

Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on 19th October 2015 at 10.00am in Ballybay Civic Offices, Main Street, Ballybay Co Monaghan.

Members Present The Cathaoirleach, Cllr Hugh McElvaney, presided

The following members were also present:-Cllrs:- Cathy Bennett, Seamus Coyle, Ciara McPhillips and Pat Treanor

In Attendance John Murray, Head of Finance, Patricia Monahan, Acting/Director of Services, John McEntegart, Head of Local Enterprise Office, Kevin McNally, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Kieran Duffy, Executive Engineer, Angela Gallagher, Staff Officer,

1. Election of Cathaoirleach

Cllr Cathy Bennett welcomed everyone to the meeting and sought nominations for the election of the Cathaoirleach.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney, was proposed by Cllr Ciara McPhillips and seconded by Cllr Seamus Coyle. As there were no other nominations, Cllr Hugh McElvaney was declared elected as Cathaoirleach of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones for the remainder of this term. Cllr Hugh McElvaney then assumed the position of Cathaoirleach.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney stated that it was a great honour to be elected Cathaoirleach, thanked Cllr Cathy Bennett for undertaking the role of Cathaoirleach in Cllr Eugene Bannigan's absence and agreed with the sentiment of all the Councillors in wishing Cllr Eugene Bannigan well in the future.

All members congratulated Cllr Hugh McElvaney on his election as Cathaoirleach.

2. Confirmation of minutes of Monthly Meeting

The minutes of the September monthly meeting were proposed by Cllr Pat Treanor and seconded by Cllr Ciara McPhillips.

3. Matters arising from Previous Minutes

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to page 1, of the previous minutes and page 28 of correspondence received regarding the Social Welfare Offices in Ballybay and proposed the following:

“That in view of the correspondence from Kevin Humphrey T.D. Minister of State at the Department of Social Protection, stating that the office of Department of Social Protection will continue in Ballybay for the “foreseeable future”, but that the Office of Public Works has identified a property solution in Monaghan Town and are still working on that basis and that the continuation of the Department office in Ballybay and its associated employment is only until the completed property management issues are resolved. This Municipal District through local Fine Gael TD's Heather Humphrey and Sean Conlon seek an immediate meeting with An Tanaiste, Joan Burton TD Minister for Social Protection to ensure the

permanent continuation of the Department of Social Protection Offices in Ballybay and the retention of the 30 plus jobs on the Town's Main Street. "

This proposal was seconded by Cllr Hugh McElvaney and agreed by all.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred page 26 of the minutes regarding correspondence issued to Mr Eoghan Ryan and asked if there had been any response. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that the Municipal District had not received a response to date but would issue a further letter on this matter.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 2 of the minutes in relation to the Ulster Canal and expressed concerns regarding a letter received stating that a full appraisal will be carried out after the completion of works at Castle Saunderson. Cllr Pat Treanor referred to the meeting which has been organised with Minister Humphrey's in Clones Courthouse on Friday 6th November 2015. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that Monaghan County Council are organising this meeting.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to page 2 of the minutes regarding the appointment of an engineer and enquired if this had happened. Mr Kevin McNally stated that the person concerned had decided not to take the post. Ms Patricia Monahan stated that another person has been offered the post with a start date of 30th November 2015 and also confirmed that the Municipal District would also get a Graduate Engineer and that this appointment is imminent.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to page 3 of the minutes regarding Smithboro Playground and asked when the works are expected to be completed. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that the work is due to be completed by the end of October.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to page 4 of the minutes in connection with the Octoberfeast in Ballybay and congratulated Ballybay Chamber of Commerce on a successful event. Cllr Ciara McPhillips also confirmed that Mr Karlheinz Hierzegger attended the event and confirmed that a group of students from Osterhofen/Gerweis will be coming over to Ballybay in April. Cllr Ciara McPhillips proposed that the Municipal District assist with this and noted that this is a great way to continue to promote the Twinning of both towns.

Cllr Seamus Coyle complimented Ballybay Chamber of Commerce on the Octoberfeast and stated that it was a great success for the Town.

