

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan County Council held in the Peace Campus, 6 Plantation Road, Monaghan, County Monaghan, on Tuesday 04 June 2024 at 10.00am

Chair: Cllr D. Maxwell, Cathaoirleach

Present: Cllrs Aughey, Bennett, Campbell, Carthy, Connolly, Coyle, S. Conlon, P. Conlon, Gilliland, Keelan, McCooey, McElvaney, McKenna, O'Hanlon, P. Treanor, S. Treanor, R Truell.

Mr. R. Burns, Chief Executive, Mr. C. Flynn, Ms. P. Monahan, Ms. C O'Hare, Directors of Services, Mr. G. McMahan, Ms. O. McConnon, A/Directors of Services, Ms. M McGarvey, Meetings Administrator, Ms. M Little, Staff Officer.

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meetings held on 07 May 2024

On the proposal of Cllr D Maxwell, seconded by Cllr S Coyle, it was agreed that the minutes of the Council meeting held on the 07 May 2024 be confirmed.

2. Correspondence

The following correspondence was circulated with the agenda for the meeting:

- Email received from the Private Secretary to the Minister for Public Expenditure, NPD Delivery and Reform, regarding the (Teagasc-led) National Fodder and Feed Security Committee.
- Email received from Ms. Mandy Doyle, Head of Service, Primary Care, HSE, regarding the new Primary Health Service in Monaghan.
- Email received from Senator Robbie Gallagher, regarding the response he received from Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., on Housing Adaptation Grants for Older People and People with a Disability scheme, in respect of private houses.
- Email received from Chair of the Oireachtas Committee on Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sports and Media, Ms. Niamh Smyth, T.D., regarding the response she received from Mr. Michael Kennedy, Head of Regulatory and Administration Transport Infrastructure Ireland, in relation to her parliamentary question on winter maintenance operations on national roads.
- Acknowledgement email received from the Private Secretary to the Minister for Transport, Mr. Eamon Ryan, T.D., regarding low-cost safety schemes.
- Acknowledgement letter received from the Assistant Private Secretary to the Taoiseach, Mr. Simon Harris, T.D., regarding a review of rates of Housing Adaptation Grants and increase in allocation.
- Acknowledgement letter received from the Private Secretary to the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Micheál Martin, T.D., regarding the VAT rate for the hospitality sector.
- Acknowledgement email received from the Private Secretary to the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Mr. Darragh O'Brien, T.D., regarding a review of rates of Housing Adaptation Grants and increase allocation.
- Email received from Mr. Brendan Smith, T.D., regarding response received from the Minister for Education, Ms. Norma Foley, T.D., in relation to the procurement of materials for schools.

- Resolution from Clare County Council regarding failures in the reconfigured health services.
- Resolution from Tipperary County Council regarding ash dieback.

Additional Correspondence

2.1 The following additional correspondence which had been received after the agenda had issued was also circulated:

- Email from the Private Secretary to the Minister for Agriculture, Food and Marine, Mr. Charlie McConalogue, T.D., regarding the re-convening of the National Fodder and Food Security Committee.

Proposals arising out of correspondence:

On the proposal of Cllr C Bennett, seconded by Cllr S Conlon, it was agreed that this Council, rewrites to the HSE to ask them to explain why there are idle dentist chairs in the Primary Care Health Unit in Monaghan and in particular, to explain why there is no orthodontist in the North-East Health Board. Children are not receiving adequate dental treatments in Monaghan due to the neglect of services and embargo on HSE employment.

On the proposal of Cllr P Treanor, seconded by Cllr H McElvaney, it was agreed that this Council, support the Tipperary CoCo motion calling on the Minister of State at the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine with special responsibility for Land Use and Biodiversity, Senator Pippa Hackett, to implement, in full and without further delay the recommendations of the Report titled 'Review of Support for Farmers Impacted by Ash Dieback' which had been compiled by Dr. Matthew Crowe, Jerry Grant and Jo O'Hara.

3. To consider Taking in Charge for Crann Nua, Carrickmacross

Members considered the Taking in Charge application circulated for Crann Nua, Carrickmacross.

