

Municipal District of Monaghan

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in the M-Tek Building, Knockaconny, Monaghan on Monday, 11th March 2019 at 2.30pm.

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Brian McKenna presided.

Present: Cllrs. Paudge Connolly, David Maxwell, Raymond Aughey, Sean Conlon and 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.

1. Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr. Maxwell, seconded by Cllr. Connolly, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District of Monaghan meeting held on 18th February, 2019 be confirmed.

2. Matters arising:

Cllr Conlon stated that when the Government sought to sell lands at Knockaconny, it was strongly discouraged by the members and Executive and he now welcomed the Bio-Connect Innovation Centre on these same lands. Cllr Conlon proposed that we write to the IDA and Enterprising Monaghan to look for the creation of a Creche at this location to cater for the workplaces here. Motion to be drafted and forwarded to Bernie for attention.

Cllr Treanor asked what the delay was, with providing CCTV in the town as urgently needed.

Cllr McKenna advised that the Application is moving ahead as issues have been resolved, Monaghan County Council are the Data Controller.

Cllr McKenna informed the members that Milltown Sewerage Committee has dissolved and the Group Sewerage Scheme is on hold.

Cllr Connolly asked, if the Contractors on the Blackwater bridge contract been approached to increase their daytime hours to which Mr McElwain responded that he had forwarded the request to the Roads Section. An update to be requested.

Cllr Maxwell asked could a letter be issued to McCaughey Developments requesting trees and vegetation to be removed from lands at Beechgrove registered in their name.

3. Report from Municipal District Co-ordinator:

Mr McElwain outlined his report to the members.

Mr McElwain advised that the Town Team are to have the mural proposal, ready for our April meeting. Cllr Treanor asked could the high wall at the Cathedral be tidied up as it is a poor image approaching Monaghan town to which Mr McElwain responded that it will be reviewed again.

Cllr Conlon gave his apologies for not being able to attend our St Patrick's Committee meeting this evening.

Cllr McKenna stated that in relation to Cllr Connolly's proposal to write to the Minister in relation to the Milltown Sewerage Scheme, he advised that this has to be nationally, and asked that the proposal be amended and revert to it at the end of the meeting.

4. Schedule of Municipal District Works:

Mr Murray advised the meeting that it was a Statutory requirement for the Municipal District to produce a list of works and present it to the members before March 31st.

5. Questions and Answers:

Cllr. Connolly asked:

- 1) To ask Monaghan County Council to liaise with TII (Transport Infrastructure Ireland) regarding road safety issues on the N12 Armagh Rd and request the TII to introduce a reduced speed limit to cover the stretch of road from Tyholland Chapel to the New Houses at Tyholland, thereby making it safer for cars driving towards the border and turning right into the New Houses where the potential for an accident exists owing to the fact that this stretch of roadway is used as an overtaking opportunity thus endangering traffic turning right into the New Houses.

Response: As part of the National speed limit review which is currently under public consultation, Monaghan County Council have liaised with Transport Infrastructure Ireland and are proposing to reduce the speed limit of the N12 from 100 Km/h to 80 Km/h from the Knockaconny roundabout near Monaghan town to the border. This in turn shall increase road safety awareness along the N12 alignment and complement existing traffic calming measures at Tyholland near the Chapel and New housing estate.

- 2) In view of the fact that a 150 metre stretch of roadway - L1420 at Coolmuckbane Tyholland known locally as Rosses Road- is in a particularly poor state of repair with the roadside verges collapsing on both side what plans have Monaghan M D to repair this stretch of road?

Response: The LP1420 locally known as Rosses Road was inspected and Monaghan MD staff recently opened outlets and repaired potholes on the road. Further permanent patching repairs will be completed in the coming months.

Cllr. Sean Conlon asked:

- 1) Further to my original question of September 2017, I submit once again for response...With the Council recently acquiring lands and houses at Latlorcan, what progress is being made on the publication of a design and development plan, and scheduling of a public consultation opportunity for this extensive site?

Response: The Masterplan is ready for presentation and discussion with the members and this is scheduled for the 11th March.

Cllr Aughey asked:

- 1) Can we look at expanding the parking from house no 16 onwards at Dr McKenna Terrace, as the cars are getting damaged up there by being on the roadway?

Response: Off-street parking was constructed further along this road where the ground conditions were favourable, and the verge was wide enough to enable parking bays to be constructed. Vehicles are currently parking kerbside along this section and the grass verge is not adequate to construct off-street parking.

Cllr Aughey requested that this area be looked at again with a view to provide much needed car parking spaces. All members agreed to meet Mr Lambe, Assistant Engineer on site on Tuesday, 11th March at 10am to discuss the issue.

6. Motions:

Cllr Connolly outlined his Motion

“That in view of the difficulties that arise in rural Ireland where there is no form of public transport available for people to use to get to work that Monaghan MD calls on the Minister for Transport Shane Ross TD to amend the law regarding unaccompanied L drivers that insists that L Drivers must be accompanied by a qualified driver at all times to a situation which would allow L drivers who have completed the statutory 12 1 hour lessons and are awaiting their driving test be permitted to drive their car unaccompanied to and from their place of work and training courses”

The motion was seconded by Cllr Conlon and agreed by all members.

Cllr Conlon outlined his Motion

“That this Council write to the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) and Enterprising Monaghan, following recent announcements of funding for the building of a new Advanced Factory Unit at Knockaconny, seeking them to engage with the childcare sector and relevant stakeholders in the creation of creche/childcare facility in the immediate vicinity of this factory, the adjacent proposed Bio-Connect and existing Mtek 1 and Mtek 2 buildings”
All members unanimously agreed.

Cllr Connolly outlined his Motion

“That Monaghan MD call on the Minister for the Environment to revisit the Group Sewerage Scheme funding model and put in place a regime that will allow local schemes proceed. As it stands schemes cannot go ahead due to funding shortfall that make it uneconomic for people to support. This needs to be done because the burden of financing these schemes should not fall on Local Community Groups”

All members unanimously agreed.

7. Correspondence:

Letter from An Garda Siochana dated 1st March acknowledging receipt of our letter in relation to speeding at Emyvale village.

Cllr McKenna informed the meeting that Mr McEntee advised him that the Gardai agreed to increase speed check in Emyvale. Cllr Aughey advised that a survey was carried out over seven days and showed 83% speed violations, 100k/h was the maximum at one side of the village and 137k/h on the other side. Cllr Maxwell proposed that the members meet the TII Safety Officer next time he visits Monaghan to put their concerns regarding Emyvale to him. Mr McElwain to contact Mr McEntee to make arrangements.

8. Congratulations:

Congratulations were extended to the following:

Terry Kavanagh, Tydavnet on computer gaming.

Tiernan O Rourke, Monaghan Harps on winning the U16 Handball Title

Eoghan McGinnity, Monaghan Harps on winning the Ulster Minor Handball 40 x 20

9. Sympathy:

Votes of Sympathy were extended to:

Bernie O' Flaherty on the death of her sister, Mary O' Flaherty.

The Gavin Family on the death of Maura Gavin.

Cathal Flynn on the death of his father, Eamon Flynn

Aidan Murray on the death of his wife.

The next MD meeting was scheduled for Monday, 15th April at 3.00pm.

The meeting concluded.

Dated this 11th Day of March 2019

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____

Meetings Administrator