

## Municipal District of Monaghan

### **Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in the M-Tek Building, Knockaconny, Monaghan on Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2018 at 4.00pm.**

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Paudge Connolly presided.

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

**In Attendance:** John Murray, Director of Services, Donal McElwain, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Dermot Deeney, Municipal District Engineer, Bernie McElvaney, Senior Staff Officer, Cillian Morris and Philip Clapperton from Magnet Networks.

#### **1. Confirmation of Minutes:**

On the proposal of Cllr. Treanor, seconded by Cllr. Aughey, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District of Monaghan meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2018 be confirmed.

#### **2. Matters arising:**

Cllr Conlon asked was there any further correspondence in relation to Defibrillator Schemes from the Department for Rural and Community Development and Minister Michael Ring TD. Cllr Aughey asked how we were progressing in our efforts for the Best Kept Town competition. Mr McElwain responded that MCC have increased litter picks in the town and on the National Roads and bypass, powerwashing of footpaths and signage which will continue over the summer period. He also said that Tidy Towns and business owners have done great work to date and would appreciate if they could continue the effort to keep their areas clean and tidy.

Cllr Conlon asked could a letter be issued to the owners of St Enda's school requesting them to take remedial measures in view of the Tidy Town Judging this month. Cllr Aughey agreed to seek permission from the owners for the Tidy Towns to paint the outside of the building. Cllr Maxwell expressed disappointment at the short notice received for the launch of The American Cross and would appreciate longer notice in the future.

#### **3. Presentation from Town Centre Co-ordinator:**

Mr Connolly gave a presentation on the Monaghan Town Team to the members followed by Questions and Answers session. Cllr Connolly thanked Mr Connolly and all associated with the Town Team for their good work and for his presentation. All members concurred with his sentiments.

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

Mr McElwain outlined his report which was circulated to the members and answered questions raised.

## 5. Questions and Answers:

### **Cllr Connolly asked:**

1. In relation to Oriel play park a facility that is widely used by children and families from all over the town what plans have Monaghan municipal district to;

A—upgrade the facility to ensure it meets with Health & Safety Best Practice?

B—to install CCTV to assist in combating anti-social behavior?

C—to install play equipment suitable for children with disabilities?

**Response: 1A. Weekly inspections are carried out to ensure all equipment meets with safety standards and any necessary repairs are carried out as required. The MD will continue to seek any available funding to upgrade the play park and improve facilities for children with disabilities.**

**B. Monaghan County Council will be reviewing its current CCTV policy to ensure compliance with the new GDPR and the Data Protection Commissioner. Following this review installation of CCTV at this location will be considered.**

**C. The MD will continue to seek any available funding to upgrade the play park and improve facilities for children with disabilities.**

### **Cllr Conlon asked:**

1. With a lapse of several years since the Council carried out any improvements works at the Oriel Play Park, will Council Executive initiate steps towards securing funds for new play equipment and pitch surfacing? Have any funding opportunities been identified that will provide for improved facilities at Oriel Play Park particularly for children with disabilities?

**Response: Weekly inspections are carried out to ensure all equipment meets with safety standards and any necessary repairs are carried out as required. The MD will continue to seek any available funding to upgrade the play park and improve facilities for children with disabilities. No funding opportunities have been identified yet.**

### **Cllr McKenna will ask:**

1. When will the section of road which has, and is, slipping further into the drain at Mullinacask, Clara, Emyvale be repaired? Three engineers have been shown this and it is only a matter of time before a lorry/car slips and overturns into the field below, it is an accident waiting to happen. Can this situation be referred to the Health & Safety Officer for assessment?

**Response: There is cracking of the road verge at this location and traffic management is in place to keep traffic off the grass verge to ensure safety of road users. The Municipal District engineers have to prioritise works and decide what works can be completed depending on the funding available. This assessment is the remit of the road engineers and not under the remit of the Health & Safety Officer.**

Cllr McKenna advised that this is not the road in question but the Mullinacask Road.

### **Cllr Aughey asked:**

1. Can the MD confirm that litter pick and maintenance for the bypass will continue post Combi-Lift launch?

**Response: 1. The MD carried out a spring clean of the N2 including the bypass and additional litter picks to cover the duration of the Combi-Lift launch and Ireland's Best Kept Towns competition. The maintenance budget for the National Roads verges would**

**not be sufficient to maintain litter picks all year. It is planned to carry out two verge cutting and litter picks along the full length of the national roads this year.**

Questions Ref Tidy Towns Report 2017

2) With the approach of Tidy Towns judging for 2018

a. Can the council take on board the recommendations that there should be set standards for shop presentation with the blacking out of windows with large advertising or images which seriously detracts from the streetscape.

b. Will the council take on board the recommendation that any future name stones for estates include the Irish as well as the English names?

c. Has any progress been made on welcome signage for Monaghan Town (this was specifically mentioned in last year's Tidy Towns report)?

