

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



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

Minutes of proceedings of March 2016 monthly meeting of The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney held in the Civic Office, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Monaghan on Monday 21st March 2016 @ 9.30am.

Present: - Mayor PJ O Hanlon

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

In attendance: - Eamonn O'Sullivan, Chief Executive Monaghan County Council, Paul Clifford, Director of Services; Frances Matthews, Co-ordinator; John Lennon, Teresa McGuirk

Apologies:

At the outset Mayor O'Hanlon welcomed the new Chief Executive of Monaghan County Council Mr Eamonn O'Sullivan.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of the February 2016 monthly meeting

On the proposal of Cllr Keelan and seconded by Cllr Carthy the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2016 were adopted

2. Matters arising

None

3. Correspondence

Correspondence was received from

- Municipal District of Ballybay Clones – motion regarding the condition of the LS08200 was noted
- Enterprise Ireland – Response from Bose Inter-Agency Response Group.

A summary update outlining details of Immediate Employee Needs, Training and Development, the Facility and next steps was circulated. Following a discussion it was agreed to put this item on the agenda for the next meeting. Cllr O'Hanlon proposed, Cllr McNally seconded and it was agreed *"That the six members of the Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District meet with the 4 local TD's along with the Minister for Jobs, Richard Bruton in Leinster House in relation to the serious situation regarding Bose. We need to know urgently if there has been any*

progress in relation to a new employer taking over the facility” (members to liaise with each other regarding date and time etc)

- Carhaix – Karaez – invitation to 20th Anniversary of town twinning between Carhaix – Carrickmacross
- Bernard Bolger – visit of Bosnian Delegation to Carrickmacross on 25th May agreed by all
- Carrickmacross Arts Festival – accepting invite to April monthly meeting
- HSE and Tulsa – regarding the use of Rath na nÓg facility in Castleblayney

Additional Correspondence

None

4. Draft Bye Laws – McGrath Road (Street Collecting/Begging) Bye Laws 2016

It was reported that a letter had been received from An Garda Síochána stating that there was no objection to the proposed Bye Laws. No other submissions had been received.

Cllr Campbell proposed the adoption of the Bye Laws. This was seconded by Cllr Crowe and agreed by all.

5. Schedule of Municipal District Works 2016

Details of proposed works for 2016 were circulated and taken as read and agreed by all.

6. Severe Weather Allocation

John McKernan, Roads Section Monaghan County Council outlined the details of the overall Severe Weather Allocation Summary Sheet for the county as circulated explaining that works needed to be completed by November 2016. Consideration to extend this period may be allowed to engage consultants to prepare long term plans for the more complex projects. An invitation to apply for support in a second tranche of funding in April is expected.

John Lennon, District Engineer then circulated a list of proposed projects. Following a discussion Cllr McNally proposed the approval of proposed works under Funding Category Severe Weather – Repairs (SW-R) (items 1 to 14 highlighted in white). This was seconded by Cllr Keelan and agreed by all.

It was further agreed to hold a special Roads Meeting to discuss the remaining proposed works under Funding Category Severe Weather – Preventative (SW-P) (items 15 to 22 highlighted in yellow).

7. Community Grants Scheme 2016

Members were informed that the 2016 Grants Scheme had recently opened. Application forms and guidance notes were now available with a closing date of Friday 1st April 2016

8. Consideration of Coordinators monthly report

Members commended all staff and groups involved in the organisation of the St Patricks Day Parade in Carrickmacross which once again was a great success.

Following a discussion regarding walls in danger of collapse and the timescales involved in repairing damaged walls in Carrickmacross it was agreed to review signage at the Convent Hill traffic lights in the interest of pedestrian safety. Members were informed of ongoing negotiations with property owners.

Mr O'Sullivan then left the meeting due to other appointments.

9. Questions

The following questions were asked by Cllr. Keelan

1. Will this Municipal District Council consider putting in place some traffic calming measures including speed ramps adjacent to Scoil Phádraig, Corduff, as requested by the Parent's Association and local residents, including residents living in Sliabh Dubh in the interest of road safety?

Response:

The District Office will review this location and if it is the decision of this Office that safety measures or the introduction of a 30km/h speed limit would be appropriate an application will be made to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for a low cost safety improvement scheme in 2016 for implantation in 2017.