On the proposal Cllr PJ O'Hanlon, seconded by Cllr P Conlon, it was agreed that the Council approve the application for Crann Nua, Carrickmacross, in accordance with the Taking In Charge of Estates and Declaration of Public Roads Notice, under Section 180 of the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) and Section 11 of the Roads Act 1993.

4. To consider S183 Sale of Lands at Onomy, Castleblayney to St. McCartan's Diocesan Trust (amendment to previously approved S183)

On the proposal of Cllr A Campbell, seconded by Cllr A McCooey, it was agreed that the Council approve the amendment to the previously approved S183 for the sale of lands at Onomy, Castleblayney to St. McCartan's Diocesan Trust in accordance with the terms of the notice dated 22nd April 2024 and attached site location map in accordance with S183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

5. To consider S183 Sale/Exchange of Lands at Annahagh, Monaghan to Combilift Ltd

On the proposal of Cllr D Maxwell, seconded by Cllr B McKenna, it was agreed that the Council approve the sale/exchange of lands at Annahagh, Monaghan to Combilift Ltd., in accordance

with the terms of the notice dated 13th May 2024 and attached site location maps in accordance with S183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

6. To consider S183 Transfer of Lands to ESB Networks at Drummond Otra, Carrickmacross

On the proposal of Cllr PJ O’Hanlon, seconded by Cllr P Conlon, it was agreed that the Council approve the transfer of lands to ESB Networks at Drummond Otra, Carrickmacross, in accordance with the terms of the notice dated 22nd April 2024 and attached site location maps in accordance with S183 of the Local Government Act 2001.

7. To approve nomination to the LCDC Committee

On the proposal of Cllr S Coyle, seconded by Cllr C Bennett, it was agreed that Carol Kelly, CMETB, would replace Deirdre Byrne, CMETB, as a statutory member of the LCDC/LAG Committee from June onwards.

8. To consider recommendations and minutes from Corporate Policy Group 21 May 2024

The members noted the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 21 May 2024, which had been circulated.

In response to a query, Mr. Robert Burns, Chief Executive confirmed that he had reviewed the request for a refund of course fees and that he was satisfied that it was in compliance with the Circular LG 05/2022 - Allowances and Expenses of Elected Members.

On the proposal of Cllr N Keelan, seconded by Cllr R Aughey, it was agreed that the minutes of the Corporate Policy Group meeting held on 21 May 2024 and the recommendations contained therein be approved.

9. To receive Management Report – May 2024

The Chief Executive introduced the Management Report for May 2024 which had been circulated with the agenda. He referred to the work that had been recently completed by the Roads Team and staff from the three Municipal Districts to enhance the condition of roads in Monaghan over recent weeks and invited Mr. G McMahon, Director of Services to give a presentation to the meeting in relation to the nature of the work that had been carried out.

Mr. G McMahon commenced by thanking the Municipal Districts technical and outdoor staff and contractors involved in the recent road repair blitz and gave a presentation to the meeting. Key points to note were:

- As the road grant allocation for 2024 was in line with that of 2023 and considering the impact of the excessive rainfall experienced over recent months, which had resulted in deterioration of the condition of the roads network, a decision was made to concentrate roads resources into an intensive period of patch repairs which commenced on 29th April 2024.
- Works consisted of; additional drainage crews and additional hot mix and road maintenance crews being deployed in each MD; an increase in the number of velocity patchers and road patch sealing.
- Reclaimed asphalt was used for the first time as a pothole repair material, promoting the circular economy and sustainability of working practices.
- 840 tonnes of hot mix patching was carried out, 149 roads were repaired, 1 road

was patched using RAP materials and in total approximately 550km of patching works were completed.

- In terms of next steps, the different types of patching repairs for the various road types will be closely monitored for durability, the trial of the RAP product and the use of the combi unit sealer will continue.
- The roads department are currently developing a 5-year roads maintenance strategy to maximise efficiencies, resources and bring the road network to a steady state.

The members noted the Management Report for May 2024 which had been circulated with the agenda.

The Chief Executive and Directors of Services responded to queries from the elected members.