Cllr Cathy Bennett complimented Ballybay Chamber of Commerce, staff of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones and Kepak for arranging a tour of their facility. Cllr Cathy Bennett stated that the Kepak premises in a fabulous facility on the outskirts of Ballybay which employs over 140 people.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney referred to page 5 of the minutes regarding patching works on the R190 Ballybay/Cootehill Road and stated that this was the type of major patching work he was referring to previously. Mr Kieran Duffy stated that this type of patching work is expensive and not always required and indicated that there is a need for various methods of pothole repair.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 5 of the minutes regarding traffic calming ramps on the Castleblayney Road in Ballybay and enquired about installing these measures in other locations such as Newbliss and the Scothouse/Clones Road.

Cllr Cathy Bennett also referred to installing traffic calming measures in Meeting House Lane in Ballybay.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to the recently installed traffic calming measures on the Castleblayney Road and asked if additional signage will be erected?

Mr Kieran Duffy confirmed that additional signage has been ordered and will be erected when it is available.

Mr Kieran Duffy stated that he had received several request for traffic calming measures and has included these in a draft programme to be approved by the members. Mr Kieran Duffy also stated that the ramps should be installed in Ard Cluain estate in Clones by the end of the month.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 6 of the minutes regarding the Peace Link being shortlisted for the Chambers Ireland for the 2015 Excellence in Local Government Award and stated that this a great for the Peace Link and Clones.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to page 8, question 7 of the minutes regarding the OPD fencing in Smithboro and asked if work had started on this? Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that some work has commenced at this area and that this work will be addressed.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to Page 8 of the minutes regarding Ard na Gaoithe, in Knockatallon and asked how long does it take to have an estate taken in charge? Cllr Cathy Bennett also stated that she had been contacted by Ard na Gaoithe, Residents Association regarding 4 lights out on the estate, which is leaving half the estate in darkness and that there is a bond in place and asked when the lights would be fixed?

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the Receiver undertook to fix the lights and that the Municipal District would check to see if this has been done.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney stated that the lights on this estate should be fixed and that the Receiver should pursued to ensure that these works are completed.

4. Correspondence

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to page 11 of the minutes regarding Broadband in County Monaghan and asked if the Municipal District had received a response?

Mr Kevin McNally stated that to date no further information has been received however the Municipal District would follow-up on this issue.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to page 12 of the minutes regarding the automatically adding 18 year olds to the register and asked if a response has been received in connection with this.

Ms Patricia Monahan stated that she understood that this would require a change in legislation.

Cllr Cathy Bennett requested that the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones contact the Cavan/Monaghan TD's to initiate this change in legislation.

5. Budget 2016

Mr John Murray advised the Members that the Local Property Tax was reduced by 7.5% at the Local Property Tax meeting and that this will reduce the overall budget by €278,000. Mr John Murray stated that the Roads Budget and the Housing Budget are the responsibility of Monaghan County Council and that he is only referring to the Municipal District Budget. Mr John Murray stated that he has left the Municipal District Allocation blank for 2016 as he cannot pre-empt what this figure is likely to be as it will be agreed at the Budget Meeting. Mr John Murray stated that the budgets for Parks and Open Space and the Town Events are likely to remain the same in 2016, however there is currently an exercise ongoing in relation to how Community Groups are receiving their money as the Council would like to avoid duplication.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips asked how these figures compare to the other Municipal Districts and Mr John Murray stated that they are lower. Cllr Ciara McPhillips stated that she is pleased that this is being looked at again and expressed concerns how little the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District is receiving compared to the other Municipal Districts.

Cllr Pat Treanor stated that there was an anomaly last year and hopes this is rectified next year.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney thanked Mr John Murray for his attendance.

6. Local Enterprise update from John McEntegart

Mr John McEntegart advised the members that he had received €5,000 from the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District and Castleblayney-Carrickmacross Municipal District however he has not yet received money from Monaghan Municipal District. Mr John McEntegart confirmed that €8,000 was spent on purchasing equipment for the kitchen such as pots, pans and utensils.

Mr John McEntegart stated that the Enterprise Office had hired a consultant for 3 ½ months and that this consultant had written to companies regarding the kitchen facilities and organised an official launch of the premises. Mr John McEntegart advised that from this a number of businesses have used the facility on an ad-hoc basis.

Mr John McEntegart also confirmed that the Education Training Board had run two training programmes, 24 individuals attended the training, some went onto further education in Dundalk and others went into employment.

