

## Municipal District of Monaghan

### **Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in Council Chamber, M-Tek 1 Building, Knockaconny, Co Monaghan, on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at 11.40am**

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Raymond Aughey presided.

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

**In Attendance:** Nuala Woods, Director of Services, Donal McElwain, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Dermot Deeney, Engineer and Michelle Curran, Senior Staff Officer.

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

On the proposal of Cllr Treanor, seconded by Cllr. Bennett, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> November 2022 be confirmed.

#### **Section 183 Sale of Lands at 56 Killyconnigan, Monaghan.**

Proposed by Cllr. Maxwell and seconded by Cllr. Aughey.

#### **2. Matters Arising**

##### **Yellow Box Junctions in Monaghan Town**

Mr Deeney confirmed that the TII Contractor says weather currently not permitting to install the yellow boxes, but the MD has offered to do same and awaiting response.

##### **Barrack's Lane**

Mr. McElwain confirmed that the bollard is in place. Murdock Trust own the derelict properties. Ms. Woods advised housing will follow up.

##### **Google Maps**

Cllr. Connolly enquires for update. Ms. Curran states a potential list requests to be circulated to all members once contact established back from Google maps.

##### **Knockatallon**

Cllr. Bennett raised the issue of Bins and Tar at playground. Mr. Deeney states that bins have been removed and tarmac to be repaired in due course.

##### **Salt Bins**

Cllr. Treanor remarks that rural areas shouldn't have to pay to fill salt bins. Cllr. McKenna states that the council do drop salt of at critical locations for locals to spread and Committee aware of current policy to refill bins. Cllr. Maxwell states policy voted in 2010. Cllr. Bennett requests for salting at schools and creches and also to continue out past Sliabh Beagh Hotel and to extend to end of road, junction with the Monaghan-Clogher Road. Cllr Aughey asked that members notify the MD of any critical corners. Cllr. Connolly asked if department buy for National Roads, to which Mr. McElwain confirmed yes.

#### **3. Report from Municipal District Co-Ordinator**

##### **Broad Road Car Park**

Cllr. Maxwell remarks why work starting in January and was to commence in November/ December?

Mr. McElwain says Contractor committed to commence in January and to be finished by April.

##### **Active Travel**

Cllr. Bennett inquired about update footpath between Scotstown to Ballinode. Mr. McElwain explained this is with Active Travel to carry out the feasibility study.

##### **Mall Road**

Cllr. Connolly enquires about widening the access from Woodview to Mall Road. Mr. McElwain said will note remarks for the Active Travel Team.

#### **Pound Hill**

Cllr Conlon proposes to write to ESB for clean-up works at base of mast and that a Proposal Derelict Sites Act to be served on ESB. Cllr. Bennett seconded proposal.

#### **Cinema Car Park**

Cllr. Conlon states the Cinema Car Park needs substantial funding to upgrade the car park at front HSE entrance. Mr Deeney states that's under HSE lease and therefore their responsibility.

#### **Ballyalbany Bridge**

Cllr. Aughey enquired why Ballyalbany Bridge still had water lying as it was reported in October.

Mr. Deeney advised that repairs took 3 days to locate the cause and relay pipes in an alternative route to the river.

#### **Edenmore School**

Cllr. McKenna states that there is need for additional parking at Edenmore School provided to alleviate issues. Cllr. Bennett supports this. Mr. McElwain says MCC don't generally provide parking for schools. The suggestion was for the school to seek Clar funding.

Cllr. Maxwell says Scoil Bhríde National School in Tyholland also needs parking.

#### **Monaghan CCTV**

Scheme welcomed by all. Cllr. Conlon requested executive write to Minister Heather Humphreys and the Garda Commissioner seeking her support for the CCTV scheme. Cllr. Maxwell seconded this proposal.

#### **Monaghan Town Voucher Scheme**

Cllr. Maxwell- there is fantastic support for the MTV and asks if bigger denomination €50 required. Ms. Curran replied that both business and users of vouchers prefer the smaller denominations as more suitable to allow spending in multiple locations.

Cllr. Aughey says fantastic support and sales of the MTV.

Cllr. Connolly suggests to advertise more to encourage people to spend the voucher. It was confirmed that this is that being done, and more promotion planned for new year.

Cllr. Treanor requests Destination Towns update. It was confirmed that the design is ongoing at present including the road redesign. Further discussions will be held with the members before submission of the Part VIII.

#### **Street Food and Crocus**

Cllr. Maxwell thanked all for the support on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> December on behalf of the Crocus committee.

## **4. Questions and Motions**

### **Questions:**

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

Could the Municipal District liaise with the Active Travel unit regarding cars parking on the Greenway along Canal Street (at Mc Guirk's wall) impeding cyclists and walkers?