On the proposal of Cllr S Conlon, seconded by Cllr D Maxwell it was agreed to extend an invitation to the Canadian Ambassador, Ms. Nancy Smyth, to visit Monaghan to mark Canada Day, on Monday 01 July 2024.

10. To receive reports from Members attending Conferences/Training events.

The members noted the reports from Cllr R Truell, in relation to his attendance at the following Conference/Training events:

- AILG, Local Elections 2024, 21st March 2024, Hotel Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny
- LAMA, Spring Seminar, 19th-20th January Abbey Hotel, Donegal Town, Co. Donegal
- Association of Irish Regions, Regions in Focus Seminar, 7-8th February 2024, Woodlands Hotel, Co. Limerick
- AILG, Annual Conference 2024, 14th-15th February, Arklow Bay Hotel, Co. Wicklow

11. Business submitted by Chief Executive

The Chief Executive advised the members that he had considered the motion from the last meeting regarding the North South Interconnector and following legal advice received, he would not be in a position to act on the motion. He noted that the motion related to a function that was not a reserved function and was ultra vires and not in compliance with the relevant legislation. He invited Mr. A Hughes, Senior Planner, to provide an update to the members in relation to the item on behalf of the Planning Authority.

Mr. A. Hughes, provided an update from the Planning Authority on the North-South Interconnector project.

The key points to note were:

- Planning permission had been granted by An Bord Pleanála in 2016, subject to compliance with conditions.
- ESB contacted the planning authorities of Monaghan, Meath and Cavan earlier this year and a meeting was arranged on 12th March 2024 at their request. At the outset the following two queries were raised:
 1. The expiry period, if any, in respect of the granted planning permission.
 2. The legal position of ESB to engage with planning authorities in respect of compliance matters.
- ESB were contacted on 03 April and 08 May 2024 in relation to the outstanding queries.

- Due to the absence of a response from the ESB, the planning authority met with Senior Counsel on 22 May 2024 and correspondence was subsequently issued to ESB regarding the outstanding queries on 24 May 2024.
- On 28 May 2024, correspondence was received from the ESB and this had been circulated with the agenda. In addition, the ESB correspondence has been forwarded to Senior Counsel for legal opinion.
- Any further updates will be provided to members once received.

On the proposal of Cllr N Keelan, seconded by Cllr P Treanor it was agreed that this Council invite the ESB Networks Project Team to attend future meeting of this Council.

12. Matters arising out of the minutes of the Council meeting held 07 May 2024

There were no matters arising out of the minutes of the Council meeting held on 07 May 2024.

13. To receive update on N2 National Primary Road Schemes

Mr. G. McMahon, A/Director of Services gave the following update in relation to the N2 National Primary Road Schemes:

- On Monday 13 May 2024 a delegation from the A5-N2 Cross-Border Committee met with Minister of Transport, Mr. Eamon Ryan, T.D., in Dublin.
- Minister Ryan reiterated the Government's support for the A5 Scheme; however, he advised that funding for the A5 Scheme comes from the Department of An Taoiseach.
- In relation to the Clontibret to the Border Road Scheme, the Minister's Department continues to support this Scheme through funding via the current project management process.
- The Ardee to Castleblayney Roads Scheme remains an objective of the National Development Plan, however, delivery is constrained by the availability of funding. TII and Monaghan County Council have been instructed to explore, short/medium term safety measures along this section of road.

14. To receive update on North/South Interconnector project

No further update.

15. To receive update on the Ulster Canal project

No further update.

16. Questions and Replies

Cllr P. Connolly asked:

1. What plans are there for the Taking In Charge of Millbrook housing development in Milltown, Monaghan?

Reply: The Planning Authority are awaiting the agreement from Uisce Eireann to progress the taking in charge process. The Planning Authority most recently contacted Uisce Eireann in April 2024 and again in May 2024, and are currently awaiting a response.

Cllr R. Aughey asked:

2. Can you let me know how many businesses have applied for the Increased Cost of Business grant and how many have been paid out?
Reply: MCC received 1,164 submissions for the grant.
Not all these applications were eligible to receive grant as they are not in performing payment plans.

