

Municipal District of Monaghan

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in Council Chamber, M-Tek 1 Building, Knockaconny, Co Monaghan on Monday, 15th January 2024 at 12:20p.m.

Chair: The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Cathy Bennett presided.

Present: Cllrs. Sean Conlon, Brian McKenna, Raymond Aughey, 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.

Apologies: Cllr. Seamus Treanor.

1. Confirmation of minutes

On the proposal of Cllr. Conlon, seconded by Cllr. Maxwell, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District meeting held on 11th December 2023 be confirmed.

2. Matters Arising

Cllr. Maxwell requested an update on the scheduled Church Square Works. Mr. McElwain advised contractor to commence onsite on 29th January 2024 and completion of the works by end of April 2024.

Cllr. Bennett asked for an update on the Scotstown Ballinode link. Mr. McElwain advised the early draft report is completed however more works needs to be done on the report to consider other options and to include costings.

Cllr. Conlon asked if any correspondence has been received from the national schools regarding ASD units? Ms. Curran advised no correspondence received.

Cllr. Conlon asked regarding the derelict sites along Park Street, has there been any contact received from the owners? Mr. McElwain advised the Town Centre Regeneration Officer is considering these derelict premises.

Cllr. Conlon asked for an update on the installation of a controlled pedestrian crossing on the North Road at the Peace Campus. Mr. McElwain advised that he has raised this query with the Roads section already and he will get an update from the Roads section for the February meeting.

Cllr. Conlon asked for an update regarding the installation of a pedestrian crossing from Latlorcan Housing Estate to Bogue's Foodhall on the Dublin Road. Mr. McElwain advised that this query was also with the Road section, and he will request an update for the February meeting.

Cllr. McKenna requested an update regarding the TII modifications to the road at Steele's Corner, Emyvale. Mr. McElwain advised that an update has been included in the January coordinators report.

Cllr. Aughey requested an update on the completion of the steps as an access point to the Broad Rd. Carpark. Mr. McElwain advised that we are waiting on the ESB to complete their on-site works which the ESB had given a completion date by the end of February 2024.

Cllr. Connolly requested an update with regard to the installation of a Number's Trail in Rossmore Park as previous agreement had been given by the Municipal District Cllr's to fund this project. Mr. McElwain advised a funding application has been submitted to ORIS and we are currently awaiting the results. The Municipal District have been at capacity on the delivery of other projects, some within Rossmore Park have been ongoing and are nearing completion. Mr. McElwain advised that the playground is also been extended and works due to go to tender soon.

Cllr. Connelly asked for an update with regard to the QR codes for the Giants around Rossmore Park. Mr. McElwain advised that Wi-Fi accessibility is continuing to be a difficulty are our IT team looking for a solution. The author Paul Bond who created the giant stories is also working on a personal project and therefore unable to provide the giants background at this present time.

Cllr. Connolly asked with regard to the HGV Restrictions within Monaghan town, are these restrictions working? Mr. McElwain advised that a survey will have to be carried out and Mr. McElwain will advise of the results once available in his coordinators report.

Cllr. Bennett asked for the installation of ramps at Scotstown Village on the Roslea Road and the Knocktallon Road. Cllr. Bennett also asked when the pilot scheme regarding Traffic Management and Speed Ramps with the villages of Monaghan will be commencing? Mr. McElwain advised the policy should be completed by Roads within Q1 2024.

Cllr. Connolly asked regarding the installation of a bus shelter at Emyvale, did the Municipal District office write to the community group? Mr. McElwain advised he will seek a meeting with community group within the next few weeks.

3. Coordinators Report

Mr. McElwain answered the Cllr's queries on the information provided in the Coordinators Report.

- Regarding Point 1, Hollywood Park upgrade, the contractor commencing onsite on 15th January 2024 with expected completion date in Q2, 2024.
- Regarding Point 4, Belgium Park recent Upgrades, Clarity sought on the Keyholder role including Health & Safety / Risk management.
- Regarding Point 8, Monaghan CCTV ongoing tender and the contract term which will be offered to the successful tenderer, Mr. McElwain advised a term of 3 years.

Active Travel

- Regarding Point 9, Upgrade of Monaghan Town Greenway, works will include installation of high fence and hedge along Canal View Housing Estate.

National Roads

- Regarding Point 2, N12 Monaghan to Border Greenway, Mr. McElwain advised update is included in January Coordinators report. Other works will continue while awaiting the ABP decision regarding the COP Hearing.
- Regarding the proposal of a roundabout in Emyvale village, Mr. McElwain will request further information on the new design including the preliminary design. Mr. McElwain advised that other suggestions from Councillors had been considered by the Roads Section.

