

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



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

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**Minutes of proceedings of April 2016 monthly meeting of The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney held in the Civic Office, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Monaghan on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2016 @ 10.30am**

Present: - Mayor PJ O Hanlon

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

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

**1. Environment Section – Discussion regarding Littering**

Declan McKernan addressed the meeting, updating members on a number of current issues including ongoing spring cleans in a number of areas, closure of by pass for annual spring clean, sourcing of CCTV cameras, dog fouling campaign and mobile cameras erected around the county in littering black spots.

A detailed discussion took place with members expressing their concerns on a number of issues. Cllr McNally then proposed, Cllr O’Hanlon seconded and it was agreed *“That Carrickmacross Castleblayney Municipal District calls on Monaghan County Council to adopt a zero tolerance policy to littering on our roads and streets, as well as erecting signs on all roads leaving our towns and villages informing the public that there are mobile cameras in operation throughout the county”*

In reply Mr McKernan stated that a the council already takes zero tolerance stance, an application for signage will be put to the Strategic Policy Committee and Transport Infrastructure Ireland, the council, under the Data Protection Act are prevented from naming and shaming those caught littering but as much general information is published in an effort to deter others from littering.

Cllr O’Hanlon thanked Mr McKernan who then left the meeting.

**2. Confirmation of Minutes of the March 2016 monthly meeting**

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan and seconded by Cllr Carthy the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2016 were adopted.

### **3. Matters arising**

Following queries members were informed that

- A contractor had been appointed to repair the wall at St Finbar's Church in Carrickmacross. It was expected that work would commence in the coming weeks
- A review of speed limits is due to be undertaken for the county – the provision of ramps beside the schools in Castleblayney will be examined following this review

### **4. Correspondence**

Correspondence was received from

- Municipal District of Ballybay Clones – Motion to prioritise roll out of broadband service fit for purpose within County Monaghan

Cllr Carthy proposed the motion, Cllr Keelan seconded and all agreed.

- Health Service Executive – Doctor on Call Service

Following a discussion in which members expressed their concerns on the availability of GP's Cllr McNally proposed, Cllr O'Hanlon seconded and all agreed *"That Carrickmacross Castleblayney Municipal District write to the Health Service Executive highlighting our concerns re the fact that there are people in this area who cannot get listed with any General Practitioner practice. The HSE Doc On Call is not properly staffed with patients waiting up to six hours to be seen in Castleblayney and finally that we call for a fresh attempt to develop a primary care facility in Carrickmacross"*

In addition Cllr O'Hanlon proposed, Cllr Keelan seconded and all agreed that a copy of the letter goes to the Minister for Health also seeking a meeting with the Minister to discuss the matter.

- Tulsa Child and Family Agency – campus now the Castleblayney Child Wellbeing Centre.

Noted

- Transport Infrastructure Ireland – will meet with a deputation to discuss road issues.

Cllr McNally proposed, Cllr Keelan seconded and all agreed that a copy of the Transport Infrastructure Ireland letter be forwarded to the Head of Roads Section Monaghan County Council Mr John McKernan, along with list of items we want to discuss with TII. Mr McKernan be invited to be part of the deputation.

- Office of Public Works – arrangements for OPW meeting with members

Noted

### **5. Bose Interagency Response Group – Summary Update**

A copy of a Summary Update was circulated to members. Following a discussion Cllr McNally proposed, Cllr Carthy seconded and all agreed *"That this Municipal District write to the IDA to establish how many clients have looked at the facilities and why the plant is not seen as suitable to their needs. That we also ask IDA would a green field site be more attractive?"*

### **Carrickmacross Arts Festival**

Cllr O'Hanlon welcomed David Marron, Paul Markey, Liebe Kelly and Yvonne Marron from the Carrickmacross Arts Festival Committee to the meeting.

The committee members outlined their plans for their forthcoming festival, showed a short promotional video, requested a member of the council to attend the closing ceremony and requested financial support from the Council for this year's event.

Members all in turn acknowledged the work of the voluntary members, wished them well for the future of the festival and agreed that while they could not give a commitment to financially support the event they would meet to discuss the request for support.