An amount of €1,041,481.76 has been paid out to date.

Cllr S. Coyle asked:

3. Can Monaghan County Council seek funding to have a very dangerous corner, known locally as Myles Corner on the LS07001 removed? This is a very heavily vehicularised road, leading from Latton to Cootehill, carrying a huge number of HGVs, School Buses etc. Also in the proximity of this dangerous corner is road subsidence. In the interests of safety of all motorist's, cyclists and pedestrians, this location needs to be prioritised for Safety improvement works.

Reply: Works have previously been carried out here by Monaghan County Council to improve safety for road users. Engineering staff will carry out traffic and speed surveys to ascertain the extend of the speeding issues. On foot of the results of this survey measures if any in compliance with Monaghan County Councils traffic calming policy will be put in place subject to funding availability.

4. Can Monaghan County Council outline the amounts of funding received for each of the Home Adaptation Grant Schemes for the year 2024?

Reply: As of the 22/05/2024 Monaghan County Council has not yet received the annual allocation from Department of Housing.

5. Can Monaghan County Council give details of the numbers of Septic Tank Inspections carried out in the County in each of the years of the current Council term, 2019, '20, '21, '22 & '23, the inspection failure rate, the number of grants applied for in each of these years for Septic Tank Upgrades and how can a householder who wishes to on their own initiative, that is without an inspection failure, access grant aid ?

Reply:

Year of Inspection	No. Of Inspections Completed	Percentage Of Inspections issued with Advisory Notices	Total Number Of Grants Applied
2019	27	48%	2
2020	N/A	N/A	N/A
2021	49	47%	7
2022	30	37%	4
2023	44	61%	1

There are 3 different types of septic tanks grant schemes in Ireland, this is not a universal Grant and is subject to the household meeting the criteria for each septic tank grant are different as outlined below.

- **Domestic Waste Water Treatment System (DWWTS) grant under the National Inspection Plan - In order to be eligible for this grant, works to the DWWTS must arise directly from an inspection carried out under the National Inspection Plan, and the subsequent issue of an Advisory Notice to the householder by the local authority. Monaghan County Council are required to carry out a minimum of 41 inspection this year as per the EPA National Inspection Plan, Monaghan County Council will exceed**

this number. This year's inspections are targeted in an area where there is the greatest risk to human health and water quality from DWWTS. Monaghan County Council will carry out additional inspections where there is evidence that individual DWWTS or clusters of DWWTS are causing particular water quality problems in an area.

- DWWTS grant in Prioritised Areas for Action - In order to be eligible for this grant, the DWWTS serving a house must be situated in a Prioritised Area for Action in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021, and the applicant must have received a letter from the Local Authority Waters Programme Office (LAWPRO) on behalf of the local authority, confirming eligibility to apply for a grant.**
- DWWTS grant in High Status Objective Catchment Areas - In order to be eligible for this grant, the DWWTS serving a house must be situated in a High Status Objective Catchment Area in accordance with the River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021, and the applicant must have received a letter from the local authority confirming eligibility to apply for a grant.**

6. The Knocknamaddy Estate, Knocknamaddy, Ballybay was Taken in Charge at the April Meeting of Monaghan County Council. A number of difficulties exist in the 3 house estate, including flooding to the front and in the gardens of the homes, with residents having to use wellingtons to exit and access their homes. Also, there are a number of overgrown trees adjacent to the homes, which are a great danger in windy, stormy conditions. Can Monaghan County Council have these issues immediately investigated and resolved?
Reply: The matters identified had not been raised in the taking in charge process. They have now been passed to the Municipal District for review and action as required.

7. Residences of Wylies Hill, Castleblayney Road, Ballybay are very concerned for the Safety of children at play, with the speeding of vehicles in the estate, can Monaghan County Council examine immediately, what safety measures can be put in place?
Reply: Engineering staff will carry out traffic and speed survey to ascertain the extend of the speeding issues. On foot of the results of this survey measures if any in compliance with Monaghan County Councils traffic calming policy will be put in place subject to funding availability.

