

Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on 16th January 2017 at 11.30am 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, Seamus Coyle, Sean Gilliland, Hugh McElvaney and Ciara McPhillips

In Attendance Sheila Broderick, Acting Chief Fire Officer, Kevin McNally, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Roisin Moore, Executive Engineer, Angela Gallagher, Staff Officer.

Apologies Adge King, Director of Services,

1. Confirmation of minutes of Monthly Meeting

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

Cllr Pat Treanor suggested bringing forward item 7, update on proposed new Ballybay Fire Station, this was proposed by Cllr Ciara McPhillips, seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all.

2. Update on new Fire Station in Ballybay

Ms Sheila Broderick advised the members that the existing plans in place for the new fire station in Ballybay were originally produced in 2007. With regards the existing Fire Station, Ms Broderick stated that they are not suitable for the following reasons, no changing facilities for female staff, parking is insufficient, training area is not suitable and the overall condition of the existing building is poor.

Ms Sheila Broderick confirmed that a site with access to the R162 has been purchased in Corrybrannan for a 2 storey Fire Station. Ms Broderick noted that the Department had recently given approval for a new Fire Station in Castleblayney and it was unlikely that the Ballybay project would proceed prior to 2020. Ms Broderick confirmed that repairs/work to the existing building would need to be carried out to ensure that it would remain in working order until such times as a decision is made on the Ballybay project.

Ms Broderick stated that a new submission should be made for Ballybay to keep it on the agenda for any possible future funding.

Cllr Seamus Coyle stated that Ballybay has once again been left behind. The existing building is over 40 years old and asked Ms Broderick if the new proposed site was a suitable location. Ms Sheila Broderick stated that now that the access road has been purchased she does not see any reason why the new site would not be appropriate.

Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed the following:-

“That Monaghan County Council immediately prioritise the provision of a new fire station for Ballybay and immediately finalise, design and plan for a full and fit for purpose Fire Station for Ballybay. Also the Council bring the current facilities up to an acceptable and fit for purpose standard.”

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

Cllr Sean Gilliland referred to the 2008 costings which were €1m approximately and proposed the following:-

“That Monaghan County Council seeks an up to date costing of the new Fire Station in Ballybay and apply for the funding for this project to the necessary department and for the funding to be ring-fenced for the development of a new Fire Station in Ballybay.”

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

Cllr Cathy Bennett asked if the fire hydrants throughout the County are checked. Ms Sheila Broderick stated that during the summer months, when it is safe to do so, the hydrants are checked to ensure they are in working order.

3. Correspondence

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to page 13 &14, Item 2.3, correspondence received from Mr Simon Coveney’s private secretary advising that the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport is responsible for dealing with funding for public lighting. Cllr Cathy Bennett proposed the following;-

“That Ballybay-Clones Municipal district write again to the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport, Mr Shane Ross T.D. asking him to review the need for a public lighting grant. The Ballybay-Clones Municipal district requests Minister Shane Ross T.D to initiate a grant for public lighting as presently the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District have public lighting needs in excess of €600,000.

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

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to page 17, Item 2.5 correspondence issued to the Roads Section regarding road safety at Gransha School and referred to the speed limit audit which is being carried out and asked if any works will be carried out at this location. Mr Kevin McNally confirmed that interim safety measures would be carried out to improve the safety at the school. The Councils roads section are currently liaising with the TII in this regard.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney asked if additional public lighting could be considered for the Scotstown Area following on from a fatal accident last week. Ms Roisin Moore stated that it will be added to the Public Lighting list.

4. Report by Municipal District Co-ordinator

Mr Kevin McNally confirmed the following:-

Clones Regeneration committee

The Council is continuing to progress the social housing projects and was recently awarded REDZ funding for projects in Clones Town. Negotiations for the purchases of lands are ongoing and as advised at the December meeting, it is hoped to revert to the members during the February meeting with outline costings for works and the necessary amount of the Municipal District allocation that will be required.

Ballybay Clones Erne East Partnership

The next meeting of the Ballybay Clones Erne East Partnership is scheduled for Monday 23rd January. A number of quotations for the appointment of a consultant to prepare a development plan for the Sliabh Beagh area have been received. These are currently being assessed and we hope to make appointment in coming weeks for this work.

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. A detailed survey of the building had been undertaken. The design team is currently preparing a number of design options for the Council to consider. It is hoped that the building will be operational by early 2018.

Ballybay

As was advised at our previous meeting, the Council has received €9,600 funding under the Clár programme for improvements to Ballybay Town Park play equipment. It is a requirement of the scheme that match funding of €9,600 is provided. The Municipal District is currently liaising with Bernie Bradley of the Community & Enterprise Section to determine if additional funding can be provided to the project. Bernie Bradley will undertake consultation with local users of the park in relation to the equipment to be installed. This consultation is planned for Thursday next at 8.00 in the Wetlands. The Municipal District has appointed Doohamlet Construction Ltd to undertake upgrade works to sheds to the rear of Ballybay Library to house Ballybay Men's Shed – works are due for completion in February 2017.

