

Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on 19th September 2016 at 3pm in Ballybay Civic Offices, Main Street, Ballybay Co Monaghan.

Members Present Cathaoirleach, Cllr Pat Treanor, presided

The following members were also present:-Cllrs:- Cllr Cathy Bennett, Seamus Coyle, Hugh McElvaney, 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, Angela Gallagher, Staff Officer.

Apologies Cllr Sean Gilliland

1. Confirmation of minutes of Monthly Meeting

The minutes of the July monthly meeting were proposed by Cllr Seamus Coyle and seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett.

2. Matters arising from Previous Minutes

At the suggestion of the Cathaoirleach and agreed by the members, all agreed to look at matters arising after correspondence and the co-ordinators report.

3. Correspondence

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to Item 3.22 correspondence from the Planning Section of Monaghan County Council concerning telecommunications mast at Corcaghan. Cllr Cathy Bennett stated that she is pleased that the Planning Authority is undertaking an assessment of all telecommunication masts and will be interested to see the outcome of this.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to Item 3.24 correspondence regarding a letter received from the Minister for Agriculture's office and stated that farmers are under increasing pressure. Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed the following:-

“That Ballybay/Clones Municipal District calls on the Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Michael Creed T.D. and the Government to immediately convene a special task force of farm representatives, financial institutions etc, to address the “Credit Crises” of the Irish Farmers, due to the weak prices for milk, beef etc.”

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

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to Item 3.27 correspondence from the Office of Public Works confirming that an application for a study at the Bunroe River was successful and €40,500 has been approved. Cllr Ciara McPhillips queried the next steps in relation to this project. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that tender documents were currently being prepared to procure an external consultant.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to Item 3.30 correspondence from the HSE in connection with the dental service in Clones which is currently suspended pending the replacement of a dental surgeon and proposed the following:-

“That we write to the HSE Community Healthcare Organisation in support of the submission from Primary Care Division for Cavan & Monaghan seeking the replacement of a dental surgeon for the Clones Clinic.”

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

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to Item 3.34 correspondence from Eirgrid and stated that they have back tracked on what they had stated previously regarding how the project was funded.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to Item 3.35 correspondence issued to An Garda Siochana by Ms. Roisin Moore and asked if the Municipal District could also monitor the speed of traffic on the Clones Road and Scotshouse Road in Newbliss? Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that this will be arranged.

Cllr Cathy Bennett asked that the speed of traffic in Scotstown Village also be monitored to clarify whether or not this is an issue in the village. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that arrangements will be made to monitor the speed in this location too.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to Items 3.37-3.39 correspondence sent to Minister Leo Varadkar requesting a meeting to discuss an INTREO Centre in County Monaghan. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that a meeting with Minister Varadkar has been organised for Wednesday 5th October at 10am in Leinster House and stated that a number of Cavan/Monaghan TD's will be in attendance therefore the maximum number that can attend is 6 from the Municipal District Area. It was agreed that the following would be invited to attend: Cllr PJ O'Hanlon, Cathaoirleach of Monaghan County Council, Cllr Pat Treanor, Cathaoirleach of Ballybay-Clones Municipal District, Cllrs Seamus Coyle and Sean Gilliland, Mr Kevin McNally Co-ordinator and 2 No Representatives from Ballybay Chamber of Commerce.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to Item 3.40 correspondence from Mr Toirleach Gourley, Monaghan County Council Planning Section, regarding ongoing public consultation on the draft Flood Risk Management Plans for the North Western and Neagh Bann River Basin Districts. Mr Kevin McNally stated that the public consultation is running for 10 weeks until Friday 28th October 2016 and copies of the plans are available in the offices in Carrickmacross and Monaghan.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to additional correspondence Item No 3.45 regarding a request from a number of groups to have a plaque erected on Lackan Bridge dedicated to the memory of Johnny Clerkin of Cortubber. Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed that this request be agreed; the proposal was seconded by Cllr Hugh McElvaney and agreed by all.

4. Report by Municipal District Co-ordinator

o Staff Changes

Mr Kevin McNally stated that since the last meeting there have been a number of staff changes in the Municipal District office.

Mr Kevin McNally welcomed Ms Roisin Moore back to the Municipal District office in her role as Acting/Executive Engineer and wished Mr Kieran Duffy well in his new role in the Environment

Section. Mr Declan McKenna has been appointed in the Municipal District office in the role of Assistant Engineer and Mr Niall Quigley has been appointed as Community Liaison Officer with the Municipal Office.

Mr Kevin McNally stated the following:-

○ **County Roads Restoration Programme**

The county roads restoration program is almost complete. Resurfacing works are now completed on the following roads:

- 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
- LT27011 Oghill to Tullycarragh.

A section of the LP4905 road at Raferagh has been resurfaced as far as the Celtic Pure factory entrance. The remaining section of road from the factory entrance to the R178 Shercock Road will be surfaced after groundworks are completed at the factory.

