



Live, Work, Visit

Monaghan

*Autumn / Winter
Newsletter*

2022

Welcome

From the Deputy Chief Executive of Monaghan County Council

Welcome to the Autumn/Winter edition of Monaghan County Council's staff newsletter.

Since our last newsletter there has continued to be a lot of change in the Council. Over the summer we have welcomed many more new staff, and have also said goodbye to several long-serving colleagues. We wish the retirees a long and happy retirement, and good health to enjoy it, and sincerely thank them for their long service. We also warmly welcome the new faces, and look forward to working with them and taking on board the new perspectives and fresh ideas that they will no doubt bring.

Thankfully, this year has seen somewhat of a return to normality, following the upheaval caused by the pandemic. As we emerge cautiously from Covid 19, staff have continued to work diligently and produce outstanding outputs across all sections of the Council. I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank each and every staff member and the elected members for their hard work and commitment in the face of what has been a very challenging time.

The aim of our Newsletter is to share information and news of interest to staff on what's going on in our Council. We look forward to providing you with a regular newsletter and if you would like to suggest news to be included please email the Communications Team at communications@monaghancoco.ie

Patricia Monahan

Deputy Chief Executive



Monaghan County Council - Senior Management Team



Nuala Woods

Director of Climate Action, Environmental and Water Services

- Water
- Environment
- Climate Change
- Tourism
- Heritage
- Monaghan MD



John Murray

Director of Finance, Housing & Culture

- Housing
- Finance
- Motor Tax
- Libraries
- Arts Office
- Museum



Cathal Flynn

Director of Economic Development, Planning & Capital Projects

- Economic Development/LEO
- Planning
- Fire
- Capital Projects
- Corporate Assets



Carmel O'Hare

A/Director of Corporate Services & Innovation

- Corporate Services including
- Data protection
- Internal Audit IT & Innovation
- Human Resources
- Health & Safety
- Castleblayney/Carrickmacross MD



Gareth McMahon

A/Director of Transportation, Community & Rural Development

- Roads
- Procurement
- Community
- Ukrainian Response
- Ballybay-Clones MD

Monaghan County Council Memorial Service

A memorial service was held on Thursday 3rd November 2022 in St. Macartan's Cathedral, Monaghan for the deceased staff members of Monaghan County Council and in particular remembering our dear colleagues and friends who sadly passed away over the last few years. It gave the members of the Council and the staff an opportunity to come together to celebrate their lives and to share the loss with their families.

The service was celebrated by Canon Paddy McGinn, Adm and Rev. Alan McQuade. Bríd Donnelly, Lucy, Charlie and Bobby O' Brien provided the music and the choir was made up of staff from Monaghan County Council.

All those who attended were invited for refreshments following the service.





This project is supported by the EU's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB) www.seupb.eu.

The financial support provided through the PEACE IV Programme is €9,541,081 with approval of an additional €3,761,372.70 in July 2022.

Works on the exterior and structure of Monaghan Peace Campus has made good progress in recent months. The installation of the structure for the Level 4 Community room completes the reinforced concrete and structural steel structures of the building. The exterior brickwork is well-advanced, and some scaffolding has now been taken down to reveal the brickwork. The first windows were fitted in October, this was an important milestone towards sealing the building. Interior works, and electrical and mechanical fit-out in progress.



Contractor Works in Progress/Complete up to November 2022

- Staircore 1 roof slab complete.
- Internal Stair 2 – flights and landing from Level 1 – 4 slab complete.
- Level 4 Multi-Use Room – Structural steel complete.
- Internal & External Stud and framework installation ongoing
- Masonry Support installation up to Level 3 is nearing completion.
- External brickwork ongoing, approx. 60% complete.
- Internal brickwork ongoing.
- Walls to the External Stage area are now complete.
- Roof slab ongoing.
- Installation of windows has commenced.
- Planter walls ongoing.
- Electrical containment on Levels 0 – 1 is ongoing.

Expected Progress over the Next 3 Months

- o Main Structure to be completed
- o Brickwork to be completed in Quarter 1 2023
- o Windows and Roof installed in late 2022 and early 2023
- o M&E and internal fit-out progressing
- o Projected Completion still projected for Quarter four 2023



Site Visit - October 2022

The Monaghan Peace Campus Steering Committee and the Approving Authorities (SEUPB, DRCD) visited the site in October and there was very positive feedback in relation to the scale and design of the project.

For more information and up-to-date drone and timelapse images visit the Monaghan Peace Campus web page at www.monaghan.ie or search "Monaghan Peace Campus"



Heritage Officer presents evidence to the Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss

A Citizens' Assembly on Biodiversity Loss, with a total of 100 members including an independent Chairperson and 99 randomly-selected members of the public, has been convened to examine how the State can improve its response to the issue of biodiversity loss, and to bring forward proposals in that regard.

Shirley Clerkin, Heritage Officer, was invited by the expert group to present an overview of what it is like working at the ground level to prevent biodiversity losses. At their September meeting, she focused on the common habitat of hedgerows, demonstrating the shifting baseline where the public don't notice gradual declines in landscape quality as we all become attuned to such changes; and on wetlands and peatlands where climate and biodiversity intersections are becoming very apparent to policy makers.

For many years Monaghan County Council has conducted surveys for many years on these habitat types, excellent information exists on their condition and extent in our county. RTE news featured a contribution from Shirley in an interview with George Lee following the day's proceedings.

The recordings of the discussions are available on <https://www.citizensassembly.ie/en/assembly-on-biodiversity-loss/about/>

Conservation works commence at Errigal Truagh Medieval Church ruin

Errigal Truagh comprises a complex of ecclesiastical archaeological remains in the townland of Mullanacross (Mullach na Croise – Summit of the crosses), ruins of the medieval church of St. Maudain, a graveyard with a collection of later historic 18th century headstones and monuments, and holy well. The site is elevated above the low road and one theory is that the ridge onsite may mark the processional route to the Holy Well, retained while nearby quarries were in operation.

The above-ground church ruins comprise of west gable with central doorway with a rounded arch; and an east wall with a lozenge shaped window profile consistent with 15th century tracery detail.

Both gable walls are at risk of collapse due to dissolution of mortar, loss of some stone and water migration through wall tops. Increased frequency of wind-driven rain, and projections for climate change due with activity increasing puts this structure further at risk. To increase its resilience, the church needs repair and conservation works before these impacts cause partial or full collapse of walls.

Following a research and preparation phase establishing the values of this site, and to develop methodologies and specifications for repair, the Heritage Office was awarded over €80,000 by the Community Monuments Fund towards the works on the west gable in 2022. These works have commenced and the conservation team is onsite, raking out joints, repointing with lime mortars, flaunching the walls tops, and carefully recording the works.



New film on wetlands and climate for young people

The Heritage Office has been working with a production company to make a short film on how peatlands and wetlands contribute to climate mitigation and adaptation.

Starring John Sharpson, well-known children's presenter from RTE and TG4, filming was conducted on Sliabh Beagh and on a green screen in August and September. Currently with an editor, we expect to have this entertaining, informative and motivational film ready for January to be released to schools all over the county and beyond. The film is funded through the Creative Ireland fund.



Rossmore Mausoleum is home to seven species of bats

The Rossmore Mausoleum was designed by E.J. Tarver by commission of the fifth Baron Rossmore. It commemorates the death of the fourth baron who died after a hunting accident at Windsor Castle in 1874, aged 23. The location of the building beside lots of suitable habitats for bat roosting and feeding – trees, woodlands, rivers and lakes and its actual design with ventilation gaps and an attractive dome make it perfect for these wonderful little mammals.

A bat survey was conducted in order that we could put in place mitigation measures to allow for conservation works to be undertaken to the mausoleum, and to apply for a Bat Derogation Licence from the National Parks and Wildlife.

At least 12 brown long-eared bats were recorded roosting behind the tongue-and-groove timbers on the ceiling. This is a maternity roost where mothers and aunts help raise the young bats. These bats have distinctive large ears, almost as long as their body. Rossmore is an ideal habitat for them as they prefer foraging for insects and moths among woodland foliage. They love roosting in places with large attic spaces such as churches.

The tower dome seems to offer roosting and over-wintering hibernation places for the Daubenton's bat. These bats love flying over water where they hunt at twilight for midges, flies, mayflies and moths. Lots of opportunities exist for them in the park. Other species recorded at the mausoleum are common and soprano pipistrelles, leisler's bats, natterer's bats, and whiskered bats.

Conservation works, with mitigation measures to protect the bat species are underway onsite funded by the Historic Structures Fund and Monaghan County Council.



Heritage Council and Local Authority Heritage Officers visit Monaghan

In October, Heritage Officers from around the country visited Monaghan to discuss climate change and heritage.

