

Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on 15th January 2018 at 10.00am 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 and Pat Treanor

Apologies Cllr Hughie McElvaney & Cllr Eva Humphreys

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

Cllr Seamus Coyle welcomed everyone to the meeting. He wished all staff a happy New Year and also thanked the outdoor staff for all their hard work during the recent storm.

1. Confirmation of minutes of monthly meeting

The minutes of the December meeting were proposed Cllr Cathy Bennett and seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and were approved by all.

2. Correspondence & previously answered questions

Cllr Cathy Bennett acknowledged the letter from HSE regarding Scotstown Health Centre. Cllr Pat Treanor and Cllr Seamus Coyle both agreed that this was good news and that it provided a vital service for the area.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to page 11 and welcomed the letter from RSA and noted that in urgent cases tests can be requested more promptly if required.

Cllr Cathy Bennett referred to page 13, Cllr Bennett stated that this was the same letter yet again from Minister Shane Ross. Cllr Bennett stated that it was important to keep this on the agenda. Cllr Seamus Coyle supported this and noted that the issue had been passed about between departments.

Cllr Pat Treanor referred to the letter sent to Eir on page 19. Mr Seamie McMahan noted that a response had not been received. Cllr Pat Treanor asked that the Municipal District re-issue the previous letter to Eir.

Cllr Seamus Coyle referred to the additional correspondence from the North Western Regional Assembly, and highlighted the importance of this document and how it will set the agenda for the next number of years. Cllr Cathy Bennett proposed that this Municipal District write to the Northern and Western Regional Assembly and request that an eastern railway network project be included in the Ireland 2040 Draft National Planning Framework. This was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.

No questions were submitted.

3. Report by Municipal District Coordinator

Mr McNally updated the members on the following projects:

Redz Funding, Clones

Linear Park

Works are well progressed and will be completed in the coming weeks.

Erne Cafe Parking

Surfacing work was completed prior to Christmas. Additional public lighting has been ordered and will be erected shortly.

Heritage trail

The majority of the signs have been installed. Additional banners will be erected on Fermanagh Street in the coming weeks.

Ballybay

Next meeting of Ballybay regeneration committee is scheduled for 16th January 2018.

Arising from funding received under the Departments Town and Village Renewal Programme the Council has commenced the procurement process for the preparation of a Town Realm plan– Tenders for this work are due to be returned by 15th January 2018.

The Municipal District has also appointed a Consultant to prepare a plan for Town Park – public consultation in respect of this will be arranged in the coming weeks.

As advised at our last meeting Monaghan was awarded €138,400 under the Healthy Ireland Fund (Strand 1). As part of this application Ballybay Town has been awarded €15,000 for Outdoor Exercise Equipment in Ballybay Town Park – tenders for the supply of this equipment are currently being sought.

The contractor will revert to Ballybay Town Park shortly to complete works to the mart entrance – these consist of provision of knee high fence to parking area and new picnic area beside the public toilets.

Clones Regeneration

Next meeting of the Clones town team is on Wednesday 17th January 2018.

The Town Team is in the process of preparing a short to medium term plan for the regeneration of the town. This will be completed shortly.

Clones Market House

Works for the refurbishment of the Clones Market House commenced on 6th November 2017. Works are progressing well. The contract period is 6 months. It is anticipated that the Municipal District will occupy the building in May 2018.

Former Clones Post Office

Part Eight planning application for the required works has recently been submitted to the Councils planning section. Tenders for the required works will be sought in February 2018. It is programmed that this building will be operational in early 2019.

Dereliction in the MD

A further meeting has been arranged with the Councils housing section for 23rd January 2018 to progress the funding applications for the various derelict properties obtained by the Council in Clones.

Funding

Arising from applications prepared by the Municipal District to the OPW funding has been received to

- Undertake flood alleviation works at Kilmore East – these works will consist of raising the level of the road and cleaning drains €75,000.
- Culvert replacement at Kibberdog road at Ballinode €55,000

Funding of €60,800 has also been received from the Department of Rural and Community Development under Measure 2 of the Outdoor Recreational Scheme for works to Billy Fox memorial park.

Newbliss

Prior to Christmas, a public meeting was arranged to discuss the allocation of funding received from the Department of Rural and Community Development. A number of ideas were discussed – these are currently being assessed by the Municipal Districts Engineering staff. The next public meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 6th February 2018 at 8 p.m.

Mr Colin Murphy updated the meeting on the following issues:

Roads Programme

The contractor (Gibsons) has moved into Ballybay today to carry out resurfacing works on the roundabout at the junction with the Monaghan road outstanding from 2017.

Drainage works on the LP2202 at Analore are complete. This is the first road listed on the 2018 programme.

