

Municipal District of Monaghan

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, M-Tek building, Knockaconny, Monaghan on Monday, 19th June, 2017 at 3.00pm.

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Paudge Connolly presided.

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

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

At the outset, Cllr Connolly stated that it is an honour to be elected as An Cathaoirleach, looking forward to working with all, and thanked the members for their nomination and support. Cllr Aughey thanked his proposer and seconder, Cllr McKenna and Cllr Maxwell for nominating him. All members congratulated Cllr Connolly on his position as Cathaoirleach and thanked Cllr Maxwell for his best efforts, particularly with the Isle of Man, building up a profile of our town, and wished him the best of luck.

Mr McElwain, of behalf of the Executive congratulated Cllr Connolly and Cllr Aughey on their positions and thanked Cllr Maxwell for his good work during the year and congratulated him and the members on their foresight for two projects in particular- the employment of a Town Centre Co-ordinator and Rossmore Park.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr. McKenna, seconded by Cllr. Aughey, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District of Monaghan meeting held on 15th May, 2017 be confirmed.

2. Matters arising:

Cllr Conlon asked for an update on the application for CCTV to which Mr McElwain responded that they had met with the Gardai who had received an estimate for the system. Application from Monaghan MD was submitted to Gardai for the Commissioners approval for a Grant for €40,000 and our contribution will be €40,000 in 2017. Mr Murray stated that this is part of a national scheme and no guarantee that we will get the system this year but can apply again next year.

Cllr Connolly asked could we follow up on his request for the collection service of electrical goods to be increased to twice a year.

3. Report from Municipal District co-ordinator:

Mr McElwain outlined his report which was circulated to the members.

Cllr Connolly wished Dan Collins, Town Foreman many happy years in his retirement. All members associated with his sentiments.

Cllr Treanor highlighted the fires being lit in Rossmore Park which are so dangerous with forestry and wildlife. Mr McElwain responded that Bye-Law signs have been erected at all entrances and there is an Emergency contact available. Mr Murray stated that the public should phone the Gardai.

Cllr McKenna expressed disappointment that the Dublin Street Regeneration Plan and Community Grant Awards were held on the same evening and advised that this should not happen again.

Cllr Aughey wished Glaslough all the best in the Entente Florale Competiton and Monaghan town in the Tidy Towns competition also.

Cllr Conlon asked who polices the bye-laws by Coillte. In relation to lighting fires and littering, the Gardai should be invited as Stakeholders to play their part in enforcing order in the park. He added that on occasion drive-in surveillance would lend itself to effective policing in the area. Cllr Maxwell understood that it is the Gardai who enforce the bye-laws but clarification should be sought from Coillte.

Cllr Conlon asked what was the delay in installing a ramp at the Courthouse to which Mr Deeney responded that there is a ramp there but the level is decided by the door at the entrance and will look at a different surface for it. Cllr Conlon asked for the outcome on Dummies Lane which is in bad need of repair to which Mr McElwain responded that another reminder would be issued to the solicitor involved.

Cllr Maxwell asked for an explanation on the re-alignment at Belgium Park to which Mr Deeney responded that concerns were raised by public and the Gardai about vehicular and pedestrian safety and it is out for public consultation now.

Cllr Aughey asked for update on LUTS to which Mr McElwain responded that it will be later on this year as remodelled figures **resulted in delays**.

Cllr Treanor advised that Tullyree Residents did not receive an invite to the Tidy Towns Awards. It was confirmed that they had not applied for a grant. He also asked for an update on tarring at Crosses to which Mr Deeney responded that it is on the Roads Programme and will be completed within the next two months.

Cllr McKenna stated that Housing Section are experiencing problems with long delays on return of documents from Wells & O Carroll Solicitors to which Mr Murray responded that he would follow up on this matter.

4. Questions and Answers:

Cllr Aughey asked:

1. Could the Council add some signs on the public road which forms part of the Emylough Walkway to alert motorists to the presence of pedestrians so that they will drive slowly?

Response: An application was submitted to the Department for funding under the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure which included signs along this public road.

2. Can the Council ensure that excessive weeds on the roundabouts on the Monaghan Bypass are dealt with as a matter of urgency?

Response: The Roads Department have been liaising with the Contractor regarding the elimination of the weeds and reinstatement of plants on the Monaghan Bypass roundabouts. Works have commenced at Coolshannah and Annahagh roundabouts.

3. How soon can the Council remove the graffiti under the bridge on the Greenway next to the Coolshannagh Roundabout?

Response: The graffiti has been removed.

4. Correspondence:

Letter dated 30th May 2017 from Commission for Communication Regulation regarding television reception deterioration in Monaghan Town.

Letter dated 15th June 2017 from Carrickmacross- Castleblayney Municipal District regarding a proposal on the North-south Interconnector. All members supported this proposal.

6. Sympathy:

Sympathy was extended to the following:

The Kelly family on the death of Seamus Kelly.

Ciaran Trant on the death of his father, Barney.

7. Congratulations:

Congratulations were extended to Fr Macartan McQuaid on his 50th anniversary as a priest.

Other business:

Cllr Connolly stated that funding for Emyvale Road has been granted and enquired if the hours of work could be extended in the long evenings to which Mr Murray responded that if it is not tied into the Procurement process it can lead to difficulties in extra costs. Cllr McKenna stated that it should be included in the Tender process to which Mr McElwain responded that he will refer the matter to Roads.

The meeting concluded.

Dated this 19th Day of June, 2017

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____

Meetings Administrator