

Ceantar Bardasach Carraig Mhachaire Rois – Baile na Lorgan
Comhairle Cantae Mhúineachain



The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney
Monaghan County Council

Minutes of proceedings of July 2015 monthly meeting of The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney held in the Civic Office, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross on Monday 27th July 2015 at 10:30am.

Mayor P.J. O Hanlon presided.

Present: - Cllrs. Aidan Campbell, Colm Carthy, Jackie Crowe, Noel Keelan

Also in attendance: - Paul Clifford, Director of Services, Frances Matthews, Co-ordinator, John Lennon, Area Engineer, Amanda Murray, Staff Officer, Stephanie McEaney, Clerical Officer.

Press: - Veronica Corr, Northern Standard. Joe McCabe, Carrick Gazette, Tessa Fleming, Northern Sound.

Apologies: - Cllr. Padraig McNally.

At the outset of the meeting Mayor O'Hanlon welcomed Frances Matthews the new Municipal District Co-ordinator and wished her all the best in her new post. This was reiterated by all the members who were looking forward to working with Frances.

The members also welcomed Veronica Corr, The Northern Standard back from maternity leave.

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of June 2015 monthly meeting

On the proposal of Cllr Crowe and seconded by Cllr Campbell the minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2015 and reconvened on the 6th July 2015 were adopted.

2. Matters arising

Cllr. Carthy asked for an update on the situation with ramps for Foxfield Housing Estate. He said that it needed urgent attention due to the speed of some traffic through the area. The Area Engineer stated that he was presently investigating same. He added that additional roads funding had been allocated in the sum of €629,050 to County Monaghan.

Cllr. Keelan asked for an update in relation to traffic calming measure in Inniskeen village. He proposed that the Municipal District submit an application to the Department of Transport, Tourism

and Sport under the “Safety Scheme” for these works. He added that the deadline for application was the 14th August next. Cllr. Keelan proposed the following motion, seconded by Cllr. Carthy.

“That this Municipal District will make an application to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, for funding to put in place much needed traffic calming measures in Inniskeen village”.

Cllr. Crowe requested that an area roads meeting take place as soon as possible to discuss ongoing issues. It was agreed by all that a meeting be held on Friday 31st July at 9:00pm.

Mayor O Hanlon asked the Engineer for an update on the works that Louth County Council were undertaking on the N53. Mr Lennon informed the members that he had met with Frank Magee, Engineer, Louth County Council in relation to same and he had also undertaken a road survey of the relevant roads linking to the Louth Border.

Cllr. Crowe welcomed the update and commended Louth County Council on the works to date. He asked that the Council contact Newry and Mourne District Council requesting details of their plan for the Ballingarry Bridge.

Cllr. O Hanlon asked that prior to works commencing on the Barford Junction that Inver College and the Patrician High School be notified.

3. Correspondence

The following correspondence was received from:-

(a) Alex White, T.D., Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources in relation to this Municipal District Motion relating to renewable energy adopted at the March meeting.

Cllr. Carthy welcomed the response but had issues with the delay in same. Mayor O’Hanlon concurred with Cllr. Carthy in relation to delays with correspondence.

(b) South Monaghan Easter 1916 Centenary Committee in relation to placing a long lasting monument in Carrickmacross to commemorate the events around Easter 1916. They identified a number of locations they thought would be ideal.

Cllr. Carthy stated that the committee was made up of a number of local people and proposed that the members allocate option 1 for the monument.

Amanda Murray informed the members that as per agreement made at an earlier meeting that Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District in conjunction with Carrickmacross and Castleblayney Tidy Towns Committees had applied through the Ireland 2016 Community Initiative Fund for funding for 2 “Peace Gardens” to be located on Bath Avenue, Carrickmacross and Barney’s Green, Castleblayney. These gardens will include a monument to reflect events around Easter 1916.

The Town Manager said that there was a steering group committee at county level set up through the County Council in relation to the Easter 1916 Centenary and all correspondence in relation to projects to commemorate the centenary should go directly through them as it wasn’t as simple as handing over a portion of land and a Section 183 would have to be done. Cllr. O’Hanlon requested that the steering group liaise with the County Council on this matter.

Cllr. Carthy said that with the consent of the committee he proposed the monument be erected. This was seconded by Cllr. Keelan.

After the detailed discussion the following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr. Carthy, seconded by Cllr. Keelan and agreed by all.

“That Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District support the proposal by the “South Monaghan Easter 1916 Centenary Committee” to use a small piece of land on the Main Street, Carrickmacross, preferably in front of the Market Square, to erect a monument based around the 1916 proclamation, that we give assurances to this committee that we will support their proposal and forward it to the County Council “Ireland 2016” Steering Group for discussion. We also call on the Steering Group to meeting with The South Monaghan Easter 1916 Centenary Committee to discuss their proposals”.

The additional correspondence was received from the following:-

Acknowledgment from Graham Lennox, Private Secretary, for Simon Covoney, TD, Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine in relation to a motion by Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District at the June 2015 meeting asking the minister to intervene to ensure that maps that are being used for the new GLAS Environmental Scheme, are the same as those used for the REPS Scheme which ends this year.

It was agreed by the members that all future correspondence from the meeting should be e-mailed and the recipient requested to reply within 28 days.