Mr John McEntegart on behalf of Ballybay Enterprise Centre made an application to Enterprise Ireland under the Community Enterprise Fund and he hoped it would be successful.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips expressed her disappointment that Monaghan Municipal District have not provided €5000 towards this as yet and asked what type of food businesses are suitable? Mr John McEntegart stated that most food businesses are suitable and is open to most people on a small scale.

Cllr Seamus Coyle stated that he was disappointed that Monaghan Municipal District have not provided funding and suggested that the Head of the Local Enterprise Office request this funding again.

Cllr Seamus Coyle queried whether a food business could apply to LEADER funding in 2016 and use the facilities?

Mr John McEntegart stated that the LEADER consultation is ongoing and he will draw the attention of those writing the strategy to the Councillors suggestion.

Cllr Cathy Bennett asked if the Local Enterprise Office has a 5 year strategic plan to market the facility? Mr John McEntegart advised the members that they have a plan but its only 18 months to 2 years.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney asked Mr John McEntegart to provide a written report on what has happened to date and how they propose to develop this further.

Cllr Pat Treanor suggested that the Education Training Board and the Local Enterprise Office should work together to help create jobs and suggested that they appoint someone to market/promote the premises.

Cllr Pat Treanor asked if the Local Enterprise Office could come up with a plan to purchase the former Ulster Bank at a reduced rate to use the premises for a small community enterprise such as an IT hub? Mr John McEntegart stated that he would speak to his colleagues and would need to inspect the premises concerned to see if this is feasible. Mr John McEntegart said he would discuss this further with Mr Kevin McNally and get back to the Members with his findings.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney thanked Mr John McEntegart for his attendance.

7. Report by Municipal District Co-ordinator

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed the following:-

Recently Completed 2015 Regional and County Roads Program Works:

- Resurfacing works on the LS6130 and the LT61603 at Greenans Cross.
- Resurfacing of the LS7020 Money Road in Latton.
- Resurfacing of the LS8913 at Raferagh.
- Resurfacing of Boyher Terrace in Rockcorry.
- Resurfacing of St Dympnas Terrace in Scotstown.
- Resurfacing of Meeting House Lane in Ballybay.
- Resurfacing of the R183 from Killygragy toward Swans Cross. Lining works have still to be carried out.
- Renewal of footpath on the R183 Newbliss road out of Clones.

In addition, the following significant maintenance works were carried out on the following roads within the Municipal District:

- The LT22401 – Drumnaveale road (Scotshouse)
- LT62801/2 – Knox lane (Scotshouse)
- LT40441 – Wards Clinc road (Lough Egish)
- LT21111- Carrivetra road (Clones)
- LS6011 – Drummans Rd(Scotstown)
- LT10042 – Cornacreeve Road (Knockatallan),

- LT2311 – Church of Ireland road(Aghabog)
- LT61602 – Moores Road (Greenan Cross)

Works due to commence in the Municipal District in October/November:

- Safety improvement works on the R188 at Abbott’s Factory
- Footpath works in Scotshouse Village.
- Safety improvement works at McCormacks lane on the R189.
- Patching works on the road network.
- Ramps in Ard Cluain in Clones.
- Footpath works on the R183 Castleblayney road in Ballybay.
- Works at Fitzpatrick Square to provide improved parking arrangements.
- Completion of fencing works at on the LT61603 Dyan road, R189 at Greenans cross, and the R178 at Corcreegagh

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to safety improvement works at Abbotts and asked what this entailed? Mr Kieran Duffy stated that it is the Council’s intention to remove 300 metre of hedgerow on Abbotts property which should improve the sightlines at this bend, consultation had taken place with the landowners and that they are agreeable to this work.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to work on the R183 at Swanns Cross and asked that the Municipal District also look at this road between Newbliss and Clones which is starting to deteriorate. Mr Kieran Duffy stated that this will be inspected.

Clones/Ballybay Regeneration committee

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed the next meeting of the Clones Regeneration committee is due to be held on 22nd October 2015.

Mr McNally stated that since the last meeting the Council has progressed the feasibility studies for a number of sites in Fermanagh Street. A number of properties have been identified in Clones that are derelict – the Council is seeking confirmation of ownership and will be actively following these properties with the view to ensuring that they are no longer classed as derelict.

