

Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on Monday 22nd June 2020 at 10.00am The Courthouse, Clones, Co Monaghan.

Members Present The Cathaoirleach, Cllr Pat Treanor, presided

The following members were also present: - Cllrs: Richard Truell, Hugh McElvaney, Seamus Coyle and Sean Gilliland

In Attendance Adge King Director of Service, Kevin McNally Municipal District Co-ordinator, Colin Murphy Executive Engineer, Gabriel Hurson & Martin Taylor Assistant Engineers, and Seamie Mc Mahon, Staff Officer.

The Cathaoirleach Cllr Pat Treanor welcomed all to the meeting. Cllr Pat Treanor proposed a vote of sympathy and a minute's silence as mark of respect for Detective Garda Colm Horkan.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney supported the motion but felt that this Municipal District had disrespected Detective Garda Colm Horkan's memory by flying other flags while the National Flag was flown at Half Mast. Cllr Pat Treanor stated that there had been an error with regards to the protocol of flying the National Flag at Half Mast, however once this error was noted the other flags were immediately removed.

Cllrs Coyle, Truell and Gilliland also wished to be associated with the vote of sympathy. Cllr Sean Gilliland called on all the community to support our uniformed public servants. Mr Adge King added that the staff of the Municipal District would also wish to be associated with the vote of sympathy. Mr Adge King also apologised for the error in relation to the protocol of flying a flag at Half Mast.

1. Confirmation of minutes of monthly meeting

Cllr Richard Truell proposed the previous monthly meeting minutes; Cllr Sean Gilliland seconded the proposal and it was agreed by all.

2. To fix a date for the Municipal District Annual Meeting

It was agreed that the Annual Meeting would be held immediately after June's Monthly meeting. This was proposed by Cllr Seamus Coyle and seconded by Cllr Sean Gilliland and it was agreed by all.

3. Correspondence Sent

The correspondence sent was noted by all present.

4. Correspondence Received

In relation to correspondence received from Doohamlet Community Centre, Cllr Seamus Coyle spoke of the great achievements of this community. Cllr Sean Gilliland also praised the work of this community. Considering a previous protocol agreed by the members, Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed that this Municipal District award the Doohamlet Community Centre €1000 and an offer of any further assistance as required. This was seconded by Cllr Sean Gilliland and agreed by all.

5. Consideration for Ballybay Clones Municipal District Schedule of Works for 2020

The members welcomed the report from Mr Kevin McNally, the members raised the issue of Local Improvement Schemes (LIS). Mr Colin Murphy stated that this was dealt with by Roads Section. It was agreed that a list of LIS projects for 2020 would be forwarded to the members.

Cllr Pat Treanor praised the work of the Scotshouse community. Cllr Richard Truell asked about the funding for Newbliss Courthouse. Mr Adge King stated that this was for general upkeep and was vitally important to protect the building.

Cllr Hugh McElvaney welcomed the report and asked that the members be supplied with the local name of the bridges that had been repaired.

6/7. Consideration of Report from Martin Taylor and Gabriel Hurson (Assistant Engineers)

Mr Martin Taylor and Mr Gabriel Hurson gave a detailed report to the members on various projects currently active within the Municipal District.

The members praised the reports and noted that the staff of the Ballybay Clones Municipal District had worked extremely hard during the Covid 19 lockdown.

Cllr Sean Gilliland praised the work at Lough Egish, with regard to the new parking at Ballybay he asked for parent and baby parking to be considered. Mr Gabriel Hurson said he would investigate the parking query for Ballybay.

Cllr Seamus Coyle asked about time frames for the Clones Town projects, Mr Martin Taylor explained that currently the Municipal District only have funding to bring these to a 'shovel ready' stage. It is hoped that the Municipal District would be in a position to make a Cat 1 application for both The Lennard Arms and St Tiarnachs Plaza project in 2020.

A discussion was had on Greenways in the Ballybay Area. Cllr Sean Gilliland proposed that this Municipal District consult with Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District with regard to future plans and the possibility of developing a greenway between Castleblayney and Ballybay along the old GNR route; this was seconded Cllr Seamus Coyle and agreed by all.

