

## Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 10.00am, via Microsoft Teams.

**Members Present**        The Cathaoirleach Cllr. Seamus Coyle presided

The following members were also present: - Cllrs: Richard Truell, Pat Treanor and Sean Gilliland

**In Attendance**        Adge King Director of Service, Kevin McNally Municipal District Co-ordinator, Colin Murphy Executive Engineer, Michael Carroll Horticulturist, Martin Taylor Assistant Engineer, and Seamie Mc Mahon Staff Officer.

**Apologies:**                Cllr Hugh McElvaney

The Cathaoirleach Cllr Seamus Coyle welcomed all to the meeting.

Cllr Seamus Coyle paid tribute to Monaghan County Council staff members, Michael Kelly and Raymond Logue who had recently passed away, and extended his and the Councils' sympathies to their families. Cllr Coyle also extended his sympathy to Michael Fisher, Northern Standard, whose mother had also recently passed away. All other members extended their sympathies as did Mr Adge King on the part of the Council executive.

### **1. Confirmation of Minutes**

Cllr Pat Treanor proposed January's monthly meeting minutes, Cllr Richard Truell seconded the proposal and it was agreed by all.

### **2. Correspondence Sent**

Correspondence sent was noted by the members.

### **3. Correspondence Received**

Cllr Pat Treanor spoke on the correspondence received from Minister Heather Humphreys regarding an all-Ireland approach to COVID. Cllr Treanor noted his disappointment regarding the issue. Cllr Seamus Coyle agreed with Cllr Treanor that an all-Ireland approach was necessary. Cllr Sean Gilliland spoke of the response from some Northern Irish politicians to COVID and felt that there were those within the DUP who were not interested in participating in any joint discussions.

### **4. Consideration of report on Pollinator plan for Ballybay Clones Municipal District – Michael Carroll Monaghan County Council Horticulturist**

Mr Michael Carroll gave his presentation to the meeting. Cllr Seamus Coyle asked about the seriousness of Japanese Knotweed and about the treatment of weeds. Mr. Michael Carroll said the knotweed was a very serious issue and would require a coordinated approach to deal with it. Regarding the treatment of weeds, he stated that chemicals should only be used in very controlled circumstances. Cllr Pat Treanor welcomed the plans and asked that community groups and tidy town groups be consulted.

### **5. Consideration of report on Proposed Clones Business Hub Martin Taylor Assistant Engineer**

Mr Martin Taylor gave a detailed report on the proposed business hub for Fermanagh Street in Clones. Cllr Seamus Coyle asked for the timeline involved and how many people it could accommodate. Mr

Martin Taylor stated that the project was dependent on funding and that if funding was received the project would be completed in 18 months. The business hub would be able to accommodate between 20 -30 people.

Cllr Pat Treanor spoke of the importance of remote working facilities within the county and also commented on the current availability of spaces within the town such as at the former Ulster Bank.

## **5. Report by Municipal District Coordinator**

### **Mr Kevin Mc Nally gave his report:**

Council staff are still on a reduced attendance rota for the next two weeks. Maintenance works such as drainage and pothole repairs are being undertaken. The Municipal District has also commenced drainage works on a number of roads which are on the 2021 Roads Restoration programme.

O Connor Sutton Consulting Engineers have been appointed by the Municipal District to review the layout of the R180/R181 junction in Lough Egish. It is envisaged that this design will be completed in the coming weeks.

The Municipal District has appointed Clandillon Consulting Engineers to proceed with the scoping study for the proposed greenway between Ballybay and Castleblayney.

Separately the Municipal District is progressing with the appointment of Consulting Engineers for the feasibility and environmental reports for the proposed greenway between Clones and Smithboro.

The Municipal District has recently taken partial delivery of seating and benches for various locations in the Municipal District. These are have being funded under the Town and Village COVID measures and will be installed in the coming weeks.

Footpath repairs are ongoing in Clones. These works are well progressed and will be completed in the coming weeks.

### **Taking in charge of estates:**

- **Alders estate**

The Site Resolution plan for the estate is complete and will shortly be sent to Irish Water to review and approve. Once the resolution plan has been approved, the Council will be able to advance the taking in charge process.

- **Carrowbarra Estate**

It is hoped that the Water Services Section of the Council will complete further surveys in the next week or so. This will allow for the completion of the site resolution plan and its forwarding to Irish Water to review and approve.

The members thanked Mr Kevin McNally for his report.

Cllr Sean Gilliland welcomed the appointment of a design team for the junction at R180 and R181, Cllr Gilliland stated that the road is currently in a very bad condition and required immediate works. Mr Kevin McNally stated that the Council were aware of this and the works would be carried out immediately to the recently reported potholes. Cllr Gilliland also raised questions on the Greenway between Ballybay and Castleblayney and on the unfinished estate at The Alders Ballybay.

