

**Minutes of November Meeting of Cashel Town Council held in the Council Chamber,  
Civic Offices, Friar Street, Cashel on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2008 at 7.30pm.**

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

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## **1. MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> October 2008 were adopted on the proposition of Councillor Patrick Downey, seconded by Councillor Dan Dillon.

### **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING**

Darby Mullen, Executive Engineer, updated the members regarding the Croke Memorial. He said that he was seeking quotations for the removal of the monument from the plaza and as part of this he is arranging to have a mould of the base of the monument taken. He said that this process would take a number of weeks but he indicated that he would arrange a brace around the monument until it is removed.

The Mayor said that following on from the Manager's proposal at the October meeting, he now proposes that the Council employ an independent planner to provide advice to the Council on the possible uses of the Convent site. Councillor Wood said that he felt that this would be a premature step in view of the fact that the Council is in the process of the review of the Town Development Plan. He said that a significant number of submissions have been received and he proposes that the Council wait for the adoption of the Development Plan. Councillor Moloney asked the Manager for his advice on whether there would be a conflict with the Development Plan. Councillor McCarthy said that he understands the Manager's proposal is to examine all options available and he is in favour of that. Councillor O'Donoghue agreed with Councillor McCarthy.

The Manager indicated that the proposal is to employ an independent person to look at all the options for the site. He indicated that there would be a terms of reference drawn up following consultation with the main stakeholders for the consultant. The Mayor asked if the Manager could give an estimated figure on the cost of this proposal. He indicated that he didn't know the cost but would estimate that it would cost in the region of €20,000 to €25,000. Councillor Wood again said that he felt that the Council should wait until the

development plan is adopted. Councillor McCarthy said that he felt that the Council should move forward and have an open mind on the matter, he added that he thought that any consultant employed should be Irish-based. Councillor Michael Browne indicated that he feels that the Manager is correct in his proposal; he would like to see the site progressed and he thinks it is the duty of the Council to ensure the best use of the site for the people of Cashel. Councillor Wood asked the Manager if he felt that legal advice would be needed for this proposal. The Manager indicated that he did not think it would be necessary. The Mayor proposed that “Cashel Town Council would proceed to employ an independent planner/expert to report on the possible uses of the former convent site”, this proposal was seconded by Councillor O’Donoghue. Councillor Wood objected to the proposal and it was agreed that a vote would be taken.

The following vote was taken: -

	For	Against
Councillor Bennett	Y	
Councillor Martin Browne	Y	
Councillor Michael Browne	Y	
Councillor Dillon		Y
Councillor Downey	Y	
Councillor McCarthy	Y	
Councillor Moloney	Y	
Councillor O’Donoghue	Y	
Councillor Wood		Y

The motion was carried by 7 votes to 2 votes and it was agreed to proceed with the proposal.

On a query from Councillor Michael Browne, Darby Mullen indicated that the walkway at Spafield adjacent to the new TESCO development would reopen next week.

On a query from Councillor Dillon, Darby Mullen indicated that the footpath on the Cahir Road would be completed in this year’s programme.

The Mayor queried if the TESCO development had extended onto part of the roadway. The Town Clerk agreed to check the planning application and confirm whether the development is in compliance with the planning permission.

## **2. BROADBAND PRESENTATION**

The Mayor welcomed Mr. Tom Byrne, Director, South-East Regional Authority to the meeting to give a presentation on broadband in Cashel. Mr. Byrne began by outlining the background to the introduction of the Public Broadband Infrastructure in Ireland. The Broadband Project in the South East Region was the largest and most complex single project in the National Broadband Programme costing €16.5m in total. The Cashel project was completed in 2008 at a cost of €1.4m with the route length of 8.2kms. This route was provided to the main commercial areas of the Town. He stressed the importance of

broadband to the development of new business in the town. He also highlighted the issues and challenges with the Broadband Uptake, which included limited availability, costs involved, backhaul availability and limited competition in the market. He also thanked the Council for their co-operation in the development of the Broadband Infrastructure in Town. The members thanked Tom for his presentation and agreed that it is an essential piece of infrastructure for the Town and it will give Cashel a competitive advantage over other towns.

### **3. RENT COLLECTION**

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the rent arrears at the end of October were €10,278.

### **4. MANAGERS ORDERS**

There was a query on the Derelict Site notices issued and the Town Clerk agreed to discuss any individual case with the members outside the meeting.

