

## Municipal District of Monaghan

### **Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in the Boardroom, MTek1 on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 at 11.30am.**

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Conlon presided.

**Present:** Cllrs. Paudge Connolly, David Maxwell, Raymond Aughey, Seamus Treanor, Brian McKenna and Cathy Bennett.

**In Attendance:** John Murray, Director of Services, Donal McElwain, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Dermot Deeney, Executive Engineer, Bernie McElvaney, Senior Staff Officer, Pauline McClean, Data Protection Officer, Michael Carroll, Gardener

At the outset, Cllr Conlon welcomed Ms McClean and Mr Carroll to the meeting.

#### **1. Section 40 Data Protection Act 2018:**

Ms McClean gave a presentation on the processing of personal data by Elected Representatives under Section 40 of the Data Protection Act 2018 followed by questions and answers. All Elected members are deemed Data Controllers. Correspondence was circulated and signed for by the members.

#### **2. Presentation on Biodiversity:**

Mr Carroll, County Council Gardener, gave a presentation on biodiversity to the members which was followed by questions and answers. All-Ireland Pollinator Plan was circulated to the members.

Cllr Conlon thanked Ms McClean and Mr Carroll for their presentations.

#### **3. Confirmation of minutes:**

On the proposal of Cllr. McKenna, seconded by Cllr. Bennett, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District of Monaghan meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020 be confirmed.

#### **4. Matters arising:**

Cllr Conlon referred to a request for an update on the Greenway and requested that it be brought to the next full meeting.

Cllr McKenna advised that the drain across the road at Clara chapel remains blocked and requires attention.

Cllr Conlon enquired about Corby Rock corner to which Mr Deeney responded that Scrim tests will be carried out shortly.

## 5. Report from Municipal District Co-ordinator

Mr. McElwain outlined the Municipal District Report to the members:

Mr McElwain gave an update on the cctv scheme informing the members that public consultation was held on the 13<sup>th</sup> February with closing date for submissions on 21<sup>st</sup> February. Mr Murray advised that the contract will be advertised for the whole scheme and then we can proceed with the eight cameras that are already approved.

Cllr Connolly welcomed the works and the new Giant at Rossmore Park.

Cllr Conlon congratulated all concerned on winning the Silver Award for Rossmore Park, two out of seven were All- Ireland winners- Slieve Beagh and Monaghan Alert System in the LAMA and IPB Awards.

Cllr McKenna asked that the Planning Section be requested to give a presentation on the entire Latlurcan site.

## 4. Correspondence.

The following correspondence was circulated with the agenda for the meeting:-

Letter dated 28<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection acknowledging receipt of our correspondence.

Letter dated 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 from Roads Section regarding update on Periodic Speed Limit signage. Cllr Maxwell stated that it is wholly inadequate of the TII that proper signage had not been erected before new speeding bye-laws came into effect.

Letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020 from Minister for Employment Affairs and Social Protection regarding increased pension age.

## 5. Monaghan Bus Station

Mr McElwain advised the members that he met the Regional Managers and brought all issued that had been raised. He was informed that they are currently upgrading the car park, and internal works to the building. He added that the bus driver will have a key for the toilets to give access to passengers at night time. Bus Eireann are also looking at pre-booking seats on Route 32 to ensure places are available for those who are booked in. Cllr Conlon stated that we may seek a further meeting when a response comes back from Bus Eireann.

## 6. Questions and Responses:

**Cllr Conlon asked:**

1) Following my series of questions presented to the September County Council meeting regarding the Willow Crop Plantation sites initiated by the Council in 2012 at Knockatallon and Clontibret, has the harvesting that was intended to commence last year been rescheduled?

**Response: Unfortunately, due to inclement weather in the last quarter of 2019 resulting in poor soil conditions for the trafficability of heavy plant required for the cutting of the SRC Willows, harvesting was postponed. Harvesting will be carried out when weather and soil**

**conditions improve. It is expected that this will be completed before the end of March 2020.**

2) Following on from the inadequate level of Government funding previously offered to the Milltown residents to initiate a Group Sewerage Scheme, what proposals are being considered by the Council that will provide long overdue provision of this necessary civic infrastructure.

**Response: Currently Irish Water have no proposals for an extension of the sewerage network to service the Milltown area.**

3) For the purpose of realising the potential of Peters Lake as a visitor attraction for Monaghan Town, and considering the endorsement from national sporting body Canoeing Ireland of Peters Lake as a venue for the fast growing team sport of Canoe Polo, as witnessed last September during the exhibition day that attracted large groups of young people, are resources available from the Council's Tourism Section for their proposal and previous requests for support?

**Response: The Monaghan Destination Town Plan comprises a total of 21 Actions for delivery over the next 5-10 years. Just under €500K funding has been secured from Failte Ireland to deliver on 2 priority actions (Action 10 – Central Hub Events Space and Action 17 – The Monuments) over an 18 month timeframe and this work will commence upon receipt of an official Letter of Offer from Failte Ireland.**

**The Tourism Unit is currently liaising with MD staff to identify projects from the remaining actions in the plan (including Action 9 – Peters Lake) which may be suitable for submission under the Town & Village Renewal Programme and/or the Outdoor Recreational Infrastructure Fund subject to these schemes being open in 2020.**

**Funding for sport-related projects would typically come through the Sports Partnership and details of the Canoe Polo proposal have been brought to their attention.**

4) In relation to the Council's boiler maintenance and service scheme for local authority tenants, what is the timescale for introducing this welcome initiative across all Municipal District areas?

**Response: The Housing Authority are carrying out a one year pilot scheme with 50 volunteers who have confirmed their interest in the scheme in Clones/Ballybay Municipal District area whereby tenants can opt for the Council to arrange the servicing of their oil boiler and the cost of the work being added to their rent over the year. Upon the completion of the pilot scheme the Housing Authority will review the operation of the scheme and determine at that stage whether it is feasible and appropriate to extend out into other Municipal Districts.**

#### **7. Sympathy:**

Sympathy was extended to Miriam McMahon on the death of her father, Eamon.

#### **8. Congratulations:**

Congratulations was extended to Community & Enterprise Section, Tourism Section and IT Section on winning All Ireland Community and Council Awards 2020.

**9. AOB:**

Cllr Connolly requested that a letter be sent to Google regarding difficulties that motorists and more particularly lorry drivers experience when using Google Maps, which was seconded by Cllr Conlon.

Cllr Connolly conveyed his apologies for not being available to attend our MD meeting dated 16<sup>th</sup> March.

Dated this 17th day of February 2020

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator