

## **Municipal District of Monaghan**

**Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in Council Chamber, M-Tek 1 Building, Knockaconny, Co Monaghan on Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2023 at 11.30 a.m.**

**Chair:** The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Cathy Bennett presided.

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

Patricia Monahan, Director of Services, Donal McElwain, Municipal District Co-ordinator, Michelle Curran, A/Administrative Officer, Dermot Deeney, Executive Engineer.

### **1. Confirmation of minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. Conlon, seconded by Cllr. McKenna, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023 be confirmed.

### **2. Matters Arising**

Cllr. Conlon requested the correspondence regarding ASD Units as agreed at last meeting also is issued to secondary schools and NCSE. Ms. Curran to follow-up on correspondence.

Cllr. McKenna requested an update on Mullen Village Traffic Calming measures. Mr. McElwain to obtain an update from the Roads Section for next Municipal District meeting.

Cllr. Conlon requested the council to contact owners of derelict properties on Park Street as the Town & Village Renewal Scheme which is commencing in this area.

Cllr. Connolly requested an update on the Numbers Trail at Rossmore Park. Mr. McElwain advised an onsite meeting to be scheduled in the New Year with Coillte to discuss further. An application for funding was submitted under ORIS, waiting a decision on that.

Cllr. Conlon requested a Controlled Pedestrian Crossing on the North Road for access to the PEACE Campus. Cllr. Connolly advised this is a TII Issue, beyond the remit of Municipal District Council.

Cllr. Treanor requested inquired about the trees located at Castleshane and other hedges on Coillte lands. Mr. McElwain advised that Coillte complete annual maintenance and if necessary, the Municipal District contact them regarding complaints.

### **3. Coordinators Report**

Mr. McElwain answered the Councillors queries on the information provided in the Coordinators Report.

- Regarding the Sliabh Beagh Shared Island Funding Project, Commendations to Dympna Condra and the Tourism Section on the completion of the Sliabh Beagh Ecotourism Feasibility Study, noting the achievement of this significant milestone within the project. This project builds on the local residents hard works over previous decades. The Cathaoirleach welcomed the hard work completed by the 3 Councils involved and encouraged the progression of this project through the receipt of grants and the future appointment of a Project Worker, which will be of great importance.
- Regarding Rossmore Park Playground, Mr. McElwain advised this is at Feasibility/design stage.
- Regarding Broad Road Carpark Access Steps, Mr. McElwain advised the ESB must complete the installation of an Electrical Transformer in this area and following that installation, the steps can be completed. Expected date is end February/early March 2024.
- Regarding Monaghan Bypass Greenway Timeframe, Mr. McElwain advised updates will be included in Coordinators report.
- Regarding Ballyalbany Bridge, Mr. McElwain confirmed road closure dates as published by the Active Travel team in Northern Standard and advised to local businesses.
- Regarding Low-Cost Junction Tightening at Hillgrove Road, Mr. McElwain advised updates will be included in Coordinators report.
- Regarding Scotstown Ballinode Link Report, Mr. McElwain advised this is currently in draft format and should be ready for January meeting.
- Regarding HGV Restrictions in Monaghan Town, Mr. McElwain advised signs & posts will be put in place this week. Restrictions in place by next week. Municipal District Executive are in contact with AGS.
- Regarding Emyvale Road Safety Improvement Scheme, Mr. McElwain will request an update from Roads Section and TII.
- Commendations from Councillors to the Municipal District Administrative staff and committees for the Christmas Lights Switch-On Event, Monaghan Business Awards Event, Monaghan Christmas Street Food Festival and Crocus Christmas Event.
- Monaghan Town Voucher scheme was advertised as a great gift or bonus for the upcoming Christmas period and encouraged all businesses and residents in Monaghan to support this scheme and shop local.

#### **4. Questions and Motions**

##### **Cllr Aughey asked:**

That this Municipal District repair the boundary fence between Belgium Square and Riverside Housing Development

**Response:**

**This is a private fence. The responsibility for its upkeep is with the Riverside Development, Management Company. The Municipal District have contacted the Management company requesting the fence to be repaired/replaced.**

When is it planned to resurface the Mall Road?

**Response:**

**The Mall Road is included in the proposed 2024 Roads Restoration program which includes drainage and resurfacing.**

In the event of an emergency over the Christmas holiday period what are the proposed procedures for contact?

**Response:**

**The council will finalise their procedures for emergency contacts this week for over the Christmas period and publish these in the local press and on social media.**

**Our emergency contact numbers are currently available on the council website, [monaghan.ie](http://monaghan.ie)**

**Cllr Connolly asked:**

In view of the growing number of passengers using both National & the Local Link buses in Emyvale village what plans have Monaghan Municipal District to discuss the provision of a bus shelter in the village with Emyvale Development Association?

**Response:**

**The Municipal District will engage with Emyvale Development Association again to discuss the possible location of a bus shelter in the village.**

In relation to the Giants in Rossmore Park and the fact that each Giant has its own name and story mixed with a little bit of folklore and history what plans have Monaghan Municipal District to place QR Codes beside each Giant so that they can tell their own story to passers-by in the park?

**Response:**

**The Municipal District are progressing this project and have been in contact with the creator of the stories/folklore and the Giants. He is to provide the necessary information for the website. The Municipal District are also in discussion with the council's IT section to assess the feasibility of QR codes in the park.**

**5. Naming of Development in Ballinode, Monaghan**

This item was deferred to the January meeting.

**6. Votes of Congratulations and Sympathies**

Congratulations to Scotstown GAA Team and Management on their gallant performance in the Ulster Club Finals last weekend.

It was proposed by Cllr. McKenna and agreed by all present that the sympathy of the Council be extended to Cllr. Cathy Bennett and family on the passing of her cousin Barry McArdle, Boston, USA.

**7. A.O.B.**

Cllr. Treanor requested a review on the need for the current pedestrian crossing on the N54 at Credit Union. Mr. McElwain advised this matter is with the Roads Section.

Cllr. Bennett closed this meeting wishing her fellow Councillors, the Municipal District Executive, the staff of Monaghan County Council, media representatives and the residents of Monaghan Municipal District a Healthy, Happy and Prosperous Christmas and New Year.

All present participated in one minute silence.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this 11<sup>th</sup> day of December 2023

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

Cathaoirleach

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

Meetings Administrator