### **5. FIX DATE FOR ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING**

It was agreed that the Annual Budget meeting would be held on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

### **6. NOTICES OF MOTION**

#### **Councillor Tom Wood**

***“That Cashel Town Council, with the support of South Tipperary County Council, would agree to sell a site at the former Nursery Lands on the Clonmel Road for hotel development as a means of defraying the expenditure to date on the former Convent Grounds”***

A written response was issued as follows:

*The lands at Wallers Lot are in the ownership of South Tipperary County Council. A masterplan for the development and best use of these lands was drawn up by South Tipperary County Council and each area of the lands have been allocated a particular purpose which includes the area that has been identified for the Town Council. This land will be used by the Town Council for the extension of Cormac’s Cemetery and for Social Housing.*

Councillor Wood said that he felt that a hotel development needs an amount of open space and asked that the proposal be considered by the Town Council and the Council should seek to reach agreement if possible with South Tipperary County Council. He also said that there is a huge availability of housing in the Town and these could be purchased instead of constructing further housing. The motion was seconded by Councillor Dillon.

## **Councillor Tom Wood**

***“That Cashel Town Council considers putting phase two of the Town Centre Strategy on hold and redirects the scarce resources to providing safe footpaths”***

A written response was issued as follows:

*Cashel Town Council had planned to commence Phase 2 of the Town Centre Improvement Works in 2008. Following consultation with the Local Traders, it was agreed that the works would be postponed until early 2009. The planning process has now been completed and contract documents have been finalised. The tender process commenced in mid-October with Expressions of Interest from Contractors being sought. The closing date for receipt of these Expressions of Interest is 14<sup>th</sup> November 2008.*

*The Council currently have a programme of repairs for footpaths and roads in the Town as follows:*

*Bohermore  
Bohereenglas  
Cathal Brugha Street  
Ramps at Sunnyside, John Street, Dominic Street, Deerpark and Main Street Car Park*

*and funding has been allocated for the above. It is also important to note that a substantial part of the Phase 2 Town Centre Works involves the improvement of the existing footpaths.*

Councillor Wood said that resources for the future will be scarce and he wants to ensure that the existing footpaths are repaired. He referred to a recent accident where an elderly lady had a fall on the footpath on Main Street and was annoyed to raise this issue again. There were a number of locations highlighted by the members at William St, Main St and outside the post office. There were also concerns raised about poor reinstatement works being carried out by other agencies and it was requested that the Council monitor these works. Darby Mullen said that he is aware of the areas that are in need of repair but there is a programme of footpath repairs set out for 2008 as stated in the response. He also said that William Street would be repaired as soon as possible.

## **Councillor Tom Wood**

***“That Cashel Town Council calls on Management to produce a plan for the long awaited traffic calming measure, including ramps in the town”***

A written response was issued as follows:

*The agreed traffic calming measures for Sunnyside, John Street, Deerpark Road and Dominic Street will be installed shortly.*

*The reason for the delay in completing same was that the installation of gas mains needed to be completed before the work could proceed.*

Councillor Wood accepted this response.

**7. CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS:**

The conference list was noted.

**8. CORRESPONDENCE**

The correspondence was noted and supported.

**9. VOTES OF CONGRATULATIONS**

A vote of congratulations was extended to: -

Chez Hans on being awarded the Atmospheric Restaurant Award from Georgina Campbell Awards 2009.

**10. VOTES OF SYMPATHY:**

Votes of sympathy were extended to the following: -

Betty Devitt, John Street, Cashel on the death of her brother  
Madeline Wallace, c/o Betty Devitt, John Street, Cashel on the death of her husband Leo

**11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The Mayor complimented Roger O'Dwyer on his work at the cemetery, he said that it very well maintained and asked that the Council write to compliment him on his efforts. The Mayor stated that he had heard that the kitchen would be moved from St. Patrick's Hospital to Clonmel, he requested that an urgent meeting would be sought with the officials of the HSE. This was seconded by Councillor O'Donoghue. The members requested that the light at the Church be repaired urgently. It was agreed that Darby Mullen would contact the ESB. Darby Mullen circulated the map for the Heritage Trail route in the town and he stated that signage would be completed in this next year.

**The Meeting then concluded.**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ 2008

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Town Clerk

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_ 2008