

## Municipal District of Monaghan

### **Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in mTek1 Building, Knockaconny, Monaghan on Monday, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2021 at 10am.**

Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Maxwell presided.

**Present:** Cllrs. Cathy Bennett, Brian McKenna, Paudge Connolly, Seamus Treanor, Raymond Aughey, Sean Conlon

**In Attendance:** John Murray, Director of Services, Donal McElwain, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Dermot Deeney, Executive Engineer, Bernie McElvaney, Senior Staff Officer.

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

On the proposal of Cllr Treanor, seconded by Cllr. McKenna, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021 be confirmed.

#### **2. Matters arising:**

Cllr McKenna asked was there any progress on the consultation of the Emyvale Public Realm project and also had we received any response to a request for a meeting with Bus Eireann. Mr McElwain responded that progress will be made in January and no response received to request for meeting with Bus Eireann. Cllr McKenna urged for a face to face meeting and a sharp letter to be issued expressing disappointment at them for not responding to letters and requesting a zoom meeting. All members agreed.

#### **3. Report from Municipal District Co-ordinator:**

Mr McElwain outlined his report to the members.

Mr McElwain advised that the toilet block in Rossmore park is almost complete and works are ongoing on the cycle path.

Cllr Bennett asked for an update on Active Travel project, and on a footpath from Scotstown to Kilmore grounds to which Mr McElwain responded that the footpath from the village to Urbleshanny is progressing. A discussion took place on the possible project linking Hollywood to Scotstown and other walking paths in the Scotstown / Ballinode area. Mr Murray suggested a feasibility study on both Ballinode loop walk and the Hollywood links. All members agreed and Mr McElwain advised that it would be passed onto the Active Travel Team.

Cllr Treanor noted the works carried out at Garron NS and asked was there any report from the Gardai on a Speed van at this location. Mr McElwain responded that there will be meeting with An Gardai and they want to discuss this issue then.

Cllr Aughey raised concerns at bank slippage on Greenway at Monaghan bottlers and the Harps.

He also requested a report from the Active Travel Team on the Horseshoe Bridge and Ballyalbany Bridge.

Cllr Maxwell welcomed the report that there were over 1.1m in sales of the Monaghan Town vouchers in 2021 and commended all concerned. All members complimented the Cathaoirleach and all associated on the successful Event that took place in town over the weekend, which brought festive cheer to the town and raised over €7,500 for Crocus.

#### **4. Questions**

##### **Cllr Connolly asked:**

1 What plans have Monaghan MD to improve the public lighting at the pedestrian crossing in Church Square?

**Response: The Council have costs agreed and a contactor signed up to install an upgraded pedestrian crossing and public lighting at this pedestrian crossing. This work is planned to be completed by year end.**

##### **Cllr McKenna asked:**

1) Will this Council prioritise as a matter of urgency, either through the Low-Cost Safety scheme or from our own resources, the installation of a crash barrier along the section of road L1120 at Glasmullagh, Emyvale where there is neither an embankment or a hedge? Each winter cars end up in the drain and we have been very lucky that there hasn't been a fatality, as there is two to three feet of water in the drain?

**Response: The MD are currently investigating the drain at this location and assessing what measures can be implemented to improve safety along this stretch of road.**

2) Will this MD erect warning signs of Deer Crossing on the R186 road between Bragan crossroads and the NI border at the town land of Drumfurrer. A number of near misses have occurred over the past few months and we need to make motorists and road users aware of the potential dangers that present in this area?

**Response: Signs have been ordered for this location and will be erected on delivery.**

##### **Cllr Aughey will ask:**

1 How does the council propose to spend funding allocated for upgrade of the existing Ulster Canal Monaghan Greenway?

**Response:** It is envisaged that the funding received will be spent on the following areas, However, the final details still must be agreed:

- 1. Upgrade of the existing drainage and provide new drainage where required.**
- 2. Improved Signage throughout the Greenway**
- 3. Upgrade of Fencing**
- 4. Provide lighting where appropriate**
- 5. Upgrade of existing surface – Final detail to be agreed.**
- 6. Landscaping**

2) Has the MD any proposals to replace the Bring Banks previously sited at Mc Nally's Car Park or any new proposals to deal with constant dumping in and around bring banks in various location around the town, particularly considering the proposal in the Cavan County Council Litter Management Plan to have CCTV at all bring banks? <https://www.northernsound.ie/news/cavan-councillors-sign-off-litter-management-plan-amid-calls-to-name-and-shame-litterers-184589>

**Response:** This Bring Bank was placed in the McNally Car park as a temporary measure when the works were ongoing in the Lower Courthouse carpark. There is currently a double Bring Bank in the Lower Courthouse carpark. There are no current plans to replace this Bring Bank.