Presentations included an eye-opener from The Discovery Programme on impacts of climate on archaeological monuments, conservation of peatlands from the Monaghan County Council CANN project, and County Monaghan Heritage Office on our Wetlands Action Plan. Visits to Sliabh Beagh to look at impacts of fire on the blanket bog habitats and to Errigal Truagh to discuss the stone conservation works to protect this ruin from impacts of driving rain added to the learning experience. An early morning tour of Castle Leslie Estate with the imitable Sammy Leslie, board member of the Heritage Council showing the complicated decision making processes involved in the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage of the estate reminded us all of the crucial role that is played by our heritage custodians.



EU Mobility Week (Lunch n' Learn)

To mark European Week of Sport and EU Mobility Week, the Active Travel Unit and Sporks Partnership in partnership with our Wellness Committee planned some lunch time staff events from 26th – 30th September. These lunch n learn events were a huge success. Staff from Planning, the Glen and MTEK offices participated in walking and cycling sessions.

With the newly upgraded Greenway and our stock of staff e-bikes, it was the ideal opportunity for staff to try out an e-bike. This session was facilitated by Drumlin Bike Trails, who supplied additional bikes in each location to allow a group of staff complete the session together. It started with a yard-based session first so everyone felt comfortable before taking to the Greenway for a 20-minute cycle.

The lunchtime walk saw staff from each location meeting at a mid-way point on the Greenway. Here they enjoyed some light body refreshing exercises & stretches led by local facilitator Cheryl Connolly before heading back to their offices for light refreshments.



If you'd like to try out one of the e-bikes, it couldn't be easier! You will find information guides and useful videos on how to book a bike - the Reach App
<https://app.condense.ch/reachmonaghancoco/pages/251207/Staff-E-Bike-Loan-Scheme> The information is also saved on the staff portal, go to "Documents & Forms", then "forms, policies & procedures" and you'll find the E-bike scheme there.

have your say!



**CYCLE
CONNECTS**
IRELAND'S CYCLE NETWORK



Public consultation portal for Cycle Connects

The public consultation portal for Cycle Connects: Ireland's Cycle Network took place in October/November this year. CycleConnects: Ireland's Cycle Network aims to improve sustainable travel by providing the potential for more trips on a safe, accessible and convenient cycling network, connecting more people to more places. Proposals for cycling links in key cities, towns and villages in each county are included in the plan, in addition to connections between the larger towns, villages and settlements. The plan will also incorporate existing and planned cycle routes such as greenways and blueways. Together these plans will create an overall comprehensive cycle network for Ireland.



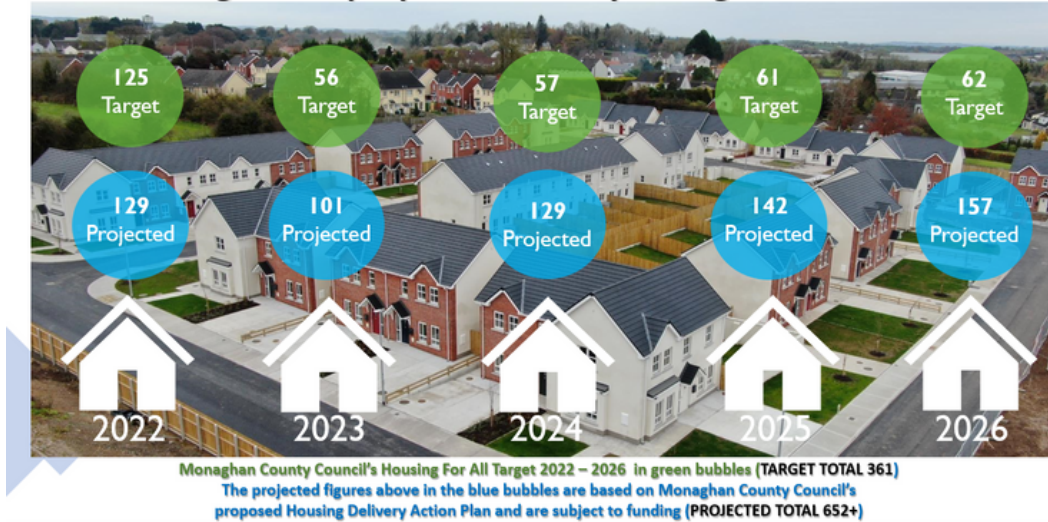


HOUSING FOR ALL

HOUSING CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE



Housing For All proposed Delivery & Targets 2022-2026



Works have ongoing or finished on the following developments:

Clones Renewal Scheme

Monaghan County Council received Funding Approval in 2019 from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage under the Rebuilding Ireland programme to demolish 11 properties on Fermanagh Street and Analore Street, Clones and construct 22 new apartments and 2 new Townhouses in their place.

- The all-in project budget is circa €6million, 16 properties have already been delivered and occupied. The remaining 6 properties will be delivered in 2022.
- The scheme has been a focus of attention nationally winning Excellence in Planning Award at the Property Industry Excellence Awards 2019



Ard an Radhairc, Carrickmacross

- The project consists of the provision of 41 houses at Ard an Radhairc, Carrickmacross by Greenbriar Homes Limited.
- The development comprises of the four 2-Bedroom Mid terraced Houses, 37 three-Bedroom Semi-Detached/Terraced Houses including open space, landscaping, new access roads, drainage, street lighting and siteworks.
- Works commenced in November 2020, with phase handover of 6 houses in 2021, proposed 28 houses in September and the remaining 7 houses in December 2022.



Luí Na Greine Housing Development Scotstown

Monaghan County Council's Housing Section along with Wynne, Gormley and Gilsenan Architects, Lead Designer and E.R. and Lowry Construction Ltd, Main Contractor are reviving this derelict/unfinished housing estate in the heart of Scotstown.

The total project budget is just below €7million and includes the completion of 4 derelict unfinished houses and the construction of a further 28 new houses, all built to the highest standard with a Building Energy Rating of A3 and above. The project is being handed over in five Phases. 19 houses have already been occupied and the remaining 13 houses will be completed in December 2022.



Coill Darach, Castleblayney



- The project consists of the provision of 30 houses at Coill Darach, Castleblayney by Geda Construction Ltd.
- The development comprises of five 2-Bedroom Houses & 25no 3-Bedroom Houses including open space, landscaping, new access roads, drainage, street lighting and siteworks.
- Works commenced in January 2022, with a phased delivery of 13 houses in 2022 and 17 houses in 2023.

CORPORATE SERVICES

AUTUMN 2022

NANCY SMYTH - CANADIAN AMBASSADOR VISITS MONAGHAN



Monaghan welcomed the Canadian Ambassador H.E Ms Nancy Smyth on Friday 23rd October. The Canadian Ambassador made her way throughout County Monaghan, her visit included a variety of important stops around the county to areas such as Castle Leslie, Monaghan Farmers Markets, Ulster Canal Stores, Concra Wood while also finishing her visit with a tour of Carrickmacross Workhouse. It was a memorable and informative day across the county and provided additional strength to Monaghan's long established links to Canada twinned with Prince Edwards Island.

LIGHT UP OF MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL BUILDINGS IN AID OF WORLD HEART DAY 2022 AND FÉILEACÁIN WAVE OF LIGHT 2022

For #WorldHeartDay we lit up various Monaghan County Council buildings in red for the Irish Heart Foundation to show support for people who have been affected by heart disease and stroke. ♥



CORPORATE SERVICES

AUTUMN 2022



Féileacáin

Stillbirth and Neonatal Death Association of Ireland

We lit up various council buildings to show our support for Féileacáin Wave of Light 2022 which takes place for the month of October - October is Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness month and each year on October 15th there is a global "Wave of Light" where across the World at 7pm candles, monuments, landmarks and buildings are lit in the campaign's colours, blue and pink in memory of our babies. The national charity hopes that by turning buildings and landmarks blue and pink will spark conversations about baby loss and give bereaved parents and families an opportunity to talk about their precious babies.



MODERNISATION OF THE ELECTORAL REGISTRATION

Electoral Reform Act 2022, first significant programme of reform in 40 years, brings about much-needed major modernisation of the electoral system, making voter registration easier and more accessible while strengthening the integrity of the process. Rather than a statutorily imposed, paper-based annual cycle of the Draft and Live Registers, the new system will be much more responsive, flexible and streamlined.

Part 3, Franchise and Registration of Electors, which was commenced on 13th October 2022, sets out a brand-new way of managing the Register of electors.

The new process is more convenient for electors as they can register or update their details at any time – online and on paper form. With improved accessibility, voters are expected to take responsibility for updating and maintaining their own registration and ensure they are registered correctly – this will provide clarity for individuals on how they get on the register and give them greater control of their data.

The Act also provides for the future designation of a single registration authority to manage a shared database for all local authorities to use in their registration duties which will ultimately allow for management of duplications across the country.

THE EASY WAY TO SECURE YOUR SAY

Your voice matters and
your vote is important

checktheregister.ie



Long time voter?
First time voter?