The Group then left the meeting. Members agreed to discuss this item after the monthly meeting.

## **6. Severe Weather Allocation**

District Engineer John Lennon reported that overlay and drainage works were ongoing and should be complete by the end of the summer. Contractors are being sourced for the specialised works.

## **7. Carrickmacross Link Road – Phase II**

Following a discussion Cllr McNally proposed, Cllr Keelan seconded and all agreed that a report be prepared identifying

- (a) The amount of land required to progress the project
- (b) costs associated with land acquisition
- (c) clarification if sale could be agreed or if there would be a need to compulsory purchase the required lands.

## **8. Consideration of Coordinators monthly report**

The following items were raised / noted

- Dispenser for bags erected adjacent to Dog Fowling Bins on the Avenue on a trial basis.
- Hedge cutting to commence in May on regional roads. Contractor to do two cuts and litter pick.
- Ongoing signage maintenance
- Youth cafe official opening great success. Thanks to all those who initiated the project and all involved in its delivery.
- Works on new Cloughvalley play park extension welcomed.
- Ongoing work required in relation to stop and yield signs.
- Visit of the French Ambassador welcomed and acknowledged.
- Official Opening of the new C Tek building last week – commend all involved in provision of the facility.

## **9. Questions**

The following questions were asked by Cllr. McNally

1. Does this Municipal District intend resurfacing the road through Inniskeen village as the road surface is very poor and the recently installed ramps are very high?

Response:

There is no provision in the Municipal District 2016 budget for the resurfacing of the road through Inniskeen Village. If additional funding becomes available to the District Office consideration can be given to Cllr McNally's proposal.

2. Has there been any progress made with the T11 in securing proper traffic calming measures for the combined junctions at Tullyvaragh Lower, Carrickmacross.

Response:

We have forwarded this question to the Roads Section, Monaghan Co. Council and are awaiting a response; we will circulate when we receive same.

3. Had this MD examined ways of reducing speed on the Castleblayney road between the junction to the IDA estate and the roundabout adjacent to the N2?

Response

The District Office has employed Duffy Consulting Engineers to carry out a road safety audit on this section of road. The District Office will review the audit report and its recommendations will be considered.

4. Does this MD intend erecting a proper flag pole at both Commemoration gardens at Carrickmacross and Castleblayney.

Response: There is a flag pole erected at the memorial garden in Castleblayney, however, there is no proposal to put a flag pole in the memorial garden in Carrickmacross.

5. (a) What is the up to date position regarding works to relieve flooding in the Carrickmacross/Castleblayney MD area?

Response

A severe weather programme has been prepared. Preliminary designs are advanced and procurement of specialised contractors has started. It is envisaged these works will commence once the drainage works for the restoration improvement programme are completed.

6. (b) What is our understating as to what progress is being made at the Ballybay road, Drumgoan and the Magheraboy road where houses were either flooded or threatened with flooding.

Response

The Ballybay Road and Drumgoan watercourses are the responsibility of the OPW. The box culvert on the Ballybay Road will be cleared when the water level has fallen to a safe level to enter. The OPW are preparing alleviation works for Drumgoan. The Magheraboy Road has been included in the review of the CFRAM study been undertaken by the OPW.

The District Office is meeting the OPW on the 27<sup>th</sup> April 2016. Progress updates on all projects will be provided at this meeting.

The following questions were asked by Cllr. Colm Carthy

1. Can the MD confirm if the design process for the proposed Cycle lane throughout Carrickmacross has been completed & if so, is there a draft layout available to view?

Response

Tender documents have been received. Assessment of submitted tenders will commence in the coming weeks.

2. What is the up-to-date position on the re-design of the Old Library/Fire Station building in Carrickmacross (i.e. has the funding application been made and when is it envisaged work may commence)?

Response

The design and costing on the Market Square building are complete and await a funding opportunity.

3. Has the MD reviewed the portion of road from the Castleblayney Road Roundabout to Inver College, Carrickmacross, with a view to reducing the speed of the high-volume of traffic in this area?