Cllr Pat Treanor proposed that this Municipal District provide the required match funding to the following 2 projects in Clones, Clones HTI and O Neill Park Playground. This was seconded by Cllr Gilliland and agreed by all.

8. MD Coordinators Report

Mr Kevin McNally updated the members on the following projects:

The Department have recently announced calls for proposals under the Clar, Town and Village and outdoor recreation scheme

Clar Programme

Under the Clar programme Community Groups can apply for funding under 2 measures

Measure 1: Support for Schools/Community Safety Measures

Interventions that make the school/community facility environs healthier and safer for the children attending the schools, and for children and adults using the community facilities. This measure has been broadened to allow additional investments to adapt areas around schools and community facilities to help meet new public health requirements arising from COVID-19

Measure 2: Community Recreation Areas

Under Measure 2, CLÁR 2020 will consider support for the enhancement of existing and/or the development of new accessible Community Recreation Areas where people can socialise outdoors in safe community spaces. Eligible Applicants are Community Groups, Local Development Companies, and Local Authorities.

Closing date for applications is 28th August 2020

Interested groups are invited to liaise with the Municipal District office when compiling their proposals.

Town and Village Renewal

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme for 2020, is being tailored to address the emerging challenges associated with COVID-19.

For the Town & Village Renewal Scheme this means:

- A focus under the standard Town and Village Renewal Scheme on interventions that can respond to the new challenges associated with COVID-19 and support the economic and social recovery of our rural towns and villages;
- The introduction of a new strand of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme for 2020 that focuses on immediate interventions that can be delivered in the short-term to assist towns and villages to adapt to COVID-19 - "Accelerated Measure in Response to COVID-19".

The closing dates for the various calls are:

- Round 1 application deadline date: 3rd July 2020.
- Round 2 application deadline date: 14th August 2020.
- Measure 3 applications is 28th August 2020

Outdoor recreation schemes

This scheme has 3 measures each which promote the provision of outdoor infrastructure with a particular focus on tourism and outdoor recreation projects

The relevant closing dates are:

- 30th September 2020 for Measure 1
- 30th November 2020 for Measures 2 & Measures 3.

Expressions of interest are currently being invited from interested groups.

During the recent lockdown Monaghan County Council awarded a total of €32,000 of funding to various community groups arising from 64 applications for various projects within the Municipal District.

€24,500 was also provided to Community groups and Resident associations in the Municipal District during this time.

Mr Colin Murphy gave his report.

Roads Programme

TH Moore were awarded the Bitmac Contract for the county this year. They commenced work in the Castleblayney-Carrickmacross Municipal District when COVID restrictions were lifted and have since moved into our Municipal District. To date they have completed the bitmac overlay on the LP4044, LP4043 & LP4011 in Shantonagh. They will then be moving over to Connollys Mushrooms to complete the LP4013 and LP4021. They are then due to move to the Monaghan Municipal District for 2-3 weeks before returning to us to complete our works.

Similarly, our Surface Dressing Plant commenced work in the Castleblayney Carrickmacross Municipal District following the easing of COVID restrictions. The plant moved to us last week for 3 days before heading to the Monaghan Municipal District for 3 weeks before returning to us on the 6th July.

Low Cost Safety Improvement Schemes

We have completed the low-cost safety scheme works at Kileevan school and plan to recommence works on the other schemes when the Roads Programme is complete. These are located at the Tullycorbet/Clontibret turn on the Ballybay Monaghan Road and the LP39002/R190 Cootehill road out of Ballybay at Balladian.

Clones River Drainage

Pat Denning Contractor has substantially completed works on cleaning the drain from the back of the sewerage treatment plant in Clones to the River Finn and opposite Apple Green on the N54. This involved the removal of vegetation from the stream which drains the north eastern site of the town and runs from the back of Clones Sewerage treatment plant to the river Finn, a distance of circa 1.8km.