Ballybay Octoberfeast

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that the Ballybay Chamber of Commerce had their 3 day Octoberfeast on Friday 9th October.

Mr Kevin McNally noted that this event was very successful and acknowledged the work completed by Ballybay Chamber of Commerce in organising and delivering this event. Mr McNally also complemented the Gateway staff for painting and cleaning out the Market House before the event and the Councils own staff for cleaning up the street after the event.

Rural Economic Development Zones (REDZ)

Mr Kevin McNally stated that arising from an application submitted to the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, Monaghan County Council had received grant approval of €75,000 for various works to Castleblayney and Ballybay Towns.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that as part of the grant it is proposed to undertake improvement works to historic buildings in Ballybay Streetscape.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips welcomed the funding and stated that this included broadband in the Lough Egish area and asked if there is a necessity for the Council to match fund this. Mr Kevin McNally stated that it is proposed to employ a consultant for this project and that match funding is likely to be required and that he would confirm this with the members and seek their approval.

Clones Enterprise Town Event

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the Bank of Ireland has nominated Clones Town as an Enterprise Town and a number of activities are planned for Friday 6th and Saturday 7th November 2015.

Mr McNally confirmed that the Bank of Ireland Enterprise Town initiative seeks to work with local businesses to plan and deliver a range of activities that will support and generate business in the area. The initiative also involves the wider community and the schools to ensure everyone can get involved and be part of the positive experience that is an Enterprise Town.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the Enterprise Town initiative was developed to allow this to happen and, to date, has worked very well delivering excellent community led results across the country. Mr Kevin McNally stated that it is hoped by the end of 2015 that 50 such events will have been delivered in the Country.

Friday 6th November

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed the 6th of November is for the Business Exhibition with guest speakers Nora Casey (Dragons Den), Minister Heather Humphries and a guest speaker from the Business Community in Co Monaghan. All local businesses are being encouraged to exhibit and promote their business/trade. Mr Kevin McNally stated that they want to maximise the footfall to encourage greater awareness of the level of services that Clones has to offer.

Saturday 7th November

Mr Kevin McNally stated that on the 7th of November is the Community Event – and the Bank are asking all groups across the community & voluntary sector to exhibit services. This includes all sports clubs, societies, voluntary groups, Age Friendly, ICA - effectively all organisations in Clones and the hinterland. Páraic Duffy, Chief Executive Officer of the GAA will be the guest on the day and there will be a Guinness World Record attempt to have the “Most players in a Gaelic football exhibition match”.

Cllr Seamus Coyle stated that the Municipal District should write to the bank and compliment them on bringing the Enterprise Town Initiative to Clones.

Cllr Pat Treanor stated that he is delighted to see this coming to Clones and that they need to encourage as many people as possible to attend this event.

Smithboro Playground

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that the official launch of the works for the construction of Smithboro playground took place last week. The local children and parents will be adding their own touches to the playground. A Willow Workshop is planned for the Halloween break, which will enable the children to build a den out of living willow.

Cllr Pat Treanor stated that he attended the launch last week and asked that the Municipal District consider Scotshouse for the next playground development.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the grant available is county wide and each Municipal District needs to make a submission for this funding.

Peace Link

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed as advised at the last meeting the Peace link has been shortlisted by Chambers Ireland for the 2015 Excellence in Local Government. The awards will be presented on 12th November at an awards ceremony in the Ballsbridge Hotel Dublin. The Cathaoirleach of Monaghan County Council, the Cathaoirleach of Ballybay Clones Municipal District and the Chair of the Clones Erne East Sports Partnership will attend on the night and hopefully will be bringing the award back to Clones

ATM Machine

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the planning permission had been granted and that the Bank of Ireland has confirmed that the ATM machine should be installed before Christmas.

Public Lights in Scotshouse Close Estate

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that new lights have been ordered for the Scotshouse Close Estate and that these should be fitted shortly.

Mr Seamus Coyle referred to the lights on the Alders Estate in Ballybay and stated that there are two out, one at the Convent and one in the estate. Mr Kevin McNally stated that these will be noted and passed on to the relevant department.

8. Questions

Cllr Seamus Coyle asked:-

1. Will Ballybay/Clones Municipal District undertake to immediately cut the trees on County Council property at Hall St., Clones Rd., Ballybay adjacent to Ballybay Gardaí Station and Fairgreen Car Park as they are causing great nuisance to a adjoining neighbours and residence's at Hall St. ,Clones Rd., Ballybay?

