

## Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2017 at 12.15am in Clones Courthouse, McCurtain Street, Clones, Co Monaghan.

**Members Present**        The Cathaoirleach, Cllr Seamus Coyle, presided

The following members were also present:- Cllrs:- Cathy Bennett, Sean Gilliland, Hugh McElvaney and Pat Treanor

**In Attendance**        Adge King, Director of Services, Kevin McNally, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Colin Murphy, Executive Engineer, Seamie Mc Mahon, Staff Officer

### **1. Confirmation of minutes of monthly meeting**

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to page 2 of the minutes regarding a proposal he had made relating to the North South Interconnector. This proposal should have read as been seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and not by Cllr Seamus Coyle

The minutes of the May monthly meeting with amendment were proposed by Cllr Seamus Coyle and seconded by Cllr Hugh McElvaney and approved by all.

### **2. Matters arising from previous minutes**

#### **Page 7:-**

There was a discussion on the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. Applications are now with the Corporate Policy Group (CPG). Cllr Pat Treanor stated that not all projects recommended by the CPG will get funding. Cllr Cathy Bennett sought clarification on the projects been funded under the Clar programme. Mr Kevin McNally noted that the Municipal District has not yet been advised of the proposed funding allocation.

Mr Adge King stated that under the current Town and Village Renewal scheme, Monaghan County Council were looking for projects that led to economic development and possibly to employment.

All agreed to discuss Magherarney Car Park project in committee.

#### **Page 9:-**

Cllr Sean Gilliland asked if the pedestrian crossing at Rockcorry would be ramped. Mr Colin Murphy noted that these works were currently not proposed and that current proposed scheme was nearly complete. Cllr Gilliland commented on Bairds Shore and asked if there could be repairs to Drumola lake. Mr Colin Murphy undertook to examine this issue.

#### **Page 10:-**

Cllr Gilliland asked about the bitmac tender process received and if there had been an increased in the previous year's prices. Mr Colin Murphy stated that prices were similar to 2016. Cllr Hugh McElvaney commented how the Countys roads programme were tendered as a block and that the council were making savings. Cllr Gilliland commented how this should lead to extra work getting done.

**Page 11:-**

Cllr Pat Treanor spoke about traffic calming at various locations and asked that the road at Scotshouse community centre be included. Mr Colin Murphy stated that a list of all locations would be drawn up and that Ms Donna Moran would do a report and present same at next meeting.

A discussion arose regarding Ballybay Fire Station. Mr Kevin McNally noted that he had met with Mr Dermot Brannigan (Chief Fire Officer) who informed him that plans for a new station were been currently drawn up with a view to making submission to Dept towards the end of the year. Cllr Sean Gilliland clarified if the new station would be on the same site to which Mr Mc Nally stated yes. Cllr Gilliland said he was delighted with this decision.

Cllr Sean Gilliland asked about the publicity for Ballybay Mens Shed. Seamie McMahon noted that this would be organised before the next meeting.

Cllr Cathy Bennett asked about the lights at Cremartin GAA. Mr Colin noted that the cost of this work is in the region of €42,000 and there was insufficient funding to undertake these works at present.

**3. Correspondence**

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to page 35, item 3.11 of the correspondence regarding a response received from Minister Denis Naughton in connection with the North South Interconnector

“I intend that the study be completed and published before the end of this year. Construction of the project is not planned to commence before 2018 and therefore I envisage no delay to the project as a result of carrying out this study.”

Cllr Seamus Coyle commented that construction wouldn't be happening in 2018

This was agreed by all.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 44, item 3.14 of the correspondence from Sascha Cumiskey. He spoke of the great work that the school does and welcomed that the students would be encouraged to get involved in local community projects.

**4. Report from Municipal District Co-ordinator**

Mr Kevin McNally thanked Cllr Pat Treanor for all his hard work over the last year. He also congratulated Cllrs Seamus Coyle and Sean Gilliland on their election to the roles of Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach of the MD. Mr Kevin McNally also congratulated Cllr Cathy Bennett on her election to the role of Cathaoirleach of Monaghan County Council and he took the opportunity to acknowledge the role that former Cllr Ciara McPhillips had played in the MD.

He invited Mr Colin Murphy to give his report.