[Check the register.ie](https://checktheregister.ie)

The easy way to secure your
say!

CORPORATE SERVICES

AUTUMN 2022

Before the migration onto the shared database takes place (possibly as soon as 2024/2025), local authorities have been tasked with a major scale database maintenance and cleansing project in order to achieve highest possible accuracy of the Register.

To support local authorities in seeking engagement of electors, both new and existing, to check and complete their information with PPSN, eircodes and DOB's, a large scale national campaign will start in November.

Summary of Key Changes	
Rolling Register	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• One single, always live and continuous Register that can be updated any time = ROLLING REGISTER
Individual registrations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Move away from household forms to individual registration.• No one will be added to the register without them having completed a form themselves (either online or on paper).
PPSN	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The use of PPSNs in the process will in future eliminate and prevent duplications across the country.
Verification Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Every application must be subjected to identity verification process.
Checktheregister.ie	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Majority of engagement in most circumstances can be via a simple online form on checktheregister.ie
New ERF1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New ERF1 = One single form to cover majority of people and scenarios.
Publishing of the Register	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Before elections and whenever LA deems appropriate.• "Point in time" extract of the register as it is at that time,
Electoral Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Establishment of an independent Commission to oversee and guide in relation to the register and its processes.

CIVIC RECEPTION TO HIGHLIGHT THE OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENTS OF VARIOUS LOCAL LADIES WITHIN THE COUNTY

On Tuesday, 1st November, Monaghan Co Council hosted a Civic Reception in the Hillgrove Hotel, Monaghan in honour of Molly Coffey O'Connor, Youth Olympic Weight Lifting Irish National Champion; Sarah Hanratty, Double gold medalist World Kickboxing Champion and the Monaghan Minor Ladies All-Ireland Minor B Champions 2022 in recognition of their recent outstanding achievements in sport. Cathaoirleach, Sean Conlon and Deputy Chief Executive, Patricia Monahan of Monaghan County Council congratulated the young ladies on their successes and acknowledged the enormous amount of hard work that led to their achievements.

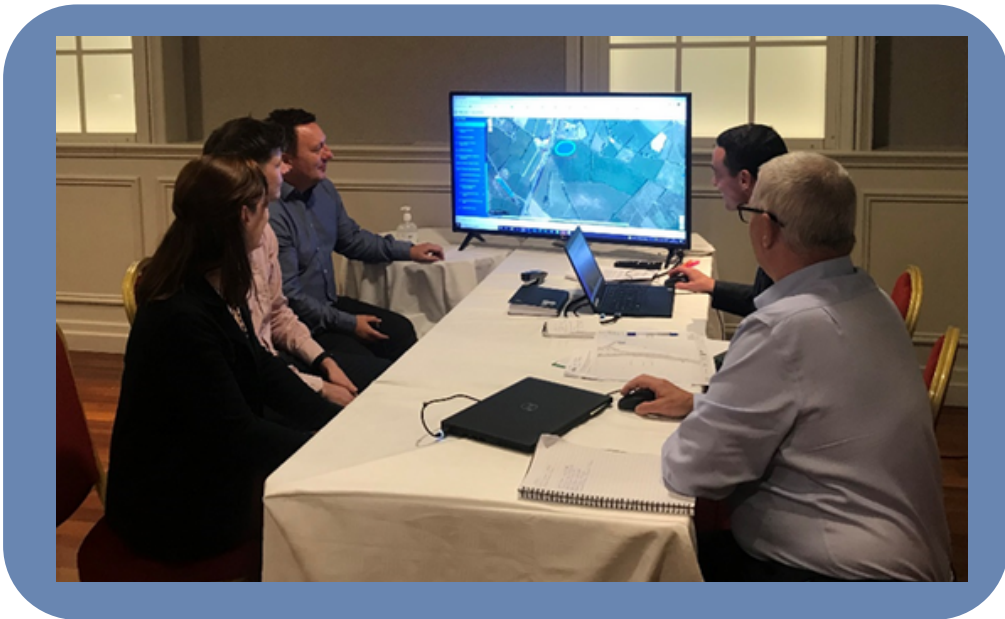




Roads & Transport



Monaghan County Council, in association with Louth County Council, and in partnership with Transport Infrastructure Ireland (TII) are currently developing a road scheme to upgrade the existing N2 between Ardee and Castleblayney. Monaghan County Council appointed Jacobs Consulting Engineers (Jacobs) in 2018 to advance the project through the planning and design process. This is an important project to enhance key North/South and regional connectivity and to improve road safety, and the project is being developed in accordance with TII's Project Management Guidelines.



By Summer 2022 the N2 Project Team had substantially completed the necessary surveys/investigations to prepare an 'Initial Design' of the proposed road. In September, the project team contacted approximately 300 directly affected landowners, inviting them to meet with members of the project team to discuss the potential impact of the scheme on their lands. The meetings took place in the Shirley Arms Hotel, Carrickmacross. At times up to 4 separate landowner meetings ran concurrently, and over 220 meetings took place over a 5 week period. At the landowner meetings, members of the project team provided each landowner with an overview of the project, providing information on the projected timeframe for completion, while also explaining the design and impacts in the vicinity of the landowners holding, and providing landowners with drawings of the proposed road alignment past their property and potential landtake.

The project team wishes to sincerely thank all landowners who attended meetings for their engagement – in many cases landowners received the information that they may be significantly impacted by the proposed scheme, and it was a difficult time for many people.

After directly affected landowners were given the opportunity to meet with the project team, the initial road design was made available to the public on the project website www.N2MonaghanLouth.ie. It shows the route of the proposed N2, the locations of the proposed interchanges and junctions onto the N2, and the route of proposed sideroads and access roads along the N2. The design shown will be based on a preliminary, initial design, and will be subject to change following feedback from stakeholders.

Making the initial design of the road available is providing the wider community the opportunity to view the impacts of the project on the local road network and to view the alternative routes they will be required to travel to access local facilities and to join the improved N2. The answers to Frequently Asked Questions are also available on the project website.

Over the coming months the N2 Project Team will consider feedback received from landowners and other stakeholders before a design is finalised. An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and CPO documentation will then be prepared. Subject to approval, would then be submitted to An Bord Pleanála as part of the planning approval process.

Feedback can be submitted to the N2 Project Team by email ArdeeCastleblayney@N2MonaghanLouth.ie or via the N2 Project Phonenumber 087 340 3786.



Roads & Transport



Monaghan County Council are continuing to develop the Reclaimed Asphalt Product and have teamed up with the TII & DOT to form a working group to help direct and inform current and future pilot schemes within the county. The Working group are hoping to develop a National standard for this type of construction in 2023. In 2022 Reclaimed Asphalt Trial was completed on 2KM of the R180 in Lough Egish with 4,500 tonnes of Asphalt Millings being recycled and brought back into productive use. Continuous monitoring and testing is being undertaken on a weekly basis to establish the pavement and mix performance.



Photo's here show production plant and completed scheme on the R180



PLANNING



Built Heritage 2022

The Built Heritage Grant Schemes have concluded for 2022 with eight structures having received funding under the Built Heritage Investment Scheme (BHIS) 2022 and three projects under the Historic Structures Fund (HSF) 2022. Some images of the successful projects in 2022 are displayed below.



Fig. 2: Window repairs to Teach Iosef, St. Louis Secondary School, Monaghan



Fig 1: Repair of the finials at Newbliss Gate Lodge, Rossmore

Built Heritage Grant Schemes 2023

Monaghan County Council is now inviting applications under the Historic Structures Fund 2023 and Built Heritage Investment Scheme 2023. The details of both grant schemes can be found on the Council's website <https://monaghan.ie/planning/built-heritage/> as well as on social and in press media. Completed applications using Form A and accompanied by a comprehensive method statement must be submitted to Angela Gallagher, Administrative Officer, Planning Section, No.1 Dublin Street, Monaghan Town, H18 X982 or emailed to builtheritage@monaghancoco.ie on or before the 31st January 2023.

Residential Zoned Land Tax

The Residential Zoned Land Tax (RZLT) was introduced in the Finance Act 2021. The process to identify land to which the tax applies is now underway and the tax will be payable from 2024. The objective of the tax is to activate land that is serviced and zoned for residential use or mixed use which includes residential use, in order to increase housing supply and to ensure regeneration of vacant and idle lands in urban locations.

Monaghan County Council has prepared a Draft Map of the lands considered to be in scope for the RZLT as of 1st October 2022. The Draft Map and explanatory information is available to view online at www.monaghan.ie/planning/rzlt/

The Draft Map is also available on public display at the following locations and times specified:-

Planning Offices – 1 Dublin Street, Monaghan H18 X982 (Monday to Friday 9.15am-1pm and 1.30pm-5pm)

County Offices – The Glen, Monaghan, H18 YT50 (Monday to Friday 9.15am-1pm and 1.30pm-5.15pm)

Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones Offices – Market House, The Diamond, Clones H23 X378 (Monday to Friday 9.15am-5.15pm)

Municipal District of Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Offices – Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross A81 RY22 (Monday to Friday 9.15am-5pm)

Any interested individuals or parties may make submissions in respect of land on the Draft Map. Further details on making a valid submission and how lands have been identified in scope for the tax are set out at www.monaghan.ie/planning/rzlt/. Valid submissions must be submitted to the Planning Section of Monaghan County Council.

