

## **Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones**

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2016 at 11am in Ballybay Civic Offices, Main Street, Ballybay Co Monaghan.

**Members Present** Cathaoirleach, Cllr Pat Treanor, presided

The following members were also present:-Cllrs:- Cathy Bennett, Sean Gilliland, and Ciara McPhillips

**In Attendance** Adge King, Director of Services, Kevin McNally, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Roisin Moore, A/Executive Engineer, Colin Murphy, Assistant Engineer, Declan McKenna, Assistant Engineer, Angela Gallagher, Staff Officer.

**Apologies** Cllrs:- Seamus Coyle, Hugh McElvaney

### **1. Confirmation of minutes of Monthly Meeting**

The minutes of the October monthly meeting were proposed by Cllr Cathy Bennett and seconded by Cllr Ciara McPhillips.

### **2. Correspondence**

Cllr Sean Gilliland referred to Item 3.17 additional correspondence received from Minister Leo Varadkar regarding not being able to facilitate another meeting regarding job creation/replacement in Ballybay the and proposed the following:-

“That Ballybay-Clones Municipal District ask Monaghan County Council to conduct a review over all their agencies and departments to ascertain if any of them may be suitable to facilitate an office in Ballybay.”

This proposal was seconded by Cllr Ciara McPhillips and agreed by all.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred also referred to this letter and proposed the following:-

“That Ballybay-Clones Municipal Office writes to Minister Leo Varadkar expressing disappointment at his refusal to meet with us about job creation/replacement in Ballybay and seek a report on his audit of agencies under his control to identify offices that can be located to Ballybay.”

This proposal was seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to Item 3.12 regarding a report carried out by Mr Adrian O’Sullivan on safety issues at Gransha School and asked if the Municipal District had followed up on any of his suggestions. Ms Roisin Moore stated that she has contacted the Road Design Office of Monaghan County Council and asked that a meeting be arranged with Transport Infrastructure Ireland on site to review the safety issues at this location and is awaiting the outcome of this. Mr Kevin McNally stated

that the warning lights are now working and the Gardai 'Go Safe' van has been parked in this location on a number of occasions.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to Item 3.16 regarding the filling of the vacant dental position in Clones and expressed his disappointment in Minister Simon Harris referring the issue back to the HSE and recommended the following:-

“That Ballybay-Clones Municipal office sends the response received from the HSE to Minister Simon Harris and seek a response from the Minister on this matter.”

This proposal was seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all.

### **3. Report by Municipal District Co-ordinator**

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed the following:-

#### **Clones Regeneration committee**

The council is supporting Clones Chamber of Commerce – Clones Connect forum. The last meeting was held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016. The Council in conjunction with the committee have developed a number of projects some of which the Council propose to seek funding for under Minister Humphrey's REDZ funding programme.

These projects are:

- Development of a linear park from canal stores to R212 (Clones Scotshouse Road)
- Industrial park at Clones (possible combine with site of former halting site)
- Branding /Signage/ Heritage Trail for Town
- Carparking at former Erne Mineral Cafe site

A special meeting of Municipal District was held on 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016 to approve the proposals for Clár and REDZ funding programmes.

#### **Ballybay Town Enterprise Event**

The Ballybay Enterprise Town event will be held on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December. The Council is closely working with the project steering committee to ensure that this event is as successful as the Clones event.

#### **Christmas lights event**

Ballybay and Clones towns will be switching on their Christmas lights on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

#### **Scotshouse Playground**

Scotshouse playground was officially opened on 12<sup>th</sup> November and Mr Kevin McNally acknowledged the efforts of Ms Fionnuala Sherlock and Ms Donna Moran from the Municipal District office and Ms Lorraine Burns from Scotshouse Tidy Towns in delivering this project.

There are also plans for Monaghan County Council to purchase additional lands adjacent to the playground for community use, which opens up potential for future projects. This is being considered under the Clár programme.

#### **Clones Famine Arch**

The Clones workhouse famine arch has been relocated from the ABP complex to the publicly accessible Clones Famine Graveyard. The original stone arch has been repaired and rebuilt.