Clones Footpath repairs

The Contractor S Wilkin and Sons plans to commence works to the repairs of footpaths in Clones in mid-July.

Specific Improvement

R181 - Drumillard to Cross Duff. Doran Consultants have been appointed to carry out a design on the R181 in two phases, Phase 1 from Drumillard to Crossduff and phase 2 from the Cavan Border to the Shantonagh. This year's allocation is for the design and land costs for the two phases. It is hoped that Part 8 planning will go before the October Council Meeting, with contract documents prepared by the end of 2020 and to tender for works in 2021 should funding be forthcoming.

9. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

There were no matters arising.

10. Notice of motion

Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed:

That Ballybay-Clones Municipal District demands of the Taoiseach, Léo Varadkar T.D., the Minister for Agriculture, Food & the Marine, Michael Creed T.D., the Government and the incoming government; a two-year extension to the Agricultural GLAS Scheme, as 36,000 farmers payments under GLAS 1 & 2 will end on the 31st December 2020 and 31st December 2021. With the new/next CAP and its Environmental Programmes not operational to 2023, farmers would suffer a significant loss of income. The maximum payment is €5,000, the average payment to Monaghan farmers has been approximately €3000-€4,000. This is a cut farmers cannot afford, while maintaining an environmental method of land use in anticipation of a similar GLAS type scheme in the next CAP Programme

(Motion, if adopted to be forwarded to Monaghan County Council and to all Oireachtas Member for Monaghan/Cavan).

This was seconded by Cllr Sean Gilliland and agreed by all.

11. Questions

Cllr Seamus Coyle asked;

- (1) Can Monaghan County Council give an update of progress on the installation of Public Lighting at St. Mary's Church, Corravackan and the extension of Public Lighting on the Monaghan Road, Rockcorry as these are heavily pedestrianised and vehicled locations, with St. Mary's Chapel location, very dangerous particularly on dark winter evenings for ceremonies and funerals?

Answer: The Ballybay Clones Municipal District has raised and forwarded a purchase order to Airtricity on 3rd June for the installation of 3 new public lighting columns in the vicinity of Corravackan church. There are no additional public lighting columns being installed on the Monaghan Road out of Rockcorry at present, but these lights can be considered for inclusion on the Municipal District public lighting programme.

- (2) Can Monaghan County Council give an update and an expected date for the completion of the "Taking in Charge "process for the following estates-

(A). The Alders, Clones Rd. Ballybay?

Answer: An application has been received for the taking in charge of the Alders estate in Ballybay and is currently been considered by the Councils planning section. Details were sent by Planning Section to Irish Water in November 2019 for their agreement to take in charge. Irish Water later advised that that a site resolution plan would be needed to address serious outstanding matters in the estate, and later issued correspondence stating that they would not agree for it to be taken in charge pending receiving and agreeing the site resolution plan. The site resolution plan is being worked on at present and a meeting has been requested with Irish Water to assist with this.

(B).Carrowbarre Island,Scotstown Rd.,Smithboro?

Answer: An application has been received prior to Christmas for the taking in charge for the estate at Carrowbarra Island and is currently been considered by the Councils planning section. Reports are being sought from Council sections at present (i.e. Municipal District, Water, public lighting). Once these reports are to hand the Councils planning section will then progress the Taking in Charge application.

12. C.E. Orders

The C.E. order BCMD 04/20 to 34/20 were noted by the members

13. Votes of Congratulations/Sympathy

Cllr Pat Treanor proposed that considering the recent pandemic and the large numbers of deaths within the Ballybay Clones Municipal District Area that this Municipal District would pass a vote of sympathy to all those who lost loved ones during these difficult times. This was seconded by Cllr Sean Gilliland and agreed by all.

Cllr Pat Treanor proposed that this Municipal District pass a vote of congratulations to all the successful community groups that received funding in the last number of months, this was seconded by Cllr Sean Gilliland and agreed by all.

That concluded the meeting.

Next meeting scheduled 20th July at 10.00am.

Signed _____

Cathaoirleach

Signed _____

Meetings Administrator

Date

20/07/2020