

Ceantar Bardasach Carraig Mhachaire Rois – Baile Na Lorgan

Comhairle Contae Mhuineachain



The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney

Monaghan County Council

Minutes of proceedings of MD monthly meeting held in the Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan on Monday 22nd July 2019 at 10.30am.

Present : Cathaoirleach Noel Keelan

Cllrs. Aidan Campbell, Mary Kerr-Conlon, PJ O’Hanlon, Aoife McCooey, Colm Carthy

In Attendance: Paul Clifford, Director of Services. Gareth McMahon, Co-ordinator, Matthew Lambe, District Engineer, Julieann O’Reilly, Clerical Officer

1.0 Confirmation of Minutes

On the proposal of Cllr. O’Hanlon and seconded by Cllr. Carthy the minutes of the June monthly meeting held on Tuesday 25th June 2019 were adopted.

2.0 Matters Arising

Cllr. O’Hanlon asked for an update on the CTEK II application?

Director of Service Paul Clifford advised that the application has not gone in yet, it will be going in soon.

Cllr. Carthy remarked that the match funding for CTEK II seems excessive in comparison to the original CTEK?

Director of Service Paul Clifford clarified that CTEK II is 75% funded with a 25% contribution by MCC.

Cllr. O’Hanlon queried if we are stressing in the application the importance of the CTEK II to the town of Carrickmacross?

Director Paul Clifford responded that it is a comprehensive application.

Cllr. Carthy sought clarification of the June 2019 minutes regarding his questions about the Municipal District Co-ordinator’s Report. The minutes should have read “Cllr. Carthy made the following queries: regarding the new town park – can the issue of littering and broken glass be looked into? Also, at Ivy Lane Car Park, can the existing walls which are crumbling be investigated? Also, on Farney Street there is a dip on the road which local people have voiced concerns about.” **“Reply** – these will be investigated and added to our list if necessary.”

There are no changes made to the text.

Cllr. Carthy asked if the review has been carried out in relation to Question 2?(new road markings to Coill an Rí Estate, Kingscourt Road).

District Engineer Matthew Lambe advised that this is currently being looked at.

Cllr. Campbell requested an update regarding Question 7? (Planned works due to take place at Annadrummond, Church Hill Road and Corrygary).

District Engineer Matthew Lambe replied that these works should be done in the next few weeks. The contractor was on holiday leave which caused a delay.

Cllr. O'Hanlon commended the MD on the commencement of works at Steadfast Junction. He stressed the importance of briefing the school on safety and would like this done before the school reopens.

Cllr. Carthy also commended the MD re: works at Steadfast Junction. He also noted that at the last meeting he had raised safety concerns about the footpath users of Steadfast House.

Cllr. Keelan asked about the improvement of lighting at Donaghmoyne Pedestrian Crossing – can it be upgraded?

3.0 Correspondence

Castleblayney Living Town Study Report from Shaffrey Architects.

Cllr. Campbell advised that he had requested that Shaffrey Architects be invited to come to this meeting and talk to the members, however, due to holidays they were unable to do so.

This report was sent in because of the meeting request. Cllr. Campbell stated that when the study is complete he will call on Shaffrey Architects to come in and give a presentation. Cllr. Campbell complimented Ann Marie McHugh on her involvement in the study.

Cllr. McCooley welcomed the allocation of €100,000 stating that it is a step in the right direction.

District Coordinator Gareth McMahon informed the members that Shaffrey Architects have committed to giving a presentation to the members, possibly in September.

4.0 Castleblayney Courthouse Update

The members were provided with a progress report.

Director of Service Paul Clifford highlighted that the current works should be complete by August 8th 2019.

Cllr. Campbell commented that it is great to see works commencing on the building and a tidy job is being done. Cllr. Campbell queried if there was a plan to cover up the windows as it doesn't look great at the moment and asked if the executive can come back to him about this? Also, there is bracing going in and it is crossing some of the windows.

Director of Service Paul Clifford responded that a request will be made to the Department for funding.

Cllr. McCooley sought clarification that on August 8th it is anticipated that barriers will be removed etc. Cllr. McCooley queried the traffic lights, coming from Carrickmacross direction. Can the sequence be changed due to the road closure as local business are suffering ?

Director of Service Paul Clifford advised that the traffic lights sequence accommodates a free flow of traffic and has been based on traffic counts.

Cllr. O'Hanlon commented that the traffic count does not reflect the current situation, however he acknowledged that August 8th will make a difference to this.

Cllr. Keelan clarified that the target date is August 8th.