With the inclement weather over the last few months the condition of a lot of the Municipal District roads are deteriorating, particularly the stone roads. The crews have been patching roads and opening outlets on various roads since Christmas break. Unfortunately, I see this as becoming a major problem in our Municipal District in the coming years.

There has been a complete failure on a section of the LT21511 road at Corlat, near the Old Dump in Magherarney. A new road crossing is required as well as significant patching. Repairs are commencing today, however this road will have to be considered for overlay works in 2018 should extra funding be forthcoming when the grants are announced.

The Municipal District is also coming under considerable pressure financially from road slippages, collapsed verges and damage to bridges. In December of 2017 alone we had 4 bridges damaged. These repairs are going to result in over €25,000 of expenditure on the already stretched budget.

Low Cost Safety Improvements

- Completion of the fence at Crossduff will take place when ground conditions improve.
- Works at Greenfield eggs junction are almost complete. Eir have to come and move a pole.

Cllr Seamus Coyle thanked Mr Kevin McNally and Mr Colin Murphy for their reports. Cllr Seamus Coyle raised the issue of the roads in the area; he stated that some were completely disintegrating and that verges are collapsing. Mr Colin Murphy stated that the recent weather has had a massive impact on the condition of roads.

Cllr Seamus Coyle asked about ESB ducting at the new car park at Erne Sq. Mr Kevin McNally stated this was in place. Cllr Seamus Coyle also asked about the Ballybay Town Plan and he welcomed the funding that was available for Kilmore East Rd and the Billy Fox Memorial park.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the MD was currently working on a number of options regarding Ballybay Town Park. These options would be subject to public consultation.

Cllr Pat Treanor commented on the great work done at Erne Sq car park, he also welcomed the works to date on the Clones Renewal Scheme. Cllr Pat Treanor stated that the issues with the Old Cinema site and the Lennard Arms need to be addressed.

Cllr Cathy Bennett welcomed the funding for the Billy Fox Memorial Park; she stated that Hollywood park also requires funding. Cllr Cathy Bennett raised the issue of the salting of roads and in particular the Roslea to Scotstown rd. Mr Kevin McNally stated that this road was unlikely to be salted as the council was current salting to full capacity. Mr Colin Murphy stated that the CPG deals with requests as to what roads should be salted.

Cllr Sean Gilliland welcomed money for Billy Fox Park. He suggested that other community groups could liaise with Hollywood park regarding what funding is available. Mr Kevin McNally stated that the MD would give assistance as required. Regarding roads Cllr Sean Gilliland raised the issue of water running on to roads from adjacent lands he stated that this is a serious issue and needs to be addressed. Mr Colin Murphy noted that he would investigate this issue.

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Page 1- Cllr Seamus Coyle raised the issue of the civic reception for Latton/Bawn community. It was noted that this had gone to CPG for approval. Cllr Pat Treanor raised the issue of public lighting, he stated that the Connons needs lighting. Cllr Pat Treanor asked if energy costs of lighting could be reduced.

Page 2- Cllr Cathy Bennett welcomed the new Local Link services in the area, she proposed that this Municipal District write to Padraic Smyth from CMRT and commend him in and his staff in providing these new services to Monaghan and ask can the local link be extended to the Knockatallon area. This was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all. Cllr Seamus Coyle also welcomed these new services. Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed the following that Monaghan County Council prioritises funding for public lighting /roads in the Connons area as it is the only community along the 500km of border that will be totally isolated and cut off from road access by Brexit. This was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.

Cllr Seamus Coyle raised the issue of the report on what works had been carried out in the Municipal District throughout 2017. Mr Kevin McNally stated this currently been prepared.

Page4- Cllr Cathy raised the issue of parking at Corlatt, Mr Colin Murphy said this was on the programme for 2018. Cllr Seamus Coyle raised the issue of speed ramps in Ballybay, Mr Colin Murphy stated that both ramps are within specification.

5. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy

Members extended a vote of sympathy to the following:

- Michael Duffy on the death of his grandmother Shiela Duffy

- Loretta Slowey and Family on the death of Liam
- Pat McCabe and Family on the death of his brother Dermot
- Evelyn McDermott & Family on the death of Liam Snr
- Kathleen McQuillan & Family on the death of Sean
- The Mitchell & O'Connor Family on the death of Theresa

6. **A.O.B.**

Cllr Seamus Coyle spoke on the great work been carried out on the LIS scheme. Cllr Seamus Coyle raised the issue of Minister Kevin Boxer Morans recent visit. Cllr Seamus Coyle was disappointed that he didn't visit Ballybay and proposed that this Municipal District request that immediate works be carried out on flood alleviation works in Ballybay town. This was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Next meeting scheduled February 19th at 10.30am.

Signed _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed _____

Meetings Administrator

Date

19/02/2018