### **Response:**

**The Municipal District will liaise with the Active Travel Team on this issue. The Active Travel Team are currently completing a feasibility study of this section of Greenway to provide a long-term solution to this section of Greenway. In the short term the Traffic Wardens will monitor this area and we can also liaise with An Garda Síochána to implement necessary enforcement measures where necessary.**

**The road safety Authority launched a campaign in early 2022 to highlight the risk to of increase collision from people illegally parking on cycle lanes and footpaths.**

**<https://www.rsa.ie/road-safety/campaigns/blocked-footpaths-cycle-lane-safety>**

**Motorists were being asked to understand the impact illegal parking can have on other road users and that they have a responsibility to ensure their vehicle is parked safely at all times. Parking in a dangerous position, even if it is only for a short period, is unsafe and illegal.**

**From the 1st February 2022 the penalties for motorists who park on footpaths, cycle tracks and bus lanes was increased. The fixed charge notice is doubled from €40 to €80 for motorists caught parking on footpaths, cycle tracks and bus lanes.**

Could the Municipal District ensure the removal of fallen leaves on the new parts of the Greenway where they might constitute a slip hazard?

**Response:**

**The Municipal District sweep the Greenway last week and will continue to remove leaves from the Greenway.**

What progress has been made regarding a stone name marker / bi-lingual signage for the entrance to the Pound Hill/Connolly Park?

**Response:**

**The Municipal District has the bi-lingual procured and in place last week at the entrance to the Pound Hill/Connolly Park area**

Unlike all the other towns and villages in the county, Monaghan Town, the county town does not have welcome signage on its main approach roads. Does the Municipal District have any plans to rectify this?

**Response:**

**The Municipal District in conjunction with the Roads Section had developed welcome signage for the main approach roads to the town. These were forwarded to the TII for approval and modifications made as requested. The MD will follow up again with Road Section and TII to obtain final approval.**

**Cllr. Conlon will ask:**

Have the Department of Justice / Garda Commissioner provided any indication on when this Council can rollout the long-awaited CCTV scheme for Monaghan Town?

**Response:**

**An Garda Síochána and Council staff attending the National CCTV Advisory Committee on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December and a very detailed presentation was made to the group. Following questioning on the application and presentation a positive response was received from the Advisory Committee and the application has now been sent forward to the Garda Commissioner for final decision. This decision is now expected by end January, early February. Cllr. Conlon requests to write to Heather Humphreys seeking her support to CCTV. Cllr. Maxwell seconded this proposal. Correspondence to be issued by Mr. McElwain.**

When are ground works scheduled to commence on the Clones Rd. /Tullybryan Realignment Scheme?

**Response:**

**This project is currently at Phase 4- Statutory Process, in the TII Project Management Process. The CPO was advertised on 23rd June 2022. There was a total of 10 objections submitted to ABP which are currently being processed by ABP. A MCC Land Valuer is liaising with several of the landowner's professional representatives to agree accommodation works. The Board are currently deciding if an Oral Hearing is to be called. By examining timelines for other schemes throughout the country, it can be expected that an Oral Hearing, if called for, is unlikely to take place until Q4 2023/Q1 2024, due to a backlog of projects within ABP. If the CPO is confirmed, the project will enter Phase 5- Enabling and Procurement before a contractor is appointed for Construction. Currently, it is envisaged that construction is unlikely to commence until Q4 2024.**

For the purpose of enhancing the historical heritage experience for visitors to Rossmore Park, what initiatives are progressing aimed at promoting the unique architectural features throughout the Park, including the Rossmore Mausoleum that has been substantially refurbished in recent years through voluntary efforts?

**Response:**

**The recently developed Rossmore Forest Conservation Management Plan identifies and prioritises sites for conservation, interpretation and access improvement and the intention is for MCC, in conjunction with Coillte, to seek funding support where necessary to undertake these necessary interventions in a systematic way over the coming years.**

As the Clones Road is a major arterial national traffic route, positioned alongside multiple residential units and housing estates, will the Council undertake a traffic safety assessment with a view to installing traffic calming measures including the installation of a pedestrian crossing between Oriel Road junction and entrance to Knockroe Glen?

**Response:**

**The Clones Road has been the subject of a number of safety assessments in recent years. Traffic calming measures have been implemented in accordance with the design standards and TII approvals with the most recent being in 2017 which included inter alia the provision of a traffic island 35m east of the N54 Junction with Oriel Way within the road median. In addition, Monaghan County Council recently conducted a 2-day road traffic survey along the N54 close to the Oriel Way junction. This survey recorded the average daily traffic volume as 12,981 AADT. The average speed recorded was 51kph and the 85th percentile speed was 59kph (a high level of compliance). Also, the Gardai have confirmed that enforcement exercises have been carried out on this section of the N54 with low numbers of violations recorded. As part of the Active Travel programme, it is planned to develop a Mobility Plan which forms part of the Local Transport Plan for Monaghan town that will review all routes through the town (including the N54) with the intention of improving pedestrian and cycling infrastructure. Contract documents are currently being prepared for procurement of a consultant to implement the Local Transport Plan. When the Plan is in place the Active Travel unit will seek funding to implement any schemes identified in the plan. The N54 will be a high priority in this regard.**

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this 12th day of December 2022

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

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

Meetings Administrator