

**Ceantar Bardasach Carraig Mhachaire Rois – Baile Na Lorgan
Comhairle Contae Mhuineacháin**



**The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney
Monaghan County Council**

Minutes of proceedings of February 2016 monthly meeting of The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney held in the Civic Office, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Monaghan on Monday 22nd February 2016 @ 2pm.

Present: - Mayor PJ O Hanlon

CLRs Aidan Campbell, Colm Carthy Jackie Crowe, Noel Keelan, Pdraig McNally

In attendance: - Paul Clifford, Director of Services; Frances Matthews, Co-ordinator; John Lennon, Teresa McGuirk

Apologies:

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the January 2016 monthly meeting

On the proposal of Cllr Crowe and seconded by Cllr Carthy the minutes of the meeting held on 25th January 2016 were adopted

2. Matters arising

- Speed limit enquiry has been forwarded to Speed Limit Committee
- Levels of heavy traffic at the Ballybay Road junction referred to Roads Area Meeting

3. Correspondence

Correspondence was received from

- Office of Public Works – Acknowledging correspondence and informing unable to meet the Municipal District's in own areas Cllr Campbell proposed, Cllr. Carthy seconded and it was agreed *"That the Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney go to Trim to meet with the OPW re flooding etc"*.
- During a detailed discussion on flooding which followed members, in turn welcomed the announcement of a first tranche allocation of €5m for County Monaghan under the Severe Weather Allocations for Road and Rail Transport infrastructure repairs from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. Copies of a submission for support to the Department from

Monaghan County Council were circulated. Members were reminded that the funding allocated to the County Council had yet to be divided and approved by the council.

- Members requested a breakdown of works undertaken by the council following the collapse of the wall at St Finbar's Church for the next meeting. A discussion also took place regarding property in danger of collapsing. Members were informed that a report on survey of walls in danger of collapse in the ownership of the council should be due shortly.
 - Cllr McNally proposed, Cllr. O'Hanlon seconded and it was agreed *"That this Municipal District places a public advertisement in the local newspaper to advise property owners to carry out a professional examination of their property to ensure that these are safe in light of a number of wall collapses in Carrickmacross"*
- Enterprise Ireland – Acknowledging bring our correspondence to the Inter Agency Group. During a detailed discussion Cllr Carthy proposed, Cllr. O'Hanlon seconded and it was agreed *"That this Municipal District writes again to Enterprise Ireland to request that the Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District be allowed to have a representative on the Bose Inter – Agency Response Group and suggest that this group meet on a monthly basis where updates are brought back to the people who are directly affected. We also request that the chair of the group (or a representative) attend the next meeting of this Municipal District"*.
- Municipal District of Ballybay - Clones – regarding the Provision of Respite Beds – County Monaghan
 - The motion was proposed by Cllr Carthy and seconded by Cllr McNally and agreed.
 - Cllr Crowe then proposed the following motion, Cllr. Keelan seconded and it was agreed *"That Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District calls on the HSE to examine the possibility of the former care centre Rath na nÓg in Castleblayney being used as a centre for respite care for this county"*.
- Carrickmacross Arts Festival – Requesting a meeting Cllr Carthy proposed that the committee be invited to a meeting, seconded by Cllr Keelan and agreed.
- Tommy Mone – regarding the 40th Anniversary of Castleblayney bombing
Members agreed to support an event planned for 6th March 2016 in Castleblayney.
- Additional Correspondence from Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) - regarding our correspondence re traffic to Dundalk and ports at Greenore and the French Ambassador acknowledging support received from the District was read.

4. Review of Community Grants and Funding Allocation

Item deferred

5. Consideration of Coordinators monthly report

Cllr Campbell

- Complimented works and ongoing road maintenance and verge cleaning
- Welcomed works on Upper Main St in Castleblayney
- Acknowledged the launch of All Ireland Drama Festival last week
- Thank Coordinator for works with the Regeneration Committee in Castleblayney

6. Questions

The following questions were asked by Cllr. Colm Carthy

1. Can this MD Council look into the possibility of adding a pedestrian crossing to the R179 (Oriell Road) that runs from the Dundalk rd to the old Ardee rd to allow residents from the Convent Lands and from the Lough Na Glack housing estate cross this road in relative safety?