Cllr C. Carthy asked:

8. When is it expected that works will take place in south Monaghan using the Reclaimed Asphalt scheme and what roads are earmarked for this pilot?
Reply: It is anticipated that works will take place in July 2024 in South Monaghan. The following Roads have been short listed for the RAP trail; further testing is ongoing to determine the final roads, this testing is expected to be completed in the coming weeks.
- 1. L-40311**
 - 2. L- 4815/4816 (Enagh Road)**
 - 3. R181-1 Creaghanroe**
 - 4. L-4910 (Trial patching being done)**
 - 5. L-40021**
 - 6. L-8801**
 - 7. L-40401/40021+**

9. Has there been any further updates in relation to the Clos na Droimainne unfinished estate in Carrickmacross; has the Housing Finance Agency responded to the latest request for funding to bring this project to a conclusion and has the council been given any further clarity on a timescale for the delivery of the 12no. 4-bed units and the 14no. 2-bed units?

Reply: As of 22/05/2024 the final deed of variation has not yet been signed off with the Developer and AHB.

10. How many 2-bed units are expected to be delivered for social housing in Carrickmacross to the end of 2025 and is the council pursuing any additional turn-key housing developments for the town during that timeframe?

Reply: In 2024 & 2025, Monaghan County Council has the potential to deliver 138 new social homes in Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District as part of the *Housing for All* program. Please see Table below for number of units, location and delivery breakdown. The proposed sizes of units to be completed are as follows; 1 or 2-bedrooms 50%, 3 bedrooms 30% and 4 bedrooms 20%.

Housing For All 2024 & 2025				Delivery Date	2 Bedroom	3 Bedroom	4 Bedroom
Carrickmacross - Castleblayney	Knockcamick, Annayalla, County Monaghan (Phase 1)	MCC	20	Delivered May 2024	10	6	4
Carrickmacross - Castleblayney	Knockcamick, Annayalla, County Monaghan (Phase 2)	MCC	10	Q3 2024	2	8	
Carrickmacross - Castleblayney	Radha r.c. An Bhri. Bree, Castleblayney (Phase 2)	AHB	2	Q3 2024		2	
Carrickmacross - Castleblayney	Collan Ri, Carrickmacross	MCC	30	Q3 & Q4 2024	27	3	
Carrickmacross - Castleblayney	Drummond Close, Magheross, Carrickmacross (At Risk)	AHB	12	Q4 2024			12
Carrickmacross - Castleblayney	Part V Gleann Droimain, Cm x	MCC	4	Q4 2024	3	1	
Carrickmacross - Castleblayney	Potential 10 turnkey houses in Annayalla	MCC	10	2025	2	6	2
Carrickmacross - Castleblayney	Potential 50 turnkey houses in Cm x	MCC	50	2025/2026			
PROJECTED TOTAL:			138				

In 2024, Monaghan County Council are delivering 78 properties in Carrickmacross – Castleblayney Municipal District, of which 42 properties (54%) are 2 bedroom. The overall social housing delivery proposed for 2024 county wide is 101 properties.

There are currently 2no potential turnkey developments in the Carrickmacross MD, but these are at the initial stages. Monaghan County Council will continue to proactively pursue opportunities for additional social housing provision in areas of Housing Need throughout County Monaghan at every opportunity that arises subject to funding.

11. What plans have the executive to deal with the high volume of single people on our housing waiting, and transfer (HAP), lists? Are there plans to procure, develop, and build units specifically to deal with this group of applicants?

Reply: Monaghan County Council's Housing Delivery Plan has the stated intention of aligning delivery with demand by providing accommodation suited to the housing list.

12. What additional supports have been given to the Carrickmacross Town Team, and the Carrickmacross-Castleblayney Municipal District, to reinvigorate the commercial activity to Carrickmacross Town and do they include measures to:

- help bring vacant commercial units back into commercial use;
- deal with poor quality and over-crowded residential units in the town; and
- ensure the return of the Nuremore Hotel to its former commercial activity?

Reply: Housing Section has submitted its Private Rented Inspection Plan to the Department. The plan will see housing staff inspect 350 privately rented properties during 2024. Included in this plan is several properties in Carrickmacross Town.

