

Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on 22nd November 2018 at 10.00am in Ballybay Civic Offices, Ballybay, Co Monaghan.

- Members Present** The Cathaoirleach, Cllr Sean Gilliland, presided
- The following members were also present: Cllrs: Cathy Bennett, Pat Treanor, Hugh McElvaney
- In Attendance** Kevin McNally, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Colin Murphy, Executive Engineer, Martin Taylor Assistant Engineer, Seamie Mc Mahon, Staff Officer
- Apologies** Cllr Seamus Coyle, Adge King, Director of Services,

Cllr. Sean Gilliland welcomed all to the meeting:

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The minutes of the October monthly meeting were proposed by Cllr Pat Treanor and seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all.

Cllr Sean Gilliland asked that item 3 on the agenda could be dealt with before item 2 to accommodate Mr Gabriel O Connell and Mr Francis McCarron of Monaghan Integrated Development (MID). This was agreed by all.

3. Presentation on Services and Programmes of M.I.D.

Cllr Sean Gilliland welcomed Mr Gabriel O Connell and Mr Francis McCarron to the meeting and invited them to give their presentations. A detailed presentation on the services and programmes of MID was given by Mr O Connell and Mr McCarron.

Cllr Sean Gilliland thanked them both and commented on the great services available. Cllr Sean Gilliland raised the issue of the Rural Social Scheme and the possible availability of further places. Mr Gabriel O Connell felt the scheme was probably at capacity. Mr Gabriel O Connell stated that under new rules applicants were only allowed on to the scheme for 6 years, Cllr Sean Gilliland added that if the Municipal District could do anything to change this they would.

Cllr Pat Treanor thanked MID for the presentation, he spoke of the important role they play in the community. Cllr Pat Treanor added that it is important that the Municipal District highlight the vast number of services available. Cllr Hugh McElvaney also thanked them and raised the issue of the Enterprise Development fund. Mr Gabriel O Connell stated that any small business or new business idea would be eligible to apply once jobs had been created, he added that if the current outstanding funding of €859,000 was not spent it could be lost to other parts of the country.

Cllr Cathy Bennett also thanked MID for the presentation and spoke of the importance the volunteer programmes within the county. Mr Francis McCarron thanked the Municipal District for giving them the opportunity to get message out to the community of what services are available. Mr Gabriel McCarron added that there is room on the board for a member from each Municipal District and stated that he hoped this invitation would be acted on.

1. Correspondence

Page 2 - Cllr. Pat Treanor said he was very disappointed with the response from ESB and from Monaghan County Council regarding the issue of the power surge at Corrybrennan Ballybay. Cllr Sean Gilliland wished to confirm whether was it ESB policy or Monaghan County Council that households should be buying surge protection devices. Cllr Pat Treanor proposed that this Municipal District write to MCC housing section and the Commission for Energy Regulator requesting that they investigate the distribution code and DSO licence in relation to this power surge, with a view to assisting the affected residences replace damaged electrical equipment. This was seconded by Cathy Bennett and agreed by all.

Page 21 – Cllr Sean Gilliland welcomed the funding received for the Bunroe river project and looked forward to the works getting started.

Page 24 – Cllr Hugh McElvaney stated he was extremely disappointed with the response from the Councils Roads Section regarding the ongoing speeding issues at Gransha National School, Cllr Hugh McElvaney stated that this needed to be addressed as a matter of urgency. Cllr Pat Treanor also stated that reduced speed limits for this area had been decided a long time ago. Cllr Sean Gilliland added that this is a special case and needs to be addressed now. Cllr Hugh McElvaney proposed that this Municipal District write to the TII requesting that the speed limits at Gransha School on the N54 be addressed without further delay. This was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.

Page 25 – Cllr Cathy Bennett acknowledged the correspondence from Minister Michael Rings office and reiterated her belief that Clar funding should be for all areas.

Page 26 – Cllr Hugh McElvaney referred to the letter received from St Tiarnachs primary school regarding the availability of the old electronic screen from the Courthouse, Cllr Hugh McElvaney proposed that the Municipal District donate old screen to the school, this was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.

Other Correspondence – Cllr Cathy Bennett raised the issue of Bothar na Mullan Scotstown she thanked all involved in securing funding for this site.

A discussion was had on the correspondence received regarding Ballybay water, Cllr Hugh McElvaney stated that the council need to let the community know when the system is going to be flushed. It was accepted that contact is made with the public, but the councillors felt that more could be done. Mr Kevin McNally agreed to follow up on this matter.

4 Update on Cannons Lane

Mr Martin Taylor gave a report on the proposals for Cannons/River lane. Mr Martin Taylor noted that as a large number of objections were received regarding the proposed installation of a one-way system on the road, Monaghan County Council have decided not to proceed with this proposal. Mr Taylor confirmed that he had examined other options to address road safety on the road, the most economical one been the widening of the road to create laybys. Subject to funding it was proposed to proceed with these works in 2019.

The members approval the works and thanked Mr Martin Taylor for his report.

5. Update Sliabh Beagh Branding

Mr Martin Taylor gave an update on the Sliabh Beagh Branding process including a breakdown of the costs involved. Mr Taylor noted that the proposed brand had been reviewed and approved by the projects focus group and also the Ballybay Clones Erne East Partnership. It was agreed that the feature

proposed to be located at the Penal Cross would be reviewed by the committees prior to production phase. Mr Taylor confirmed that he had procured a contractor to renovate a number of picnic sites in the Sliabh Beagh area. These works would be commencing in early 2019.

The members thanked Mr Martin Taylor for his report. Cllr Cathy Bennett added that it was great to see the area finally get a brand.