Reply Monaghan County Council had intended to do these works earlier on in the year but were advised by the local wildlife ranger to delay works until Autumn. A contractor has been appointed to do this work and it is the intention to have these works carried out during November.

2. As the winter approaches, with the usual heavy rains and associated flooding problems can the M.D., give an update and progress report on the R190-Ballybay-Cootehill road. Their plans to alleviate the serious flooding problems which have marooned residents in their homes and caused massive difficulties to farmers and businesses in 2014 as in previous years almost costing lives at the flooding danger points of Corrybrennan, Keenoghbane, Cumry and Lisnalong and confirm that funding for these works must come from a special allocation from the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Pascal Donohoe T.D.?

Reply A report was submitted to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in February 2015. To date no specific funding toward the required works on the R190 has been allocated.

3. Will Ballybay/Clones Municipal District undertake to carry out repair works to the playground at the Childrens Playground at Cherry Park, Clones to repair the fencing and give the Playground a good facelift?

Reply It is the intention that Monaghan County Council will undertake a program of playground improvements works in the Municipal District in the coming months.

4. Will Ballybay/Clones Municipal District examine and put in place immediately safety measures at the junction of the Ballagh Road (LP02400/LP02401) and the Leck Road (LS06431), Threemilehouse and place a Directional Sign for Threemilehouse at this junction as it is currently a very dangerous junction which has resulted in a number of accidents?

Reply Engineering staff will inspect the junction in question and assess if some works can be carried out. The nature and scale of the works will be determined by the availability of funding.

5. Can Ballybay/Clones Municipal District and Monaghan County Council immediately undertake a programme of Directional/Warning Sign washing and cutting of obstructional growth around signage as dirty/overgrown signage is a poor image for a Town/Village or Community?

Reply It is the intention to undertake a program of sign washing during the winter months.

Cllr Cathy Bennett asked:-

6. In relation to the LCSII, can Ballybay-Clones Md please investigate the possibility of securing funding to put safety measures in place at the following locations.

- Mc Caheys Corner (Carrickinare, between Ballybay and Carrickmacross)
- Greenfield eggs junction, between Scotstown and Roslea
- Old post office junction, Corcaghan
- Ballintra Junction (Off the Ballybay-Castleblaney Road)

Reply The Greenfield eggs junction, the Old Post Office junction at Corcaghan, and the Ballintra junction have been included in the Ballybay Clones Municipal District submission for Low Cost Safety Improvement funding in 2016.

7. In relation to a car-park and footpath at Corlatt housing Estate, Knockatallon. Is there any more developments?

Reply Due to limited funding it is unlikely that Monaghan County Council will be in a position to commence works during 2015. The footpath at Corlatt has been included in the draft footpath program and it is the intention to carry out the works during 2016.

8. In relation to the footpath planned from The Ferns housing Estate into Scotstown. Is there any more progress here?

Reply It is the intention to commence these works before the end of the year subject to the availability of engineering resources in the Municipal District.

9. With reference to new ramps placed on the Castleblayney road out of Ballybay, can the engineers please add signage or flashing lights to notify drivers of the new traffic calming measures in place?

Reply Ramp warning signs have been ordered for the recently installed ramps in Ballybay. Temporary warning signs are presently in place.

9. Notices of Motion

Clr Seamus Coyle proposes the following:-

“As the H.S.E. currently provides no "RESPITE" 'beds/facilities in County Monaghan, with only very limited accommodation in Cavan at the Lisdarn Centre for older persons, Cavan. The Ballybay/Cloned Municipal District calls on the Minister for Health, Leo Varadker T.D. and the H.S.E. to immediately make available "RESPITE" beds/facilities at a Monaghan location for Monaghan patients, to allow them remain in their own County to facilitate visits of family etc.”

This motion was seconded by Clr Pat Treanor and agreed by all. Motion to be forwarded to the Minister/H.S.E./Oireachtas members/M.D.s and County Council).

Clr Ciara McPhillips stated that Monaghan General Hospital has applied to have an extension built and recommended that the Municipal District write to the HSE to find out what stage this is at.