3) What progress has been made on areas that received a poor mark in the last IBAL report in Monaghan Town?

4) What measures have been taken to ensure that the roundabouts on the bypass are maintained properly this year?

**Response: 2)a. A licence is required in respect of the erection of hoarding to which certain specifications may be applied. In most instances planning permission will be required for the erection of signage or advertisements to which certain specifications may be applied by condition. Any application for signage or advertisements will be assessed having regard to the Monaghan County Development Plan which has specific policies and objectives in relation to the erection of signage and advertisements.**

**b. As required by the Monaghan County Development Plan, all planning permissions for housing developments have a condition attached that the estate name must in bi-lingual format and must be agreed by Monaghan County Council prior to commencement of development.**

**c. An application was made to Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) for permission to erect welcome signage on the approach roads. No response received as yet. This will be followed up with TII this week.**

**3) All areas within public ownership have been cleaned up and are monitored and maintained regularly. Bottle Bank operators are notified sooner to empty the bins when they are getting full. Other private areas highlighted have been cleaned by the Tidy Towns or the relevant owners.**

**4) The landscaping contract maintenance period for the Coolshannagh roundabout has now expired and the MD will now tender for its continued maintenance. The Annahagh roundabout is still under the maintenance period of the landscaping contract and the contractor will be responsible for its maintenance for the next 2 years.**

## **6. Motions:**

“ That our Council Authorities establish a committee to co-ordinate the organisation of civic commemorative events to mark the centenary of the establishment of the Monaghan Lunatic Asylum Soviet of 1919 led by renowned Trade Unionist Peadar O'Donnell. That such committee be comprised of elected members and relevant Council Departments, tasked with ensuring that centenary events are conducted through an inclusive multi-agency and educational manner”

“ In an effort at providing further assistance to the Milltown residents and their ongoing efforts of securing Department of Local Government funding to establish a Group Sewerage Scheme, that this Council make further representations to the Department seeking the required grant assistance and necessary supports”

Cllr Sean Conlon

Cllr Conlon outlined his motions. Both Motions were fully supported by the members. Mr Murray advised that both motions should be submitted to the full Council which Cllr Conlon agreed to submit.

“That this Municipal District considers the relocation of the seats on one side of Peter’s Lake in Monaghan Town”

Cllr David Maxwell

Cllr Maxwell outlined his motion which was seconded by Cllr Aughey and agreed by all members.

“That this Council grant €15,000 to Tyholland Parish to repair the road outside the gates of Tyholland Chapel”

Cllr Seamus Treanor

Cllr Treanor asked for his motion to be withdrawn.

“That in view of the fact that inevitable traffic delays will occur during that realignment works on the N2 Corracrin to Emyvale and the fact that it will give rise to delayed ambulance responses in emergency situations -as did occur during previous N2 Monaghan to Emyvale roadworks -that Monaghan Municipal District calls on the HSE Dublin north-east to ensure that an ambulance is provided 24 seven at the health centre at Emyvale Enterprise Centre thus ensuring a rapid response to a call for an ambulance in the event of an emergency for the duration of these roadworks on the N2”

Cllr Paudge Connolly

Cllr Connolly outlined his motion which was fully supported by all members. He asked that it be forwarded to the National Ambulance Service and also submitted for the Monaghan County Council Agenda.

## **7. Correspondence:**

Letter from the Committee of Public Accounts dated 25<sup>th</sup> April regarding private pension providers.

Letter from Department of Rural and Community Development dated 25<sup>th</sup> April acknowledging receipt of letter regarding alternative aid for the Public Defibrillators Scheme.

## **8. Sympathy:**

Votes of Sympathy to:

Sean Ó Roideáin & family on the death of his wife Katrina Coleman Ó Roideáin.

The Finnan family, Drumacruttan, Silverstream, on the death of their mother, Bridie Finnan.

Councillor Hugh McElvaney on the death of his sister, Margaret Mc Mahon (née Mc Elvaney)

## **9. Congratulations:**

Martin McVicar and Maurice Moffett of Combilift on the recent Official Opening of their new premises.

McAree Engineering, Entrica and Silverhill Duckling on their increased employment in the area.

Emyvale Cycling Club on hosting the Emyvale Grandprix 2018.

## **10. Wi-Fi Presentation:**

Cillian and Philip gave a presentation on a new Wi-fi system for the town which was followed by Questions and Answers. Cllr Connolly thanked them both for their presentation All members agreed to proceed with the new system.

Date for sub-committee meeting on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> May at 9.30am in County Offices.

Date of Annual General Meeting and June meeting Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> June at 4.30pm.

The meeting concluded.

Dated this 21st Day of May 2018

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator