

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



The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney
Monaghan County Council

Minutes of proceedings of September 2016 monthly meeting of The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney held in the Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan on Monday 26th September 2016 at 2.00pm

Present: - Mayor Campbell

Cllrs Colm Carthy, Jackie Crowe, Noel Keelan, Pdraig McNally, P J O'Hanlon.

In attendance: - Paul Clifford, Director of Services; Frances Matthews, Co-ordinator; John Lennon, District Engineer, Amanda Murray, Staff Officer; Deirdre Power, Assistant Staff Officer. Michael Fisher Northern Standard and Caroline Mc Gauley Northern Sound Radio

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the July 2016 monthly meeting

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan and seconded by Cllr Carthy the minutes of the monthly meeting held on 25th July 2016 were adopted .

2. Matters arising

Replies to queries:

- Cllr. Carthy requested that Council revisit its decision regarding the use of the Civic Building by Coder Dojo.
- The members were advised that there would be a reception held to acknowledge the achievements of Born to Perform held in the MD offices.
- Cllr. McNally requested that junction at Castleross be placed as an item on the next agenda.
- Mr. John Lennon advised the meeting that a review of the Castleblayney/Ballybay road junction had been completed and the District Office would now consider the implementation of safety measures in 2017 subject to funding.
- Cllr. McNally requested that the owners of land along the route of possible link road to be contacted again, and meetings arranged to enquire about land to facilitate such a link road between the R178 and R180.
- The members were advised that the Council had progressed with the provision of a public toilet at Cloughvalley play-park, however a recent motion from Cllr. Carthy did not comply with the regulations in place to deal with disabled toilets. It was agreed to circulate a layout map of the toilet prior to purchase. It was further agreed on the proposal of Cllr. McNally that the cost of the toilets would be funded through the GMA.

3. Correspondence

Correspondence was received from the office of the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport regarding a meeting with Deputy Ross regarding insurance. It was noted that this meeting has already taken place.

The members noted a letter from the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government regarding the continuation of the library services in the area.

The member noted an invitation to launch of the documentary DVD on St. Joseph's Mhachiare Rois, which was held the night before. The following proposal was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Cllr. O'Hanlon seconded by Cllr. McNally:

"A vote of congratulation to Pat Byrne, Pat Drury, Fr. Larry Duffy and to the Parish of St. Joseph's Machaire Rois on the launch of the D.V.D. "A Sacred Place 1866 – 2016" last night in Nuremore Hotel. It was a most enjoyable night".

The members noted a response from Irish Water, regarding the Council's request that members of the public attend the next meeting. Cllr. McNally made the following proposal, which was seconded by Cllr. O'Hanlon:

"That we ask Irish Water to allow the general public attend their next quarterly meeting which is normally confined to elected representatives to discuss their individual concerns with the high levels of lime in the water supply in Carrickmacross."

On the proposal of Cllr. Keelan seconded by Cllr. Crowe, it was unanimously agreed to support the motion from Clones/Ballybay MD calling on Eirgrid to withdraw its proposal for the North South Interconnector.

4. Consideration of Declaration of road to be a public road Drummillard Big, Castleblayney Co. Monaghan.

Following a query from the members it was agreed that it was within the remit of the MD to make a declaration that a road was a public road. On the proposal of Cllr. Campbell seconded by Cllr. Crowe it was unanimously agreed to declare this road to be a public road.

5. Consideration of Town & Villages Renewal Scheme.

The members were advised that €380,000 was allocated under this scheme to county Monaghan, that it would be divided equally between the 3 MD's therefore €126 000 to go to the MD of Carrickmacross-Castleblayney. It was proposed to match this funding with an allocation from the GMA. This was unanimously agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Keelan seconded by Carthy.

7. Consideration of Preservation Order on chestnut tree at Chestnut Grove, Carrickmacross

Ms. Darina Kieran, Executive Planner, Monaghan Co Council made a short presentation to the members regarding the preservation order, which had been requested by the residents. The preservation order was unanimously adopted by the members on the proposal of Cllr. McNally seconded by Cllr. O'Hanlon.

8. Consideration of Coordinators monthly report

Issues Raised/Discussed:

- In response to a query regarding dangerous walls in Carrickmacross, the Co-ordinator advised the meeting that a letter would issue to the owners of various walls in the vicinity of Ivy Lane.