**At present Monaghan County Council have 28 Bring Bank sites within the county and a number of mobile CCTV units which are utilised to detect and deter illegal dumping. These mobile units are**

**maximised by moving them to locations which are littering hot spots. CCTV footage is monitored with a high level of enforcement and litter fines issued in respect of any detections.**

Bring banks are also inspected by the Litter Patrol Officer weekly/fortnightly within the five main towns and monthly at all other sites. During these spot checks, any debris or excess bottles, bags or boxes are removed and the area is left in a presentable and safe condition. Local community groups also advise the Environmental Services Department, if bottle banks are full and require emptying and the contractor is notified immediately. Furthermore, outdoor staff in the main towns, also notify Environmental Services if a bring bank is full and requires servicing.

During peak times (Christmas, New Year), bring banks do experience additional demands, so in order to be pro-active a social media campaign runs over the festive period and advertisements placed in the Northern Standard to minimise additional volumes.

See advert below just for your info – this is organised to run between Christmas and the New Year on the Env FB and advertised last week in the NS and again this week.

Currently, there are no plans to install CCTV at all bottle banks, but if resources were to become available, this option may be considered.



**Thank You for Recycling this Christmas.**  
If bottle banks are full do not leave bottle, bags or boxes on the ground at banks.  
This is littering and is a health and safety hazard for other use.

**GREEN GLASS**  
Bottles & Jars only  
REHAB RECYCLING

**CCTV IN OPERATION**

Monaghan County Council  
Comhairle Contae Mhúineacháin

**TAKE YOUR BAGS AND CARDBOARD BOXES HOME**  
**KEEP THESE FACILITIES CLEAN AND TIDY**

3) Can the Roads Section provide clarification on the Winter Maintenance Road Salting Programme for this winter, outlining what category of roads get salted, particularly in rural villages and road networks while also outlining the application process for residents or community groups seeking the placement of a salt bin and provision of salt at locations not included in the Council's salt spreading programme?

**Response: The Winter Maintenance service plan is published on Monaghan County Councils Web Site and shows clear mapping of each of the 8no salting routes and has detailed descriptive text describing each routes; Road No, Townland, Village, Town etc. (See attached Winter Service Plan).**

#### **Purchase a Salt Bin Scheme:**

**In 2011 Monaghan County Council introduced the "Purchase a Salt Bin Scheme" which allows Local Community Groups, Businesses, Schools, Churches and the general public to prepare themselves for the winter period at a reasonable cost. It is up to the community group/school/business to source their own salt after the first fill has been used.**



|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| <b>Capacity (kg)</b> | <b>400</b>  |
| <b>Length (mm)</b>   | <b>1020</b> |
| <b>Width (mm)</b>    | <b>610</b>  |
| <b>Height (mm)</b>   | <b>1020</b> |

Application forms, which include prices and purchase options can be downloaded from:  
<https://monaghan.ie/roadtransport/salt-bin-scheme/>

4) Can the MD outline any proposals or steps that it is taking with regard to the constant flooding of the Long-Term Car Park at the rear of Peter's Lake Plantation Car Park?

**Response: The MD has tendered for the replacement of drainage pipes between the Peace Campus site and Peter's Lake and the existing storm water drainage system in the Long-Term Carpark will be connected into the new pipeline subject to funding.**

5) When will Dublin Street South be submitted to An Bord Pleanala for decision?

**Response: RPS Design Consultants are continuing to review and finalise all relevant planning information in conjunction with the Environmental Impact Assessment Report for the South Dublin Street Regeneration Project. The formal planning application for the scheme is scheduled to be submitted to An Bord Pleanala in early Q1 2022.**

**5. Congratulations:**

Congratulations was extended to Eoghan McGinnitty, Monaghan handball club, on winning back to back All Ireland 40 x 20 Minor Handball titles.

**6. Sympathy:**

Sympathy was extended to Helena McGeough, Executive Engineer, on the death of her Uncle Alphonsus McGeough.

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of December 2021

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

Cathaoirleach

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

Meetings Administrator