

# Ceantar Bardasach Carraig Mhachaire Rois – Baile Na Lorgan

## Comhairle Contae Mhuineachain



### The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney

#### Monaghan County Council

Minutes of proceedings of the Municipal District Monthly Meeting held in Carrickmacross Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Co. Monaghan on Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2023 at 10:00am.

**Present:** Cathaoirleach Aidan Campbell

Cllrs. Aoife McCooey, Colm Carthy, Noel Keelan, PJ O’Hanlon

**Apologies:** Cllr. Peter Conlon

**In Attendance:** Carmel O’Hare, A/Director of Services, Damien Thornton, A/District Co-Ordinator, Matthew Lambe, District Engineer, Deirdre Power, Staff Officer, Julieann O’Reilly, Assistant Staff Officer

#### **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes**

Cllr. Keelan requested that a correction is made to the December 2022 monthly MD meeting minutes. Under A.O.B. it should state “...from Carrickmacross Town to Inniskeen village”. On the proposal of Cllr. Keelan and seconded by Cllr. O’Hanlon, the amended minutes of the December 2022 Monthly Municipal District Meeting, held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December 2022, were adopted.

#### **2.0 Matters Arising**

**Cllr. Keelan:**

Requested an update on public lighting at Magees Corner.

Reply – the MD District Engineer is due to meet with a representative from the ESB.

Asked for an update regarding a public statement from Newbaze factory?

Reply – a statement has been furnished to Cathaoirleach Campbell and will be read aloud at today’s meeting.

**Cllr. Carthy:**

Commended the Municipal District outdoor team for their continued good work during the recent cold snap.

Cllr. O’Hanlon:

Stated that it was fortunate that there was not a more serious outcome following the recent incident where a school bus jack-knifed in Magheraclone and commended the District Engineer, Matthew Lambe, for his swift action.

Requested that all Members get in touch with their national representatives, commenting that Monaghan County Council does not receive enough funding to facilitate parents and buses travelling more safely to schools during cold weather.

Cllr. O’Hanlon further advised that each and every one of the Members has been contacted by local undertakers to arrange pothole repairs to enable hearses travel more safely. Stating that this is an unacceptable situation, Cllr. O’Hanlon queried the purpose of Local Representatives if they are not in a position to deliver on the ground to ensure the safety of school children. Cllr. O’Hanlon opined that unless Local Government changes there is little value in the Members convening in the Chamber.

Stated that Local Government in Ireland has the lowest form of power when compared to other European countries.

It was proposed by Cllr. O’Hanlon, seconded by Cllr. McCooey and unanimously agreed that: *“A letter be sent to Minister Eamon Ryan, Minister Heather Humphreys, Minister Catherine Martin, Minister Norma Foley, our local T.D.’s and Senators that all roads leading to schools are salted and gritted in adverse weather conditions so that children can travel safely to school and that funding is provided for the same.”*

### **3.0 Correspondence**

i. Letter from Hudson’s Funfair

- Seeking permission for St. Patrick’s weekend

On the proposal of Cllr. Carthy and seconded by Cllr. O’Hanlon it was unanimously agreed to grant permission for the dates requested subject to the fulfilment of usual conditions.

Cllr. Carthy requested that the Executive explore increasing the fee for next year, as it had remained unchanged for quite some time.

Cllr. O’Hanlon asked that the practice of keeping local businesses informed of plans is continued.

ii. Response from Meath County Council

- Winter Maintenance

Cllr. Keelan sought clarification that the road from Inniskeen Village to Ballintra (LP1140) is a designated salting route and requested that the Executive follow up with Louth County Council to seek their commitment to treating the section of the LP 1140 that lies in County Louth, and to ascertain their willingness to undertake a feasibility study, in conjunction with Monaghan County Council, into improvement works along the LP 1140. Cllr. Keelan also requested that the Executive contact Martin Murray, Director of Services, Meath County Council, to follow up on the request that Meath County Council salt the section of the Drumconrath Road that falls under their remit. Cllr. Keelan called on each of the Members

to contact their counterparts in Louth County Council and Meath County Council, stating that he is very concerned that a serious incident will happen on these stretches of roads.

iii. Response from TII

- Signage on M1 and N2 – Carrickmacross Town

Cllr. O’Hanlon commented that TII is another national organisation controlled from Dublin and expressed frustration that Monaghan County Council is not permitted to erect a sign outside the town.