The Departments Town Centre First office has confirmed that funding will shortly be made available to the Town Teams of the pilot Town Centre First towns such as Carrickmacross. This funding will be used to develop the capacity of the Carrickmacross Town Team to deliver future projects and initiatives.

Following the approval by the elected members of the Councils new policies and procedures to deal with dereliction, the Council is currently engaging with the owners of a number of properties in the Carrickmacross Castleblayney Municipal District with the view to bringing these properties back into use. In the event that this engagement process is unsuccessful, the Council will utilise its powers under the Derelict Sites Act 1990 (as amended).

Planning, Fire and Housing Sections meet on a monthly basis to consider, inter alia, matters relating to poor and overcrowded residential units in the town, and to agree actions where appropriate.

The Council has engaged with the liquidator of the former Nuremore Hotel and is hopeful that following the resolution of the various legal and financial issues that the hotel will be reopened.

Cllr N. Keelan asked:

13. What is the up-to-date position in relation to the preparation and completion of the community plans for our village areas across the county including Donaghmoynes and Lisdoonan?

Reply:

Plans finished, published and launched:

- Aughnamullen
- Ballinode
- Newbliss/ Killeevan
- Oram
- Scotshouse

Plans in draft form, not signed off by community:

- Emyvale

Plans in development:

- Smithboro

Communities being assisted to prepare their own:

- Latton
- Glaslough
- Tydavnet
- Ballybay

Consultant-led Plans paid for by LA and complete:

- Drum
- Rockcorry

Latest update:

Smithboro is progressing, and a community event is planned for end of summer to review all the data and get feedback on the proposed projects going forward.

Community Development Officer Carol Lambe is due to meet with the Emyvale committee on Tues 28th May to review their draft plan. This will require updating with 2022 census data, looking at any implications from new stats, then agreeing a new updated set of actions which will include the Red Boys building.

A request has been made to develop a plan for Inniskeen, and this will be carried out subject to available resources.

Again, subject to available resources work will commence on a plan for Donaghmoynes which will include Donaghmoynes, Lisdoonan and Broomfield.

14. What progress if any has been made in relation to the proposed upgrading and improvement of the Dundalk to Cavan town regional road (R178) including the section from

Carrickmacross to Shercock town given this is a very important transport and economic link which is not fit for purpose?

Reply: There have been no further developments at National level regarding proposed upgrading and improvement of the Dundalk to Cavan town regional road (R178).

15. What is the up-to-date position in relation to taken in charge by Monaghan County Council of the Sliabh Dubh estate at Corduff, Carrickmacross, have the outstanding issues with Uisce Eireann being resolved given that this seems to be the problem in terms of moving the process forward?

Reply: Sliabh Dubh is served by a standalone wastewater treatment plant which is not maintained by the original developer. Monaghan County Council has previously intervened and carried out remedial works relating to this plant when a public health matter has arisen. In the 2015 Memorandum of Understanding agreed between local authorities and Uisce Eireann, it was confirmed that Uisce Eireann would not take in charge developer provided infrastructure (DPI), such as that installed in Sliabh Dubh.

Notwithstanding this, correspondence issued by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage in April 2024, indicated that with effect from 1 January 2024, Uisce Eireann have been assigned responsibility for the remediation of DPI.

The Departmental correspondence indicated that it would ‘take time to resolve’ matters but that a multi stakeholder group would be established during 2024 to oversee progress. In addition, it stated that the Department would work with Uisce Eireann on funding arrangements to underpin the process.

It is anticipated that the conclusion of the taking in charge process on this development will be delayed pending the completion of the Uisce Eireann review.

16. When can the people of County Monaghan expect to see an affordable housing scheme rolled out across the county, given the numbers of young people and couples locked out of owning their own home and are over the income threshold to avail of local Authority housing support?

Reply: In anticipation of an application to the Department for Affordable Housing Funding, a second survey will go live in June. This survey will be focused on the demand for affordable housing in Monaghan Town. The survey will be published on all social media channels.

17. In relation to the active travel scheme, how many schemes are shovel ready, what funding is available to progress these schemes, what is the breakdown per MD?

