

Municipal District of Monaghan

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in Council Chamber, M-Tek 1 Building, Knockaconny, Co Monaghan, on Monday 21st November 2022 at 10.00am

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, Executive 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 13th October 2022 be confirmed.

2. Matters Arising

Yellow Box Junctions

Cllr. Maxwell asked for further update regarding yellow box needs to be placed at the Diamond. Mr McElwain said MD and Roads sections will continue to chase TII Contractor for dates of works.

Cllr. Connolly raised the point that Heaton's Corner is sanctioned over 3 years ago and this is an unacceptable delay. Mr. McElwain will follow-up.

Barrack's Lane

Cllr. Treanor advised of damaged property, etc. Fence damages at Riverside allowing vehicles to illegally enter. Cllr. Treanor suggested MD erect fence and contact owner of the land to charge to repairs. Cllr. McKenna reminded Cllr. Treanor this is a private estate. Cllr. Treanor advised that the back lane has 10-12 potholes and is the location of anti-social behaviour. Mr. McElwain advised that the executive have already contacted the Estate Management Company of Riverside to advise of issues raised and Management Company's responsibility to resolve these matters.

Cllr. Maxwell requested a copy of correspondence sent to Estate Management Company so Councillors can address any issues raised by residents to Councillors.

Ms. Woods will send on correspondence for private company regarding Belgium Park/Coolshannagh.

Ms. Woods asked if the Kilnacloy/Belgium Park property suitable for CPO? Mr. McElwain to investigate further. Cllr. Treanor suggested owners may be willing to sell. Cllr. Maxwell advised possible Church Ownership or Private Developer.

Cllr. Aughey asked for concrete barriers to be placed to prevent vehicle entry from Riverside to Belgium Park. Mr. Deeney to follow-up.

Clones Road

Cllr. Aughey requested update from Roads Section on the By-Pass and noted the other roads used as shortcuts. Mr. McElwain advised that Roads Section are to prepare a report for the December meeting will include Clones Road & Northern By-Pass.

Google Maps

Cllr. Connolly requested update of Monaghan Roads on Google Maps. Ms Curran advised that contact has been made with Google and ticket lodged for response. Once response, Ms. Curran will request a full list of Councillors requests for amendments to be update on Google maps.

Flooding

Cllr. Conlon raised the issue of flooding, further to question raised in the September meeting, flooding in previous meeting minutes and current flash flooding in the town, in particular the road at Credit Union was impassable.

Cllr. Connolly stated the €0.5 million received years ago to elevate this pinch-point was insufficient. Cllr. McKenna advised the previous report costings in region of €16 million. Mr. McElwain advised of Bank Slippage at Greenway which he is now seeking additional funding sources.

Cllr. Conlon requested that reports on occurrences of flooding within town be reported to the Department to ensure that they are fully aware of the extent of the situation in order to assist in sourcing such funding.

3. Report from Municipal District Co-Ordinator

Bridges

Cllr. Connolly asked for an update on the options regarding the pedestrians at Ballyalbany Bridge. Mr. McElwain advised, this project is with Active Travel Section and still at design stage. He will request an update from Active Travel for the members.

Also requested an update for the Horseshoe Bridge at Mullaghmat.

Knockatallon

Cllr Bennett asked, who is responsible for the emptying of bins at Knockatallon play area as they are routinely full of household rubbish and broken glass? Mr. McElwain advised Tidy Towns previously kept these bins clear. Mr. McElwain to investigate the removal of these bins, all agreed.

Cllr. Bennett also advised of broken tar within playground and general upkeep. Mr. McElwain advised MD is responsible for upkeep of the playground and will investigate further.

Roads

Cllr. Maxwell raised the issue of 3 manholes located outside Bogue's fuel station that are sunken to various levels. Mr. Deeney advised that these are Irish Water covers and he will raise the matter with Irish Water.

Cllr McKenna advised there is a blocked drainage gully located along the N2 Bypass roundabout at the Fire Station which requires unblocking. Mr. Deeney to investigate this matter.

Cllr. Treanor raised the issue of the telecom manhole outside McCarron's which requires repair. Eir have been advised before and are planning the works, possible night work required. Mr. Deeney to follow up again.

Cllr. Maxwell advised that following the temporary one way system along the Mall Road, that multiple vehicles seen using the Petrol Station as a drive-through shortcut to by-pass the road closure. Mr. McElwain noted that this was monitored and the Active Travel Section will consider this in their evaluation.

Cllr Connolly asked if the Greenway Phase 2, CPO is now complete? Mr. McElwain to discuss with Roads and advise.

Cllr. McKenna requested digger men to be deployed around various roads and locations to open out ditches for drainage. Mr. McElwain advised this is next on the work list once current

low cost safety schemes are finalised. Cllr. McKenna commended Darren Flanagan and the team for works down to date on the low-cost safety schemes and other works.

Steele's Corner, Emyvale

Cllr. McKenna asked for an update regarding the request for the re-location of the Speed Camera.

Ms. Woods advised correspondence received from An Garda Siochana which was included for members information that the request is supported by AGS and relocation is awaiting.

Ms. Woods advised that Roads Section have submitted requests to TII design team for a tabletop crossing and a mini roundabout. The MD Executive are working closely with Roads Section on these proposals.

Cllr. McKenna advised previous requests for speed ramps were refused and is not confident of tabletop crossing to slow traffic sufficiently.