Cllr. Carthy expressed disappointment with the response.

iv. Response from Minister Humphrey’s Office

- Unable to attend proposed meeting

Cllr. Keelan expressed disappointment with the response and commented that a meeting is needed as soon as possible, suggesting that invitations re-issue.

Cllr. O’Hanlon suggested that the Members could go to Dáil Eireann to meet the local Oireachtas Members, stating that it is pointless writing letter after letter.

In suggesting that the Executive ascertain Minister Humphreys’ availability, and that the Members would work around this, Cllr. Carthy stated that a general response doesn’t hold sway.

v. Response from Matt Carthy TD

- Accepting invitation to proposed meeting

Cllr. O’Hanlon enquired if any correspondence has been received from Irish Water?

Cllr O’Hanlon stated that the programme for Carrickmacross announced by IW last week was ready to go 8 years ago. Cllr. O’Hanlon advised that he spoke to Environment Section about the announcement, and he was informed that they were unaware of same.

Cllr. O’Hanlon commented that projects that historically took 2 years to complete are now taking 8 years under IW.

Cllr. O’Hanlon expressed annoyance that IW did not have the courtesy to notify MCC, commenting that the project had been brought to “shovel ready” status by MCC. Cllr. O’Hanlon also wished to put on record his acknowledgement of the role that Cathal Flynn played in progressing this project.

Cllr. Carthy concurred with Cllr. O’Hanlon’s comments, stating that it strikes him as a bypass not to have contacted MCC and that it is disrespectful. Cllr. Carthy commented that there needs to be a change in this regard.

Cllr. Keelan wished to be associated with the previous comments, stating that he believes it was disrespectful not to make those involved aware.

On the proposal of Cllr. O’Hanlon and seconded by Cllr. Keelan it was unanimously agreed that:

*“A letter be sent to Mr. Greene of Uisce Eireann to do a presentation in relation to the plans of Uisce Eireann for the Carrickmacross – Castleblayney M.D.”*

### 3.1 Correspondence Cathaoirleach – Newbaze Ireland

Cathaoirleach Campbell read aloud the following statement:

Date: 17/1/2023

Dear Councillors

First of all, we at Newbaze Ireland thank you, for attending our facility at our request to discuss points of view and seek clarification, on the delay of our operations as was requested by the County Councillors to request us to meet for an update.

Re: The presentation that was given by Newbaze management, outlined the root cause of delays and travel refusal, and travel restrictions, that our company are currently and still facing to date.

This is all due to Covid 19. As stated, our market of import of our products is the China marketplace only .

With so many companies working from home and movement restrictions in China. Engagement with suppliers and the marketplace is so complicated currently as the communication channels is severely under manned.

With the unfolding COVID-19 crisis and 60,000 deaths in the month of December 2022 and so many people still sick and suffering long term affects.

This as we explained at our meeting is one of many Covid 19 related variables that is preventing a start-up.

With China now opening boarders , building people's confidence and businesses is their top priority in their country to commence trading properly again for the future.

Like China we hope that its confidence is restored, and we can hopefully get the business here in Newbaze Ireland up and running to provide them with our products in the near future

Currently we are looking at fiscal YR24 to commence full production as stated at the meeting.

Also, for the record the company is a family run business, that is in totality funded strictly by the Chinese family only.

We Newbaze Ireland would like to take this opportunity to thank the County Councillors for their attendance and the offered support is available if and when we need it.

Kind regards

Brendan Doyle,  
HR/EHS Manager,  
*Newbaze Ireland Nutrition Food, Co., Ltd*  
*Carrickmacross Industrial Estate,*  
*Castleblayney Rd, Co. Monaghan*  
*A81 AC97*

Cllr. O'Hanlon commented that he was surprised that Newbaze Ireland are not looking to enter the European market, however noted that they are a private company and that is

their prerogative. He stated he is looking forward to seeing people back working in the factory.