Reply: The Active Travel unit are continuing to work on over 20 Active Travel across the county with a budget of €3 million for 2024. The schemes are progressing through the 7 phases of the NTA Cost Management Guidelines and the necessary approvals at each phase. The list below shows schemes that are expected to have construction work commenced and/or completed by mid-2025. The funding allocation is for 2024 and continued funding is dependent on the NTA.

Project Code:	Project Name	2024 Allocation	MD
MN/21/0001	Upgrade of Monaghan Town Greenway	€200,000	Monaghan
MN/21/0010	Carrickmacross- Castleblayney Rd Active Travel	€75,000	Carrickmacross/ Castleblayney
MN/21/0013	Monaghan Town Horseshoe Bridge Active Travel	€500,000	Monaghan
MN/21/0014	Monaghan Town Ballyalbany Bridge Active Tavel	€70,000	Monaghan
MN/21/0020	Low Cost Junction Tightening/Pedestrian Crossing Scheme	€100,00	All 3

MN/21/0021	Light Segregation Cycle Scheme- Castleblayney	€35,000	Carrickmacross/ Castleblayney
MN/22/0001	Clones Peace Link Active Travel Scheme	€479,000	Clones/Ballybay
MN/22/0002	Monaghan Town Local Transport Plan	€60,000	Monaghan
MN/22/0004	Lough Egish Village Active Travel Scheme	€332,000	Clones/Ballybay
MN/23/0007	Carrickmacross R178/Oriel Road Active Travel Scheme	€60,000	Carrickmacross/ Castleblayney
MN/23/0016	SRTS St Louis GNS & St Louis Infant School - Monaghan R1	€50,000	Monaghan
MN/23/0017	SRTS St Marys Boys NS R2	€50,000	Monaghan
MN/23/0018	SRTS St Tiarnach's Primary School, Clones R2	€50,000	Clones/Ballybay
MN/23/0102	Woodview to Glen Road connectivity - Monaghan Town	€200,000	Monaghan

17. Notice of Motion

Cllr S Coyle proposed, Cllr P Treanor seconded –

1. *“That Monaghan County Council commend the Ulster Council GAA, Monaghan County Board GAA & St. Tiarnach’s GAA Club, Clones on the great success of the recent 136th Ulster Senior Football Championship Final at St. Tiarnach’s Park, Clones. Also, the business community, the people of Clones, Ballybay-Clones Municipal District staff and staff of Monaghan County Council on their invaluable work and contribution to a great day for Clones and all of County Monaghan.*

The historic occasions and the town of Clones make it the home of Ulster GAA Finals, so Monaghan County Council complement all involved at St. Tiarnach’s Park on the recent investments and works to improve player and spectator facilities.

Furthermore, Monaghan County Council request the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport & Media, Ms. Catherine Martin T.D. and the Minister with special responsibilities for Sports & Physical Education, and the Gaeltacht, Mr. Thomas Byrne, T.D., to make substantial funding available for the complete upgrading of St. Tiarnach’s Park, Clones and its surroundings, to ensure the Ulster Senior Football Championship Finals remain in Clones. (If adopted, this motion be forwarded to all of the above name bodies and individuals.)”

Following a short discussion on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put it to the meeting, and it was agreed unanimously.

Cllr P Connolly proposed, Cllr C Carthy seconded –

2. *“That in view of the fact that an individual who is registered as blind is not regarded as disabled by the Department of Finance & therefore not entitled to avail of the remission/repayment of VAT and VRT that Monaghan County Council calls on the Minister for Finance to address this anomaly and ensure the scheme is made available to a*

nominated family member so that the person can be driven to clinics and also get about her daily life without having to resort to taxis.”

Following a short discussion on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put it to the meeting, and it was agreed unanimously.

18. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations

It was agreed that votes of sympathy would be extended to the following:

- Lorcán MacCinna, Senior Executive Engineer, Housing on the death of his mother, Nóra MacCinna (née Holland), late of Leacht Lorcáin, Muineachán, County Mhuineacháin.
- Mary Carolan, on the death of her husband and former Craftworker, Monaghan County Council, Gerard Carolan, late of Tyleadon, Milltown, Monaghan, County Monaghan.

