

Municipal District of Monaghan

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in the M-Tek Building, Knockaconny, Monaghan on Monday, 15th April 2019 at 3.00pm.

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, Enda Galligan and members of Mousewood Memorial Committee .

1. Presentation of Awards:

At the outset, An Cathaoirleach welcomed all the winners in the St Patrick's Day Parade. Awards were presented as follows:

- Best Marching Band: Monaghan Brass Band
- Best Community Float: Killeevan Gymnastics
- Best Commercial Float: Coral Leisure
- Best Window Display: Flowers & Things
- Most Innovative Float: Glaslough Tidy Towns
- Best Window display incorporating use of Irish Language: Rocks
- Best float/walking group incorporating use of Irish Language: Scoil Rince Ni Bhrogain

2. Confirmation of Minutes:

On the proposal of Cllr. Maxwell, seconded by Cllr. Treanor, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District of Monaghan meeting held on 11th March, 2019 be confirmed.

3. Matters arising:

Cllr Treanor queried the delay in CCTV for the Town. Cllr McKenna responded that data protection issues have been resolved, application is progressing and will be submitted within next two weeks.

Cllr Conlon asked was there any progress in Expression of Interest for six sites at Latlurcan to which Mr Murray responded that the Property Agent has brochure prepared and will revert to the members with progress. Mr Deeney added that the sites are being cleared.

Cllr Aughey asked was the TII Safety Officer coming to meet them regarding speed issues at Emyvale.

Cllr Conlon asked that a Report/Survey be carried out on the steep embankment on Pound Hill. Cllr Treanor added that the left hand side of road is being used as Car Sales and cars have no tax. Mr McElwain responded that he will contact An Gardai in relation to untaxed vehicles.

4. Report from Municipal District Co-ordinator:

Mr McElwain outlined his report to the members.

Cllr Conlon asked was the stream alongside the playground at Rossmore Park a threat to which Mr McElwain responded that the existing bank was raised and the MD will continue to monitor this.

Cllr Treanor asked how many and location of cameras in relation to CCTV in town to which Mr McElwain responded that location had been agreed three years ago with An Gardaí. Cllr Conlon requested that the locations be circulated to the members.

Cllr Aughey advised of a serious problem on Mullan Road to which Mr Deeney responded that drainage will be jetted and potholes repaired.

Cllr Conlon proposed that we write and ask an Gardaí to increase on beat activity in Dublin Street area, seconded by Cllr Treanor.

Cllr Treanor expressed delight that the Town Voucher Scheme was doing so well.

5. Presentation on Mousewood Graveyard:

An Cathaoirleach welcomed Enda Galligan and other members of Mousewood Memorial Committee to the meeting. Mr Galligan gave his presentation and was followed by a question and answer session. All members approved of the Proposal to erect a memorial in Belgium Park in honour of all who are buried in Mousewood graveyard. The Cathaoirleach is to arrange a meeting with the Planning Department to clarify planning requirements. An Cathaoirleach thanked Mr Galligan for his Presentation.

6. To receive our Land Use & Transportation Study (for noting)

The LUTS report was noted by the members.

7. Questions and Answers:

Cllr. Connolly asked:

- 1) To ask Monaghan M D for an update in relation to the See it Say it crime text alert scheme which has been proposed for Monaghan town?

Response: It is not intended to pursue the 'say it see it' app at this time, as the Council is in the process of rolling out the county-wide Monaghan Community Alerts. This is available to all residents of Monaghan town. The Council are also progressing a CCTV system for Monaghan Town.

Cllr Conlon asked:

- 1) That this Council undertake a safety assessment at the playground at Killygoan to include appropriate road and vehicle safety signage and speed reduction measures. I also ask that Council Executive engage with the Environmental Section to introduce measures that will curtail dog fouling to include penalty signage and use of a mobile CCTV camera.

Response: The MD will investigate the existing signage and speed ramps in this location and engage with the Environment Section to consider erecting additional dog fouling signs.

Cllr Conlon requested that Environment Section use mobile CCTV at Killygoan.

- 2) To ask of the Housing Section what action has been taken to seek Department funding for an energy efficiency programme for all remaining housing stock yet to be energy retrofitted that will reduce energy consumption and energy bills for tenants.

Response: By the end of 2016, Monaghan County Council had successfully completed all Phase 1 Energy Efficiency upgrade works to 1400+ Housing Stock properties. This was achieved within a shorter timeframe than many other Local Authorities. Phase 1 Energy Efficiency upgrade work focussed on building fabric upgrades including pumped cavity wall insulation, attic insulation and pipe lagging.

In recent years, the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government has prioritised funding for Phase 1 Energy Efficiency upgrade works for other Local Authorities.

Monaghan County Council has 63 properties remaining that consist of solid and hollow block properties that require Phase 2 Energy Efficiency upgrade works. Phase 2 Energy Efficiency upgrade work focusses on building fabric upgrades including internal insulation or external insulation.