Cllr. Carthy commented that there are currently approximately 10 people employed and it is hoped to increase this to 30 once production occurs. He welcomed that the statement can be circulated.

Cllr. Keelan thanked the members for attending the December meeting with representatives from Newbaze, noting that Newbaze Ireland is a private company. Cllr. Keelan stated that he was heartened to see how well maintained the premises are and looks forward to when it is fully operational.

#### **4.0 MD Co-Ordinator's Report**

Before delivering his report, A/District Coordinator Damien Thornton welcomed new staff members Nadine Casey, Clerical Officer and Michael Broderick, Assistant Engineer to the MD team.

##### Cllr. Carthy:

Commented that Shirley Lane Carpark had remained on the list for some time. Stated that it needs to be moved on. Advised that there are flooding issues on the walkway from the carpark to the Main Street which will need to be looked into.

Reply – this will be investigated.

##### Cllr. Keelan:

Wished to highlight all the good works done by the MD team.

Welcomed that the Inniskeen Bike Rental Scheme is out to tender again.

Asked if there will be similar public consultation, as held previously in the community centre, for the Inniskeen Town and Village Renewal Scheme?

Reply – the intention is to hold similar.

Asked if co-operation is forthcoming from local landowners in relation to the Monaghan Way?

Reply – A Rural Recreation Officer has held one-to-one meetings with affected landowners.

Noted the extended lead in time regarding The Ridge, Castleblayney due to the difficulty obtaining products. Asked if there will be additional costs to the taxpayer due to this? Wondered how the funding is broken down?

Reply- additional costs have yet to be substantiated, it is hoped that these will not be too excessive. 75% of the funding is by way of a grant allocation from the Department. The remaining 25% match funding is provided by Monaghan County Council and our project partners – Castleblayney Community Enterprise CLG and Enterprising Monaghan.

Queried how many teams are currently on the ground to maintain our roads?

Reply – depends on the resources that are available. At present the resources on given day are heavily influenced by winter maintenance callouts/commitments.

##### Cllr. McCooey:

Enquired about the funding for Ballynacarry Bridge.

Reply – TII and the Department of Infrastructure, Northern Ireland.

Commented that in cases where MCC remove hedgerows they should be replanted.

Commended the fantastic works being carried out under the Active Travel Plan.

Requested an update on Brennans Cross.

Reply – no update at present. Will follow up with Roads Section.

Queried the status of design plans for the footpath from the town to Castleblayney Central School?

Reply – this project had been removed from the Active Travel programme.

Requested an update on the rating of regional roads?

Reply – Understood that the Members had received a presentation/update from the Roads Section on the progress of this project. Ratings have yet to be confirmed.

Thanked the MD Co-Ordinator for the report on Winter Maintenance.

#### Cllr. O’Hanlon:

Warmly welcomed the new additions to the MD team.

Noted that he had submitted a question about the Shirley House Lane Car Park in this month’s questions. Wished to acknowledge the role of the previous Director of Services, Paul Clifford, in this project. Sought clarification on the final comment in the response to his question “subject to available resources”.

Reply – it is my understanding that it refers to human resources.

Requested that the Director of Services, Carmel O’Hare, puts pressure on the Planning Section and provides the Members with an update.

Asked for an update on the pedestrian crossing at Inniskeen Chapel?

Reply – it is intended to begin construction in Q1 2023.

Wished to acknowledge the contribution of Cllr. Aidan Campbell in his role as Chair of East Border Region. Stated that he understands that Louth County Council are the lead organisation for the charging points project. Requested that A/District Co-Ordinator Damien Thornton follow up with Louth County Council.

#### Cllr. Campbell:

Noted the positive works being carried out at the moment by the MD team.

Commented that The Ridge, Castleblayney looks fantastic and stated he hopes it will be handed over in February.

Welcomed the arrival of new staff members to the MD team and wished both the best of luck.