2. What actions will this Municipal District Council undertake to ensure that traffic calming measures are put in place adjacent to Blackstaff School, given that funding from the Department has not been forthcoming to-date and also given the huge concerns around safety for the children attending the school, which is on a very busy road?

Response:

The District Office has not received funding from the department for this site for 2016. Therefore the District Office is not in a position to undertake any additional safety measures at Blackstaff School in 2016. It should be noted that the school has already school warning lights, speed bars and advance warning signs on the approach roads.

3. Will this Municipal District Council make good on its commitment to put in place additional road drainage adjacent to Ascaill Dubh on the Donaghmoyn Road as I was assured this work would be done early in 2016.

Response:

The District Office will complete this work in the coming weeks.

4. Will this Municipal District council consider resurfacing a small area in Dunard Estate, In Inniskeen Village, as this work was due to be carried out some years ago but was overlooked, This work will complement the great work been done by the Dunard Residents association and the council in the village.

Response:

There is no provision in the Municipal District 2016 budget for the resurfacing of the area in Dunard Estate. If additional funding becomes available to the District Office consideration can be given to Cllr Keelan's proposal.

The following questions were asked by Cllr. Carthy

1. Has this MD requested the county mobile camera for a period of time in the near future to try and alleviate the scourge of littering in Carrickmacross?

Response:

The Municipal District is in contact with the Environment Section discussing options.

2. Can the MD executive update the members on the survey carried out on aged walls around Carrickmacross (after the collapse of a number of walls in the town over the last 12-18months)?

Response:

The District Office employed Consulting Engineers O'Connor Sutton Cronin to carry out visual inspection on sites in Carrickmacross Town. Those property owners highlighted in the consultant's report have been contacted and advised of requirements to have a structural valuation carried out on their property and of their obligation regarding public safety.

3. Can the MD confirm how many individual cases of flooding were reported to the Council (Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District) since early December 2015 and what steps are being taken to help these people to solve these issues?

Response:

The Municipal District had 15 reported flooding instances from early December 2015. These instances ranged from impassable roads to a flooded basement. The majority of these instances will be dealt under the severe weather funding which the District Office received or will be included in the CFRAM Reports for Carrickmacross Town and Inniskeen Village.

4. When is it envisaged that work will commence on the pedestrian crossing to the Donaghmoyne/Culloville road in Carrickmacross (at entrance to Cluain Alainn Housing Estate)?

Response:

It is the intention of the District Office to procure a specialised contractor to undertake this works shortly. It is envisaged that this works will be completed in the second half of 2016.

The following questions were asked by Cllr. Crowe

- 1 What are the details of works planned to realign the roundabout at New Street Castleblayney. When will these works begin and what measures will be taken to ensure that a minimum of disruption to traffic will be put in place.

Response:

The District Office plans to commence works on the realignment of the junction at the start of June 2016. This will coincide with the school summer holidays and will hugely reduce the disruption to motorists.

- 2 When will the MD install a safety barrier along the high footpath at New Street to prevent any more accidents happening?" This was promised after an accident involving a car crashed onto to the footpath last year.

Response: A contractor has been procured by the District Office and works will commence in May 2016.

- 3 Would the Council look at the possibly of installing at least two traffic calming ramps on the roadway adjacent to the Convent primary and secondary schools. Concerns have been raised to me about safety measures in that area.

Response:

The Municipal District Office will review the options available to reduce driving speed at this location. The available options include the consideration of the introduction of a 30km/h speed limit. If it is the decision of this Office that the introduction of some additional measures would be appropriate, an application will be made to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for a low cost safety improvement scheme in 2016 for implantation in 2017

- 4 Have the council received the costings for the continuation of the footpath from Knocktornagh to Rosevale. This is a health and safety issue and is the last footpath link between estates in Castleblayney. Does the council see these works being carried out in the short term?

Response:

The District Office has prepared a footpath programme for 2016 and will be presenting it to the elected members for approval. Knocktornagh to Rosevale has been included for consideration

The following questions were asked by Cllr McNally:

1. In light of our very successful Flooding Clinic, how many of these incidents are we hopeful of resolving either from the much welcome €5m for road flooding or directly from OPW.

