

**Minutes of Meeting of Kilmallock Area Committee held in the Courthouse,
Kilmallock on Wednesday 9th March 2005.**

Members Present

Councillors Creighton, Houlihan and McAuliffe.

Present in the Chair

Councillor J. Houlihan

Apologies

Cllr. Gallahue

Officers Present

James O'Callaghan S.E.E., John Madden E.E., William Ryan, S.S.O., P. O'Connor, Assistant Co. Manager, Michael Griffin, A.O. Community & Enterprise, Colette Flynn, Community & Enterprise.

The Chairman proposed a vote of sympathy on the death of Michael O'Brien, Doon, father in law of William Ryan, and on the death of Jimmy Moynihan, formerly of Athlaca, brother of Tom Moynihan, Foreman, Kilmallock Roads Area.

Confirm Minutes of Committee Meeting of the 12th January, 2005.

Circulated copy of draft minutes of meeting of committee held on the 12th January, 2005.

Proposed: Cllr Creighton Seconded: Cllr. McAuliffe

“ that the draft minutes as circulated be taken as read and adopted and signed”

Matters Arising

Enquiries were made as to progress regarding Pedestrian Lights at Sarsfield St. Kilmallock. The Roads Engineer informed the meeting that this has been included in the 2005 Road Works Scheme.

Presentation re County and Group Broadband Schemes.

Mr. Michael Griffin gave a Powerpoint presentation to the meeting outlining the County and Group Broadband Schemes, and the Grant aid available to communities with populations under 1500. He gave examples of small businesses in such communities who, with the benefit of Broadband, are in a position to compete with their urban based opposition.

The members thanked Mr. Griffin for his presentation, and commented that raising the balance of the cost within the community might be a problem.

Discuss parking at Priory Court Kilmallock causing a nuisance to residents

An ongoing problem exists at the car park at Priory Court, especially late at night, as it seems to be used as a base for hackney cars and minibusses. This small secluded estate has elderly residents, and noise and lights late at night are causing them concern.

The members were informed that the Estates Management Officer is aware of this, and has been in contact with the owners of the Hackney business. Signs indicating that the car park is for residential parking only have also been ordered.

Members also expressed concern at the double parking of hire vehicles outside Public Houses late at night.

Discuss Road Safety Measures at O'Rourkes Cross, Bruree.

Road safety measures at this location are not included in the N.R.A.'s priorities for 2005, and members expressed serious concerns that the traffic situation there continues to be dangerous.

Planned private development at the Cross, and consideration under the 2005 Speed Limit Review may help to highlight the continuing problem, and the members requested that the Roads Engineer raise the issue again with the N.R.A. before the next meeting.

Consider 2005 Road Works Scheme

The Chairman introduced this item, and stated that the Roads Engineer and his staff had put a lot of work into compiling the Scheme.

J. Madden stated that due to there being no E.U. Co-funded allocation for Kilmallock for 2005 the overall allocation is down. However there is an increased allocation both for Surface Dressing and for Discretionary Improvement Works.

The members agreed that Kilmallock roads are generally in a good condition, and were informed that work on the bad section of road at Ballyorgan will commence shortly.

As proposed by Cllr. Creighton and seconded by Cllr McAuliffe the 2005 Road Works Scheme was adopted.

There followed a discussion on the North Bridge, Kilmallock, and the increased pedestrian traffic there. The members agreed that a footbridge will have to be considered for this location in the near future.

Any Other Business

Colette Flynn and Michael Griffin of Limerick County Council Community and Enterprise addressed the meeting on the efforts being made to attract employment to Kilmallock, especially since the closure of Diamond Engineering.

With the help of the Kilmallock Partnership Committee a sum of €106,000 has been obtained from Cohesion Funding. This will fund the employment of a Business Development Executive for one year, who will identify possible tenants for a proposed Advance Factory. Broadband Application, Tourism and Business potential will also be examined.

Members were also informed that a submission has been made under the National Tourism Project for the development of 3 Mountainbiking trails in the Ballyhouras south of Ardpatrick. The trails will have a combined length of 91 k.m. and will require visitor facilities such as car parking, showering and bicycle washing area.

50% matching funding is available for this development, which will be the first of its kind in Ireland.

Following these submissions the Committee expressed their approval, describing both items as welcome developments.

Next meeting of the Committee fixed for Wednesday, 4th May 2005.

The meeting then concluded.