Newbliss office

As advised at our last meeting an architect has been appointed to undertake a Structural / Civil & Conservation Engineering assessment of Monaghan County Council's offices in Newbliss. This review is currently ongoing and should be completed by February.

Magherarney Community Group

A meeting has been arranged with Magherarney Community Group to discuss the development of the car park to progress the Clár project

Ms Roisin Moore confirmed the following:-

Roads Programme 2017

The Municipal District is waiting for its 2017 roads programme funding allocation. The 2017 roads programme has been agreed in principle based on the allocation received in 2016 and road construction costs in 2016 – the programme may be revised if the allocation or costs vary in 2017.

Based on the proposed road programme, drainage works have commenced on the;

- LT56011 (Drummuck to Knockaturley),
- LS8201 (Loughmourne School).

Footpath, Towns and Village Renewal & Misc Works

Works are underway on the Scotstown Footpath.

Works are underway at Rockcorry on the footpath, streetlighting, pedestrian crossing.

The Bunnoe Flood Study and Environmental Scoping Report is in the process of being awarded.

Play equipment in O'Neill Park Clones has been closed off on safety grounds due to a playground audit received from an independent assessor in December 2016. The Municipal District is in the process of seeking quotations to repair the equipment to an acceptable level.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to the Sliabh Beagh project and asked if public consultation would take place once a consultant has been appointed and could Hollywood Park be included as part of the Sliabh Beagh Area. Mr Kevin McNally stated that public consultation would take place and Hollywood Park can be included as part of the Sliabh Beagh Area.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to the footpath works in Scotstown and asked if there was any drawings available. Ms Roisin Moore stated that a map would be issued to the Members shortly.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to the disabled equipment for Ballybay Town Park and stated that Cllr David Maxwell had made a proposal at the last Council Meeting that disabled equipment be installed in all play parks.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to the disabled parking bay proposed for Ballybay Town Park and asked if the Council would consider installing a Parent & Child space too. Mr Kevin McNally stated that this could be considered.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to the office in Newbliss and asked what are the likely proposals for Newbliss Office? Mr Kevin McNally stated that they are unknown at the moment, however he hopes to have a more detailed report for the February/March meeting.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to the issue with play equipment in O'Neill Park and asked if Cherry Park Playground could also be inspected. Ms Roisin Moore stated that an inspection of the park can be carried out at this location.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to works behind the library in Ballybay for the Men Shed and asked if there equipment is currently being stored on site. Mr Kevin McNally stated that the equipment was not stored on site, however the Council had agreed to assist them with the storage of the equipment at another location until such times as the premises was ready. Mr McNally also advised that insurance documents would need to be provided to the Council prior to occupation to ensure all is in order.

5. Matters Arising

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 2 of the previous minutes regarding the Peace Link and stated that they have recently been nominated for a LAMA Council Award for Local Sports Club of the year and wanted to congratulate them on this achievement and wished them well.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 2 of the previous minutes regarding the proposed Thomas Treanor award and asked for an update on this. Mr Kevin McNally stated that a meeting has been arranged with the school and a further update will be provided at the next meeting.

Cllr Sean Gilliland referred to page 4 of the previous minutes (1st item under matters arising) regarding correspondence issued to Monaghan County Council regarding a review of their departments and expressed his disappointment that the Council have not responded to this and proposed the following:-

“That Ballybay-Clones Municipal District write to Monaghan County Council to return a previously requested review as expediently as possible the review of their departments of facilitating some services/jobs in Ballybay.”

This proposal was seconded by Cllr Seamus Coyle and agreed by all.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to page 4, paragraph 2, of the previous minutes regarding proposed works at Ballybay Town Park and asked the Council to consider a pedestrian crossing for residents of Wylies Hill when drawing up their plans. Ms Roisin Moore stated that this will be considered when the plans for paring in this area are being drafted.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to page 4, paragraph 3, of the previous minutes, regarding his request for public lighting from the Riverdale Hotel to the powerhouse. Ms Roisin Moore stated that this has been added to the Public Lighting list.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to page 5 of the previous minutes regarding flooding on the N54 at Applegreen and asked if there is any update on this. Mr Kevin McNally stated that this would be followed up with the Roads Section.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 5 of the previous minutes regarding proposed Wi-Fi for Clones Town and asked if there was any further update on this. Mr Kevin McNally stated that the Council are proposing to have this completed in Quarter 1 of 2017.

Cllr Ciara McPhillips referred to page 5 of the previous minutes regarding a meeting with An Garda Siochana regarding the Nart Hollow and asked for an update on this. Ms Roisin Moore stated that a meeting is due to take place with Transport Infrastructure Ireland, An Garda Siochana and the Roads Section of Monaghan County Council and asked that if anyone is aware of incidents which have taken place at this location can they provide dates & times of the incidents which have occurred.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to page 5 of the previous minutes, last paragraph, regarding Low cost Safety measures at Greenfield foods and asked if any additional funding has become available. Ms Roisin Moore stated that she has received no confirmation yet regarding this funding and that this item will remain on the agenda.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 8 of the previous minutes question 4 regarding dereliction and asked if there is any further progress on the former Cinema Site on Fermanagh Street. Mr Kevin McNally stated that the Planning Section of Monaghan County Council is actively dealing with this particular site and that placing a property on the Derelict Site Register is a lengthy process.