Mr Colin Murphy updated the members on the following:

**Roads Programme**

Gibson Brothers have commenced work on the Bitmac Contract in the MD. Bitmac overlays are complete on the LP4904 and LP4905 at Raferagh, the LP7110 from the 5 Crosses in Latton, the LS7130 from Doora Crossroads and the LS8201 towards Loughmourne School. The contractor is moving onto the LT40221 & LT40222 in Fairtahy this week. The proposed completion date for all local roads in the MD is Wednesday the 21st June. The provisional date for starting on the Regional Roads is 7th August with 7 days pencilled in for completion of works. Surface Dressing commenced in our MD last Thursday on the LP4904 at Raferagh. We also propose to carry out bitmac patch

repairs on the following roads in the MD – LT21111 Caravetra (350m), LT62801 Knocks, Scotshouse (120m), LS6012 Drumslovog – McPhillips Cross (200m), LP4013 Ouvry (182m after LT 40222) and LS8011 Ummerfree (55m over to Wards Cross). We also hope to carry out patch repairs on a number of roads in Clones Town subject to funding

### **National Roads**

Verge cutting has taken place on the full length of the N54 in our MD. The contractor has now moved to complete verge cutting at the junctions on our Regional Road network.

Glas Civil Engineering has been appointed by Monaghan County Council to replace the Skeagh Bridge Structure on the N54. These works are now proposed to take place in August with a proposed road closure on the N54 of three weeks. After the initial three week period the N54 will be re-opened and traffic management put in place (Traffic Lights – Stop/go). The initial proposed diversion route during this closure was the R189 Monaghan to Newbliss road and the R183 Newbliss to Clones road, however the MD objected strongly to this route.

The only viable solution that the MD could identify, and which was proposed as the diversion route to Roads Section was, diverting southbound traffic at the traffic lights in Monaghan and sending it to Cavan, via Cootehill. Any traffic heading for Clones to turn at Swanns Cross. Northbound traffic to be diverted in Clones and sent to Monaghan via Newbliss and Swanns Cross. Traffic lights to be placed at Annalore bridge for the duration of the closure to eliminate two way traffic on the bridge at all times. As it stands Road Section are currently awaiting updates from the contractor on the works programme and the proposed diversion routes.

### **Bunroe River Integrated Management Study**

RPS Ireland Ltd Consulting Engineers are currently carrying out an Integrated Management Study of the Bunroe River from Doapey Creamery to the Cavan Border. As part of this study a workshop has to be organised with all the relevant Stakeholders (OPW, Fisheries, IFA, MCC, NPWS, etc).

Mr Bert Stewart from the IFA has been requested to make contact with relevant farmers in the study area in relation to suitable dates and times for the workshop. Mr Stewart is to update the Council this week regarding times and suitable location for the workshop.

### **CLAR Funding**

- Scotshouse Teen Hangout. ( Basketball Court, surrounding Fence and shelter) Contractor has started work on site today. Works to be completed by the middle of July. Design for public lighting using existing ducting is being progressed also.
- Ballybay Town Park Playground: Contract has been awarded for the Playpark Equipment (Kompan) and manufacture of some of the specialised parts has begun. Anticipated completion is end of July.
- Bawn: Billy Fox Memorial Park.- Works have commenced on the carpark and bellmouth entrance. Works to be complete by end of June.
- Magherarney: The carpark at this location is being led by a community group. The CLAR funding will be allocated to this project as a grant towards the works. The Municipal District has met with Magherarney Development Association in relation carpark – they are proposing for works to commence by the end of June and be completed by end of August. The delay in completing this work may impact on the Councils ability to drawdown 2017 Clar funding.

## **Town & Village Renewal Funding**

### **Ballybay**

- Works have been completed on 14 parking spaces at the Coachmans entrance to Ballybay Town Park (including 2 parent and child spaces). Repair works were also undertaken on the footpath within the town park adjacent to the Basketball Court.
- The contractor has begun works on the Ballybay Mart Entrance. Anticipated completion is the middle of July. Fencing at the Riverdale and from Lough Mor Avenue to the Secondary School is erected. Contractor has been appointed for the Heritage Signage in Clones and Ballybay.

### **Rockcorry**

- Footpath Works are complete. Additional parking at the Crann Mor estate is also now complete (5-6 spaces). All the civil works for the public lighting are complete and we are waiting on Airtricity to come back to erect the columns (including pedestrian crossing).
- The Municipal District has met with Rockcorry Tidy Towns to develop proposals around the planting and landscaping of the village. Rockcorry Tidy towns are to arrange for agreement between themselves and Mr Gerry Coyle for location of Polytunnel adjacent to his mushroom houses. Once agreement is in place pollytunnel will be ordered.