- If submitting a paper copy this must be received by the Planning Office at 1 Dublin Street, Monaghan H18 X982 by 4pm on 23rd December 2022 as the offices are closed from 24th December 2022 to 3rd January 2023.
- If submitting electronically the submission must be sent to rzlt@monaghancoco.ie by 1st January 2023.

Fig. 3: Conservation works to the external and internal facades of the north transept gable at St. Macartan's Cathedral, Monaghan



Queries on the Mapping should be made to the RZLT Team in the Planning Section of Monaghan County Council by sending an email to rzlt@monaghancoco.ie or by telephoning 047 30532.



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Green School Awards Academic Year 2021/22

Six schools achieved and were awarded their green flag just before the summer break. It was a great accomplishment as Covid precautions were in place throughout their cycle, so congratulations to you all and well deserved!



Biodiversity Day event

A hugely successful event took place in August on the Greenspace in front of the Courthouse, Monaghan for Monaghan Tidy Town's annual Biodiversity Day. Groups participating on the day included Foróige, kids from Teach na Daoine summer camp, who were treated to biodiversity workshops at Peter's Lake with special guest Eanna Ní Lamhna and the Environmental Awareness Officer who handed out over 350 Free Food Caddies containing a free pack of biodegradable food waste bin bags.





ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



Interactive workshops with Schools

Various interactive workshops took place with schools throughout the county over the past number of months including a natural habitat workshop with Latnamalard NS, Greenans Cross Tidy Towns and MCC Horticulturist and EAO. Great creative designs of habitats were made by the pupils after their walk and talk session.



Acorn Planting Workshop

MCC Horticulturist and EAO had the pleasure of completing a tree awareness and acorn planting workshop in Lough Muckno in September with Annalitten National School pupils and their teachers – From Little Acorns, Mighty Oaks grow. John McKeon showed all how to compost and how to plant seeds and each of the pupils took their acorn back to school, to watch it grow. Environmental Services also provided the school with a new compost bin to go alongside their new greenhouse at the school.



Environmental and climate action awareness events

The EAO was delighted to be part of the tree awareness event held in Rossmore during the summer months in association with Monaghan Tidy Towns and Monaghan Mental Health. The walk and talk workshop included identification of native species and the climatic benefits associated with trees.



New litter picking stations in Monaghan town

Teach na Daoine Summer Camp

A recycling make and do workshop was carried out by the EAO with over 70 children taking part in the workshops. Items found in the recycling bin were upcycled and made into compost trays and mini greenhouses. These were then planted with vegetable seeds and pollinator plants.



Tydavnet Agricultural Show

Fantastic submissions from kids of all ages with environmental themes were on show at the Tydavnet Show this year. It was delightful to be a judge at it and congratulations to all entrants especially the winners.



Did you know? A total of 81 tonne of bulky goods were collected during Half Price Reduction Event held in August. These consisted of furniture, beds, mattresses, pushchairs, office furniture etc.

Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection

Recruitment process

Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection have recently held open nights in both Ballybay & Carrickmacross Fire Station in early Oct and are currently in the process of recruiting firefighters in Ballybay & Castleblayney.



RETAINED FIREFIGHTERS RECRUITING NOW

MONAGHAN COUNTY COUNCIL IS NOW RECRUITING FOR RETAINED FIREFIGHTERS

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for the position of Retained (Part-time) Fire Fighters in each of the following Fire Stations:-

- BALLYBAY
- CARRICKMACROSS

Interested Candidates are invited to visit any of the Fire Stations on the following dates between 7.00pm – 9.00pm, where they will have an opportunity to meet members of their local fire brigades:-

- Tuesday 04th October 2022 - Ballybay Fire Station, Meeting House Lane, Ballybay, A75 T652
- Monday 10th October 2022 - Carrickmacross Fire Station, Cloughvalley, Carrickmacross, A81 D938



What is involved in becoming a FireFighter?

- The role of a retained fire-fighters offers a unique opportunity to serve your local community and learn new skills. Firefighters are called upon to tackle a wide range of emergency situations. Incidents vary from tackling fires and rescuing people from burning buildings to dealing with chemical spillages and road traffic collisions. A sensitive approach is required when dealing with members of the public who may be distressed and confused. In addition, fire fighters in Monaghan are also involved in the promotion of Fire Safety in the community through Fire Safety Week and through the Schools Safety Programme.
- The role can be intensely physically demanding, and fitness is crucial. Anyone interested in becoming a fire-fighter should follow Monaghan County Council website at <https://monaghan.ie/humanresources/>





Retirement

In May 2022 Martin McDonald (Monaghan Driver Mechanic) and in July Enda McMahan (Ballybay Driver Mechanic) retired with over 28 and 23 years' service respectively. Both during their service successfully completed an array of fire service courses and as Driver Mechanic's in Monaghan and Ballybay always ensured the safety of their crew. They both served the people of Monaghan and Ballybay with dedication and commitment and will be sorely missed by everyone within the fire service for their friendship, leadership, experience and ability to deal with emergency situations in a cool/controlled manner.



NEW FLEET

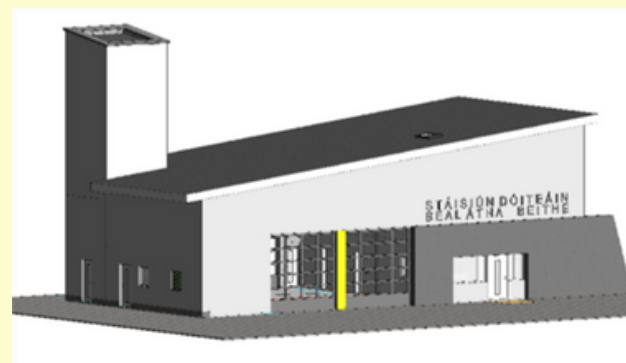
Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection recent received delivery of 1No. 4 x4 Ford Ranger people carriers. The new vehicles will replace existing Fire Service support vehicle in accordance with MFCP fleet policy.



BALLYBAY FIRE STATION

Part 8 Planning has been secured for the new fire station in Ballybay and tender documents are currently being prepared.

Pictured: Proposed new Fire Station in Ballybay



Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection

New Class B Fire Appliance

Emergency One UK Ltd a Scottish based coach builder has been awarded the contract to build the new appliance for Monaghan Fire Service. The procurement process is based on a national framework as part of the Fire Service Capital Programme. The build process has been hampered by the significant supply chain issues affecting the HGV industry, as a result delivery is due in Q3 of 2023.



New UK Class B Fire Appliance under construction

Wellness Programme:

The crew of Monaghan Fire Station have undertaken a wellness programme lead by Fire-Fighter Gary Lappin.



Monaghan Fire Station receiving RAMfit equipment



MFCP visiting the new NIFRS training facility in Cookstown, Co. Tyrone



New Electric Bike for Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection (August 2022)

Preparing for the Unexpected

Personal and Community Resilience



What can I do in my Community?

Check with neighbours and local community groups to see if there is anything you can do for the community in times of emergency. Check if the community has resources that may be available to you. A 4x4 vehicle in the community can help with essential food supplies and transport or a neighbour could help you with clearing snow and ice.

Remember

- ✓ Strengthening community links helps to improve preparedness
- ✓ Preparedness enables the community to come together
- ✓ Coming together leads to a better response in an emergency
- ✓ Central to this is neighbours knowing each other
- ✓ Knowing your neighbours and working together will ensure that vulnerable people in your community are prepared for the unexpected

Past incidents have shown that people already support and help each other during times of need.

Simple activities like getting together to clear snow and ice from paths or offering a helping hand to vulnerable neighbours can make all the difference.

Every day thousands of people need to attend hospital for life-saving treatments like dialysis.

If ice and snow caused a problem getting someone from their home to their hospital transport could your community get together to help?

If it is safe to do so you should check on neighbours and vulnerable people living nearby. Think about who they are and keep their details below.

Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
Eircode:	Eircode:
Tel:	Tel:

Never do anything to put you or anyone else at risk. If you are in immediate danger dial 999 or 112.

For more information visit: www.gov.ie/winterready
www.gov.ie/summerready
 Sign up for free text alerts for your area on www.mapalserter.ie where available

Produced by the North East Regional Emergency Planning Group

Preparing for the Unexpected

This guide can help you prepare for emergencies such as severe weather, gorse fires, flooding or a flu epidemic. This is not about doing the job of the emergency services; it is about supporting you and your family by making sensible preparations now to be self sufficient during an emergency or evacuation.