6. Questions

Cllr. Ciara Mc Phillips asked:-

1. Will Ballybay/Clones Municipal District consider resurfacing the length of road from the Mullanavannog junction into Threemilehouse village on the Threemilehouse-Newbliss road? The road is in very poor repair and is the main entrance/exit into the village.

Reply: The Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones will consider the possibility of repairing/resurfacing this 450m section of the R189 when the 2017 road improvement and maintenance allocations have been awarded.

2. Has a contractor been appointed to the Bunroe River? What is the timeframe for completion? Will there be a public consultation phase?

Reply: The Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones is in the process of appointing a Consultant to undertake this study. The project will be progressed on a phased basis, with initial scoping, walkover and topographical surveys informing the next stages of the project. Public consultation is proposed in the latter stages of the project – at this time estimated to be in Summer 2017.

Cllr Cathy Bennett asked:-

1. In relation to a previous question that I had submitted. When does the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District intend to replant trees at Lough Ooney that had previously been cut down?

Reply: The Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones will arrange to have a number of trees planted at this location within the current planting season.

2. Can I please have an update on the footpath on the Roslea Road into Scotstown? Can I please have a final print of intended plan for the footpath.

Reply: The footpath is under construction and is due for completion by mid February 2017.

3. In relation to Hollywood lake and park. Mr Nial Quigley had been in discussions with the committee there. Can I please have an update on possibilities for investment there and possible sources of funding to help revamp Hollywood park?

Reply: Hollywood lake and park is in private ownership. Monaghan County Council provides financial assistance to the park committee to address such areas as maintenance

and insurance. There are a range of options for funding available to community groups in the County such as the Leader Programme and Monaghan County Councils Community Development fund. Initially though the local community has to identify the project. Monaghan County Council is working with the park committee to identify suitable projects and is happy to provide necessary technical and administrative assistance to the park committee and indeed any other community group in the Municipal District when preparing applications for funding.

4. In relation to the bring bank in Ballybay. Can I please have a schedule of collections and is there a possibility of additional collections? Can additional bring banks be added to encourage recycling? I only ask this as the bring bank in Ballybay was extremely overloaded over the Christmas period and it therefore prevented recycling needs.

Reply: In 2017 Monaghan County Council will be investigating the possibility of increasing bring site capacity in Ballybay either through the provision of additional banks at the existing site at the Mart entrance or alternatively through the potential provision of an additional bring facility at a second location in the town. In relation to collections at bring sites in the County there is no designated collection schedule as such. The number of collections varies from site to site and is based on site usage data for each site from which the collection frequency for each site is assessed. In addition, if council staff observes that certain sites are reaching capacity the collection contractor is contacted and an additional collection arranged. Some of the quieter sites in the county are serviced less than 10 times per year while the busier sites are serviced more frequently. During 2016 the site in Ballybay was serviced a total of 24 times.

5. In relation to Sliabh Beagh hotel and traffic calming safety measure plans there. Can I please have an update on the exact measures that will be put in place? Can I strongly encourage that ramps are installed to ensure the slowing of traffic.

Reply: Monaghan County Council has recently received funding under the CLAR programme for the installation of road safety measures in Knockatallon village. The CLAR funding will be used to install traffic calming features within the village, including speed limit gateway signage on 2 approaches to the village and road lining through the village area to effectively reduce the carriageway widths. Generally ramps are installed where other forms of traffic calming have already been provided and have been shown not to be successful in slowing traffic to an appropriate speed. The Municipal District of Ballybay Clones will monitor speeds in this area after the works are completed to determine whether speeding is an issue.

7. Chief Executive Orders

Chief Executive Order No. BCMD 73/16 was noted by the Members.

8. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy

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

Dessie Friary, Little Mills, Ballybarrack, Dundalk, Co Louth on the death of his wife Loretta Friary (nee Beattie), formerly Annalore Street, Clones

Eileen Cadden on the death of her mother Mary Sherry, Crumlin, Threemilehouse

John Joe & Alice Curtis, Streamstown, Ardee, Louth on the death of their son John Curtis, 14 Clonkeencole, Clones

Rita Boylan on the death of her brother-in-law Paddy Boylan 98 Avenue, Clones

Peggy Carbin & Family, Main Street, Scotstown on the death of her husband Benny Carbin

Peter Murphy, Cherry Park, Clones on the death of his father Peter

Pat McLoughlin (Blackrock, Co. Dublin and formerly of Clones) on the death of his wife Phyllis

9. AOB

There was no other business.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed _____

Meetings Administrator

Date 20th February 2017