## **5.0 Q&A**

### **Questions raised by Cllr. Colm Carthy for January 2023 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:**

- 1. When is it expected works to the old Ardee road ramp/crossing (at Nuremore) and the Lurgan Hill footpath will be completed?**

#### **Response**

Works to install the pedestrian crossing point on the Old Ardee Road, adjacent to the entrance of the Nuremore Hotel, are substantially complete. The footway at the Lurgan Hill is scheduled for completion towards the latter end of Q1 of 2023.

2. Can the executive confirm that residents in Drummond Etra, Valley Close, Monaghan St. and Castleblayney road, Carrickmacross, will be contacted directly for their views on proposed development plan for the Gallows Hill/JJ Quigley Park?

**Response**

The development of the proposed Greenspace Masterplan for the Gallows Hill area of Carrickmacross Town shall include for extensive consultation with all stakeholders, including the residents of Drummond Etra, Valley Close, Monaghan Street and Castleblayney Road.

3. Has there been any update on this year's Low-Cost Safety scheme funding, when is it expected to be announced and does the executive expect to be in a position to carry out works on pedestrian safety measures on the Kingscourt road, Carrickmacross (which now services a significant increase in houses/families)?

**Response**

This MD has submitted several schemes for consideration under the Low-Cost Safety Improvement Scheme 2023. An announcement on funding allocations is expected in mid Q1 of 2023.

4. Following on from previous enquires, what is the up-to-date situation with the entrance of Drumillard estate, Castleblayney – resurface of road and ramped/ditched edging added to footpaths on either side for pedestrian access?

**Response**

Works at the entrance to Drumillard will be completed in Q1 of 2023.

5. Has there been any further progress on the provision of a pedestrian crossing for Oriel Road, Carrickmacross?

**Response**

The provision of a pedestrian crossing at Oriel Rd. Carrickmacross forms part of this MD's Low-Cost Safety Improvement Scheme application for 2023. An announcement on funding allocations is expected in mid Q1 of 2023.

**Questions raised by Cllr. Aoife Mc Coeey for January 2023 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:**

6. Can the MD provide an update on how we are to progress to the next phase of the Castleblayney Market house development.

**Response**

As part of the project design stage, an underground utilities survey in the Market Square area commenced on January 16<sup>th</sup> and it is expected that these survey works will be completed by the end of the month.

The Design Consultants are continuing to develop detailed design proposals for the project which are expected to be finalised in April 2023. Following this works will commence on the preparation of project tender documentation. In order to progress the

project to the construction phase, it is Monaghan County Council intention to submit a Category 1 RRDF grant funding application to the Department of Rural & Community Development (DRCD) in 2023 once the new RRDF application process is officially opened and the relevant submission dates are confirmed.

7. Can the MD please investigate the LP03410 Corracloughan, Castleblayney for possible sinking over the last 18 months. There has been an emergence of dips on this road, and it needs a plan to prevent further deterioration of the road. [Road council yard and McQuillan Staircases is on]

**Response**

The Municipal District Executive shall undertake an assessment of the LP03410, in the vicinity of Corracloughan, to determine the nature and extent of deterioration in the road pavement. Thereafter, the Executive shall seek to identify appropriate and feasible remedial measures aimed at ensuring the longer-term structural integrity of the road pavement. The Executive shall explore all potential sources of funding to implement the remedial measures identified.

8. Can the MD provide an update of the Monaghan Way on Mullyash to improve walking paths and signage in the area.

**Response**

The Trails Consultants appointed for the Monaghan Way Inniskeen to Annadrumman have been tasked with undertaking research into and initiating engagement with landowners at a potential stand-alone loop at Mullyash mountain. Their report on this is due shortly.

9. Can the MD provide an update and outline the plan to upgrade the L4400, Corrygarry in relation the road surface.

**Response**

The LP4400 does not form part of the adopted 2023 or 2024 Roads Improvement Programmes. This section of pavement will be considered for future Roads Improvement Programmes. This MD shall endeavour to carry out maintenance repairs to this section of pavement.

10. Following on from a motion I put forward in December 2020, Can the MD provide any update on efforts made for find a parking alternative in Castleblayney, to the benefit to business owners, their staff, and customers. There are a number of possible options which if not already explored, should be.

