and two submissions were received. She referred to the workshop meeting, which had been held with the members in January to discuss the Scheme. She said that the members had directed that the charges be similar to the current scheme and this scheme was now before the members and the Town Clerk recommended its adoption. The Town Clerk addressed queries raised by Councillor Michael Browne in relation to car parking charges and extensions and Councillor Moloney in relation to telecom masts and antennas. Councillor Wood indicated that he was opposed to the introduction of the scheme but felt that this is now the best option and proposed the adoption of the scheme, this was seconded by Councillor McCarthy and resolved

“That pursuant to Section 48 of the Planning and Development Act, 2000 as amended and having considered

- Draft Development Contribution Scheme - 1st March 2009 to 28th February 2009 (inclusive) dated December 2008,
- Manager's Report dated February, 2009, prepared in accordance with Section 48(6) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended on submissions received
- Members Directions, dated February 2009, i.e. scale of charges in accordance with page 9, prepared pursuant to Section 48 (7) of the Planning & Development Act, 2000 as amended

Cashel Town Council hereby resolves that the Cashel Town Council Development Contribution 2009 to 2015 be and is hereby made”

The Mayor thanked the Councillors and Staff of Cashel Town Council for their efforts in the preparation and adoption of the Draft Development Contribution Scheme 2009-2015.

5. RENT COLLECTION

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the rent arrears at the end of January were €15,769.

6. MANAGERS ORDERS

Councillor Michael Browne queried the allocation of a three-bedroom house in Spafield Crescent and the Town Clerk agreed to discuss it with him following the meeting.

7. NOTICES OF MOTION

Councillor Eddie Bennett

“Cashel Town Council review situation regarding the recent closure of the Gate Health & Leisure Centre situated in the Town Centre. This has proved to be a much missed amenity for all the people of the Town”

A written response was issued as follows:

The Town Council does acknowledge the fact that this facility is certainly an amenity, which is much missed by the people of Cashel and the surrounding areas.

The Council would hope that this fine facility would be in a position to reopen in the near future.

Councillor Bennett expressed his concerns about the closure of this facility. Councillor Wood agreed that it is a much need facility and hopes that the Centre will reopen soon. The Town Clerk indicated that she had been in contact with the Department and there is not funding available for new swimming facilities at this time.

Councillor Tom Wood

“That the Manager advise as to the timeframe for the Phase 2 of our Town Centre Strategy, as uncertainty is effecting individual property owners as they plan to improve their premises”

A written response was issued as follows:

The Contract Documents for this Project are being finalised at this time. In order to complete the Contract Documents, the digging of slit trenches along the Main Street will be required and it is intended to undertake these works during the month of February.

The Contract will be advertised for Tenders for the Works during the months of April/May 2009. The works are scheduled to commence on 1st September 2009. This timeframe has

been structured in order to minimise disruption during the tourist season and the Christmas period.

Councillor Wood asked for clarification regarding the slit trenches and what works would be required. The Town Engineer indicated that this work will commence in February and is necessary to establish the underground services in the area. He indicated that the digging of 6 trenches would be required and these would be from building to building. The members expressed their concerns about further digging of the streets in the Main Street area. The Mayor queried if the works would involve the closing of the street and the Town Engineer indicated that they would hope to manage the traffic without closing the street. The Mayor requested a responsible person be appointed to talk to the businesses in the area on an individual basis. Councillor Downey asked that the business people be shown the plans for the works to be completed. The Mayor complimented the Contractor employed for the works at the Ardmayle/Boherlahan junction that were completed in a short time with little disruption. Councillor Michael Browne asked would the Council lose funding if the works did not go ahead and if it would result in a shortage of work for Council Staff. The Town Clerk confirmed that some monies would be lost if the works did not go ahead and she indicated that the proposed works would be of benefit to all in the long term.

Councillor Tom Wood

“That in view of the serious downturn in the economy, this Council considers setting up a taskforce to build on our strengths and consider ways of helping “Economic Cashel” beat the recession”

A written response was issued as follows:

Cashel Town Council will continue to work with Cashel Chamber of Commerce in promoting Cashel as a location for economic investment. The Town Council will also facilitate the introduction of the Chamber to the South Tipperary Development Company. This Company may be in a position to assist the Chamber in the promotion and marketing of Cashel.

Councillor Wood accepted the response and suggested other interests may want to get involved. He asked that the Council write to Department of Enterprise and Trade to request extra funding for the County Enterprise Board and said that the existing services should be strengthened.

Councillor Tom Wood

““That the Council makes some serious effort to improve the road condition at the back of the pipe, Main Street as its not alone highly dangerous but unfair to those operating business in that area”

A written response was issued as follows:

Cashel Town Council will make immediate arrangements to improve the road surface at the back of the pipe. The works will focus on filling the holes on the surface. A long-term

solution is required to improve this road and it is anticipated that this will be carried out in conjunction with property development in the area.

Councillor Wood accepted this response but had concerns about the long-term solution to the problem. He also referred to the state some premises in the area are kept and he asked that the Council would contact the owners to ensure that they keep their premises in a presentable and reasonable condition.

7. CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS:

The list of Conferences and Seminars were noted.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

The Members expressed concerns about the HSE not meeting with the Town Council to discuss St Patrick's Hospital and Our Lady's Hospital. The Town Clerk indicated that the Manager of St Patrick's Hospital would meet with a representative group of the Councillors. The members asked that the Council respond to the HSE and ask that they attend a workshop meeting with the Council.

9. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS/SYMPATHY:

A vote of congratulations was extended to the Mayor, Seamus King and Liam Hassett.

Votes of sympathy were extended to the following: -

The Devitt Family, Carron on the death of their mother
Paddy Nolan, Old Road on the death of his father
Eugene Cummins, 64 Spafield Crescent on the death of Mary Corbally
James Philips, 6 McCann Street on the death of his niece

The Meeting then concluded.

Signed _____
Mayor

Dated: _____ 2009

Signed _____
Town Clerk

Dated: _____ 2009