6. Bunnoe River Project

Mr Colin Murphy gave his report on the Bunnoe river project, he stated that funding of €279,000 had been secured and that works would begin shortly. He highlighted that RPS Group were procured and had carried out an Integrated Management Study of the river in order to develop options to help alleviate flooding. Based on their recommendations an application was made to the OPW for funding. The proposed works would involve improving flows with additional maintenance of the river, implementing sediment control measures and improving access. Cllr Sean Gilliland welcomed the proposed works and thanked the engineers for all their hard work.

7. Report by Municipal District Co-ordinator

Mr Kevin McNally gave his report:

Former Clones Post Office

As advised at the last meeting, after a procurement process the Council has awarded the contract for the refurbishment of the former Clones Post office to Rodney Brady Ltd. Works have commenced and are progressing well. It is envisaged that they will be completed by the end of Q1 2019.

Ballybay Economic and Public Realm plan.

The Paul Hogarth Company is in the process of finalising a draft of the Ballybay Economic and Public Realm plan. It is intended to have a meeting with the committee in the coming weeks to review the final draft.

Municipal District events

The switching on of the Christmans Lights in Clones is planned for 6.15pm on Saturday evening 23rd November 2018. The lights will be officially switched on by the Emmet Og Ladies GAA team.

Bank of Ireland Enterprise Awards

Following on from the excellent presentation given by Clones Town Team on August last, the decision of the judges will be announced at the Bank of Ireland Enterprise Awards night in Kilkenny next week. I would like to wish the Clones Town Team best of luck at the event.

Ballybay Town Park

The park has been nominated for an award at the Chambers Ireland awards night which is happening this evening at the Crown Plaza Hotel in Dublin. There are several people from the Council attending this event.

Following on from the submission prepared by Cllr Treanor of the Peace Link – under the Quality of Life category for the Innovation in Politics Awards 2018, a delegation from the Peace Link and the Council attended the awards night in Vienna Austria on Saturday 17th November.

The representatives from Monaghan included:

- Cllr David Maxwell and his wife Jill
- Cllr Pat Treanor, Hugh McElvaney, Seamus Coyle
- Deirdre McQuaid Secretary Clones Erne East Management Company – entity that manages the Peace Link.
- Kevin McNally – Ballybay Clones Municipal District

Unfortunately, the submission was unsuccessful on the night – the winning project been the Free Interrail for people over 18 - Exploring Europe. It was a huge achievement for the Peace Link to be shortlisted for the awards and it is a testament of what communities and Councils working in Partnership can achieve

Mr Colin Murphy gave his report:

Roads Programme

With additional funding allocated to the county under the Special Maintenance Grant the Municipal District were able to carry out overlay works on the R189 at Doohat and on the R183 in Doohamlet. This work is occurring at the moment and should be complete by the end of next week. Works on the R181 at the Mucky Duck are substantially complete, and the road reopened yesterday. The Municipal District were also able to overlay an extra 1 km of the R181 at Fairtahy – Corrachara, the worst section of surface on this road and to complete the 200m overlay on the extremely poor section of Regional Road at Corravaken Chapel in Rockcorry.

Town & Village Renewal Funding

Doohamlet –Works are ongoing on the cycle path and It is anticipated that they will be complete by the second week in December

Aghabog Footpath.

Works on the construction of the footpath in Aghabog are complete however there are still a number a small items of works to be completed to close out the project.

N54 Works

The Overlay works in Clones Town From Applegreen to the Border have been completed. We have also completed drainage rehabilitation works on two sections of the N54 at Drumully and Lough Ooney.

98th Avenue Pedestrian Crossing (LCSI)

The contractor has commenced work on the pedestrian crossing on 98th avenue. Works should last under 2 weeks.

Billy Fox Memorial Park

The contractor (James Oliver Hearty) is well advanced with their works in the Park and it is hoped that it will be complete in the next two weeks. (Path upgrade, fencing and viewing stand at waterfall)

Cllr Sean Gilliland thanked all for there reports, he stated that he is delighted to see the R180 getting an overlay. Cllr Sean Gilliland also paid tribute to Cllr Pat Treanor for his submission of the Peace Link to the Innovation in Politics Awards.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney spoke on the increased budget for winter maintenance, he has asked that the Bog road be included on the salting route.

Cllr Cathy Bennett thanked the engineers for the carpark at Corlatt and the ramps in Knockatallon. Regarding the works at Kipperdog Cllr Cathy Bennett requested an update. Mr Colin Murphy stated that he would circulate an update. Cllr Cathy Bennett also stated that the Scotstown to Ballinode road need urgent works. Mr Colin Murphy stated that the road would be looked at.

Cllr Sean Gilliland spoke on the Council's Annual budget and welcomed the extra money for the Christmas lights.

8. Matters arising from previous minutes

Page 2:- Cllr Cathy Bennett asked that Mr Kevin McNally follow up on Hollywood Lake.

Page 3:- Cllr Sean Gilliland stated that the proposed date of Public Realm meeting in Ballybay wouldn't suit the members. Mr Kevin McNally stated that he would organise a new date for this meeting.

Page 5:- Cllr Hugh McElvaney requested a list of public lighting projects.

9. Chief Executive orders

The Chief Executive Orders were noted by the members 50/18 to 60/18

10. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy

The members extended a vote of sympathy to the following

- To the Murnaghan Family on the death of John
- To Pat Leahy and Family on the death of Bridie

11. A.O.B.

The members wished to express their good wishes to the Emmet O'g ladies in their upcoming All-Ireland final and the Scotstown men senior team in their upcoming Ulster Final.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Next meeting scheduled December 17th at 10.00am.

Signed _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed _____

Meetings Administrator

Date

17/12/2018