**Response**

At present there are 5 No. public car parks accessible to motorists in Castleblayney Town, all within reasonable walking distance of Main Street. These include the car park immediately adjacent (eastern side) to the *SuperValu*/Shopping Centre entrance on McGrath Road, which Monaghan County Council purchased in late 2021 to further enhance off-road parking facilities in the Town. Collectively, the existing accessible public car parks provide for a total of 294 off-road parking spaces, 240 of which are not time restricted. A Traffic and Parking Study commissioned by Monaghan County Council in July 2022, to inform the design of the Market Square public realm, found that the Old Town Council car park, the Upper Commons car park, and both of the public car parks located



on McGrath Road are underutilised. The latter three demonstrate spare capacity in excess of 50% during peak usage periods.

**Questions raised by Cllr. Noel Keelan for January 2023 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:**

11. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the proposed CCTV camera system for Carrickmacross town and its environs, what is the up-to-date position in relation to the CCTV camera system for Castleblayney town and its environs?

**Response**

**Carrickmacross Community Based CCTV Scheme**

The detailed design of the scheme is complete. The MD Executive, in conjunction with J&N Security Consultants Ltd., are currently preparing a Section 38 application for authorisation to operate the scheme. It is intended that the Section 38 application shall be submitted to An Garda Síochána within the coming weeks.

**Castleblayney Community Based CCTV Scheme**

An Garda Síochána has requested that the application for authorisation to operate the CCTV Scheme be re-submitted in line with the recently revised Section 38 application process. It is intended that the revised application shall be submitted to An Garda Síochána within the coming weeks.

12. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the much-anticipated roll out of the bicycle rental scheme for the Inniskeen area and beyond?

**Response**

A tender has issued to the wider market, via the eTenders platform, for the engagement of a suitably qualified third party to operate, maintain and develop the proposed bike rental scheme. The closing date for tender responses is Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> of February 2023. Pending the engagement of an Operator it is hoped that the scheme will be launched by May 2023.

13. What plans have this council to progress the proposed greenway from Carrickmacross town out to Inniskeen village and onto Dundalk?

**Response**

Monaghan County Council previously commissioned a feasibility and scoping study for the proposed Greenway. Currently, there is no funding available to further develop the project. The Executive shall continue to explore all potential sources of funding to advance the scheme.

14. What plans have the council to upgrade and replace the wing walls and other associated works at Corcrin bridge as requested by local residents?

**Response**

Monaghan County Council have inspected in the region of 500 bridges in the county and have applied for funding to carry out repairs to bridges classified as requiring urgent repairs. The bridge at Corcrin is not presently listed as requiring urgent repairs. Should further funding become available this bridge will be reinspected.

15. As a follow on from a motion passed by the council members some time ago what progress if any has been made in relation to a feasibility study in conjunction with Louth County Council as to what improvement works could reasonably be carried out to the main access route (L1140) from Channonrock into Inniskeen village given the importance of this route as a public transport and economic link?

**Response**

An exploratory meeting (on site), with representatives from Louth County Council, is scheduled to take place on Thursday the 2<sup>nd</sup> of February 2023.

**Questions raised by Cllr. Aidan Campbell for January 2023 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:**

16. In welcoming the recent funding announcement by Minister Heather Humphreys under the OUTDOOR RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE SCHEME and as part of “Embracing Ireland’s Outdoors” of €500,000 for major upgrading and enhancing for the Black Island at Muckno Park in Castleblayney. Particularly the Need to alleviate seasonal flooding issues on existing trails –

There is on-going flooding on a couple of stretches on trails being unpassable due to flooding at certain times of the year.

- What is the brief and update with the tender process to appoint a design team for this major project?
- What is the timescale for this process to take?
- When is it hoped that work will commence on this project?
- When the works are completed is it possible to register the walks with the National Trails office so it would be possible to market these walks on a national scale?

**Response**

A Tender seeking a Design Team for the Black Island project was uploaded on e-tenders before Christmas. The deadline for receipt of tenders is 20<sup>th</sup> January. It is anticipated that the trails will be registered with the National Trails Office upon completion after which on-going maintenance will be required on the trails to ensure the relevant standards continue to be met.