Response

The District Office has employed Duffy Consulting Engineers to carry out a road safety audit on this section of road. The District Office will review the audit report and its recommendations will be considered.

4. Has this MD been informed of the County Council's plans to introduce speed limits to housing estates and is there any update on when these will be implemented (including the addition of signage)?

Response:

We have forwarded this question to the Roads Section, Monaghan Co. Council and are awaiting a response. We will circulate when we receive same.

5. Are there any plans to resurface the lower part of the road that runs up to St. Macartans Villas/Emmet St/Convent View in Carrickmacross this year (owing to the deplorable state it has deteriorated into over the last few years)?

Response

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

During a discussion which followed regarding illegal camping and recent illegal activities at the Industrial Sites in Carrickmacross it was agreed that the council would write again to property owners of the sites asking them to ensure their properties are made secure, failure to do so may result in them incurring some of the costs of removal

### **10. Notice of Motions**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr McNally, seconded by Cllr Campbell and agreed

*“That this Municipal District commits itself to raising a tricolour and laying a wreath at our Memorial Garden on each Easter Sunday morning” same for Castleblayney”.*

A short discussion followed. It was agreed that flag raising ceremonies would take place at the Gardens of Remembrance in both towns on St Patricks Day and Easter Sunday. Members could also attend the traditional flag raising ceremony at the Courthouse in Carrickmacross on Easter Sunday morning at their discretion.

It was further proposed and agreed that official chains of office be provided for the Mayor of the Municipal District.

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

*“This Municipal District calls on a representative from An Garda Siochanna to come to the next MD council meeting to discuss the recent increase in crime throughout South Monaghan. We also commit ourselves, as a local authority, to do all in our remit to help in any way we can to alleviate this issue”*

Following a discussion it was agreed that the motion be amended to read *“calls on a senior representative”*. It was further agreed that

1. Superintendent Alan Cunningham be invited to the next Municipal District meeting. This meeting to take place prior to the monthly meeting.
2. That a copy of the motion be forwarded to the Joint Policing Committee asking that a public meeting be held in Carrickmacross to discuss recent problems in the town.

### **3. Director of Services Orders**

16/2016	NC Plant Hire Ltd – PSCS & PSDP – Various Road Projects 2016
17/2016	John McQuillan – PSCS & PSDP – Coalpit Road
18/2016	Affixing of Council Seal – Transfer of Land from Barford Meats
19/2016	NC Plant Hire Ltd – PSCS & PSDP – Cloughvalley Public Lighting
20/2016	Authorisation – Derelict Sites (Register)
21/2016	Airtricity – PSCS & PSDP – Cloughvalley Play Park
21/2016	Affixing of Council Seal – Transfer Agreement – Tullynaskeagh East

### **4. Votes of Sympathy / Congratulations**

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

- Colm & Denise Carthy on the death of their infant Doireann
- Philomena Ward on the death of her husband Francie Ward
- Margaret Matthews and Family on the death of her brother Francie Ward
- Patsy Connolly & Family on the death of his wife Kathleen Connolly
- Eilish Martin & Family on the death of her husband Jimmy Martin

Votes of Congratulations were passed to the following:

- County Monaghan U21 Team and mentors on winning the Ulster title
- Carrickmacross Emmets on winning Under 14’s Championship Hurling
- Castleblayney Drama Festival Committee on hosting the 2016 (Confined) All Ireland Drama Festival in Castleblayney
- Born to Perform group on winning a national title in cork.

**5. Any Other Business**

Cllr Carthy

- Thanked the Coordinator and staff members for their assistance in erecting the 1916 Monument in Market Square in Carrickmacross on Easter Monday

Cllr Crowe

- Asked for an update on the blocked drain at St Patricks Church Oram.
- Requested that signage be erected to slow down traffic in conjunction with the realignment of roundabout in Castleblayney

District Engineer replied that the drain would be jetted and advance warning signs erected.

Next month's meeting – Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016 @ 11.00 am

Meeting concluded 1.45pm

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Cathaoirleach

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Meetings Administrator

23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016

Date