4. Questions and Motions

Cllr. R Aughey asked:

Can Monaghan Municipal District examine the pedestrian pathway between Killygoan and the Drumbear area for safety measures. There are a lot off children that must cross the complex Ballybay Road junction on their way to school.

Can the council install a pedestrian crossing to slow traffic and make it safer to cross for all.

Response:

The Monaghan Town/Cootehill Road Active Travel Scheme will consider and assess the pedestrian movement along this road. This junction will be assessed as part of this project. An option selection report is expected to be completed by end of Q3, 2024.

Cllr. S. Conlon asked:

What progress is occurring in relation to this question I submitted 12 months ago? With the completion of the Mullaghmart Remedial Scheme, and continued absence of long sought after directional signage in the area, will this Council undertake the installation of signage at the earliest opportunity that will give assistance to service providers and emergency related personnel seeking out addresses?

Response:

A draft drawing detailing the proposed signage has been prepared and will be presented to the members for consideration in Jan 2024. Public consultation can be arranged, and the signage erected in Feb 2024.

Following the Council's statutory notice published in The Northern Standard on November 7th relating to the Taking in Charge of An Crannog, Glen Road, Tirkeenan, when is it anticipated that this agenda item will come before the elected members for adoption? How soon following this, will the streetlamps be repaired and upgraded?

Response:

The council plan to present these estates at the April County Council meeting subject to the submissions received. The Public Lighting can be assessed and upgraded in Q2 subject to the availability of the contractor.

What proposals are being considered for the Council owned property formerly known as 'Red Peter's' in Emyvale that was purchased through the Town and Village Renewal Scheme?

Response:

As part of the funding requirement the council proposed that this building will be repurposed and developed as a fully inclusive multi-purpose community space.

Cllr. P. Connolly asked:

To ask Monaghan Municipal District for an update in relation to the proposed Linear Park adjacent to the Greenway for 400 metres from the Coolshannagh Roundabout to Sherriff's Bridge?

Response:

The current proposal is to develop a linear park on this strip of land along the Greenway. This development will be subject to full design, Part VIII planning including flood risk assessments, etc. The Municipal District will need to access funding to develop the concept and bring the project up to planning stage to enable an application to be made for funding to complete the park.

Motions:

That this council write to the Minister of Justice that to coincide with the upcoming referendum we also have a referendum on uncontrolled migrants arriving into our country and that illegals who arrived with no documentation be deported within 48 hours. Also, migrants who got Irish citizenship and are now habitual criminals offenders be immediately deported.

Cllr Seamus Treanor

Due to the absence of Cllr. Treanor, this motion could not proceed. Cllr. Treanor may resubmit for February meeting if desired.

5. Naming of Development in Ballinode, Monaghan

A proposal received from the Planning Section for the naming of proposed development for 22 social housing units on lands adjacent to Sean Mhuilean, Ballinode for RPK Construction Limited under permission ref. 22/105 to be named *Cois Abhainn*, which translates as *Beside the River*. This name was proposed by Cllr. Conlon, seconded by Cllr. McKenna and agreed by all present.

6. Votes of Congratulations and Sympathies

It was proposed that the sympathy of the Council be extended to the McKenna family including former Cllr. Sheila McKenna, Former Cllr. Brenda McAnnsepie and Grainne McKenna, Planning Section, on the passing of Laurence McKenna, Gallinagh, Monaghan. It was proposed that the sympathy of the Council be extended to Jennifer Maguire, Water Services, on the passing of her mother Frances.

7. A.O.B.

Regarding the culvert works on the Glen Road/Cootehill Road, Mr. McElwain stated that the Road Section has advised that works will commence 15th January 2024 with preliminary works and the project will take 4 months for completion. Public Notices have been advertised and displayed.

Regarding the signpost at the bottom of the Pound Hill at McCarren's pub to check for safety and head height.

Regarding the access path at Penal Cross, Cllr. Connolly advised of multiple litter & dumping violations in this area, requesting CCTV surveillance to prevent such behaviour and encourage members of the public to report such incidents when seen.

Motion:

In view of the fact that the under 4 year old hearing test waiting list is on hold for the past 6 months due to the loss of an essential hearing testing machine, that this council write to the Minister for Health and to the HSE Northeast to take the appropriate steps to ensure that this service is recommences A.S.A.P. and that additional resources are put in place to clear the backlog awaiting tests.

Cllr. Paudge Connolly.

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Bennet and supported by all present.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this 15th January 2024.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Signed: _____
Meetings Administrator