It was agreed votes of congratulations would be extended to the following:

- Sinead Courtney, Castleblayney on her recent performance on Britain’s Got Talent.
- Neil Dunwoody as Co-founder of company, ‘Spryt’ on the recent success of the Automated Intelligence Healthcare System.
- Tara Cowan, on her appointment as the first female Principal of Monaghan Collegiate School.
- St. Louis Monaghan U14 Team and Management on recently winning an Ulster Title.
- Anne-Marie McCardle on her recent coronation as the 2024 Monaghan Rose.

Address by the Cathaoirleach:

The Cathaoirleach, Cllr D Maxwell, thanked his party colleagues in Fine Gael for giving him the opportunity to serve as Cathaoirleach for the 2023/24 term. He thanked Cllrs Carthy, Campbell Coyle and Conlon who had previously held the position of Cathaoirleach during the term of the current Council (2019-2024). He reflected on his time as Cathaoirleach stating that it had been a great honour and a thoroughly enjoyable time. He concluded by thanking his fellow members and the executive for their support during his time as Cathaoirleach.

Address by Retiring Councillors:

Cllr B McKenna, in his final address as a member of Monaghan County Council reflected on his service as a member of Monaghan County Council for the past 33 years. He began by thanking his family, particularly his wife Dympna and their three children for their support during his time as a public representative. He stated that he had been first elected in 1991 and paid tribute to his mentor, Caoimhghín Ó Caoláin adding that he had been someone he looked up to then and ever since. He recalled being selected by his fellow colleagues to serve as Cathaoirleach for the first time in 2000-2001, stating that it had been a huge honor as it had been the first time the Sinn Féin party had held the position since the foundation of the State. He acknowledged colleagues, the executive and staff from within the organisation both past and present for their support and contributions over the years. He thanked the people of North Monaghan for their support which saw him elected on 6 occasions. He also thanked his party colleagues for their support over the years and in conclusion, wished members well in the forthcoming local elections.

In addressing the Council for the final time, Cllr H McElvaney began by complimenting Cllr D Maxwell for the way he had undertaken the role of Cathaoirleach, for the courtesy and respect shown to his fellow members and the efficient, fair and impartial way he had conducted Council meetings. He congratulated fellow Cllr Brian McKenna on his retirement and wished him well. He recalled being first elected in 1974 and thanked his family for their support over the past 50 years. He acknowledged colleagues, the executive and staff from within the organisation both past and present for their support and contributions over the years. He pinpointed highlights of his career which included his election to the National Presidency of LAMA which he thoroughly enjoyed for over 5 years and paid tribute to the generosity of former Fianna Fáil colleague, the late Rosaleen O’Hanlon, as Chairperson of the Vocational Education Committee for requesting that he hand over the keys the official opening Largy College in Clones, as Vice-Chair of the Committee.

The Cathaoirleach paid tribute to retiring Cllr Hugh McElvaney on his 50 years’ service to Monaghan County Council and Cllr Brian McKenna on his 33 years’ service to Monaghan County Council. He thanked them both for their leadership, friendship and work as public representatives and wished them both good health and happiness in their retirement.

The members joined in the tributes to Cllr H McElvaney and Cllr B McKenna, as did the Chief Executive on behalf of the management and staff.

On the proposal of Cllr D Maxwell, seconded by Cllr A Campbell it was agreed that a presentation would be made to Cllr H McElvaney and Cllr B McKenna at the December Council meeting as a token of appreciation for their service to Monaghan County Council.

The Cathaoirleach concluded by thanking the Northern Standard (particularly Peter Hughes) and Northern Sound for their coverage of Council meetings. He also wished his Council colleagues every success in the forthcoming elections.

The Chief Executive, Mr R. Burns, thanked the members for their service over the past five years and extended good wishes to all those contesting the local elections on 7th June 2024.

The Cathaoirleach concluded the meeting.

Signed: _____
Cathaoirleach

Meetings Administrator

Date: _____