Think about how you would keep warm if your heating failed or if the electricity or water was cut off. Consider how you would secure your home.

If it is not safe to go out in an emergency, the advice is usually to:

- GO IN** (go indoors and close all windows and doors)
- STAY IN** (stay indoors)
- TUNE IN** (to local radio, TV or internet for information and advice)

If you have to leave your home, get out, stay out and take others with you. Think of two meeting places. One near home and one further away, in case you cannot get home or if you get separated. Pick a friend or relative who lives out of the area who you will agree to call to say you are OK should you need to leave home. (Make sure this person knows).



Remember

- ✓ Get the flu vaccine
- ✓ Keep your phone charged
- ✓ Keep warm, eat well and avoid unnecessary travel
- ✓ Have enough prescription medicines to see you through
- ✓ Know how to turn off the electricity, gas and water in your home

Make a list of Emergency contacts and keep it handy

My Emergency Contact	My Eircode/ Address
Family GP	Hospital
Neighbour	Pharmacist
Local Authority	Residents Association
Electrician	Plumber

Local Authority Out-Of-Hours Contacts

Monaghan	☎ 1800 121 121	📧 @monaghancoco	🏠 Monaghan County Council
Meath	☎ 1800 445 335	📧 @meathcoco	🏠 Meath County Council
Cavan	☎ 087 611 8116	📧 @cavancoco	🏠 Cavan County Council
Louth	☎ 042 933 5457	📧 @louthcoco	

The Household Emergency Plan

Prepare a household emergency kit and keep enough food, water and other essentials to last for at least three days. Whether you have to stay in or get out, packing a small emergency kit will help you get through. Keep it safe in a waterproof bag where it is easy to reach.

Stay Home Kit



General Contact Details

An Garda Síochana	☎ 1800 666 111	📧 @gardattraffic	🏠 an garda síochana
HSE	☎ 1800 700 700	📧 @HSELive	🏠 HSE Ireland
	☎ 01 240 87 87		

Building Control

Monaghan Building Control Officers have conducted various types of inspection from the beginning of the year. Most notable building works ongoing at the moment include the following:



ICF Concrete as a modern method of house construction in Housing Development, Monaghan Town.

 **Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection Agents Workshop**
27th October 2022

09:30 – 09:45	Welcome and Opening D Brannigan, Chief Fire Officer
09:45 - 10:10	National Building Control & Market surveillance Office Overview Mairead Phelan, Head of National Building Control Office
10:10 - 10:35	Common issues – Building Inspections Richard Butler, Senior Executive - National Building Control Office
10:35 - 11:05	ICF as an Innovative Solution to Housing Construction Trevor Coyle, Commercial Manager - Altherm ICF Ltd
11:05 - 11:20	Break
11:20 – 11:50	Passive Fire Safety David O' Reilly, Operations Officer ASFP
11:50 - 12:10	Fire Safety in Existing Buildings Slobhan McKenna, Senior Assistant Chief Fire Officer
12:10 - 12:20	Building Regulations - Compliance through Inspections Kieran Gallagher, Building Control Officer
12:20 - 12:30	Close of Workshop Dermot Brannigan, Chief Fire Officer



Monaghan Fire & Civil Protection annual agents workshop this year covered common issues arising with the building process locally.

Building Your Home: Things to know

There is a mistaken belief amongst the general population that Buildings or Works with Commencement Notices with Opt-Out Declarations (generally single dwellings), under S.I. No. 365 of 2015, submitted by the Owners/Builders/Designers do not need to show compliance with Building Regulations. It is important for the public to understand that S.I. No. 365 of 2015 does not remove the requirement for Competent Person(s) to design, inspect and construct the Building or Works, and it does not remove the requirement for competent person(s) to collate/review all supporting documentation e.g. DoPs, CE Certs and any other documents required to demonstrate compliance with the Building Regulations.



MONAGHAN CIVIL DEFENCE ACTIVITY

Monaghan Civil Defence members continue to play an important support role in supporting MCC staff transporting Ukrainian families, assisting the Irish Blood Transfusion Service at local clinics, providing important medical cover at many large sporting & community events throughout County Monaghan. Other activities included volunteers assisting at the Electric Picnic concert in Co. Laois. Since the start of 2022 there have been 131 events supported by Civil Defence members.



Civil Defence Volunteers at Garda Open-Day Monaghan



Civil Defence members during Swift Water Rescue Training Sept 2022

New members continue to join the organisation. The focus for the remainder of 2022 is to ensure that all new volunteers complete the mandatory training programme. There are currently 63 active volunteers, and congratulations to the 3 New Emergency Medical Technicians who have recently successfully completed their examinations. It's a great achievement and indicative of the hard work of the volunteers who undertook the course.

Volunteers attend upskilling training in CD College Roscrea and also in the new Civil Defence Headquarters Monaghan. Additions to the fleet include a new Ford Transit Van, Whaly 435R rescue boat and the installation of a UHF / VHF Radio mast at the CD HQ Monaghan.



Civil Defence Volunteers during Swift Water Rescue Training Sept 2022

Other Civil Defence Duties

Civil Defence Volunteers continue to support the local community and Principal Response Agencies in a variety of ways, in 2022 to date these duties include:

- Transporting HSE patients
- Assisting the Irish Blood Transfusion Service at local clinics,
- Transporting patients to medical appointments in Monaghan, Dublin, Drogheda & Navan hospitals
- Providing transport assistance to HSE medical staff, and to local Meals on Wheels services during severe weather events
- Providing Pre-hospital Care at sporting events



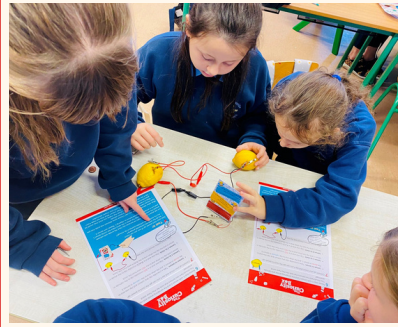


MONAGHAN COUNTY LIBRARY



Cavan Monaghan Science Festival 2022

Our award-winning Cavan Monaghan Science Festival was back with a bang for 2022. Events took place in schools and libraries across the 2 counties. County Monaghan hosted over 30 events across 2 weeks looking at a broad range of topics including The Biomechanics of Running, The STEM of Formula 1, The physiological & psychological effects of grief, The Science of Marvels Black Panther and much more. As COVID restrictions were lifted we were delighted to bring back the Big Family STEM Day in Monaghan Institute.

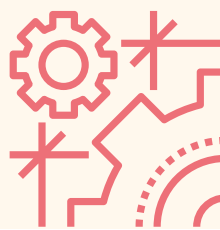
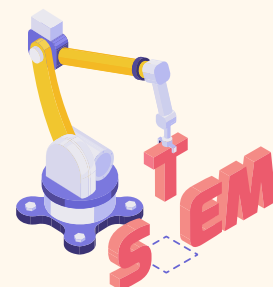
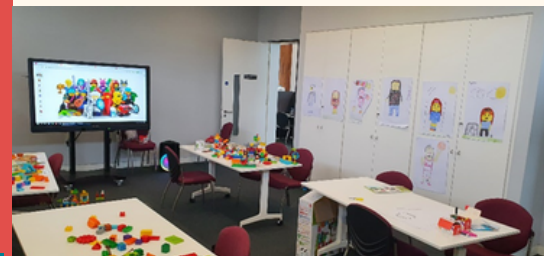


Literacy Activity Books

2022 saw two new Literacy Initiatives developed in conjunction with national sports organisations. Monaghan County Libraries joined forces with the GAA and The Football Association of Ireland to pilot sports themed activity books for school children aged 10-14 years old. The projects are aligned to the national Right to Read programme to promote literacy and reading development for people of all ages and backgrounds. By utilising the popularity of sport, the activity books have been developed to assist teachers in the classroom and provide an educational resource for parents and guardians at home.

Children's Book Festival @ Monaghan County Libraries

2022 saw the return of live 'in-person' CBF events running alongside a programme of webinars. Schools from across the County participated in workshops with bestselling children's authors & illustrators such as Robert Muchamore, Dan Freedman, Paddy Donnelly and Tarsila Kruse, Fiona Longmuir. 20 events took place across the month of October with hundreds of children participating.



OH WHAT A NIGHT. AN EXPLOSION OF CULTURAL ACTIVITY ACROSS THE COUNTY

After two years of online or hybrid programming, the hills, streets and corners across our beautiful wee county were alive with music, song, dance and performances...and attendees were taking it all in. An opportunity for the community to visit and engage in many cultural and artistic activities, whilst also stepping back in cultural heritage past yet leaping forward to the present and future, that was the variety of the night. We are fortunate to have such an energetic and engaging community of artists, creative practitioners and venues who want everyone to come share and experience everything cultural about Monaghan. From walking tours to blind painting workshops, while beating the beat of drums to drive in films, the outdoor live stages rocking the evening air or the unique adventure around Tyrone Guthrie Centre, there was literally something for everyone to partake in.





