

Municipal District of Monaghan.

Minutes of Meeting of the Municipal District of Monaghan held in the Boardroom, Mtek 1 Building, Knockaconny on Monday, 14th March, 2016 at 3.00pm.

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher presided.

Present: Cllrs. David Maxwell, Sean Conlon, Brian McKenna and Seamus Treanor.

Apologies: Cllr Paudge Connolly

In Attendance: Mr. John Murray, Director of Services, Mr Donal McElwain, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Mr. Dermot Deeney, District Engineer, Ms. Bernie McElvaney, Senior Staff Officer,

Cllr. Gallagher welcomed all to the meeting.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr. Maxwell, seconded by Cllr. Treanor, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District of Monaghan meeting held on the 15th February 2016 be confirmed.

2. Matters arising:

Cllr Maxwell requested that we write to the HSE for an official statement on the status/update of the Primary Care Centre in Monaghan.

Cllr McKenna asked was the Speed Limit at Emyvale being monitored to which Mr McElwain responded that the Gardai are monitoring the speed. Cllr McKenna asked that we write again and request a speed van at this area.

Cllr Conlon stated, in relation to alternative funding for 'Macalla 1916', Monaghan has been chosen as one out of eight venues to host this Centenary celebration and asks the members of the CPG to give it favourable consideration.

Cllr Maxwell stated that the 1916 committee was set up to deal with this type of specific funding and this application was refused. This is setting a precedent here giving the idea that if you go to the CPG you will get funding. Cllr Treanor agreed and stated that it is undermining staff on committees if we pick one project out and fund it.

Cllr Gallagher advised that the Museum are focussed on marking the Rising and the Somme, and that they will look at marking the 200th anniversary of Charles Gavin Duffy later in the year.

Cllr Treanor asked had any further developments taken place in relation to Rossmore Park to which Mr McElwain responded that discussions were ongoing and some documentation had been received today. He added that a Heritage Grant to complete a conservation plan had been applied for and the maintenance of the park has been listed in the Schedule of Works.

Mr McElwain informed the members that a site at Canal Walk is proposed for the 1916 Garden of Remembrance.

Cllr Maxwell expressed disappointment at the response from an Gardai in relation to anti-social behaviour in the town. He added that there is no foot patrol on the streets of Monaghan. Mr McElwain responded that a date will be arranged with An Gardai to meet the members.

Cllr Conlon stated that a questionnaire should be drafted to give the business/residents an opportunity for consultation and present this to a meeting to help determine what actions should be taken to enhance the wellbeing and safety of people in town.

Cllr Gallagher stated that an Gardai are under resourced and this anti-social behaviour need to be stamped out.

Cllr Maxwell concurred with Cllr Gallagher and suggested holding off on the questionnaire until we meet An Gardai. All agreed.

3. Presentation of 'Operation Eco Park' by Teach na nDaoine Youth Cafe:

Cllr Gallagher welcomed the Youth Cafe Group to the meeting and invited them to give their presentation to the members.

Michael Bravender introduced the Group who then gave a presentation on 'Operation Eco Park'. Cllr Gallagher congratulated and complimented the Group and informed them that they have our full support. All members concurred with Cllr Gallagher's sentiments.

4. Declaration of Killycarran Lane to be a public road:

A discussion took place on the matter to include the lane on this year's roads program.

Cllr. Gallagher requested a roll call which resulted as follows:

For: Cllrs. Gallagher, McKenna and Conlon 3

Against: Cllrs. Maxwell and Treanor 2

As it was a majority decision, it was agreed to take in charge 'Killycarran Lane'.

5. Naming of Roundabout 'Margaret Skinnider Roundabout':

On the proposal of Cllr. Conlon, seconded by Cllr McKenna and agreed by all members to name the Roundabout 'Margaret Skinnider Roundabout'.

6. Report from Co-ordinator:

The Report was circulated to the members and Mr McElwain outlined the program and the events ahead. Cllr Treanor asked if signs could be erected 'Residents only' in Tully estate as a garage is in operation again. Mr Deeney responded that the matter will be investigated.

Cllr Gallagher complimented the St Patrick's Day committee and encouraged everyone to come and enjoy a great family day out. Cllr Maxwell requested correspondence on who is on the Town Team. Mr McElwain responded that this information will be circulated in the next Newsletter.

Cllr Conlon advised the meeting that 'Canada Day' meeting is on Wednesday, 16th March @3pm and encouraged everyone to attend.

7. Questions:

Cllr. Robbie Gallagher asked:

1. Can the council outline when this year's community grants for residents and community groups will be launched and the proposed closing dates for same?