Ms. Woods stated that TII have been advised that these measures are at the requests of local residents.

Tabletop at Bank of Ireland

Cllr. Maxwell advised the markings on the tabletop crossing at the Bank of Ireland across the North Road are gone and vehicles are taking the right of way. Mr. McElwain to add to the schedule for road markings.

Cllr. Treanor requested update on the ramp at Killyconnigan. Mr. McElwain to follow-up and revert back to Cllr. Treanor.

Cllr. Aughey raised an issue of a vehicle parked using VMS Sign for advertising. Mr. McElwain advised that this vehicle has been moved on for safety reasons.

Cllr. Aughey commended the Switch-on Committee for the Christmas Lights Event on Sunday 20th November. The Lights look fantastic and the event was a huge success.

Cllr. Maxwell also thanked members for approval of the purchase of the marque in September meeting as it was used at the Halloween Festival and will be used for the Crocus Christmas Event also.

4. Questions and Motions

Motions:

"Further to the request from Emyvale Development Association that Monaghan MD take the necessary steps to ensure that the following measures are put in place-

- (A). Make Mill Rd one way from Glaslough Rd to Main St.
- (B) To re name the corner at the North end of Emyvale village as "Steeles Corner"
- (C) The erection of speed control signs at proper locations on the Mullan Rd. "

Cllr. Paudge Connolly

Cllr. Connolly brought his motion to Councillors. Feels all items requested are achievable. Requested an engineer to review one way system and the speed controls signage requests by liaising with the Emyvale Development Team.

Cllr. Treanor seconded this motion.

Cllr. Conlon welcomed the correspondence stating public consultations would be required.

Cllr. McKenna also supported the motion, however he would like to see full public consultation with residents also before implementing a one-way system. Cllr. McKenna

stated the roads and ramps require repair. Also supported the renaming as the corner is known locally as Steele's Corner and would welcome official renaming.
Cllr. Maxwell also requested public consultations on the matters before proceeding further.
Mr. McElwain advised executive will fully investigate all requests.

That this council write to Peter Mc Verry trust asking where are the properties that the Mc Verry trust has purchased in the Monaghan area.
What are their plans for these properties?

Cllr Seamus Treanor

Cllr. McKenna could support the official motion brought by Cllr. Treanor. Peter McVerry Trust are a great Trust and have done great works overall assisting with the Monaghan County Council Housing List.

Cllr. Connolly formally seconded the official motion citing the excellent work of Peter McVerry Trust to assist homeless people through its core business and goals of assisting homeless people and people who are sleeping on the streets which is thankfully not a large quantity in Monaghan. While there is a possibility if relocation from other counties to which Council will remain alert of such situations.

Cllr. Maxwell supported the official motion, citing issues in previous times can include family connections which can cause problems.

Cllr. Conlon, a need to prepare community where property located. Other genuine cases which are housed by Peter McVerry Trust include domestic abuse, homeless, family homelessness, where tenants are relocated to the allocated properties and protected. Housing purchases and allocations are protected by GDPR and similarly this request could lend itself to GDPR and scare mongering within the community which will fuel rumour mills. Cllr. Conlon stated his wish to abstain from this motion.

Cllr. Bennett would support the official motion. Hesitation to cause fear within community.

Ms. Woods clarified that the Peter McVerry Trust specifically aid homeless along with 4/5 different areas, one of which includes the provision of ordinary housing properties and obtaining funding through the Capital Assistance Scheme which is with the approval of the Local Authority and under the terms of the funding, the L.A. have the rights of allocation of tenants for the property. The only way Peter McVerry Trust can bypass the Housing List in Monaghan is if they purchase a property outright with their own private funding which is not the current situation.

Cllr. Treanor advised that Peter McVerry Trust have not responded to previous request from him in relation to these properties which is why he raised this motion. He is not trying to scaremonger or instil fear within community.

Cllr. Aughey will support the official motion as written.

5. Correspondence

Cllr. Connolly stated his delight to see MD's previous motion to relocate the speed van has been taken on board by An Garda Siochana and their support in this matter.

Cllr. Connolly also requested a Fixed Speed Box to be erected along with more signage at this Emyvale Corner.

6. Residential Zoned Land Tax – Update

Ms Kierans advised of an update regarding the RZLT. Public consultations due to take place and notifications have been issued to landowners. To date the planning department have received a small number of inquiries. Ms Kierans asked members to circulate public consultation leaflets as much as possible. She will be attending the PPN Meeting 22nd November along with adverts in both last week and this week's newspapers.

Reminding paper submissions to be received between 1st November to 23rd December.

Electronic Submissions to be received between 1st November and 1st January 2023.
Cllr. Connolly noted the tight timeframe and asked the public to engage.
Cllr. Treanor sought clarity on land where housing is occupied and paying LPT.
Ms Kierans advised RZLT not for residential occupied properties. This is for Residential Zoned Land and vacant properties/sites where they are zoned.
Cllr. Conlon thanked for the updated and asked how much land is serviced by footpath, lighting. Darina advised that the vast majority of land zoned is also serviced.

7. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

Cllr. McKenna offered his congratulations to former Cllr. Brenda McAnespie for her achievement to the LGFA Hall of Fame in the ceremony in Dublin last week.

8. AOB

None.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this 21st day of November 2022

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____
Meetings Administrator