A carparking area is being developed and we are currently liaising with the project steering committee with a view to organising an official opening early in 2017.

### **Ballybay Clones Erne East Partnership**

The next meeting of the Ballybay Clones Erne East Partnership is scheduled for later this evening. A brief for the appointment of a consultant to prepare a development plan for the Sliabh Beagh area – has been prepared and hope to seek prices from consultants to undertake the study this week.

### **Clones Market House**

A Design Team for the progression of the refurbishment of the Market House for the purposes of new offices for the Municipal District has been appointed. This design team is being led by Alastair Coey Architects from Belfast. A project programme is currently being prepared and it is hoped that the building will be operational by early 2018.

### **Rural recreation programme**

Monaghan County Council has received funding under the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural & Gaeltacht Affairs under the Rural Recreation Programme of €52,000 to improve the jetty and slipway and to provide a car park at Lough Anny, Ballybay.

### **Consultation**

Mr Niall Quigley our Community Liaison Officer is undertaking a consultation process with Second level children, the purpose of the consultation process is to identify services that the Council delivers that can be improved and hopefully from this various projects can be developed.

### **Town and Village Renewal Funding**

The Council has received approval for the Town and Village Renewal application totalling €127,000. Works for the projects in Rockcorry, Scotstown and Ballybay are due to commence shortly. This funding is being supplemented with €78,000 of funding from the Municipal District general allocation.

Ms Roisin Moore confirmed the following:-

### **County Road Improvement & Surface Dressing Programme**

The county roads restoration program is complete – the following roads have been surfaced;

- LP2031 Killatten to Selloo
- LP6131 Lisarrilly to Drummullan
- LP2262 Drumurcher to Magherashagry
- LP2700 Corravackan to Mullangore
- LP3001 Mountain lodge to Money
- LP3120 Creeve to Carrickavelty
- LT72011 Oghill to Tullycarragh.
- A section of the LP4905 road at Raferagh. To protect road improvements being undertaken on the remaining section of road, the last section will be surfaced after major redevelopment and construction works have been completed at a commercial premises.

In addition to the original 2016 county road improvement programme, the following additional roads have been surfaced;

- LP2021 – Drumlavog to Scotstown (Bog Road)
- LS6510 – Loyst to – Dundrannan (Tony Hannaways road)
- LS6291 – Killygone to Corkeeran. (Road in past Killeevan school / GAA)

### **Regional Road Improvement Programme**

The following works have been completed;

- R162 Annaneese to Edenforan (The Rocky Street)

The following roads are programmed to be surfaced in October;

- R183 In Newbliss village (2 No. ramps are to be installed as part of these works)
- R189 Cornasoo to Drumgarly.

The following additional section of road has been added to the programme and is complete.

- R188 Stranooden to Nart Hollow

5 no. Sections of the R162/R190 are also planned for surfacing during October/November as part of the flood prevention scheme.

### **R162 R190 Flood Prevention Scheme**

Road levels have been raised along the R162/R190 and the road has been surface dressed and re-opened to traffic. We are planning to proceeding to macadam all sections of the roadworks before the end of the year - a road closure of approximately 2 weeks duration will be required.

The contractor (S Wilkin & Sons) is continuing with road verge and drainage works, etc.

### **Flood Repair Works**

- Repairs are completed at Formil, Drumsnatt Bridge, Knockatallon, Caddagh, Threemilehouse and Corskeagh Bridges.
- Flood works (including resurfacing and bridge replacement) are almost complete on the LT34111 Brackagh Road east of Doohamlet.
- Works have yet to commence on the R184 Ballybay – Tullycorbett Road.