- Cllr. McNally made a request to the Engineer, Mr. John Lennon for a report on works at Annadrummond for the next meeting.
- Cllr. Crowe welcomed the works carried out at the Oram/Keady Road, but requested that additional works be carried out.
- Cllr. McNally requested that the provision of a new road design on the N2 at the Castleross junction be placed on the agenda as a separate item.
- Cllr. McNally stated that the grass at Quinn's, Castleblayney Road needed to be trimmed back.
- Cllr. McNally stated that there was hedges around a light at the Ballybay road which had become overgrown and needed to be cut back.
- The members noted that there had been a spate of vandalism lately at the play-parks in both Carrickmacross and Castleblayney. The following proposal was proposed by Cllr. O'Hanlon seconded by Cllr. McNally:
"That a letter be sent to the Carrickmacross and Castleblayney Gardai to please monitor as much as is feasibly possible the playgrounds in Carrickmacross and Castleblayney as we are very concerned about the recent vandalism in both play parks".
 The members were advised that the Council were currently seeking quotes for new CCTV cameras to combat this problem.

9. Questions

The following questions were asked by Cllr. McNally:

1. *Has this MD met with the property owners along the final phase of the Industrial Link road at Rye Valley Foods? and if yes, what was the outcome?*

Response:

The Municipal District has written to the landowners to ascertain whether, in the event of a new industrial link road being funded, would they be amenable to selling a portion of land to the Council in order to facilitate the works. When correspondence is received from the landowners, the elected members will be informed of their response.

2. *Is this MD confident that they can carry out all the flood prevention projects scheduled in advance of Winter setting in?*

Response:

The Municipal District will have the severe weather repair & preventative programmes completed by November 2016.

3. *In light of this MD's decision to prioritise the Drumcondrath road for the development of footpath and lights, have we got plans drawn up for same as to allow work commence in 2017.*

Response:

Consideration will be given to Cllr McNally's proposal in 2017, subject to funding and approval from the elected members.

4. *Has this MD prepared plans for the installation of a Unisex/Disable Toilet at Cloughvalley Playpark?*

Response:

This Municipal District is currently procuring a toilet block for Cloughvalley playpark. It is planned to have the toilet block installed when funding becomes available.

The following questions were asked by Cllr. Keelan:

5. *In relation to the provision of enhanced safety measures adjacent to a number of schools in this area, what plans has this Council to carry out works including the possible provision of speed ramps, at Blackstaff National School, Corduff National School & Ballaghnamearn National School as requested by school management & parents associations.*

Response:

The schools in question have school warning lights, speed bars and advance warning signs on the approach roads. Municipal District will carry out inspections at the sites but has no plans to carry out any additional works.

6. *What is the up to-date position in relation to the provision of safe walking routes throughout Inniskeen village, will this Council look at the possibility of drawing down funding from the LEADER programme and/or the Town & Village Renewal Scheme.*

Response:

Plans to upgrade areas in Inniskeen under the Town & Village Renewal scheme are currently being considered for 2016. Engineering staff will undertake plans for the provision of safe walking routes throughout the village in the coming months in anticipation of any applicable funding.

7. *Will this Council look at the possibility of carrying out some works at Corduff cross on the Shercock road, given how dangerous this junction is and given that some minor works would make this access much safer.*

Response:

Statistical data provided by Monaghan County Council shows no accidents occurring at the junction in the period 1996 – present. The Municipal District has carried out a visual inspection of the junction and believe no additional works are warranted.

8. *In the interests of road safety, what actions will this Council take in the time ahead to ensure that landowners comply with hedge-cutting notices.*

Response:

Monaghan County Council has placed advertisements in local papers warning all landowners or occupiers of land of their obligation under section 70 of the Road Act 1993 to cut their hedge now or face a fine of up to €5,000 and/or 6 months imprisonment or both.

The hedge cutting season has commenced and the district office has begun issuing hedge cutting notices to those landowners whose hedges are a potential hazard to road users.

9. *Will this Council complete the footpath link at the top of Lisanisk hill as discussed on site an agreed some time ago.*

Response:

As stated in June's questions, consideration will be given to Cllr Keelan's proposal, subject to funding and approval from the elected members.

The following questions were asked by Cllr. Carthy:

10. *What is the up-to-date position on the proposed Cycle Way around Carrickmacross?*

Response:

The MD are currently exploring possible cycle and walking route linkages for Carrickmacross and have recently applied for recreational funding for a linear park to include walking and cycle link from the new recreational lands at Tullynaskeagh East to town centre.