The Museum end of the Peace Campus (May 2022).

Monaghan Peace Campus

A project supported by the European Union's PEACE IV Programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body (SEUPB)



The financial support provided through the PEACE IV Programme is €9,541,081 with approval of an additional €3,761,372.70 in July 2022.

As the move to the new Monaghan Peace Campus becomes more imminent the focus of the museum has been on preparation of new exhibits and the logistical planning for the safe move of the collection to its new home in 2023. As part of this, a condition audit of the collection has been undertaken. This has meant a meticulous examination of objects in storage, shelf by shelf and box by box. The audit has also provided the opportunity for us to create a photographic record of the thousands of objects in the museum's collection

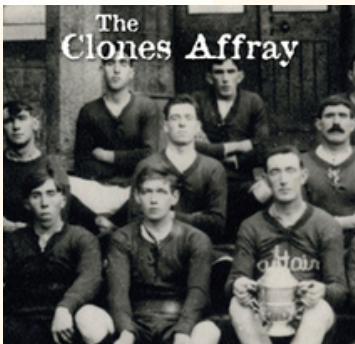


Additions to Monaghan's War of Independence Exhibition

The museum's current exhibition was launched in February 2020, receiving hugely positive reviews throughout the national media. Record numbers of visitors viewed the exhibit until it was forced to close in March 2020 due to COVID-19. Since reopening after COVID-19 restrictions were lifted, the decision to continue with the exhibition was taken. This was to allow an opportunity for people who were unable to visit during lockdown to view this fascinating exhibition.

In February 2022 the exhibition was added to, marking the 100-year centenary of what is known as 'The Clones Affray'. During this incident the death of Matt Fitzpatrick occurred at Clones Railway Station just one month after the transfer of power from the British to the Provisional Government of the new Irish Free State.

The new display on the Clones Affray has drawn attention to this sometimes forgotten flashpoint in the early history of the Irish State and has itself garnered national coverage. The exhibit includes the rifle that reportedly killed Matt Fitzpatrick, as well as his Mauser handgun and a wooden crucifix display including the small metal crucifix he had in his pocket when he died. The museum is very grateful to Matt's nephew Mr Gerard Fitzpatrick for his assistance and loans of objects for this exhibit.



Pictured here:

Mr Gerard Fitzpatrick, nephew of Matt Fitzpatrick and Liam Bradley, curator displaying artefacts in the new display





Rossmore Castle comes back to Monaghan!



Rossmore Castle, the seat of the Westenra family in Monaghan, the Barons Rossmore, was demolished in the mid 1970's as a public health hazard due to its state of decay. This once imposing and grand big house commanded views over the estate that is now Rossmore Park, which received over 400,000 visitors last year.

However, the building that was central to this remarkable landscape has been out of view for a generation. Now the public will once again be able to marvel at this beautiful piece of our architectural heritage through a new mural, which has just been completed on a wall of the Westenra Arms Hotel in Monaghan Town.

The mural, which is one of the largest in the country truly reflects the scale of the original building. It is also very fitting that the mural is on the wall of the hotel named after the Westenra family. This was made possible by kind permission of the owner and manager Frank McEneaney and the assistance of Monaghan Tidy Towns

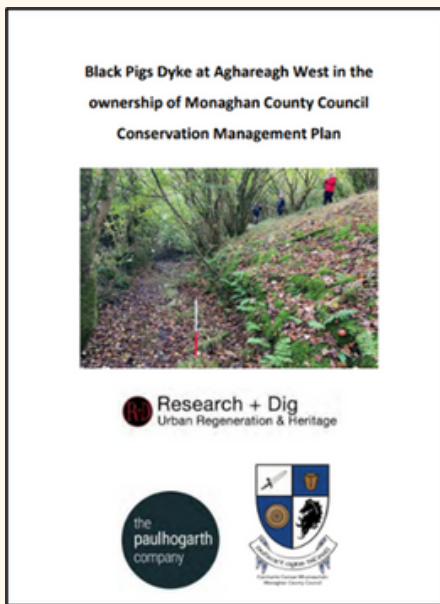
The mural is part of a county wide project; Monaghan Murals, which is managed jointly by Monaghan County Museum and the Patrick Kavanagh Centre. The project is funded by Creative Ireland initiative through Creative Monaghan Murals have already been completed in Carrickmacross, Ballybay and Castleblayney and it is hoped to create more throughout the county in the coming years.

The Monaghan Murals project is working with nationally renowned mural artist, Omin who has created stunning pieces of art throughout the country including several of the murals in Dundalk as part of the annual Seek Festival.

more to Monaghan

LEADER Heritage Cluster Projects

The Monaghan Tourism Unit recently delivered a number of LEADER funded elements for Rossmore Forest Park and the Black Pig's Dyke. These consisted of the design and installation of new signage and interpretation panels to highlight the historical, architectural and natural features of Rossmore Forest Park, and two newly completed Conservation Management Plans for both sites to assess the heritage significance of each and identify a series of measures by which this can be better conserved, protected and interpreted. Both plans are available to view at www.monaghan.ie/tourism and the projects identified will be progressed as funding becomes available.



Lough Muckno Vision Report



Following on from the development of a Visioning Report for Lough Muckno Estate, Castleblayney and the surrounding area, a feasibility study of the concept proposals was progressed in 2022. A public consultation event in relation to the Stage 1 feasibility – a Strategic Planning & Environmental Appraisal - was held on Thursday 6th October 2022. The completed Appraisal report is due in January 2023 and will determine next steps in the feasibility study process.

more to Monaghan

Monaghan Tourism Summer Campaign 2022



The key pillar of the Monaghan Tourism promotional campaign for 2022 was the Summer of Food Series. Funded by the Agri-Food Tourism initiative from the Department of Agriculture Food & the Marine, the series saw County Monaghan's food businesses and producers take centre stage over with a content driven campaign highlighting several of the county's leading food businesses and foodie experiences, with a particular emphasis on what's new, innovative and unique about each.

Videos and imagery telling the fascinating stories behind each business were released over the summer months via Monaghan Tourism's social media channels. These were further enhanced with accompanying travel and recipes themed blog content, and a series of mouth-watering food and drinks prizes.

The Summer of Food series was launched on Thursday 16th June 2022 by Minister Charlie McConalogue, who visited Monaghan Market House to officially announce funding of €23,000 for Agri-Tourism in Monaghan.



Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine, Charlie McConalogue with Summer of Food participating businesses (including Adamson's Bar, Paelling Food Truck, Monaghan Taste Club, Silver Hill Duck, Subh Fraoc Ban and Castle Leslie Estate) at the Agri-Food Tourism launch at Monaghan Market House, June 2022

Businesses participating in the series included:

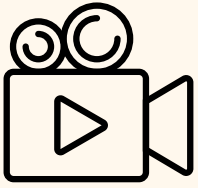
- Adamson's Bar & Lounge, Clones
- Ambledown Cottage, Glaslough
- Andy's Bar & Restaurant, Monaghan Town
- Awesome Coffee Beans, Carrickmacross
- Blasta Street Kitchen
- Bog Boy Booch, Various Locations
- Brehon Brewhouse, Inniskeen
- Courthouse Restaurant, Carrickmacross
- Dinkin's Bakery, Various Locations
- Glaslough Chocolate, Glaslough
- Henry's, Scotstown
- Matilda's Bakery & Deli, Carrickmacross
- Monaghan Taste Club
- Paelling Food Truck, Monaghan Town
- Raglan Road Tea Room, Inniskeen
- Silver Hill Duck, Emyvale
- Snaffles at Castle Leslie Estate, Glaslough
- Subh Fraoc Bán, Monaghan Town
- The Local, Monaghan Town
- The View Restaurant Bar at Concra Wood



The full series is now available to view via the
Monaghan Tourism YouTube channel &
via <https://monaghantourism.com/monaghan-summer-of-food-series/>



more to Monaghan



Ireland AM - Outside Broadcast



Following a successful and well received show in 2021, Virgin Media returned to Monaghan for a special Ireland AM live outside broadcast, presented by Tommy Bowe from Castle Leslie Estate in August 2022 and featuring highlights from Tommy's tour of Monaghan to take in some key attractions, special guest interviews with Natalie B Coleman and Ardal O'Hanlon, and features with businesses participating in the Monaghan Tourism Summer of Food Series.

Ireland:
am



Monaghan travel features in both print and online media including The Sunday Times, Belfast Telegraph, and MyKidsTime.com, and press visits to the county from a range of influencer and travel journalists, including Catriona Doherty and Neil Leydon (RTÉ Digital).