4. Consideration of Draft Polling Scheme, 2015.

Carmel Thornton, A.O., Corporate Affairs gave a presentation to the members of the Draft Polling Scheme, 2015. She informed these that same would be going on public display for 5 weeks.

She said that it was important that members look at the breakdown of the DED division.

5. Consideration of BEC Grant Proposal for Community Groups in County Monaghan

On the proposal of Cllr. Keelan and seconded by Cllr. Crowe, it was unanimously agreed to fund same.

6. Notices of Motion

Cllr. Carthy Withdrew his motion in relation to the Market Square Building due to earlier discussion at Budget Committee Meeting.

7. Questions

Cllr. Carthy asked:

1. Can the Council confirm if it will be in a position to provide a short footpath to join Pearse Avenue, Carrickmacross, to the main footpath that runs from the start of the Dundalk road up through Farney Street – this will avoid the need for residents to walk out onto the road?

Response:

The footpaths repair contract for Carrickmacross and Castleblayney Towns will commence in the coming weeks. The Municipal District Office will consider Cllr Carthy’s proposal, of extending the existing footpath on the Dundalk road into Pearse Avenue as part of the footpaths repair contract.

2. Has the Municipal District Council plans to touch up road markings throughout Carrickmacross and Castleblayney in the near future baring in mind that a high number of

'Keep Clear' road markings have, over the last number of years faded significantly and have, in certain circumstances, become obscure?

Response:

The Municipal District Office has identified a number of areas requiring new and renewed road markings. These road markings will be installed in August/September 2015.

3. Will the Council provide a 'Disabled Parking Space' along Cuchulainn Terrace, Carrickmacross, directly across from Cloughvalley Stores (in front of numbers 19-24) to allow for a number of residents who are elderly/infirm to have at least 1 number parking bay that will be kept clear?. A number of delivery vehicles use this area to park and have, in the past, blocked entry to emergency vehicles.

Response:

The Municipal District Office will provide a Disable Parking Space along Cuchulainn Terrace.

4. Can the MD Council confirm when it is envisaged that works will be completed on the C:Tek building, Carrickmacross?

Response:

The C-Tek building is scheduled to be completed by the end of July. Arrangements have been made from members to make a site visit to the building following the July monthly meeting.

5. Can the MD Council confirm if correspondence has begun between the Roads section and the OPW in relation to flood works to Derrylavin and Drumgoan, Carrickmacross?

Response:

The Municipal District Office can confirm that it has been in discussions with the ESB and the OPW regarding Derrylavin and Drumgoan. Site meetings are organised with the ESB and the OPW for the 27th July 2015 and the 10th August 2015.

8. Director of Services Orders

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| 37/15 | Rennicks – Appointment of Contractor for Hedge Cutting. |
| 38/15 | Rennicks – PSCS, Hedge Cutting. |
| 39/15 | Rennicks – PSDS, Hedge Cutting. |
| 40/15 | MC Plant, PSCS – Footpath Renewal, 215. |

9. Votes of Sympathy / Congratulations

The following votes of sympathy were passed (a minutes silence was observed with all present standing:

Brian Tully, Corduffkelly, Carrickmacross on the death of his wife Margaret.

Bernie O'Reilly, Lisanisk, Carrickmacross on the death of her husband Sean.

Thomas Culleton, Tivadivina, Carrickmacross on the death of his mother Mary.

Kathleen Callan and Family, Donaghmoyn Road, Carrickmacross on the death of her son Brian.

The following votes of congratulations were passed:

Monaghan Senior Men's Team on winning the Ulster Final.

Carrickmacross Emmet's on winning Division 2 U21 Final.

Magheracloone Mitchells on winning Division 1 U21 Final.

10. Any Other Business

Cllr. Carthy

Cllr Carthy proposed the following motion. This was seconded by Cllr. Keelan and agreed by all.

“This Municipal District calls on the County Council to provide a representative of the Housing Section for, at least, one day a week in the Civic Offices, Carrickmacross to discuss local issues with the public directly. We also call on the County Council to provide a sub-office on Castleblayney for the same propose.

Cllr. Keelan asked when the road strengthening works would be completed. Mr. Lennon stated that the contractor commenced works on the 20th July and completion date is the 20th August.

Cllr. Campbell commended all involved in the Muckno Mania Festival. He added that it was a fantastic event. He thanked staff members John Lennon, Paul Mulligan and Greg Boylan for all their help.

Cllr. O’Hanlon commended all involved in promoting Lough Muckno. He said that he was recently at a function in The Old Coach Inn, Castleblayney where there were over 50 people from the United Kingdom visiting Castleblayney to take part in fishing tournaments. He added that it was great for the area from a financial point of view.

Cllr. O Hanlon raised his concerns in relation to the bad bend on the Donaghmoyne Road, past the Emmet Football field. He said that not a month goes by but there is some sort of incident at same. He said an urgent application needs to be made from a safety point of view before there is a serious accident. He proposed the following motion which was seconded by Cllr. Keelan:

“That The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney seeks additional funding in relation to local and regional roads. Currently as a County we received €7.8 million, with a shortfall of €70,000 a week since 2011. We call on Minister Humphries to invite Minister Paschal Donohue to visit the County and inspect our local and regional roads infrastructure”.

This concluded the business of the meeting at 11:55am.

Cathaoirleach.

Meetings Administrator

Date: 28th September, 2015.