Response:-

10 appointments were made for the flooding clinic which was held on the 24th of February last. All but two of the issues raised will be dealt with either by the OPW, the severe weather allocation, local maintenance and CFRAM.

2. Has this MD re-examined the possibility of completing the Industrial Link road to remove all heavy traffic off the Castleblayney road.

Response:-

This Municipal District office has appointed a consultant to carry out a road safety audit from the junction of the Industrial Road to the roundabout on the Castleblayney road.

3. Has this MD costed the erection of two public lights at Killanny Church to compliment those already put in place by Louth county Council thus leaving the Monaghan area around the Church in complete darkness.

Response:-

This Municipal District Office has prepared proposals for the 2016 public lighting allocation which will be considered by the Municipal District members. Killanny Church lights have been included for consideration.

10. Notice of Motions

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

“That this Municipal District (executive and public representatives) meets with the owners of the unfinished building (commercial and housing units) on the Ardee Road / Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, requesting an update on when works will be completed”.

11. Director of Services Orders

11/2016	Temporary Casual Trading Licence
12/2016	Patrick Hamilton – PSCS + PSDP – Fence Repairs Council Yard
13/2016	McQuillan Companies – PSCS + PSDP – Drumgoan to Greaghlonge Rd
14/2016	NC Plant Hire Ltd – PSCS + PSDP – Pothole Patching
15/2016	NC Plant Hire Ltd – PSCS + PSDP – Fencing at Industrial Sites

12. Votes of Sympathy / Congratulations

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

- Kitty Crosby on the death of her granddaughter Niamh Crosby
- Mark Clarke on the death of his aunt Maureen Clarke
- Sheila Connolly on the death of her sister Kitty Allen

A vote of congratulations was passed to the following:

- Patrician High School football team on winning the McLarnon Cup

13. Any Other Business

Cllr Campbell proposed, Cllr Crowe seconded and it was agreed *“That the CCTV equipment in the former Castleblayney Town Council offices be moved to the Garda Station in the town”*

Cllr Campbell proposed, Cllr O’Hanlon seconded and it was agreed *“That this Municipal District invite a member of the Environment Section to discuss the litter issues along our roads to see what we can do together to stop this littering”*

Cllr Carthy

- Asked that the solar panel on the traffic feedback signs on the Dundalk Road be repaired

Cllr McNally

- Circulated a copy of former plans for the 'Carrickmacross Link Road – Phase II' and proposed that the item be placed on agenda for next monthly meeting along with full costings. This was agreed by all
- Explained that the electricity charge point at the Courthouse gets regularly blocked off by parked cars and asked that a yellow box be provided
- Asked that litter bins be provided on the Donaghmoyne road as a matter of urgency
- Appealed to dog owners to lift dog foul

Cllr O'Hanlon

- Asked that a facility for parking bicycles in town be examined
- Stated that ramps on Chapel Lane are not slowing traffic down enough and need to be raised
- Stated that traffic calming measures near the schools on Castleblayney Road to be reviewed

Presentation from Steadfast House – Short Film 'Include Us'

Cllr O'Hanlon welcomed Regina Byrne from Monaghan Integrated Development Ltd and Malachy Marron, Dermot McEaney, Brendan White, Stephen Boylan, Stephen Kernaghan and Lauren Magee from Steadfast House to the meeting.

Ms Byrne explained how the project had been arranged, starred in and produced by the members themselves. The film 'Include Us' was then viewed by the members.

Stephen Boylan and Stephen Kernaghan were then invited to take the chair in turn to raise issues regarding the misuse of disabled parking spaces by non badge holders; the need to provide traffic lights on the main road through Doohamlet to slow traffic down; provision of traffic control/pedestrian crossing near the entrance to Steadfast House and why there was no swimming pool in Carrickmacross.

Cllrs McNally and Campbell replied that a PR exercise would need to be undertaken to raise awareness of the use of parking spaces; provision of traffic lights at Doohamlet would be forwarded to the engineer with responsibility for that area; traffic calming / pedestrian crossing would be examined and there was insufficient funding to provide swimming pool in Carrickmacross.

Members all in turn acknowledged the work of the members and staff of Steadfast House, congratulated them on the making of the video and for the issues raised and wished them well for the future.

Next month's meeting – Monday 25th April 2016 @ 10.00 am

Meeting concluded 12.05pm

Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date: 25th April 2016