

**Minutes of February Monthly Meeting of
Westmeath County Council held at 3.00p.m. Monday 25th February 2008
in Belvedere House & Gardens, Mullingar**

- Presiding:** Cllr. Michael Dollard, Cathaoirleach
- Members present:** Cllrs. M. Cooney, F. Keena, J. Dolan, K. Moran, J. Whelan, P. Hill, F. McDermott, E. Dolan, T. Cowley, J. Flanagan, M. Newman, M. Nugent, F. Cooney, D. Cornally, K. Glynn, J. Penrose, R. Troy, J. Bourke, D. McCarthy & P. McLoughlin
- Apologies:** Cllrs. T. Allen & K. Molloy
- Officers present:** Daniel McLoughlin, County Manager
Ray Kenny, Director of Services
George Lambden, Director of Services
Peter Tone, Director of Services
Barry Kehoe, Director of Services
Eddie Hynes, Head of Finance
Bartle Darcy, Manager of Belvedere House & Gardens
Terry McCague, Senior Planner
Michael Connolly, Senior Engineer
Ambrose Clarke, Senior Executive Engineer
Pat Keating, Senior Executive Officer
Malachy Bradley, Senior Executive Planner
Leona Murtagh, Executive Engineer
Roibeard O’Ceallaigh, Meetings Administrator
Sandra Tuite, Clerical Officer

Item No. 1 - Miontuairisci

- (i) On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cooney, seconded by Cllr. K. Glynn it was agreed to approve the minutes of January Monthly Meeting of Westmeath County Council held at 3.00p.m. on Monday 28th January 2008 in the Council Chambers, County Buildings, Mullingar
- (ii) On the proposal of Cllr. P. Hill, seconded by Cllr. F. McDermott it was agreed to approve the minutes of the Transportation & Infrastructure SPC meeting held on Tuesday 23rd October 2007 at 10.30a.m. in the Civic Offices, Kilbeggan
- (iii) On the proposal of Cllr. R. Troy, seconded by Cllr. M. Cooney it was agreed to approve the minutes of Special Meeting of Westmeath County Council held at 2.00p.m. on Friday 25th January 2008 in the Council Chambers, County Buildings, Mullingar to adopt and make the Development Plan 2008 – 2014 for the Administrative Area of the Council of the County of Westmeath

Matters Arising from Minutes

- (i) Cllr. K. Moran said at the January meeting he had asked for an update report on Tullywood and this hadn’t been recorded in the minutes. Cllr. M. Cooney suggested having the report at the forthcoming Athlone Area meeting.
- (ii) In relation to Item No. 19 of the Special meeting of Westmeath County Council held on Friday 25th January 2008 regarding the extension of lands at Lough Sheever belonging to

Michael Kelly and to zone as Enterprise & Employment, the County Manager advised that Legal Requirements dictate that it can only be dealt with by way of a Variation to the County Development Plan 2008 – 2014 and would have to be put on public display separately.

Item No. 2 - Manager's Orders

The Manager's Orders, as circulated, were noted by the Members.

Item No. 3 - Disposal of Land/Property

- (i) On the proposal of Cllr. J. Whelan, seconded by Cllr. K. Moran it was agreed to approve the disposal of Affordable Housing Scheme at Cois na hAbhainn, Moate, Co. Westmeath, acquired from Luxury Homes (Galway) Limited, disposed to Gareth Ryan, 52 An Sli, Cois na hAbhainn, Moate, in accordance with the terms of Section 183 Notice of the Local Government Act, 2001 circulated within the specified period.
- (ii) On the proposal of Cllr. K. Moran, seconded by Cllr. M. Cooney it was agreed to approve the disposal of Affordable Housing Scheme at the Orchard Cornamaddy, Athlone, acquired from William Campbell & Kamer Construction Ltd, disposed to: -
- **Kevin & Ann-Marie Balfe**, 52 The Orchard, Blyry Lower, Athlone
 - **Adam Dollery & Linda Hamm**, 53 The Orchard, Blyry Lower, Athlone
 - **Derek Kiernan & Christina McEntegart**, 54 The Orchard, Blyry Lower, Athlone
 - **Sharon Cooley**, 54 The Orchard, Blyry Lower, Athlone
 - **David Dowling & Emma Donoghue**, 95 The Orchard, Blyry Lower, Athlone
 - **Louise Devereux**, 96 The Orchard, Blyry Lower, Athlone
 - **Claire Crehan**, 99 The Orchard, Blyry Lower, Athlone
- in accordance with the terms of Section 183 Notice of the Local Government Act, 2001 circulated within the specified period.
- (iii) On the proposal of Cllr. K. Moran, seconded by Cllr. M. Cooney it was agreed to approve the disposal of Affordable Housing Scheme at Church Hills, Coosan, Athlone, acquired from Seamus Donoghue, Margaret Donoghue & Regional Developments Ltd, disposed to: -
- **James Hardy & Yvonne Grehan**, 49 Church Hills, Coosan, Athlone
 - **Michelle Flanagan**, 50 Church Hills, Coosan, Athlone
 - **Eoin & Jemma O'Connor**, 54 Church Hills, Coosan, Athlone
 - **Thomas, Hilda & Lisa Byrne**, 57 Church Hills, Coosan, Athlone
- in accordance with the terms of Section 183 Notice of the Local Government Act, 2001 circulated within the specified period.
- (iv) On the proposal of Cllr. K. Moran, seconded by Cllr. J. Dolan it was agreed to approve the disposal of Affordable Housing Scheme at Drumacon, Cornamuddy, Athlone acquired from McInerney Homes Construction Limited, disposed to: -
- **Margaret Dooner**, 83 Drumacon, Cornamaddy, Athlone, Co. Westmeath
 - **Moyra Tangney**, 86 Drumacon, Cornamaddy, Athlone, Co. Westmeath
- in accordance with the terms of Section 183 Notice of the Local Government Act, 2001 circulated within the specified period.