17. What is the update on the appointment of a Works Contractor for the works on the Monaghan Way and when will these works be complete?

**Response**

The upgrade works along the route from Inniskeen to Annadrummond have been divided into

2 elements – (1) vegetation clearance and (2) installation of signage and trail furniture.

Vegetation clearance must be completed first and this is now advertised on the e-tenders website with the remaining tender to follow shortly. The mapping design element is currently in progress. It is anticipated that the works will be completed by the end of May.

18. What is the update on the CLAR funded projected for Castleblayney/Carrickmacross ?

**Response**

Mullyash Day Care Centre received €19,919 under the CLÁR 2021 Scheme to upgrade the car park facilities. This project is now fully completed. Oram National School received €50,000 under the CLÁR 2022 Scheme to resurface the school playground and provide a sensory garden and equipment. It is envisaged that these works will be carried out during the summer school holidays, in parallel with the construction of a new extension to the existing school building, to reduce disruption to the students.

19. When is it hoped to have some remedial clean-up of the Hope Castle?

**Response**

The Municipal District Executive, in collaboration with Muckno Community Partnership, intend to undertake some aesthetic maintenance works on the Castle, and its immediate surrounds, in March/April 2023.

**Questions raised by Cllr. P J O'Hanlon for January 2023 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:**

20. When is it expected that the planning phase of the new C:TEK II building shall be completed?

**Response**

A decision whether to approve or request further information on the planning application is due by the 9<sup>th</sup> of February 2023.

21. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the progression of the Part 8 planning for the Development of the car park at Ivy lane?

**Response**

A variation of the County Development Plan zoning is required to progress the Part 8 application. Consultants are due to be engaged to carry out an Appropriate Assessment Screening Report and an Environmental Impact Assessment Screening Report in relation to the proposed variation. Following the preparation of these screening reports the proposed variation will be progressed. It is hoped that the variation process can be commenced in the first half of this year, subject to available resources.

22. When is it expected that the Local Action Area Plans for the backlands on the East and West of the Main Street shall be finalised?

**Response**

The consultants produced draft documents in relation to the different elements of the Local Area Action Plans such as traffic, design, etc. A review of these documents was carried out by the Planning Section and amendments recommended to the consultants. The consultants have replied to these recommended amendments and the Planning Section is currently considering these. It is hoped that these Local Area Action plans can be progressed to the next stage in the first half of this year, subject to available resources.

23. What is the up-to-date position In relation to the provision of road safety measures on the approaches

to the entrance to the Platinum Tanks Park GAA facility on the Donaghmoynne Rd.?

**Response**

The MD Executive are awaiting the outcome report from a safety assessment undertaken to identify appropriate and effective safety measures. The Executive shall explore all potential sources of funding to provide for the installation of any remedial measures identified.

24. Following my continued campaigning at East Boarder Region level, that Carrickmacross Civic Offices was confirmed as one of the two designated locations in County Monaghan to facilitate an EV rapid charging point. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the roll-out of this project?

**Response**

Louth County Council is acting as the lead partner for the delivery of the project in the Counties in the Republic and is currently in the process of assessing Tenders for Legal and Multidisciplinary consultants and planned to have both appointed before Christmas. An AA Screening Stage 1 has been completed on all sites and is awaiting reports from the consultant. It is anticipated that all works and chargers to be installed and commissioned by the end Dec 2023 and installation is scheduled to commence in May/June 2023.

## 6.0 Motion

The following motion was proposed by Cllr. McCooey:

*“Cllr McCooey proposes that this MD will carry out a clean-up of the Hope Castle to include, weeding, painting, and putting a roof on the castle to prevent further deterioration of the structure as we have already seen happen to the market house previously. We cannot allow a protected building in Castleblayney to be left to fall down, we can no longer wait on this issue.”*

Cllr Campbell stated that he agrees with the sentiment of the motion, however he referred to his Q19 of January’s Q&A, stating that an answer has been provided – plans are in place to tidy up the area. In relation to the roof, Cllr. Campbell commented that there is a process on going in relation to the future development of Lough Muckno Park, including Hope Castle, and that public consultation has been carried out. Cllr. Campbell opined that the Members should await the outcome of this process.

