



**Minutes of Special Rathkeale Area Committee Meeting  
Held in the Rathkeale House Hotel,  
Lower Main Street, Rathkeale,  
on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November, 2006 – 10.30.a.m.**

**Present In the Chair :** Councillor D. Naughton.

**Members Present :** Councillors J. Griffin, T. Neville, J. Sheahan, K. Sheahan.

**Officials Present :** B. Martin S.E.E., G. Liston, E.E., K. McMahon, E.E., T. Breen, S.O.,  
S. Hayes, A.O.

**Deputation from Kilcolman  
Burial Ground Committee :** T. Cremin, H. Clune, T. Clifford.

**Apologies :** J. Feane, D.O.S.

Councillor D. Naughton welcomed the Kilcolman deputation to the Rathkeale Electoral Area Committee Meeting, and outlined procedure under Standing Orders for the attendance of deputations to Council Meetings.

**Deputation from Kilcolman Graveyard Committee :**

Mr. T. Clifford, Kilcolman Graveyard Committee, informed Members there was no proper roadway from the public road to the graveyard – a distance of approximately five/six hundred metres. Members of the Committee had spoken with the landowner in relation to dedicating lands for a fenced roadway and a parking area, and were requesting the Council to make official contact with the mentioned landowner for the provision of this roadway. Mr. Clifford confirmed he had witnessed on occasion, remains being removed from the public road to the graveyard by a tractor and trailer.

Councillor K. Sheahan stated he had met and spoken with both the Graveyard Committee and Parish Priest, and accepted there were issues to be resolved, but also stressed the importance that initial approaches to the landowner had been made by the Committee.

Councillor J. Griffin confirmed his familiarity with the Kilcolman Burial Ground with the proposed access roadway being from the Cross-Roads. Councillor Griffin spoke of an older entrance/right-of-way to the burial ground, and queried if the rights to this entrance could be “traded” for lands on the proposed roadway.

Mr. T. Cremin, Kilcolman Graveyard Committee, stated there were four burial grounds in the locality maintained by the Community Council. Funds were raised locally to supplement the Council’s burial ground maintenance grant, and the Committee were requesting an increase in the maintenance grant, especially in the case of the old Cloncagh Graveyard. He confirmed verbal permission to put in a 500 m roadway had been received from the landowner - Michael Cussen. Mr. Cremin indicated ground conditions for a road through the lands were good, and the Committee were anxious to progress the roadway as soon as possible. The graveyard catered for up to twenty funerals a year, an agreed parking area near the graveyard, and adequate additional burial plots available. The Kilcoleman Committee also requested that the bend east of the school at Ahalin be removed.

All Councillors expressed their support of the Kilcolman Graveyard Committee proposals.

Councillor D. Naughton thanked the deputation for their submission, and the Graveyard Committee withdrew from the Meeting.

Councillor K. Sheahan queried the ownership of the Kilcolman Graveyard, and if the works could be undertaken on a voluntary basis by the Committee with Council assistance.

Councillor J. Sheahan spoke of the necessity to clarify for Members the Council's ownership rights/title in relation to Kilcoleman and numerous other burial grounds in the County. Councillor Sheahan suggested Officials meet with the landowner for the proposed burial ground access road, cost construction of the proposed roadway, and include items such as projected number of burial plots available etc., and furnish a report to Members for the December/January Meeting.

Councillor D. Naughton suggested the Council were selling burial plots in burial grounds that were in Community ownership, not Council ownership, and it was necessary at this point to furnish Members with a definitive written legal opinion clarifying the ownership issues raised.

Councillor T. Neville stated it was essential the road works requested by the Burial Ground Committee be progressed, with any right of way issues arising clarified legally.

Councillor J. Griffin opined that the greater number of burial grounds were in the ownership of local communities. Councillor Griffin stated it had been the second time in four years the Kilcolman Committee had met with the Rathkeale Area Committee with no progress made to date, this not being good enough – stating it was now time to find a way and means to support the Group.

S. Hayes, A.O., confirmed to Members that the Council did not hold formal registered title in respect of Kilcoleman Burial Ground.

B. Martin, S.E.E., advised Members the road construction costs associated with the proposed roadway from the public road to the Kilcoleman Burial Ground would be substantial. The proposal would be costed and brought back before Members for consideration.

That concluded the business of the Meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Chairman.

**Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of DECEMBER, 2006.**

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Secretary.