### **Scotstown**

- Civil Works are complete, the Municipal District is waiting on Airtricity to come back to erect the lighting columns.
- The Municipal District has met with Scotstown Tidy Towns to develop proposals for the village. These proposals have been tendered for and will be completed shortly.

### **Miscellaneous Works**

- Bairds Shore Access Lane – Funding is provided by NSAD. Access road has been surfaced and works here are now complete.
- Clones Castle – FJ Coyles and Associates have been appointed to carry out a structural assessment of the walls of the castle. Consultant is liaising with Heritage Officer.
- Mullinary Lough Jetty - PJ Piling Contractor has been appointed to carry out the works for the replacement of jetty. Piles are in place and works are on-going. Works are planned to be completed by first week in July.
- River Finn, small drainage works to commence on the River Finn on July 17 and will last for a week. Circa 5-6 locations will be done during this works. This work is being done on a phased basis.

Mr Kevin McNally updated the members on the following:

### **REDZ Funding, Clones**

- A CPO for the linear park was published on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> May with an 8 week period for submissions. A topographical survey has being carried out and advanced design work on the project has begun.
- Part 8 Planning permission was approved for the redevelopment of the Erne Cafe site into a carpark during the May meeting of the Council – Discussions with the legal representatives of the various landowners are ongoing.

- A topographical survey has been completed and land acquisition negotiations are ongoing for Clones Industrial Park serviced sites and Monaghan County Council's Machinery Yard. Part 8 planning permission will be applied for upon successful acquisition of land.
- Signage has been designed for a Clones 'Town Trail' and has been tendered for. Closing date for receipt of tenders was 12<sup>th</sup> May – contractor has been appointed – design to be finalised

### **Ballybay Town**

Next meeting of Ballybay Regeneration committee is on this evening 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017 in Ballybay.

### **Clones Regeneration**

Last meeting of the Clones Regeneration committee was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> June.

A further meeting is planned for early July – we hope to employ a facilitator to attend the meeting with the view to review the work previously completed by Clones Connect and compile a draft development plan for Clones for the next 5 years.

### **Clones Market House**

Tenders for the construction work will be sought in early July. It is intended that contractor will be appointed by September 2017.

### **Former Clones Post Office**

In order to advance this project a studio stakeholder committee has been established.

We are currently preparing tender documentation to procure a design team and will be commencing the procurement process next week. The building should be operational by Q1 2019.

### **Dereliction in the MD**

In conjunction with Maire Cullinan in the Councils Planning Section we are beginning to see progress from our efforts to address the dereliction problem in Clones and Ballybay. The status of the following properties was outlined:

- The Flower Shop Fermanagh Street – (in Council's ownership CPO via derelict sites legalisation)
- Marian House Analore Street – (in Council's ownership CPO via derelict sites legalisation)
- 3 Annalore Street, Clones – (in Council's ownership CPO via derelict sites legalisation)
- 5 Patrick Street, Ballybay – CPO being prepared.
- Former Health Centre Ballybay – purchase to be completed mid July
- An Bonnan Bui – Agreement reach with owners for purchase

MD has finalised the purchase of former Davey Butchers site. We will be working with our colleagues in the Councils housing section to develop this project as social housing.

The MD has also identified a number of vacant properties in Clones and has written to the reputed owners outlining to them the various schemes available to convert the properties to use for social housing such as the Repair and Leasing scheme. This scheme commits the Council to leasing the property for a defined period of time. This commitment allows the landowner to access private finance or from the Council – the council can contribute up to €40,000 to the works and recoup this money from the rent of the property.

Cllr Sean Gilliland commented on the how detailed the reports were and how much work was going on in the area. He raised the question of the route of diversions following the closure of N54 due to the replacement of Skeagh Bridge. Mr Colin Murphy stated that the most likely route for the diversions is the one proposed in his report. Cllr Pat Treanor stated that people must be informed of why it is closed and he hoped that the work could be completed in a shorter time frame.

Cllr Pat Treanor commented on vacant properties in the area and at how during the current housing crisis it is important to identify the owners of these properties and let them know what schemes are available.

Cllr Pat Treanor welcomed the work at Bairds shore and talked about how important angling is to this area. He stated that we should be encouraging Inland Fisheries to replace stands that need replacing.

Cllr Pat Treanor asked that a letter be written to Mr John McKernan Senior Engineer Roads regarding the overlay of N54 from Apple Green to Cara St. It is important that this is done as soon as possible.

He also commented on the proposed works to the River Finn and thanked Ms Donna Moran for her work in this.