Response: An application will be made to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for funding to install a pedestrian crossing at this location in 2016. It is unlikely this application will receive funding this year, as the 2016 Low Cost Safety Improvement schemes have already been announced.

2. Can the MD confirm if there are any planned works for Clonseady housing estate, Magheraclone for 2016 (addition of fence & safety measures beside playground for example)?
Response: At present the District Office has no plans to undertake works in Clonseady Housing Estate in 2016.
3. Has this council been informed of gaps in the public lighting in the following places and if so, is there any plans to rectify the problems?

- a. *Up along the Lurgans hill, Carrickmacross*

- b. *The walkway adjacent to the all-weather pitch in the Convent Lands estate, Carrickmacross*
Response:

Response: The District Office is currently preparing a Public Lighting programme for 2016 which will be presented to the elected members for approval. Lurgans Hill and the walkway in the Convent Land estate will be included for consideration.

4. Would this MD consider tidying up (cutting weeds, clearing roadway, removing dumped rubbish etc) the public access driveway that runs to the rear of Cuchulainn Terrace?

Response: The District Office is only responsible for the maintenance of the public road to the rear of Cuchulainn Terrace. The District Office will not be maintaining areas outside its responsibly.

5. Can this MD look into steps to be taken to alleviate the problem of littering and dumping of rubbish along the Convent Avenue, Carrickmacross (signage, bins, lighting, CCTV etc)?

Response: It is a priority of the District Office to eradicate illegal dumping and fouling on the Convent Avenue at the source.

The following questions were asked by Cllr. Keelan:

1. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the provision of traffic calming measures at Blackstaff School as requested by School Management and the Parent's Association some time ago?

Response: The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport has announced the Low Cost Safety Improvement schemes for 2016. Blackstaff School was not included in this announcement.

2. Will this Council carry out some repairs and a general tidy up and repainting of a wall at the townland of Lisgall, as requested by local residents; and also will consideration be given to putting in place a crash barrier at this location?

Response: The District Office will not be repairing/repainting the wall in the townland of Lisgall in 2016. A review of this section of road will be carried out by the engineering staff in the coming weeks to determine the need for a crash barrier at this location.

3. In welcoming the traffic calming measures being put in place in Inniskeen village, what works are now outstanding and can the Council confirm that a number of additional speed ramps will be put in place adjacent to Deery Tce, Dun Ard and St. Daigh's Tce?

Response: The Municipal District Office will review the options available to reduce driving speed in Inniskeen Village. The available options include the consideration of the introduction of a 30km/h speed limit in residential area.

4. Will consideration be given to putting in place public lighting at Magoney Cross in Inniskeen given that this junction is a 'pick-up and drop-off' for the school bus?

Response: The District Office is currently preparing a Public Lighting programme for 2016 which will be presented to the elected members for approval. Magoney Cross will be included for consideration, but it is the preference of the District Office to infill and replace within existing networks.

The following questions were asked by Cllr. McNally

1. Having met with a group of residents from the Castleblayney road, Carrickmacross very concerned about the speed of traffic between Inver College and the roundabout what

measures can this MD put in place to reduce speed. Can we consider the following; Speed limit reduction; provision of ramps or speed cameras?

Response: An application will be made to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for funding for speed reduction measures. It is unlikely this application will receive funding in 2016, as the Low Cost Safety Improvement schemes have already been announced.

2. Will this council examine the section of the High road in Mullinarry that has no public lighting with a view to installing two to three lights as this is a highly used area for runners and pedestrians

Response: The District Office is currently preparing a Public Lighting programme for 2016 which will be presented to the elected members for approval. High Road will be included for consideration.

