

Municipal District of Monaghan

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in the M-Tek Building, Knockaconny, Monaghan on Monday, 19th November, 2018 at 4.30pm.

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Brian McKenna presided.

Present: Cllrs. Paudge Connolly, Seamus Treanor, David Maxwell, Sean Conlon.

Apologies: Cllr. Raymond Aughey

In Attendance: John Murray, Director of Services, Donal McElwain, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Dermot Deeney Municipal District Engineer, Bernie McElvaney, Senior Staff Officer.

At the outset, An Cathaoirleach announced that it had been agreed that free parking would commence at 12 noon daily from December 8th and would continue until January 2nd 2019 inclusive.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr. Connolly, seconded by Cllr. Maxwell, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District of Monaghan meeting held on 15th October 2018 be confirmed.

2. Presentation on Eco Travel Bike Scheme:

Jarlath Gantly gave a presentation on the Eco Travel Bike Scheme which was followed by a Question and Answer session. Cllr Conlon thanked Mr Gantly for the Presentation and welcomes the encouragement of a healthy lifestyle.

3. Presentation on the PRL Solar Street Bin:

Pierce Gibbons gave a presentation on the PEL Solar Street Bin which was followed by a Question and Answer session. Cllr McKenna thanked Mr Gibbons for the Presentation.

4. Report from Municipal District Co-ordinator:

Mr McElwain outlined his report to the members. Cllr Maxwell asked when was the LUTS Report coming before the members to which Mr McElwain responded that it was currently with the Planning Section for review within 10 days. Cllr Maxwell asked that the Report be brought to a Special Meeting.

Cllr McKenna commended the County Council in conjunction with Sheridan Woods Architects on winning the Property Industry Excellence Award for the Dublin Street Regeneration Plan and added that it was also great to see a Monaghan lady presenting the Award.

Cllr Maxwell asked for a monthly update on the N2 realignment works to which Mr McElwain responded that he has requested this report from the Roads Section. Cllr Connolly asked was there any way the traffic could be more free flowing at Corracrin chapel at busy times such as weekends and Christmas.

5. Questions and Answers:

Cllr Connolly asked:

1. In view of the fact that there is an unprotected 5 metres drop from the roadway for a 200/300 metre stretch on the left-hand side of the Milltown Rd at Crosses a short distance before the left hand turn on to the L16201-0 what plans have Monaghan Municipal District to erect a safety barrier to improve road safety on this 200/300 metre stretch of roadway?

Response: Before considering the erection of a crash barrier to current TII standards, certain parameters must be considered such as setback working width and clear zone. To meet these standards substantial additional works would be required such as constructing a verge for working width and barrier pinning works to support barrier posts. This would require significant budget and resources to carry out to meet the current standards and as such there is no plan to have this put in place.

2. To ask Monaghan Municipal District for an update in relation to the proposed kerbing from Glaslough village on the Monaghan Road to St Mary's School?

Response: Glaslough Tidy Towns secured CLAR funding to carry out this work and the contract was procured; however, the funding is not sufficient to cover the cost of the works and the MD are investigating match funding the balance of the costs.

3. In relation to the lower left-hand side of High Street entering from Hill Street and the fact that for the first 50/60 metres there are two issues involved for both pedestrians and motorist:

-- For pedestrians there is no footpath connecting Mill St to High St on the right-hand side thus leaving pedestrians vulnerable.

-- It's a pinch for traffic as there is insufficient room for traffic, in particular lorries, to meet on entering High St.

To help alleviate these issues will Monaghan MD (a) extend the double yellow lines for 20 metres approximately on the left-hand side of entry to High St thus improving traffic flow and (b) Provide a Courtesy/Pedestrian crossing from the top of Mill St to the left-hand side footpath on High St thus leaving it safer for pedestrians?

Response: (a) Extending the double lines will necessitate the removal of a number of parking spaces. The MD engineers can investigate this request in detail and provide proposals. It is then a function of the elected members to amend the existing Pay Parking Bye-Laws and extinguish parking spaces to facilitate double yellow lines. (b) There is already a courtesy crossing where the footpath ends on High Street and the MD cannot consider providing an additional crossing in a location where there is no footpath on the opposite side of the road.

Cllr Conlon asked:

1. In an effort at eliminating unnecessary signage and visual blight that will enhance Tidy Towns efforts, will Council remove the outdated sign at the Old Cross Square roundabout?

Response: The Council will arrange to remove the Sign.

6. Motions:

“That Monaghan County Council seeks financial supports from the Department of Housing in establishing a dedicated emergency homeless shelter, and asks of the Department in what manner have they fulfilled the Rebuilding Ireland 2016 initiative of ensuring an adequate supply of emergency accommodation exists”

On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr McKenna, Cllr Conlon outlined his motion. A discussion took place on the Motion and a Vote was cast: Cllrs. Conlon and McKenna supported the Motion and Cllrs Maxwell, Treanor and Connolly voted against. The Motion was defeated.

The issue was raised by Cllr Treanor who asked had there been any correspondence from Bus Eireann regarding a recent request by the Municipal District for improvements to be made to the toilet facilities at the bus depot. On the proposal of Cllr Conlon, seconded by Cllr Maxwell and agreed by all members that this Council follow up with Bus Eireann seeking updates from their presentation made to the members in November 2015, specifically, what timescale is scheduled for installation of ‘Real Time Passenger Information’ display at the Monaghan Bus Depot. Similarly, to query capital works committed for 2016 also not undertaken. Similarly, with other promised upgrades around customer facilities yet to be fulfilled.

7. Correspondence:

Letter from The O'Brien Press Ltd. apologising for error in Map of Ireland's Ancient East and advising that it will be corrected in future prints.

8. Congratulations:

To the Monaghan Harps G.F.C on winning the U 17 Football league Division 1 Final
To Truagh Gaels G.F.C. on winning the Senior Football league Final and their U17 team on winning the Division 3 League Final.

To Kieran Murtagh of Coral Leisure on winning ‘Staff Person of the Year 2018’
At the Active Conference & national Quality Standard Awards in the Recreational Industry.

9. Sympathy:

To Siobhan Mallon, Assistant Engineer, Water Services, on the death of her father John Murnaghan, Garrybawn, Latton, Castleblayney, Co Monaghan.

10. AOB:

Mr McElwain advised the members that the fencing at Oriel Way will be repaired and playground equipment will be replaced subject to funding. He also advised that Teach na nDaoine were in the process of making an application for additional cameras and lights. Cllr Treanor asked could anything be done to solve the parking issue at Dr McKenna Terrace to which Mr Deeney responded that there is ample side road parking which the residents were not using.

Cllr Conlon asked that the crumbling wall at Belgium Park football pitch be investigated to see how it can be preserved.

The meeting concluded.

Dated this 19th Day of November, 2018

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____

Meetings Administrator