Response: The Community and Environment Funding Scheme 2016 was advertised in the Northern Standard issue dated 10th March, 2016, and the closing date for receipt of Applications is the 1st April, 2016. Application forms and guidelines are available from the council website or by contacting Fionnuala Mulligan in Community Development. Application forms are also available at the public counter in the Municipal District Office.

2. Can the council ensure that road markings are replaced at "Mc Naughtens corner" near Glaslough school in the interest of road safety?

Response: Mc Naughtens corner, near Glaslough school has been added to the list to be included in the next lining contract which will be within the next 4-6 weeks.

3. Can the council investigate repairs to the road surface at Main Street, Emyvale and particularly at the junction with Market House Lane?

Response: Monaghan County Council has made an application for funding to the TII under the National Roads Maintenance Programme, for the resurfacing of the road pavement though Emyvale village. We have not yet received a response from TII in this regard.

4. Can the council give an update on what progress has been made with regard to welcome/failte signs for the approach roads to Monaghan Town and particularly for either side of the Monaghan Town bypass where the majority of traffic approaches the town?

Response: Consultation regarding the detail and format for approach signs are to be discussed with the Tidy Town committee and business community via the Town Team and PPN over the next two/three months. Any proposals to be brought before the members for consideration and approval.

Cllr. Sean Conlon asked:

1. Following concerns expressed by residents and business owners regarding increased instances of anti social behaviour in the town, will the Executive initiate a questionnaire, circulated to relevant stakeholders, to determine what measures can be agreed that will enhance personal safety and protection of property?

Response: The executive can initiate a questionnaire, details to be discussed at the March MD meeting.

2. Following the recent Department allocation of €5 million towards alleviating recurring flooding flashpoints, what plans have Monaghan Municipal District in accessing funds to address repeated flooding at the traffic lights in Monaghan Town which creates a severe impact on the local economy?

Response: Monaghan County Council made a submission under the severe weather submission for funding to alleviate flooding on the N54 in Monaghan Town. The DTTAS has indicated that this submission has been forwarded to the TII for their consideration. Monaghan County Council is currently waiting on a response from the TII.

Cllr. Paudge Connolly asked:

1. In view of the fact that the Dept of Transport guidelines on the Setting and Managing Speed Limits issued in 2015 and the fact that a full review of all speed limits, roads/estates, are put in place by 2017--will Monaghan MD be submitting among others, the following for review to the speed limits committee:

A. To extend the 50kmh by 200 metres to Ballyalbany bridge particularly in view of the fact that there is a business premises and a housing development (20 houses) without a play area on this short stretch of roadway.

B. The stretch of road from Tiernaneil to Ballyalbany crossroads -due to housing density and road width.

C. The road via Latlurcan graveyard to the old Ballybay Rd--housing density and road width. L55100

D. The roads from Tullybryan (Clones Rd) via Heasty's Cross, Milltown, Blackwater Vale, Ballyalbany, out to the Emyvale Rd --due to the fact that this route is used to bypass the town.

Response: The MD's will be carrying out the process for reviewing speed limits supported by roads. The speed limit committee will have the final say on the proposals before they go to the full Council. Roads Section has started the process by publishing a notice in the paper inviting submissions.

In relation to road markings, Cllr Gallagher stated that the long gap between surfacing and lining a road may be a contributing factor to the cause of accidents, McNaughtons corner is an example of this. He also suggested writing to the TII regarding re lining on the N2.

7. Correspondence:

Letter dated 18th February 2016 from Irish Water regarding connections to the sewerage system in Monaghan town, Scotstown Road and Milltown.

The members agreed that we write to Irish Water asking them to outline procedures, costs involved in connecting to the sewerage system. They also agreed to write to the Minister in relation to this issue.

A letter from Foróige dated 23rd February 2016 requesting a meeting with the members.

Cllr Maxwell stated that we should invite Foróige to our April meeting and all agreed.

Letter from Richard McKenna seeking permission to trade on St Patrick's Day and the 24th April at Monaghan Rally. The members went into committee to discuss this matter.

A letter dated 14th January 2016 from Jean-Pierre Thebault, Ambassador of France acknowledging our support and thanking the members.

Cllr Maxwell suggested that we acknowledge his letter and ask the Ambassador when he plans to visit Monaghan and that the members would meet with him.

An email from David Lane, dated 17th February 2016 advising us that Bus Eireann will upgrade the night time waiting area over the next two months.

A letter from An Garda Síochána acknowledging receipt of letter regarding speed at Shaw's corner and general policing of our County Town.

8. Sympathy:

The Greenan family on the death of Pauric Greenan, former Town Foreman of Monaghan Town Council.

Meeting concluded.

Dated this the 14th day of March, 2016

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____

Meetings Administrator