5.0 Municipal District Co-ordinator's Report

Cllr. Carthy

Commented that the new coach parking in Market Square seems to be going well. Cllr. Carthy stated that the recent works carried out on Convent Avenue are fantastic and expressed his thanks to the Executive and staff. Cllr. Carthy noted that the signage should reflect the name. Cllr. Carthy asks if there is anything being done about Beagh Road?

Reply – Director of Service Paul Clifford responded that it is a matter for the Courts.

Cllr. Keelan

Asks if the Beagh Road can be maintained / hedge cutting ?

Reply – this will be referred to the Engineer.

Cllr. Keelan commends all the good works done and notes that there are a lot of good plans and projects in the time ahead.

Cllr. Keelan voiced concerns re: the N2 Tullyvaragh Junction – that negotiations are ongoing with the land owner – and asks that the Executive do all in their power to progress this.

6.0 Questions

Questions raised by Cllr. Colm Carthy for July 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

1. When is it expected a second EV Parking place will be marked out in the Courthouse car park, Carrickmacross (as discussed at the June MD meeting)?

Response:

This MD has procured a line marking contractor to install a second EV parking place at this location and this work will be completed in the coming weeks.

2. When is work due to commence on trimming the trees in Drummond Etra, Carrickmacross?

Response:

This MD will commence tree trimming at this location in Q3 of 2019.

3. Will the MD council consider fixing the loose stones along the top of the Ivy House Lane Car park boundary wall, Carrickmacross, to ensure that they are securely fitted?

Response:

This MD will examine the boundary wall at the Ivy House Lane Car park to ascertain what remedial works if any can be completed.

4. What is the up-to-date situation with the 2no. greenways proposed for south Monaghan (i.e. the Carrickmacross-Inniskeen-Dundalk and the Carrickmacross-Kingscourt)?

Response:

A draft feasibility report has been completed for the proposed Carrickmacross-Inniskeen-Dundalk Greenway and this MD is awaiting the publication of the final version. An application for funding has been made under the Outdoor Recreation for 2019 for the proposed Carrickmacross-Kingscourt.

5. Has the roads section confirmed when it is expected that signage and by-laws will be put in place for Chapel Lane, Carrickmacross, to reduce speed to 30kph?

Response:

There are no plans a foot to change this speed limit. The matter will be added to the next SPC meeting Agenda.

Questions raised by Cllr. Noel Keelan for July 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

6. What is the up to-date position in relation to the provision of traffic calming measures on the Donaghmoyn Road (R179) including the provision of a pedestrian crossing at the Donaghmoyn Road/Lisanisk junction as requested by the Lisanisk and Ascail Dubh residents associations?

Response:

Preliminary Assessments have been carried out to specifically investigate the likelihood of errant vehicle leaving the road adjacent to the Ascail Dubh Housing Development on the R179. Following the assessment this MD is considering a design solution for vehicle containment and will then place the proposal on a list for consideration under a Low-Cost Safety Improvement Scheme for 2020.

Presently there are no plans to install a pedestrian crossing at the Donaghmoyn Road/Lisanisk junction.

7. What is the up to-date position in relation to the provision of proper safe walking routes / footpath links throughout Inniskeen village and in particular from the school out to Magee's corner and linking into the Monaghan Way, given the obvious road safety issues for pedestrians at this location?

Response:

The primary constraint to installing a footpath at this location is the width of the existing bridge over the River Fane. At present there are no agreed proposal for dealing with this constraint. A funding application has been made under Town & Village Renewal Scheme for a Public Realm for Inniskeen in which linking the village into the Monaghan Way will be explored.

8. What is the up to-date position in relation to the provision of a CCTV camera system for Carrickmacross town and its environs given the recent spike in robberies in the area and given such a system would help deter and detect such crime?

Response:

This MD office is exploring options for the provision of a CCTV system for the town.

9. What is the up to-date position in relation to the improvement of Essexfort junction on the Dundalk regional road (R178) given the obvious danger for vehicles in particular large HGVs, agricultural vehicles and buses etc. trying to access this very busy route from the Inniskeen road?

Response:

This MD has examined this junction and has placed it on a list for consideration under a Low-Cost Safety Improvement Scheme for 2020.

10. In the interest of road safety will this Council carry out some minor verge/ hedge trimming in cases where a land owner cannot be contacted or is not cooperating with the hedge cutting notices; and if necessary recoup the costs through the courts?

Response:

At present the MD are in consultation with landowners to carry out isolated minor verge and hedge trimming in cases where overgrowth effects visibility for road users. Currently landowners contacted are cooperating.

Questions raised by Cllr. Aoife McCooey for July 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

11. Can the MD provide a schedule for street cleaning in Castleblayney especially with big events coming soon, and clarify when was it last power hosed and are there any plans to do it soon?