### **Footpath, Towns and Village Renewal & Misc Works**

- Works will commence on the Scotstown Footpath when the contractor completes work on the R162/R190 flood prevention scheme.
- Design has been undertaken on the R188 Rockcorry footpath.
- The preparation of tender documents to carry out a hydrological study on the Bunroe River are being progressed with a view to tender this at the end of the month.
- Lackan bridge has been replaced and the road is re-opened. The contractor is constructing the parapet walls etc. A plaque is to be included in the parapet wall in memory of Johnny Clerkin.
- Gullies and drainage systems in towns and villages have been cleaned out and jetted in preparation for winter weather.

## **4. Matters Arising**

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to the Clones Regeneration meetings which have not taken place for some time and asked if the Clones Connect Meetings are replacing the Regeneration meetings?

Mr Kevin McNally stated that although there has been no Clones Regeneration meeting taking place other meetings have taken place with Clones Tourism committee and the Municipal District has been working very hard in trying to purchase various premises within the town which is proving very difficult. Mr Kevin McNally stated that a meeting of Clones Regeneration Committee will take place in the New Year.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to the Ballybay Enterprise event and asked if the Municipal District would be taking a stall.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the LEO Office and Library have both been approached regarding having a presence at this event and confirmed that the Municipal District would be taking a stall on the day.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to the funding being made available for Angling projects and asked if the Municipal District had made a submission.

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that the Municipal District has recently submitted proposals for funding to provide lay-bys and to improve the existing signage and is awaiting the outcome of this submission.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to the Clár and REDZ funding submissions and asked if they have been successful.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the applications are still being assessed and no formal decision has been made on these proposals.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips asked if there is any further progress on the offices in Newbliss?

Mr Kevin McNally stated that he had received an expression of interest to purchase or use the old engineering office in Newbliss from Killeevan GAA. Mr McNally stated that the Council were in the process of seeking the services of an Architect and Structural Engineer to undertake a detail survey and costings for possible works to be the building.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to the €7,500 which the Members agreed to contribute to a consultant being appointed for the Sliabh Beagh area and asked if public consultation will take place as part of this process.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that €7500 was also agreed by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, that there are currently 13 groups within the Sliabh Beagh Area and 800 square miles to cover. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that once the tender is circulated it will be up to the consultant to come up with a strategy on how they propose to carry out this consultation within the budget and they will also be required to develop plans for the area to allow funding projects to be submitted. The Council will seek to achieve the maximum consultation within the budget.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to the new playground in Scotshouse and stated that she has sought a meeting with Hollywood Development Association and would like the assistance of Mr Niall Quigley the Community Liaison Officer and the Municipal District staff.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that he will be happy to meet with Hollywood Development Association however he stated that any projects would need to be driven by the Community.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to the Famine Archway and asked if the Municipal District would ensure that any safety precautions such as signage and road markings could be carried out at this location as it is on a bend and there might be more traffic trying to exit the lane onto the main road.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that this would be reviewed by the Municipal District staff to ensure that all relevant measures are put in place.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to the Market House and expressed his disappointment that the Municipal District did not follow through on becoming the first Wi-Fi town in the County and stated that both Carrickmacross and Monaghan have agreed to provide free WI-FI in the towns. Cllr Pat Treanor stated that all efforts should be made to have this project role out in Clones as soon as possible.

## 5. Questions

Cllr Seamus Coyle asked:-

1. Can Monaghan County Council give a full update on the progress of plans/designs etc, to alleviate flooding on the N54 Monaghan approach road to Clones in the area of Applegreen filling station? Flooding has seen the N54 closed to traffic on a number of occasions in recent years causing major disruption as the N54 carries huge traffic to places of employment, essential services ie Cavan General Hospital and when closed due to flooding has a major impact on business activity in Clones Town.

**Reply:** The Road Design section of Monaghan County Council are in the process of appointing consultants to undertake a flood assessment on this area. This report when complete will enable the Council to seek funding to address this issue. The Municipal District has undertaken maintenance works on the various watercourses in this area also.

2. Can Monaghan County Council give an update on the installation of public lighting at the housing estate, The Avenue, Knocknamaddy, Ballybay?

**Reply:** Monaghan County Council is currently liaising with Airtricity to have the 4 public lighting columns in this estate energised and connected to the grid.