Mr Kevin McNally stated that the optimum route for the greenway would be identified as part of the study. Once this was done initial costings could be calculated. Regarding the Alders Estate, the site

resolution plan was now complete and has been sent to Irish Water. Once approved works would then begin. The site resolution plan for Carrowbarra was due to be completed in the next fortnight.

Cllr Richard Truell asked for clarification on the funding for local roads, Mr Kevin McNally stated that the Municipal District would organise an in-committee meeting in the coming weeks.

Cllr Pat Treanor raised the issue of the Town and Village funding for Clones town and the proposed one-way system at the Ball Alley, he asked could Abbey St be included in this. Mr Kevin Mc Nally stated that this could be investigated further.

## **6. Matters arising from previous minutes**

Cllr Seamus Coyle repeated that the road at Doapey Creamery should be included in the salting programme. Cllr Coyle also asked that the Municipal District look at parking provision on the Diamond in Clones.

## **7. Questions**

**Cllr Richard Truell asked**

- (1) Could the MD of Ballybay-Clones inspect and report back on the footpath in Killeevan village as it is currently in a poor state and needs work. In addition, could the possibility of erecting new public lights on the R183 at the crossroads facing the church be examined as currently this area is poorly lit and quite unsafe for vulnerable road users.

The Municipal District plan to carry out remedial works to the footpath at the junction in Killeevan this year. A review of the existing lighting at the junction will be undertaken. Any required improvement works will be subject to funding being available.

- (2) Could the MD of Ballybay-Clones investigate the requirement for a pedestrian crossing on the main street of Newbliss village in the vicinity of Martin's shop? Residents from a number of housing estates in the village currently must cross the main street which is a regional road to access the only shop in the village and in the event of any speeding vehicles on this road, this crossing manoeuvre is considered unsafe.

The Municipal District will investigate the need for a pedestrian crossing on the main street of Newbliss village.

- (3) Could the MD of Ballybay-Clones investigate the need for patching/ resurfacing works on the R188 from Swann's Cross to Rockcorry as sections of this road are rough and uneven and require remedial works.

The Municipal District plan to carry out remedial repair works to the R188 from Swanns Cross to Rockcorry in 2021.

- (4) Could the MD of Ballybay-Clones investigate the need for patching/ resurfacing/ road reconstruction works on the LT23301 Corranewy Lane and the LT63001 Drumgole road as sections of these roads are in poor condition. Could the MD also investigate if additional drainage works are required on these roads which may assist with the extending the lifetime of any patching works undertaken.

The Municipal District will add these two roads to its programme for patch repairs and examine if there are drainage issues present on the roads.

- (5) Could the MD of Ballybay-Clones inspect and report back to me on the need for traffic calming solutions on the LP3911 road from Atkinson's public house to the first set of crossroads – this route is important as it provides access to the local primary school, church, local businesses, Cremartin GAA grounds and the Co. Monaghan GAA grounds which is now one of the main COVID-19 testing centres in the area and sufficient traffic calming measures and associated signage must be considered for this area.

The Municipal District in conjunction with the various groups in Cremartin have delivered a number of projects recently in the vicinity of the junction and Cremartin GAA grounds including:

- New carpark at Cremartin GAA
- Road markings on road to Cloghan GAA
- Enhanced and improved public lighting
- New footpath from junction of Castleblayney/Ballybay Rd to Cremartin GAA
- Safety improvement works on road to Cloghan GAA.
- Enhanced road markings and signage on the LP3911

The Municipal District office is currently liaising with the newly formed residents' group regarding the proposed provision of a footpath from the junction with the Cloghan Rd to the Ballybay Rd. This project has been submitted for funding under the CIS programme and is currently being considered.

## **8. CE Orders**

The C.E. order BCMD 01/21 to 07/21 were noted by the members,

## **10. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations**

Votes of Sympathy were proposed for the following:

- The Kelly Family on the death of Mickey
- The Logue Family on the death of Raymond
- Monahan Family on the death of Eamon
- The Cunningham Family on the death of Pacelli
- The McGovern Family on the death of Brid
- The Connolly family on the death of Martin
- The Killen Family on the death of Alphonsus
- Michael Fisher and family on the death of Peggy
- The McCormack Family on the death Geraldine,

## **11 AOB**

Cllr Pat Treanor raised the issue of the recent water outage in Clones on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021. This was a result of both the main supply pipe and the reserve supply pipe bursting simultaneously. Cllr Pat Treanor proposed that this Municipal District write to Irish Water asking them to replace the water pipes on the Scotshouse road leading to Clones Town. Cllr Treanor also asked that information regarding water supply outages be passed on to the customer in a more accurate and efficient way. This motion was seconded by Cllr Seamus Coyle and agreed by all.

That concluded the meeting.

Next meeting scheduled 15<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 10.00am.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator

Date

15<sup>th</sup> March 2021