Monaghan enjoyed coverage on US TV platforms in 2022, including a 25-minute travel feature on Ireland; County By County, presented by Ciara Whelan and created in conjunction with Peninsula TV, which aired across 239 stations in the US in January 2022. The full episode is available to view via the Monaghan Tourism YouTube channel.

Monaghan is also set to feature in the next season of popular US travel show Ireland with Michael, hosted by Irish singer, theatrical producer and Wexford native Michael Londra, now based in the American Midwest. Filming was completed in Monaghan in June 2022, and the upcoming episode will air in January 2023.

more to Monaghan

Official Launch of the Patrick Kavanagh Centre



The Patrick Kavanagh Centre was officially launched on Thursday 2nd June 2022, with Ministers Catherine Martin and Heather Humphreys in attendance, alongside Fáilte Ireland CEO Paul Kelly and representatives from Monaghan County Council and the local Inniskeen community. The Poetry Jukebox, a popular addition to the Kavanagh Trail was also launched on the same day. Over 200 attended the lively event punctuated by street performances by the Castleblayney Players, a wonderful introduction by Kavanagh stalwarts John & Tommy McArdle and a moving live performance of Kavanagh's 'Raglan Road' by Ben Reel.

Monaghan Destination & Experience Development Plan (MDEDP)

On Thursday 2nd June, the newly developed Monaghan Destination and Experience Development Plan (MDEDP) was launched by Ministers Catherine Martin and Heather Humphreys at an event in Castle Leslie Estate, Glaslough. Developed by Fáilte Ireland through a consultative process involving tourism industry representatives, members of the local community and Monaghan County Council, the MDEDP is a five-year commercial destination and experience development plan to support the development of unique and compelling destination experiences focused on a number of immediate and strategic destination opportunities within the county.

The full plan can be viewed at:

www.monaghan.ie/tourism/monaghan-destination-experience-development-plan





Breige Quinn, Acting Head of LEO Monaghan said; "National Women's Enterprise Day has become a flagship event for women entrepreneurs and businesswomen every year. While the past two years saw successful online celebrations, it was really special to be back with a physical event here in Monaghan. We had some great speakers and inspirational businesswomen attending on the day who enjoyed the opportunity to network together. Our members say these events help them grow their network and attending such events provides them with the opportunity to find out about supports available to them and to also learn from those who have gone before. We encourage all Women in Monaghan to take part in these events"

The theme of this year's National Women's Enterprise Day was "Our Future, Our Way" which was reflected in the 16 physical events that took place across the country, supported by Enterprise Ireland and the Local Authorities.

The Monaghan event, run by the Local Enterprise Office, Monaghan took place at Castle Leslie, Glaslough on Thursday 13th October with over 40 women attending on the day.

It was a very successful day and the women had the opportunity to hear from our very own Patricia Monahan, Deputy Chief Executive of Monaghan County Council.

We also had the excellent Caroline O' Neill AKA "Digg For Success" or "Digg Mama" as our guest speaker who spoke to the women about the ups and downs of being in business as a woman and the value of Social Media for business. Our Leading Light for County Monaghan this year was Brenda Cassidy from the Braincalm Institute Ltd.

 **"Young Cook of the Year"** 

Cavan and Monaghan Education and Training Board (CMETB) in partnership with Monaghan County Council and Local Enterprise Office Monaghan are seeking a **"Young Cook of the Year"** among Secondary Schools in County Monaghan.

The aim of the competition is to encourage young people to explore and potentially enter a career within the hospitality sector through the wide range of programmes delivered in Monaghan Institute and Cavan Institute.

Schools will go head-to-head with each other on 7th December 2022 and the winners will represent Monaghan in the regional finals which will take place in the Commis Chef Apprenticeship facilities at Cavan Institute next year.



#MyMonaghanChristmas- Shop local campaign

Monaghan Local Enterprise Office and Monaghan Tourism in collaboration with local towns teams and chambers are to join forces on a county-wide campaign, in a bid to encourage shoppers to support local businesses this Christmas. This collaborative campaign has several aspects including:

- Collective marketing and sharing of events and activities by the 5 town teams/chambers with the #MyMonaghanChristmas hashtag to highlight all the 'happenings' in the County, ensuring that people stay and spend their money local.
- Five town retail winners will be crowned 'Best Christmas Shop Front 2022' in Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Ballybay, Monaghan Town and Clones. An overall winner for the county will then be chosen by award-winning travel blogger, Tara Povey of whereistara.com, who will be visiting Monaghan at the end of November.
- Promotion of the Directory of Co. Monaghan e-commerce businesses for shoppers seeking convenience.



COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE



SOCIAL INCLUSION NEWS

Seamus McDermott appointed to the role of Age Friendly Ambassador for Monaghan

Seamus McDermott was recently confirmed as the Age Friendly Ambassador for Monaghan at the Launch of the Croke Park Age Friendly Stadium. The Croke Park GAA Stadium has undertaken a substantial process of ensuring their facilities are equipped for population ageing which led to it being certified as the first Age Friendly Stadium in the world.

As part of the national Age Friendly Programme the opportunity has been identified for each local programme area, hosted by each local authority, to have their own Age Friendly Ambassador and Monaghan County Council is delighted to appoint Seamus McDermott as our ambassador for the county. Seamus has a wide background in education in Monaghan including spending many years teaching in Beech Hill College and is keen to support cross generational projects in the county.

The Age Friendly Ambassador is an honorary position to promote the age friendly cause and Seamus will also be tasked with supporting the Age Friendly programme in Monaghan.



Photo: Age Friendly Ambassador launch in Croke Park

Make Way Day 2022

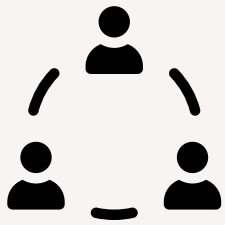
Monaghan County Council continued to support Make Way Day 2022, which took place on Friday 30th September. 'Make Way Day' is an annual campaign to make way on our streets for people with disabilities and to raise public awareness about the problems caused by obstacles blocking footpaths. It is lead by the Disability Federation of Ireland is a unique collaboration across Ireland and the voluntary and local government sectors.

Council representatives, including Cathaoirleach Cllr. Sean Conlon, met with members of the DisAbility Network in Monaghan town to identify and discuss issues which affect accessibility in the public realm.



MONAGHAN SOCIAL INCLUSION WEEK 2022





COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE

SPORTS PARTNERSHIP NEWS



A number of events took place across the county as part of HER Outdoors Week. HER Outdoors Week aims to celebrate and encourage more females to get out and enjoy the benefits of being in the outdoors while bringing visibility to the opportunities for females to get involved in outdoor physical activity.

Horse-riding in Mullaghmore Equestrian Centre:
Monaghan Sports Partnership (MSP) was delighted to partner with Mullaghmore Equestrian Centre to deliver horse-riding taster sessions to 12 teenage girls from St. Patricks Accommodation Centre in Monaghan. The girls thoroughly enjoyed the sessions.



Women's Woodland Walks for Health:

Women's Woodlands Walks for Health took place at Rossmore Park, Lough Muckno, and Emy Lough across Her Outdoors Week. These daily walks were led by MSP's highly experienced walk leader. The walks followed different paths around all 3 scenic areas using the beauty of nature to help promote the benefits of the outdoors on both physical and mental well-being.



Women's Get Into Golf Taster Sessions:

Women's Get Into Golf taster sessions took place throughout Monaghan across Her Outdoors Week. These taster sessions were ideal for complete beginners who wanted to try golf for the first time in a safe and friendly environment. MSP was delighted to work with Rossmore, Clones, Mannan Castle, Concra Wood, and Nuremore golf clubs.



Guided Greenway Cycle:

As part of Her Outdoors Week, MSP facilitated a guided Women's Cycle of the new cycle trail in Rossmore Park and the upgraded Monaghan Greenway. The cycle was ideal for beginners or those who just wanted to jump on the bike again and take part in a guided cycle with other like-minded women in a fun and social environment.



Women Touring Kayaks of Dromore River:

Tanagh Outdoor Education Centre facilitated a touring kayak session of the Dromore river for women as part of Her Outdoors Week. This proved to be hugely popular and places were filled instantly. All the women who took part had a fun filled experience.



COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE



SPORTS PARTNERSHIP NEWS

This year marked the first ever Go All Out Inclusive Outdoors Week. The initiative was developed by CARA and the purpose was to increase the capacity of sports organisations and groups to offer activities to people of all ages with disabilities and giving them added opportunities to increase their physical activity levels. Monaghan Sports Partnership was delighted to support this initiative as well as also supporting organisations MSP facilitated a number of activities across the week.



Children's Inclusive Cycling

Monaghan Sports Partnership was delighted to team up with our cycling partner Bike Green to offer 5 days of inclusive cycling at St. Mary's Boys national School in Monaghan Town. The programme was open to children with a disability aged between 5 and 13 years old. We were delighted to have 10 young cycling enthusiasts participate each day.