Item No. 4 - Material Contravention of Westmeath County Development Plan 2002 (Planning File 07/5262)

The County Manager advised that Clonmore Business Park was not zoned for bulky retail and he was proposing temporary permission for 3 years to allow the business to move to an appropriate site.

On the proposal of Cllr. K. Glynn, seconded by Cllr. J. Bourke it was agreed to approve the material contravention of Westmeath County Development Plan 2002 in respect of Planning File 07/5262 for Retention Permission for retaining change of use of building from wholesale warehouse to retail sales (showroom) at site 1, zone C, Mullingar Business Park, Mullingar, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Planning & Development) Act 2000.

Item No. 5 - Part VIII of the Local Government Planning & Development Regulations (Village & Urban Enhancement Works in the village of Castlepollard)

On the proposal of Cllr. P. Hill, seconded by Cllr. F. McDermott it was agreed to approve planning process in respect of Village and Urban Enhancement works in the village of Castlepollard in accordance with Part VIII of the Local Government Planning and Development Regulations 2001.

Item No. 6 - Part VIII of the Local Government Planning & Development Regulations (N52 Carrick Bridge to Clonfad Road Improvement Scheme)

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Newman seconded by Cllr. M. Nugent it was agreed to defer this item until the March monthly meeting.

Item No. 7 - Taking in Charge of Estates under Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993

On the proposal of Cllr. F. Cooney, seconded by Cllr. J. Penrose it was agreed to commence the procedure to take in charge College Hill.

On the proposal of Cllr. P. McLoughlin, seconded by Cllr. J. Bourke it was agreed to commence the procedure to take in charge Heathfield Park and Close.

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Dollard, seconded by Cllr. D. McCarthy it was agreed to commence the procedure to take in charge Pettiswood Manor and Ardmore Close.

Pat Keating advised that this item would go out for public consultation and come back before the Council for final approval at the April monthly meeting.

Item No. 8 - Draft Building Heights Policy

Terry McCague advised that no height restriction had been specified and that each planning application would be determined case by case. He also advised that a 3D format would be required. The County Manager said he would welcome high buildings but only in suitable areas.

On the proposal of Cllr. R. Troy, seconded by Cllr. F. McDermott it was agreed to approve the Draft Building Heights Policy to go on public display and six weeks would be allowed for submissions.

Item No. 9 - Belvedere House & Gardens

Bartle Darcy and Edward Hynes each gave update reports on the operations of Belvedere House & Gardens. Cllr. M. Dollard thanked both Bartle & Eddie for their reports and wished Martin Fagan, who trains on the grounds of Belvedere, well in the forthcoming Olympics. Cllr. K. Glynn suggesting holding a concert in honour of the late Joe Dolan. Cllr. D. McCarthy asked if it was possible to consult with people who have seasonal tickets about their views of where the proposed garden centre should be located. He also asked if Belvedere featuring on Winning Streak had any advantages.

Eddie Hynes advised that Management of Belvedere had consulted a lot with other agencies with considered a suitable location for the garden centre. He stated that it would be a Part VIII planning application so the members would have the final decision on it location and that Belvedere featuring on Winning Streak was beneficial. He also said he would be interested in considering a tribute concert for the late Joe Dolan.

Item No. 10 - Brown Bin Pilot Scheme in Mullingar Town

Michael Connolly gave an update report to the members on the Brown Bin Pilot Scheme in Mullingar Town. In response to Cllr. Glynn, Michael advised that he was only aware of one other private collector of brown bins and they were in Galway. In response to Cllr. Troy he said the Council were mindful of brown bins not being used by didn't agree with moving the pilot scheme to another area of the town.

Cllr. T. Cowley stated that there was a need to look at people who were not using any refuse collection providers and Cllr. F. McDermott suggested introducing a yearly standing order.

Item No. 11 - N4 The Downs – Grade Separation Scheme

Ambrose Clarke gave an update report on the public consultation for the N4 The Downs – Grade Separation Scheme which was noted by the Members.

Item No. 12 - Nomination to Board of the Regional Sports Centre

On the proposal of Cllr. M. Cooney, seconded by Cllr. P. McLoughlin it was agreed to nominate Cllr. John Dolan to replace Senator Nicky McFadden on the Board of the Regional Sports Centre.

Item No. 13 - Correspondence

Cllr. M. Dollard proposed an address of recognition for the Defence Forces to be held in Belvedere House and Gardens in April. This was seconded by Cllr. M. Cooney.

Vote of Congratulations

A vote of congratulations was proposed by Cllr. M. Dollard & Cllr. J. Bourke to the Clonkill Hurling Club on winning the All-Ireland Intermediate Hurling Club Championship and that the appropriate recognition would be afforded.

Vote of sympathy

A vote of sympathy was proposed by Cllr. M. Dollard to Noel Fay, Senior Engineer on the recent passing of his mother Christina.

Local Election Boundary

After some discussion it was agreed that the Executive would put together a proposal to leave the boundaries the way they are which was to be considered by all 23 members before being forwarded to the Department.

Item No. 14 - Notice of Motion

“That this Council request the Department of Public Works to complete promised works on the River Shannon in order to help relieve flooding in the Athlone Area”.

Cllr. J. Dolan proposed that the Council write to the Department of Public Works requesting that the promised works on the River Shannon be completed and if this failed a favourable response that a Delegation be sent to meet with the Minister. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. M. Cooney.

Item No. 15 - Aon Gno Eile

There was no other business

Cathaoirleach

Date