Additional roads (as was agreed as previous Municipal District meetings);

- LP2021 – Drumlavog to Scotstown (Bog road out of Scotstown) tarmacadamed and surface dressing now complete.
- LS6510 – Loyst to – Dundrannan (Tony Hannaways road) to be tarmacadamed & surface dressed.
- LS6291 – Killygone to Corkeeran. (Road in past Killeevan school / GAA) tarmacadam and surface dressing now complete.

The surface dressing of these roads and the roads identified in our separate surface dressing program is presently taking place and it is hoped that this will be completed by the end of the month.

○ **Regional Roads Restoration Programme**

The regional road restoration improvement works are in progress.

These works include:

- R183 In Newbliss village (Footpath repairs to be undertaken to facilitate ramps)
- R162 Annaneese to Edenforan
- R189 Cornasoo to Drumgarly.

As was agreed at our last Municipal District meeting an additional section of the R188 Stranooden to Nart Hollow was surfaced in the previous week.

It was originally hoped to undertake additional works at Doohamlet Village, however additional drainage and footpath works are required to facilitate surfacing – we will review the Municipal

District budgets before making a decision on whether to proceed but it is likely that these works will be programmed for 2017.

- **Flood Prevention Works**

Construction works on the R162/R190 commenced in June 2016.

Although we had undertaken site investigation poor ground conditions were encountered at 4 of the 8 sections of road (Sections A, C&D and F), leading to additional construction and material costs.

A consultant has been appointed to proceed with design works to eliminate flooding on the Monaghan road in Threemilehouse. Once the design work is complete an application will be submitted to the OPW for funding.

The preparation of tender documents to carry out a hydrological study on the Bunroe River are being progressed by the by the Municipal District office with a view to going to tender on this during October.

- **Flood Repair Works**

15 projects have been identified. The majority of these projects have been completed or are under construction.

The Municipal District is currently replacing culverts at Brackagh and Caddagh.

Clones Regeneration committee

Clones Regeneration Tourism sub-committee is investigating and developing tourism projects for Clones Town.

On 20th July a meeting was organised with Mr Chris Corlett from the Department of Heritage to discuss the development of a range of possible projects for Clones and a further meeting is planned for 21st September.

The Municipal District is still progressing the social housing project identified for Fermanagh Street. Agreement has been reached for:

- 81/82 Fermanagh Street
- Davy Butchers
- Fitzpatrick Square Car parking Site

On Thursday last Clones Chamber of commerce hosted an event called Clones Connect. The purpose of the meeting is to seek ideas/proposals for the development of Clones. The meeting was attended by over 40 people and Ms Ruth Daly is currently collating all the ideas discussed at the meeting with a view to preparing a discussion document.

Building on the success of the Enterprise Town Event “Bigger Better Clones” held last year the event will run again this year on Saturday 15th October 2016 in the Peace Link. The steering committee is composed of Bank of Ireland, Monaghan County Council, Clones Community Forum, The Peace Link, Clones Notice Boards, Clones Chamber of Commerce, and Age Friendly Ireland - The official launch was held in the Creighton Hotel on Monday 12th September at 6pm.

○ **Ballybay**

The REDZ project has been completed and 15 properties in the town were painted, this has made a huge improvement to the town.

The Council has appointed the contractor for the streetscape improvement works – these have been delayed as priority has been given to completing the R162/R190 flood prevention scheme.

A meeting was held with the regeneration committee on 8th September discussion regarding possible projects for Town & Village Renewal Funding. The following projects were discussed

- Car parking for town
- Carparking for town park
- Development of Heritage trail
- Public lighting improvements
- Welcome signs to town
- Development of water tower

Ballybay Chamber of Commerce will be hosting their Octoberfest – commencing 30th September to 2nd October and 29 people from Osterhofen and France are coming to the event. There will be an official launch on 30th September in Ballybay.

○ **Scotshouse Playground**

A Contractor has been appointed and ground works are complete for the installation of the playground. The project is due to be completed in mid October. 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.

○ **Clones Courthouse Seating**

Retractable tiered seating (for 70 people) has been installed in the Courthouse. This facility was officially opened by Minister Humphreys on the 9th September.

○ **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 car parking area is being developed and an official opening will be held in October/November 2016. Clones Famine committee will organise this in conjunction with the Municipal District Office.

○ **Ballybay Clones Erne East Partnership**

Dympna Condra has drafted a brief for the appointment of a consultant to prepare a development plan for the Sliabh Beagh Area, this has been circulated to colleagues in Northern Ireland and are currently awaiting feedback from them. Next meeting with the committee is scheduled for 19th September at 6.00pm.

○ **Clones Market House**

Tenders from consultants to provide professional services are currently being assessed and it is proposed to appoint the successful consultant in the coming weeks.