Mr Kevin McNally suggested that this matter maybe best addressed at County Council level. All agreed that Monaghan County Council would be requested to seek a meeting with a representative of the HSE to seek an update to the works to Monaghan Hospital.

Clr Cathy Bennett proposes the following:-

“That Ballybay-Clones MD apply for funding through the new Village and town renewal scheme?

This funding could be used to acquire a building in Ballybay to house the office of social protection and it could also be used towards the purchase of land for adequate car parking in Ballybay town.”

Clr Pat Treanor seconded the motion and stated that as a border region the County is at a disadvantage, however this disadvantage should be used to apply for funding through many avenues including EU.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips welcomed the programme which was announced by Ann Phelan, T.D. Minister of State at the Departments of Agriculture, Food and Marine and with Special Responsibility for Rural Economic Development. Cllr Ciara McPhillips confirmed that car parking would be eligible for funding, however believed that purchasing an office for the staff at the Department of Social Protection would not be eligible.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the purchasing of buildings was not eligible in previous schemes and could not envisage it being eligible this time but agreed that the car parking could be looked at.

Cllr Seamus Coyle supported the motion but stated that European Funding could be looked at for the office and also stated that State Bodies usually look for long terms leases rather than purchasing buildings.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney supported the motion and asked for confirmation that all eligible funding is applied for.

Ms Patricia Monahan stated that Monaghan County Council do look at all eligible funding opportunities and submit applications when they have suitable projects which fit the criteria.

10. Chief Executive Orders

Chief Executive Order Nos. BCMD 43/15 – BCMD 46/15 were noted by the Members.

11. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy

The members extended a Vote of Congratulations to the following:-

Scotstown GAA Club on winning the Greenfield Foods 2015 Monaghan Senior Football Championship.

Doohamlet GAA Club on winning the 2015 McElvaney's Waste and Recycling Intermediate Football Championship

Rockcorry GAA Club on winning the 2015 Monaghan Junior Football Championship

The members extended a Vote of Sympathy to the following:-

The family and colleagues of Garda Anthony (Tony) Golden, Sandygrove, Blackrock, Louth

The family of Raymond Hickey, Clonkeenlucas, Clones, Monaghan

The family of Cisse Farrell, Carrowbeg, Newtowncashel, Longford who died on the Monaghan/Cootehill Road.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney on the death of his niece and to the family of Helena Connolly, Gortnana, Threemilehouse, Monaghan.

12. AOB

Cllr Seamus Coyle stated that the Anti-Pylon Committee will be holding a public meeting on Wednesday 21st October 2015 in Aughnamullen.

Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed the following:-

“That in view of the announcement by Eirgrid of the abandonment of the proposed Gridlink project from Cork across Waterford to Kildare and delays and questions over Gridwest. This Municipal District requests An Taoiseach Enda Kenny TD and the Minister for Energy and Communications Alex White TD, through our local Fine Gael and Government TD’s Heather Humphrey’s and Sean Conlon and Joe O’Reilly, to direct Eirgrid to immediately withdraw their planning application to An Bord Pleanála and review the entire North-South 400Kw Interconnector proposal with a view to underground the project.”

This proposal was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.

Cllr Cathy Bennett proposed the following:-

“That Ballybay Clones Municipal District write to Vodafone and ask them to address the lack of mobile phone service that they provide in the Knockatallon area.”

This proposal was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.

Cllr Cathy Bennett proposed the following:-

“That the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones write to Irish Water and ask them to address hard water supplies in Smithboro, Scotstown and Ballinode Areas of Monaghan. Residents in these areas are incurring additional expenses on a very regular basis. Irish Water have sent responses in the past referring to these water supplies as healthy but this is not the issue. Hard water is destroying appliances in these areas.”

This proposal was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to the Age Friendly Initiative Meeting which took place in Clones last Wednesday and asked how the first meeting went?

Mr Kevin McNally stated that there was a good turn out from businesses in the town and that they seemed to be very interested in being involved in this initiative. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that it is proposed to have the official launch of the Age Initiative event at the Enterprise Town event on the 6th November 2015 in the Peace Link.

Cllr Pat Treanor stated that he attended the event last Wednesday and they discussed organising an Age Friendly charter which they can hang on their premises and stated that this is very encouraging.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed _____

Meetings Administrator

Date 16th November 2015