Cllr. Carthy wished to note that he already raised this issue previously and that he agrees with the motion, however, there are plans in place to tidy and paint in March/April 2023. Cllr. Carthy concurred with Cllr. Campbell’s comments about the roof – there is a process on going to examine the future development of Lough Muckno Park.

Cllr. Keelan stated that he supports the motion.

Cllr. O'Hanlon voiced his support for the motion, stating that Hope Castle needs community involvement. It will not be decided by the MD – it will go to full council.

Director of Services, Carmel O'Hare, advised that it is a process on-going that is currently at feasibility stage, public consultation has been carried out. It is too early to make decisions regarding the roof. Ms. O'Hare suggested that the motion is deferred until further information is available.

Cllr. McCooey agreed to defer the motion, however stated that it must be kept on the agenda. The painting, tidying and weeding needs to be pushed on.

## **6.0 DOS / CE Orders**

The following Orders were noted: CMX-CBY 01/2023; CMX-CBY 02/2023; CMX-CBY 03/2023. CMX-CBY 04/2023; CMX-CBY 05/2023.

## **7.0 VOS/VOC**

*Votes of sympathy* were extended to Brigid McKenna & family on the death of Patsy McKenna (R.I.P); Dessie & Maria Murnaghan on the death of Tom Boyle (R.I.P); the family of Martin Donnelly (R.I.P) and to the Smith family on the death of Sean Smith (R.I.P.)

The members paid tribute to Sean Smith 's (R.I.P.) contributions during his time with CMETB and Cavan County Council.

*A vote of congratulations* was extended to Carrickmacross Workhouse on their recent achievement of being nominated for the Pride of Place award.

## **8.0 A.O.B**

Cllr. Keelan:

Advised that he has received a number of calls regarding road safety in the vicinity of Blackstaff School. Noted that a lot of works were carried out previously by the MD.

Commented that there seems to be a serious issue with speeding. Requested that the MD contact the school with a view to investigating extra safety measures.

Requested that the MD investigate pedestrian crossings in the MD as some are poorly lit, causing a road safety issue.

There are a number of hollows and dips on the access road into Killanny village. Can the engineering staff investigate same?

Stated that the HGV Bye Laws are being broken. Questioned if any fines have been issued? Have companies been spoken to? Commented that lives have been lost on the main street of Carrickmacross.

Cllr. Carthy:

Welcomed the addition of a water dispenser in Carrickmacross.  
Has been contacted by Castleblayney residents regarding the fibre broadband roll-out. Some houses and housing estates are not included in the plan. Requested that the Local Authority keep the pressure on the roll-out.  
Spoke about the street lighting in Carrickmacross town, stating that it is very dark.  
Commented that Carrickmacross has already lost a significant amount of night-time economy – if serious about bringing in evening business, this issue needs to be investigated. The main issue is at head height – visibility is poor – there is no flood on the light.  
Used the example of the lamps outside the Civic Offices as lamps that magnify the light.  
On the proposal of Cllr. Carthy and seconded by Cllr. Keelan the following motion was unanimously agreed  
*“That this MD write to the HSE regarding the future use of their former Primary Care building on Rockdaniel Road, Carrickmacross. We ask them to confirm what the building is currently being used for and its future use plans. Would they consider transferring ownership to Monaghan County Council to bring it into use for the public or for housing.”*

Cllr. O’Hanlon:

Commented that the streetlamps issue in Carrickmacross is as a result of a European Directive. Requested that Niall Skinnader, Environment Section, carry out a survey in Carrickmacross town. Suggested that AGS should be notified also and enquired as to whether they are happy with the lighting?  
Advised that the driver feedback sign on the Ballybay Road, Carrickmacross is continually not working.  
Requested an update on parking in the two towns.  
Commented that HGVs seem to be using the town route mostly at night. AGS have been informed.

Cllr. McCooey:

Wished to voice her support of Cllr. Carthy’s motion.

Cllr. Campbell:

Advised that the streets in Castleblayney need to be power washed, particularly the lower end.

The meeting concluded at 11:50

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Cathaoirleach

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Date

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Meeting Administrator