3. Can Monaghan County Council arrange to have the fence repaired/repainted and the overhanging/dangerous branches cut down at the entrance to the Loch Mor Heights estate, The Avenue, Ballybay?

**Reply:** The Municipal District will arrange to have dangerous branches overhanging the public road cut and repairs undertaken to the fence.

4. Can Monaghan County Council give an update on the progression of works for the installation of a footpath, pedestrian crossing and additional car parking spaces for the Boyher housing estate on the Cootehill Road, Rockcorry (R188) as there is very heavy traffic on this road and is very dangerous for pedestrians particularly children attending the national schools in Rockcorry village?

**Reply:** Works commenced on the pedestrian crossing, footpath, street lighting and car parking areas on the 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016. These works will be completed in January 2017.

5. What traffic speed reduction measures do Monaghan County Council propose to put in place on the Clones Road, Newbliss Village as residents are very concerned for the safety of pedestrians and children on the Clones approach road into Newbliss?

**Reply:** Resurfacing on this section of the road was completed on the 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016. 2 speeds ramps are to be installed on this section of road in the coming weeks. A letter was delivered to residents along this section of the road advising of the proposed ramps on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips asked:-

6. Is the Ballybay/Clones MD aware of the number of accidents occurring on the series of bends on the Cootehill-Monaghan road, in particular in the townland of Rakean, located between the Nart straight (recently resurfaced) and Swanns Cross? Has the area been discussed at Collision Prevention meetings with An Garda Siochana?

**Reply:** The Municipal District will review signage and chevron signs which may have been damaged by the collisions to ensure motorists are aware of the road alignment. This matter has not been raised at previous CPP meetings, however it will be included on the agenda for future meetings.

7. The MD has received confirmation of funding in the total sum of €127,500 under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. Works are to be carried out in Scotstown, Rockcorry and Ballybay. Please outline the proposed timescale for such works, in particular the provision of additional car parking spaces in Ballybay Town Park?

**Reply:** The Town and Village funding

Rockcorry: Footpath and pedestrian crossing works commenced on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016. Monaghan County Council is proposing to meet with Rockcorry Tidy Towns to finalise landscaping proposals.

Scotstown: Works are proposed to commence when Flood Prevention Works are completed on the R190 (end November 2016).

Ballybay Town Park: The Municipal District intends to commence works in Ballybay in December 2016.

All Town and Village renewal works are programmed to be completed in Q1 2017.

8. What areas have been put forward under the Low Cost Safety Scheme for 2017?

**Reply:** The following locations in the Municipal District of Ballybay – Clones have been included in the application for funding for 2017 Low Cost Safety Improvement funding to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport;

Road Number	Location	Description of Works
R181	LT40221 Fairtahy Crossroads	Improve sight visibility from junction and increase road width at pinch point
LP2032/LS6030	LP2032/LS6030 Mullandavagh (Greenfield Foods)	Improve side road visibility splays, and improve forward visibility and increase mainline driver awareness of the junction
LP2150	Magherarney	Traffic Calming Measures
R183	Junction with the LP3200 Ballintra Chapel road	Improve side road visibility splays, and improve forward visibility and increase mainline driver awareness of the junction
LP1003	Knockatallon	Traffic calming in region of Church and Community Centre, and pedestrian crossing between Community Centre and New Football Pitches
LP4200/LP3201	Drumlane Crossroads	Improve sideroad visibility splays, and improve forward visibility and increase mainline driver awareness of the junction
R183	Junction With LP3430 Doohamlet Crossroads	Set back fence line to improve sight visibility splay at Doohamlet Crossroads

## 6. Chief Executive Orders

Chief Executive Order No's BCMD 57/16-66/16 were noted by the Members.

## 7. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy

The members extended a vote of congratulations to the following:-

Seán Collins on becoming the 2016 Connaught/Ulster Region young carer.

Ciaran McPhillips on winning the National Forestry Rally Championship.

**8. AOB**

There was no other business.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator

Date 19<sup>th</sup> December 2016