11. *When does the MD expect works to begin on the implementation of speed limits to Housing Estates (i.e. Speed Limit signage)?*

Response:

The new 30km/h speed limit signage will be erected in the coming weeks.

12. *Has the MD sought clarification on whether weight restriction bye-laws are required for the Coolderry road as discussed via motion at the June 2016 meeting of this council?*

Response:

Weight restriction signs can be erected on the Coolderry Road following consultation with the residents and approval from An Garda Síochána.

13. *When does the MD envisage road surface repair works to start on the St Macartans Villas/Emmet St Hill (this work was to be carried out by MD as confirmed in April 2016)?*

Response:

The surface repair will be completed in the coming weeks.

14. *Regarding the recent speed review of the Castleblayney road coming in to Carrickmacross by Inver College – What were the results of the review and what plans are in place to slow traffic down?*

Response:

The District Office has received a copy of the road safety audit completed by Duffy Consulting Engineers. The District office has begun to review the audit and will prepare design solutions and costing to address the recommendations in the audit. When this has been completed a low cost safety improvement application will be made to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for funding in 2017.

10. Notice of Motions

Motion for September 2016 proposed by Cllr. Padraig McNally seconded by Cllr. O’Hanlon and unanimously agreed:-

1. *“In light of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme recently announced, that this MD fast track our plans for a great way walk and cycle path in Carrickmacross.”*

Motion for September 2016 proposed by Cllr. Padraig McNally seconded by Cllr. O’Hanlon and unanimously agreed:-

2. *In light of recent media reports regarding Primary care facilities in County Monaghan, that this MD immediately seeks a meeting with the HSE to discuss the Carrickmacross Primary Care facility.*

Motion for September 2016 proposed by Cllr. P.J. O’Hanlon seconded by Cllr. McNally:-

3. *That this Municipal District Council calls on the Taoiseach, Mr. Enda Kenny, to appoint a Minister for Brexit, to ensure the smooth transition for businesses in relation to the UK and to provide clarity and assurances in relation to EU and cross boarder funding.*

11. Director of Services Orders

Director of Services Orders nos. 42/2016 to 49/2016 were noted by the members.

12. Votes of Sympathy / Congratulations

Votes of Sympathy were passed with the following:

Mrs. Veronica Corr and her husband Donal on the death of their infant daughter Melissa.

Mrs. Deirdre Power and her family on the death of her mother Dympna McNally.

Eamon Fox Nafferty death of his wife Margaret.

The Martin Family on the death of Margaret Martin.

Martha Kingham on death of her husband Walter

Votes of Congratulations were passed with each of the following:

Paul Lambe and Team on winning the New York Championship.

Any Other Business

The following proposal was made by Cllr. O'Hanlon seconded by Cllr. McNally:

"That this Council requests a meeting with the Minister for Jobs, Mary Mitchell-O'Connor in relation to the Bose factory situation".

Cllr. Carthy stated that the feedback signs at the Dundalk Road were facing in the wrong direction to pick up the light required for them to operate.

The Engineer advised Cllr. Crowe that works on the footpaths between Rosevale and Knockturnagh were currently being advertised on LA quotes.

Cllr. McNally requested that the Council re-evaluate the need for works at the Shercock Road/Corduff junction.

The Engineer noted the need for works on island lights at Cloughvalley Stores.

Cllr. McNally stated that brackets were required for the sign at Descart Lake.

Cllr. Keelan requested that the Council look at the possibility of emptying the public bins at Dunard, Inniskeen in line with other areas of the district. He also requested that the Council investigate the possibility of dog fouling bins for the village.

The members commended the Tidy Town Committees in both Carrickmacoss and Castleblayney on their success in the Competition.

The Engineer told Cllr. Carthy that the Council would look at the area in Pearse Avenue where dumping was taking place.

The members raised the issue of the subsidence of the roadway at Main Street. The Engineer said that these works could no longer be charged to Irish Water as the period had lapsed. He said it would be a matter for the Council to consider under their road programme.

The Engineer agreed to look at possibility of a new sign at Finnergan's Cross, Inniskeen to deter lorries from using the road which could not cater for their size.

Cllr. Crowe raised the issue of faded road markings at Our Lady's in Castleblayney, and also a gully that was in need of repair.

Meeting concluded at 3:45 p.m.

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date: 24th October 2016.