Cllr Cathy Bennett complimented the staff on their hard work. She also spoke of the great work going on in Ballybay regarding the Car Park and Playpark. She thanked the staff for the works completed in Scotstown.

Cllr Cathy Bennett asked if funding could be sought for works to the Cremartin Lislanley rd (LP3411) approx 600m. Mr Kevin McNally noted that there was not a budget for these works in 2017 but that this road was on the 2018 programme. Cllr Bennett also asked about Selloo Bridge. Mr Colin Murphy stated that work was ongoing at this location.

Cllr Sean Gilliland thanked Mr Kevin McNally and Mr Colin Murphy for their reports and stated that great work has been done. Cllr Sean Gilliland noted that the work in Ballybay looks very well and commented how the locals were delighted with it. He also stated that great work had been done in Rockcorry. Regarding Billy Fox Memorial Park Cllr Sean Gilliland stated that he felt that money had been spent very wisely here. Cllr Sean Gilliland welcomed the proposed works to the River Finn and stated that there will be major benefits from this work especially in the winter regarding flooding.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney commented on the excellent reports and felt they should be circulated. He welcomed the efforts to address dereliction in the area.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney spoke about Mullinary Lake and the concerns of a farmer who owns the island. The farmer is worried that there will be an increase in water sports such as Jet Skis. Mr McNally noted that he was having discussions with the landowner concerned.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney also spoke about the LP3411 and agreed with Cllr Cathy Bennett regarding works needed at it.

Cllr Seamus Coyle stated regarding the N54 that the proposed route for diversions is the only viable route and requested that the public must be kept informed. Cllr Seamus Coyle asked if we had dates for the commencement of the proposed works. Mr Colin Murphy stated that he had not been advised of specific dates would works would be likely to commence in August.

## **5. Questions**

Cllr. Seamus Coyle asked -

1. Will Monaghan County Council immediately erect signage for Fishing/Lake and Tourist attractions off the Ballybay-Cootehill (R190), Lisnalong, at the junction of the R190-LS07002-LS07900 for Ballynascarva Bridge/Killyvaughan Lough/Drumlona Lake/Clossagh Lake/Corravoo Lake, as these are great tourist attraction amenities in the Lisnalong area?.

Reply: Signage for these tourist attractions have been ordered and will be erected once they have been delivered.

2. Will Monaghan County Council immediately have the Canal Bridge,(L22414),on the Connors Rd Connors inspected,as it is in a dangerous condition, particularly for children playing in its vicinity and passing motorists ?.

Reply: The Municipal District has examined the Canal Bridge and remedial repair works will take place on the bridge in the coming weeks.

3. Will Monaghan County Council erect "Children at Play" and "Slow " at Lakeview Heights, Ballybay, as there is traffic speeding in the estate, with many, young children at play?.

Reply: An application for taking in charge of this estate has been made to Monaghan County Council. Once this process is complete the Municipal District will review the requirement of additional signage on the estate

4. As the junction known locally as" Tonneyglasson Cross,Doohamlet ",is extremely dangerous, with very poor visibility for traffic emerging onto the Ballybay-Castleblayney (R183-14) Regional road from the LS07441 and LS07230 roads, will Monaghan County Council immediately examine and carry out, safety improvement works at this very busy and dangerous junction.

Reply: Currently there is no funding available for this works. The Municipal District will assess the junction to establish if it is suitable for future application under the Low Cost Accident Safety Scheme.

## **6. Chief Executive Orders**

Chief Executive Order No's BCMD 25/17 - 46/17 were noted by the Members.

## **7. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy**

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

- Rev Dr Gerard W. Clinton R.P.N, R.N.T.M.Sc., M. Div. On his ordination and Installation to the congregations of the first Ballybay, Rockcorry and Drumkean Presbyterian Church in Ireland.
- Aaron Mulligan on his selection to the U.E.F.A Ireland International development squad. The first player from the Cavan- Monaghan League to do so.
- Sean MacDiarmada GAA on winning the Jack Crawley Cup.

Members extended a vote of sympathy to the following:-

- Ciaran Trant and family on the death of Barney (John) Trant
- Cathal Flynn and the Rea Family on the death of Brian Rea
- Sean Kelly, Martin Gallagher, Eileen Mc Manus and the Kelly Family on the death of Seamus Kelly
- The Moore Family, Seamie Mc Mahon, all relatives and friends on the death of Alison Moore.

Cllr Seamus Coyle wished the GAA in Clones all the best with this year's Ulster Final

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator

Date 20<sup>th</sup> June 2017