In March 2019, Monaghan County Council submitted a response to the Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government for Circular 8/2019, requesting funding of €734,000 towards Phase 2 Energy Efficiency upgrade work for 30 properties in County Monaghan.

Monaghan County Council is currently awaiting a response/funding approval from The Department of Housing, Planning & Local Government to proceed with the Phase 2 Energy Efficiency works.

- 3) That this Council undertake a vehicle and pedestrian safety assessment at Drumbear Wood to include speed reduction measures. That outcomes of this study are shared with the Residents Association for consultation purposes prior to implementation.

Response: The MD will investigate the need for traffic calming measures in this estate in accordance with the traffic calming policy adopted in November 2018.

Cllr McKenna asked:

- 1) Given that road No. LT11313, known locally as Deravoy Lane, is not due for restoration works until 2020, will the Council carry out maintenance works on this road as a matter of urgency given the large number of potholes and subsidence that has occurred in recent times with the wet weather we have had?

Response: The MD will investigate this road and carry out any necessary temporary repairs pending the restoration works in 2020.

- 2) Will the Council carry out road markings on road LS 51110 at it's junction with L11110 adjacent to the Errigal Heritage Centre? This is in the interest of safety for those who work in the Centre and those who visit the historic Errigal graveyard.

Response: The MD will investigate the junction referred to and carry out any road markings that are deemed necessary.

- 3) Will the council examine the surface of the footpath from Carrickroe village to the local chapel with a view to resurfacing it as the surface has become dangerous and uneven in recent months, particularly for elderly people going to the chapel?

Response: The MD will investigate the footpath referred to and carry out any repairs that are required.

Cllr Aughey asked:

- 1) When will Monaghan MD replace the broken trees at the lower Courthouse Carpark and along the road at Tesco?

Response: Replacement trees are in the process of being procured and will be planted on delivery.

- 2) Can the MD take the appropriate actions to remove the derelict phone box outside Church Square at the corner of Mill Street?

Response: The MD will contact the relevant company and seek to get the phone box removed.

Cllr Maxwell asked would the location of the phone box not be ideal for a Defibrillator and asked that we consult with other Local Authorities to see if public space is being used for housing a Defibrillator. Cllr Aughey asked could it be declared a Derelict Site and to ask Shirley Clerkin if it is a Heritage site.

- 3) Can the MD clarify the position of Rossmore Park in relation to the barriers if the Emergency Services had to gain access to the park?

Response: In an emergency the Monaghan County Council's Emergency Contact Number should be contacted. Emergency Services have this contact number.

8. Motions:

Cllr Connolly outlined his Motion

“That in view of the negative impact that election posters, and snap ties used in postering, have on the environment and the negative visual impact on our towns, villages and countryside and the undesirable impact they have on the efforts of our voluntary tidy towns committees that Monaghan M D members agree to a “No Election Posters” campaign for the forthcoming County Council Elections on May 24th”

There was no seconder for the motion, therefore Motion was not carried.

9. Correspondence:

Letter of acknowledgement from IDA dated 26th March, 2019.

Letter from IDA dated 28th March, 2019 requesting dates to meet in relation to creche facilities at Knockaconny.

Letter from Enterprising Monaghan dated 12th April, 2019 advising they are happy to engage with stakeholders to explore options going forward.

Following the above correspondence received, Cllr Conlon raised the issue and requested that we correspond with Monaghan County Childcare committee and National Childhood Network (Denise McCormilla) seeking statistics on Creche requirements.

Email dated 26th March, 2019 acknowledging receipt of letter regarding Group Sewerage Schemes and that it has been referred to the relevant section.

Letter from Dept of Transport, Tourism and Sport dated 25th March regarding unaccompanied learner drivers.

10. AOB:

Cllr Connolly proposed the following motion, seconded by Cllr Treanor and agreed by all members:

“that Monaghan Municipal District calls on the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and the Environment, Richard Bruton TD to: (A) to amend the laws which permit politicians and political parties to erect posters outlining information meetings and events outside the permitted 30-day postering period ahead of elections, and, (B) to examine the banning of election posters entirely and replacing them with centralised notice boards complete with candidate picture and party logo”

Cllr Connolly proposed the following motion, seconded by Cllr Conlon and agreed by all members:

“ that Monaghan Municipal District calls on the ETB to provide a suitable course for people who wish to obtain a Taxi/Hackney licence”

11. Congratulations:

Congratulations were extended to the following:

Pauline Rooney, Scotstown on receiving Lifetime Achievement Award for her work on Scór in Co Monaghan.

U3A on their successful choir festival held in four Seasons Hotel

Monaghan Rugby club on winning the Gordon West Cup.

The next MD meeting was scheduled for Monday, 20th May at 10.00am.

The meeting concluded.

Dated this 15th Day of April 2019

Signed: _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____

Meetings Administrator