- **Matters Arising from Previous Minutes/Co-ordinators report.**

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to the flood prevention works on the R162 and stated that the internal and external staff has carried out a huge amount of work on this road and they should be commended for this. Cllr Seamus Coyle also stated that Ballybay Chamber of Commerce are concerned regarding the length of time the roads will remain closed and asked for clarification on this. Ms Roisin Moore stated that the R162 at Lackan Bridge and the R162 at the Riverdale will be reopened on the 10th October 2016.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to page 1 (paragraph 2 under matters arising) of the previous minutes regarding a site visit and discussion about Ballybay Fire Station and asked that this be included on the December meeting once the road is reopened.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 5 of the previous minutes regarding the Municipal District Brochure and stated that this needs to be promoted on a continuous basis by everyone.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to the recent coverage in the Irish Times and the BBC regarding the planters Castle featuring Ms Shirley Clerkin and Mr George Knight and stated that this is great for Clones Town which has so many heritage sites.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to her question regarding the road in Lislanly and stated that she thought this road was already in the 2017 programme. Mr Kevin McNally stated that this was not the case however this can be reviewed with the member's approval.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to page 5 of the previous minutes regarding work being carried out on bridges and stated that the following bridges were also in urgent need of repair. Lisgurran Bridge, Derryvalley Road/Bridge, Doohat Bridge and works to Patrick McMahan's Road. Mr Colin Murphy stated that he would arrange to have these roads/bridges assessed and revert back to the Members with his findings.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to page 6 of the previous minutes regarding works at Stranooden and asked if these works were completed and what did the works entail. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that the preliminary works have been completed and the proposal is to remove hedgerows to improve the site. It is proposed to commence the works before the end of the year.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to page 6 of the previous minutes regarding potholes in Raferagh/Corduff and stated that more substantial work need to be carried out to improve these roads. Mr Kevin McNally stated the Municipal District would review this issue again but that some of the roads in question were beyond patching and require to be placed on the annual roads programme for works.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to Page 7 (Question 1) regarding the erection of directional signage. Mr Kevin McNally stated that a number of signs for the area has been ordered and will be erected once the signage has arrived.

Cllr Pat Treanor proposed that the Order of Business in the Standing Orders be amended and that matters arising now take place after the co-ordinators report. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Hugh McElvaney and agreed by all.

5. Questions

Cllr Cathy Bennett asked:-

1. I brought to your office in March 2015 and again in March 2016 a request for repairs to sections of the road from Lislanly roundabout to Scotch Corner via Cremartin. I welcomed the patching work done following my request but at the time I stated that this was very much a short term temporary measure and large scale resurfacing of the affected sections was urgently required. Unfortunately I have been proved correct with two patched sections in particular (at Lackagh and Cremartin) beginning to deteriorate already with concerns they will revert to their previous extremely poor and dangerous condition. Patching, while a welcome respite for users of the worst road sections of our community, is not a cost effective way to manage our road network. I again repeat my request for these sections to be prioritised for urgent resurfacing so a permanent solution to this ongoing problem can be achieved. I would also highlight the fact that this road is used by a lot of heavy vehicles accessing the landfill and recycling facility at Scotch Corner and this inflicts additional wear and tear on this road. As a result I feel this road requires additional surveillance and repairs on an ongoing basis. Can you please advise what are timescales are envisaged for this resurfacing to be completed?

Reply: Repair Works have previously been carried out on the LP3411 and LP3420. Both these roads are not presently on the 2017 or 2018 multi-annual roads programme. The Ballybay Clones Municipal District will assess the possibility of carrying out additional localized repairs on these roads.

2. In relation to Selloo bridge, between Scotstown and Roslea. When does this Municipal District envisage repair works will take place? The bridge wall has completely collapsed and it is presently very dangerous.

Reply: Selloo bridge will be repaired in the coming weeks.

3. In relation to a car park at the green at Corlatt housing estate, Knockatallon. Has the Municipal District done any preparatory works to make this a project ready for funding when available?

Reply: The Ballybay Clones Municipal District has not done any preparatory works to make the project at Corlatt housing estate ready for funding. The Municipal District will assess the proposal with a view to making a future funding application.

4. In relation to the collapsing wall on the Castleblayney Road out of Ballybay. Has anything been done to prevent further deterioration presently visible?

Reply: The Ballybay Clones Municipal District will arrange for the inspection of the wall on the Castleblayney Road to determine if there are any structural issues with it.

5. Can this Municipal District please investigate the Gortmore North Road? It is presently in a very bad state of disrepair.

Reply: The Ballybay Clones Municipal District has carried out an inspection of the road and some patching works will be carried out on the road in the coming weeks.

6. Chief Executive Orders

Chief Executive Order No's BCMD 46/16-53/16 were noted by the Members.

7. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy

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

Fr Kevin Malcolmson, Swanns Cross on his ordination to the Priesthood

Fr Stephen Duffy, Ballybay on his ordination to the Priesthood

The members of Corcaghan CCE on their success at the Fleadh Cheoil ne nÉireann 2016

Rosemary McDonnell, Librarian in Ballybay on her retirement.

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

Brian Mac Domhnaill & Family on the death of his wife Deirdre McDonald

Cianna McNally on the death of her granny Dympna McNally

The Bishop of Clogher, Liam McDaid and all relatives and friends on the death of Canon Tom Marron,

Cllr Seamus Coyle on the death of his Aunt Cissy Coyle

Cllr Thomas O'Reilly, Fermanagh & Omagh District Council, on the death of his mother Peggy O'Reilly

A minutes silence was observed.

8. AOB

There was no other business.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed _____

Meetings Administrator

Date 17th October 2016