Response:

The footpaths and parking areas along the Main Street in Castleblayney were power washed earlier this summer. Street cleaning is carried out 7 days per week regarding street sweeping and bin collection.

12. Can the MD please provide an update on the implementation of a crash barrier in Broomfield?

Response:

This MD will examine this location and ascertain if a vehicle restraint barrier can be installed. There are many similar locations throughout the district which require road safety improvements. We will have to evaluate budgets, wages etc on completion of Regional Improvement and Surface Dressing Works and then decide what can or cannot be completed.

13. Can the MD please provide a current update for members re: the Castleblayney Market house?

Response:

See report provided by the Director of Services

7.0 Notice of Motions

There were no notices of motion put before the meeting.

8.0 Director of Service Orders

Director's Orders 12/2019, 13/2019, 14/2019, 15/2019, 16/2019, 17/2019, 18/2019, 19/2019, 20/2019 and 21/2019 were noted.

9.0 Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

Vote of congratulations were extended to Oisín McEntee on reaching the European U-19 Soccer Tournament, the Monaghan U-17 County Team on winning back to back Minor Titles and St. Mary's Brass & Reed Band Kingscourt on their All-Ireland success. *Votes of sympathy* were extended to Patsy McKenna & Family on the death of Tom (Tommy) McKenna and to Sally Larkin on the death of her husband Owen Larkin.

10.0 AOB

Cllr. Carthy

Is there a reason for not having traffic lights on Bridewell Road?

District Coordinator Gareth McMahon sought clarification with all the members if there is an issue at this location? He responded that road traffic issues can be assessed under the Detailed Public Realm Plan. He does not see the need or merit of placing traffic lights here. Courtesy amongst drivers is key.

Raised the issue of anti-social behaviour in Cloughvalley Playpark and noted that it has been reported to him that the toilets are closing earlier than the park itself. How often are the parks inspected?

District coordinator Gareth McMahon replied that the MD have cleaned and removed graffiti and anti-graffiti product will be used in the future. The toilets should close at the same time as the park. This will be investigated. Inspections happen regularly – on a fortnightly basis.

Cllr. Carthy indicated he would like the meeting to go into Committee at 11:10am. Cllr. Mary Kerr Conlon proposed the meeting to go into Committee and Cllr. Keelan seconded this. At 11:15am Cllr. Carthy proposed that the meeting come out of Committee and Cllr. Keelan seconded this.

Cllr. Campbell

Is there an update on the road closure at Drumcrew?

District Engineer Matthew Lambe replied that works are due to commence on August 6th. It will take at least 2 weeks minimum to complete.

Cllr. Campbell acknowledged the success of Muckno Festival and all the hard work that went into it. He complimented Engineer Noel Finnegan and Carrickmacross – Castleblayney MD for opening the front of the Market House. Thanks were also expressed to all the outdoor staff and to the MD for providing funding, albeit a small amount. Compliments were also given to the local athletics club on organising the Castleblayney 10-miles race. Cllr. Campbell requested that a letter is sent to Muckno Mania Festival Committee to thank them for their efforts.

Cllr. O'Hanlon

Would like the MD to acknowledge the good work of the Monaghan U-17 team.

Raised concerns about Lurgans footpath, by Crann Nua – there is a missing link to the footpaths. Is there an update about this?

District Coordinator Gareth McMahon advised that there are significant costs associated.

Cllr. O'Hanlon stated that it needs to be reviewed.

Cllr. O'Hanlon agreed that the junction at Bridewell Road needs to be looked into.

Cllr. Keelan

Asked if there is an update on the Ivy Lane Car Park extension?

Director of Service Paul Clifford responded that a new Part 8 will probably be submitted.

Cllr. Keelan stated that hedge cutting in the area seems to be disjointed? What is the procedure for dealing with hedge cutting complaints?

District Engineer Matthew Lambe replied that it is currently out of season for hedge cutting unless it is needed for emergency works.

District Coordinator Gareth McMahon advised that the MD are currently doing verge cutting. The procedure for dealing with hedge cutting complaints is to have the hedges inspected and appropriate notices are issued to landowners.

Cllr. Keelan stated that the New Line road, Lisdoonan is in poor condition. He requested that works are carried out on it. He also stated that the Ballybay road, L4100, has a road safety issue - poor visibility – a fence needs to be moved to correct this.

District Coordinator Gareth McMahon will investigate.

Cllr. Kerr – Conlon

There is a resident on the Shercock Road with safety concerns about a tree.

District Engineer Matthew Lambe will take the details.

The meeting concluded at 11.40am.

Cathaoirleach

Meeting Administrator

Dated _____