Guided Woodland Walks

Monaghan Sports Partnership welcomed a number of disability day services to Rossmore Park for guided woodlands walks. The walks took in some of the fantastic scenery on offer in Rossmore Park before the different groups stopped for extra activity sessions such as skipping. All who attended thoroughly enjoyed the walks.



Introduction to Lawn Bowls

Monaghan Sports Partnership was delighted to partner with Ballybay Bowling Green and welcome 5 disability day services to Ballybay bowling green. In total 45 participants took part over the course of two hours and they thoroughly enjoyed learning the fundamentals of lawn bowls.



Kilmore and Drumsnatt Sports Activity Hub

Monaghan Sports Partnership has been busy preparing for year two of the KAD Sports Activity Hub. We recently provided a suite of new fitness equipment, which included 10 new spin bikes, and a range of other exercise equipment. This equipment will be used for all members of the community from teenagers upwards as the Autumn programme of activities kicked off in early September with something for everyone.





COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE

NEWS



CLÁR Projects Launch

C&E had the honour this month of Minister Heather Humphrey's presence together with local representatives attend three official openings of completed projects funded under the Department of Rural and Community Development. All three projects received funding under the CLÁR Scheme and were successfully delivered by the local community groups.

It was fantastic and a credit to see the dedication and hard work of these groups being realised with these wonderful projects. They have enhanced the rural areas of Newbliss, Drumhowan and Clones with new facilities that will benefit each of the communities and the people of the areas for years to come.

Newbliss Childcare Services received €44,360 to develop a Sensory Garden and Outdoor Play Area –

Creation of a Sensory Garden where children get to enjoy the outdoors. It provides opportunities for the children to be outside where their creativity and problem solving will be promoted while also learning about different plants and insects living within the garden.



Drumhowan Community Group received €50,000 to develop an Outdoor Recreation & Sensory Area -

Drumhowan Community Group together with Drumhowan GFC redeveloped waste ground and brought it back to a usable state that will benefit the community for many years to come.





COMMUNITY & ENTERPRISE NEWS



Clones Town FC received €48,539 under CLÁR and €12,000 under the Community Activities Scheme to develop their car park facilities and lighting - to strengthen the safety for facility users by providing a turning space, lighting and parking measures at their car park.



Municipal Districts

Ballybay & Clones



Cathaoirleach of Ballybay-Clones Municipal District, Cllr. Richard Truell making presentations to the journalist Michael Fisher to mark his retirement from the staff of the Northern Standard. The presentations were made to Michael at the May meeting of Ballybay-Clones Municipal District (MD).

Ballybay-Clones Municipal District Elected Members and officials gathered at the Courtyard site Ballybay. The Housing Section are to provide new social housing on the remainder of the site.



Outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr. Richard Truell visiting works completed within the Ballybay-Clones MD during his term in office.

Including:

Corcaghan Traffic Calming, Dartery Defibrillator, Doohamlet Community Centre, Doohamlet Play Park and Latton Footpath



Municipal Districts

Ballybay & Clones



APB donated over 1000 trees to primary schools across Monaghan. As part of this initiative to support biodiversity, promote awareness about the environment and sustainability APB donated a tree to Ballybay-Clones Municipal District which was planted in Barry McGuigan Park.



Support and solidarity for County Monaghan's LGBTQ+ community was demonstrated with the raising of the Pride flag at the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District Offices for Pride month.

Ballybay Clones Municipal District Elected Representatives and Staff



The elected members held their AGM in June 2022. Cllr. Hugh McElvaney was elected Cathaoirleach and Cllr Sean Gilliland Leas-Cathaoirleach.

Newly elected Cathaoirleach Cllr. Hugh McElvaney and Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr. Sean Gilliland (Outgoing Cathaoirleach Cllr. Richard Truell and Leas Cathaoirleach Cllr. Hugh McElvaney)



Signing of the contract for the second phase of the re-development of the Ulster Canal at the Canal Stores Clones. Phase 2 of the Ulster Canal Restoration was officially initiated with a contract signing in Clones. The contract was signed by Chief Executive of Waterways Ireland, John McDonagh and Managing Director of Jons Civil Engineering Company Ltd, John Pentony, in the presence of Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Darragh O'Brien TD and Minister for Rural and Community Development, Heather Humphreys TD. The project will involve the development of a new marina, two new access bridges, repairs to an existing masonry arch bridge, and a sustainable water supply. It will also include approximately 1km of restored canal and towpath, with a looped walk and an amenity area on the route of the 180-year-old Ulster Canal in Clones. The amenity area will include car parking, bus/trailer spaces, a service block and picnic area and will be connected to the town and the existing playground. This phase of the project is expected to be completed in 2023.

Ballybay strengthens its bond to Gergweis, Osterhofen in Bavaria, Germany with which it is twinned. An official delegation made up of Cllr. Richard Truell of the Ballybay-Clones Municipal District, Ballybay Town Team representatives, Agnes McGuinness and Therese Hamilton accompanied by Municipal District, Assistant Engineer, Craig Connolly visited the region on the weekend of 12th - 14th August to partake in The Citizens Festival.



Monaghan

Glaslough Communities in Bloom Competition

Monaghan Municipal District along with Glaslough Tidy Towns welcomed international judges for the Communities In Bloom Competition to Glaslough village in June 2022. Glaslough is proud to be Ireland's entry into this international competition and delighted to be selected as one of the six finalists. The judges enjoyed the sights and delights of Glaslough village over the June weekend.



Naming of the Road, Old Cross square to Monaghan Harps

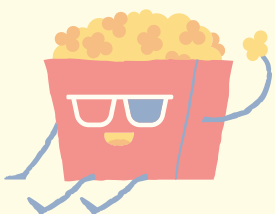
Following a request from the Monaghan Harps GAA club to the elected members of Monaghan Municipal District to name the road to the club in honour of Brendán Ógie Ó Dufaigh, who passed away in a tragic accident on the 16th July 2021. The members unanimously agreed, and the naming process was followed and completed with positive feedback from the public.

On Friday 15th July 2022, the Municipal District held the event in conjunction with the Monaghan Harps club and the Ó Dufaigh family, The Cathaoirleach, Cllr Aughey made a speech and officially named the road, Slí Ógie Uí Dhufaigh. This was following by a speech from Jimmy Croarkin, Chairman of Monaghan Harps and the closing speech by Ógie's father, Brendán Ó Dufaigh. Much thanks to the Harps club and Brendán Ó Dufaigh for their help in the process and organising of the event. The naming event was followed by the unveiling of a plaque at the Monaghan Harps club and a book launch all in honour of Ógie.



Movie Festival

On the 23rd & 24th July, Monaghan Municipal District and the Town Team held screening of 6 movies over the 2 days on a large screen in the Greenspace area at the Courthouse. Despite the mixed weather, there was great attendance and the Summer Movie Festival was a huge success.



Monaghan Street Food Festival

Monaghan Street Food Festival Committee and Monaghan Municipal District Office worked together to deliver a fabulous weekend on 1st October of local food, art, craft and entertainment for all. With attendance in excess of 3,000 people, the atmosphere around Church Square and the Diamond was electric. With many of our food exhibitors selling out by early afternoon, the festival was deemed a great success. We look forward to the next Food Festival in the future in the town.



Carrickmacross & Castleblayney

Festivals

After a two-year hiatus, Summer 2022 witnessed the long-awaited return of community-led festivals to the towns and villages in the Municipal District. Both the Carrickmacross Street Festival and Muckno Mania attracted huge audiences to enjoy a diverse range of activities and events.



Yoga Class at the Wellness Island Event on White Island



Children enjoying the Acrobatic displays at Muckno Mania



Audiences enjoying a live performance by Qween at the Carrickmacross Street Festival

Outdoor Education Space

Elsewhere, the Municipal District, in partnership with Castleblayney Town Regeneration Team, continued the development of amenities at Lough Muckno.

Harnessing the tranquility of Black Island, the Team has created an attractive Outdoor Education Space that will provide opportunities for exploration, creativity and learning in a natural setting.



Onomy walk and exercise trail

In August, the Municipal District completed the development of a combined walkway and exercise trail in Lough Muckno Park. The project has provided for the construction of a new 720m long nature-based walking trail, interspersed with items of recreational exercise equipment.

The walkway augments the existing array of park trails and provides enhanced permeability between the Town centre and Muckno Park, via Church Street.



Garda Centenary Event

The Civic Offices, Carrickmacross played host to the Cavan Monaghan Garda Divisional Centenary Event on the 11th of September last. Celebrations commenced with a ceremonial Parade, led by the Garda Band and the Regional Ceremonial Unit. The Events included an academic conference, ably MC'd by Museum Curator, Liam Bradley, exhibitions, and an opportunity to interact with various units of An Garda Síochána including, the Garda Mounted Unit and the Armed Support Unit.