3. In light of the wall collapse at St. Finbar's Church, has this Council examined all similar type walls around Carrickmacross to ascertain their condition

Response: Yes, the District Office has appointed O'Connor Sutton Cronin, Consulting Engineers, to undertake a visual inspection of existing structures within Carrickmacross Town.

4. Does this MD intend resurfacing the poor section of road at Emmet Road/St. Macartan's Villas this year?

Response: Yes, the District Office will repair failed sections of pavement on Emmet Road/St. Macartan's Villas.

7. Notice of Motions

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr Carthy and seconded by Cllr Keelan and agreed by all.

"This Municipal District writes to the Minister for the Environment, in the new Government, to highlight the issue of high standards of lime in the water supply in Carrickmacross since the new water – treatment plant has been operational. We call on the Minister to introduce any and all measures to remove lime, where possible, including dilution with fresh water".

8. Director of Services Orders

- 07/2016 Traffic Solutions Ltd – PSCS – Replace Traffic Signals
- 08/2016 Tree Maintenance Services – PSCS – Remove Dangerous Trees
- 09/2016 Temporary Casual Trading Licence
- 10/2016 Temporary Casual Trading Licence

9. Votes of Sympathy / Congratulations

The following Votes of Sympathy were passed, a minutes silence as observed with all present standing.

- Rose McEneaney and family on the death of her husband, Enda McEneaney
- Stephanie McEneaney on the death of her father, Enda McEneaney
- Marita Hughes and family on the death of her husband Tom Hughes
- Tom McDermott on the death of his mother Bridget McDermott
- Nancy McConnell and family on the death of her husband Vincent McConnell
- Phyllis Allen on the death of her brother Peadar Allen

10. Set Date for Opening of 1916 Gardens of Remembrance

It was agreed to open the gardens in both towns on Monday 21st March 2016 at the following times.

- Carrickmacross @ 12.00 (immediately following monthly meeting)
- Castleblayney @ 1.30pm

11. Set Date for March Monthly Meeting

It was agreed to hold the next monthly meeting on Monday 21st March 2016 @ 9.30am

12. Any Other Business

- Flag Raising Event on Easter Sunday 27th March 2016 in both towns
 - Final arrangements to be made
 - Time to be confirmed for each town
 - 1916 Proclamation to be read out by representatives from each of the secondary schools.
 - Scout Hall has been booked for the event in Castleblayney

- Following a query as to whether or not the Mayor had met with Minister Humphreys regarding funding for roads Cllr O'Hanlon proposed Cllr. Keelan seconded and it was agreed *"That the 6 members of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District visit Leinster House 2 weeks after the first sitting of the Dáil in relation to having a meeting with the new Minister for Transport to seek further monies for our local and regional roads. This needs to be addressed as it is having huge negative impact on local enterprises, local communities and the local way of life"*.

- Following a query it was agreed that in addition to public notice in local papers that, as a matter of courtesy, local business premises should be informed individually of any pending any road closures in the towns which would affect their business.

Cllr McNally - expressed his disappointment on the delay of adding 'North and South' to signs on the Carrickmacross bypass and asked for an update on the traffic count report from Roads Section regarding the junction for Castleross Village

Cllr Keelan - asked if the TII's Safety Officer was examining all the junctions on the N2. In reply it was reported that junctions are examined on an individual basis

Cllr Carthy - suggested that road markings be examined to allow for right turning traffic off the N2 at the Castleross

Presentation from Steadfast House – Short Film 'Include Us' - Deferred to 21st March 2016 @ 11am

Presentation of Monaghan Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP) by Municipal District

Senior Executive Officer, Fintan Mc Phillips gave an overview of main points of the LECP for the county which included details of goals, economic and community actions and leads and details of remaining tasks and timescales.

Following a detailed discussion Cllr Campbell proposed, Cllr. Carty seconded and it was agreed to approve the Local Economic and Community Plan.

Next month's meeting – Monday 21st March 2016 @ 9.30am

Meeting concluded 16.38 pm

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date: 21st March 2016