

## Municipal District of Monaghan

**Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in Council Chamber, M-Tek 1 Building, Knockaconny, Co Monaghan on Friday, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024 at 4.03pm**

**Chair:** The Cathaoirleach, Cllr. Sean Conlon presided.

**Present:** Cllrs. Cathy Bennett, Bronagh McAree, Seamus Treanor, Raymond Aughey, Pauric Clerkin and David Maxwell.

Patricia Monahan, Director of Services, Michelle Curran, Administrative Officer, Ruairi O'Neill, Executive Engineer.

**Apologies:** Donal McElwain, Municipal District Co-ordinator,

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

On the proposal of Cllr. Maxwell, seconded by Cllr. Bennett, it was agreed that the minutes of the Municipal District meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> May 2024 be confirmed.

### **2. Matters Arising**

The following updates were provided from Matters Arising:

- Latlorcan Glen traffic calming will be progressed and will take 8 weeks to complete design and road safety audit.
- The bridge at Knockatallon is on the agenda to be completed.
- A Draft Traffic Calming proposal for Scotstown on Roslea Road and Knockatallon Roads has been sent to the Roads Section for review and has been approved. All signs and lines will be in accordance with our Traffic Calming Policy.
- Monaghan MD will seek an update from Roads Section regarding the parking realignment within Scotstown Village.
- Sliabh Beagh is on the current list awaiting traffic count which will be processed in due course.
- Following the withdrawal of the current contract for the upgrade of Glaslough Street lighting, the new tender submissions have been received and are under assessment currently with our Roads Section.
- In relation to Members' dissatisfaction with the doors installed at Monaghan Courthouse during restoration works undertaken in 2011 Ms. Monahan provided a statement from MCC Heritage Officer Kara Ward. Ms Ward noted that the care of the building has resided with the Courts Service since 1998 and that it was not under Monaghan County Council's control. An automatic glass door unit with contemporary steel doors to outer bays had been installed to meet the current requirements of the building's use in a sympathetic way. Ms. Ward noted that the modern doors were not intended to be a replacement for the original doors and that while opinions on architectural design and conservation approaches would differ, in this case it was her view that the doors were not offensive but she

acknowledged that some would prefer them to bear a greater resemblance to the original.

- Regarding a query on the designated set down area for buses visiting at the Peace Campus, Mr. O'Neill advised this will be reviewed. Mr. O'Neill provided an update on the proposed pedestrian crossing at the Peace Campus on North Road junction.

### **3. Coordinators Report**

Mr. O'Neill answered the councillors' queries on the information provided in the Coordinators Report.

- Members requested an update on the costs of Park Street/Market Street Streetscape painting to be provided at the next meeting.
- The MD will provide further signage at Hollywood Park swimming pool for swimming only – no fishing permitted.
- The MD confirmed that the community committee at Hollywood Park is responsible for the toilet facilities and the bins on site.
- Coillte are investigating the provision of new toilet facilities in the Coffee Dock area in Rossmore Park.
- Regarding the CCTV in Monaghan Town, Mr. O'Neill advised that the tender submissions for the CCTV cameras have been reviewed. The preferred Bidder has been notified and MD office is awaiting the submissions of relevant paperwork to finalise appointment. Works should commence in July.
- Ms. Monahan confirmed that the newly renovated area at Church Square was predominately funded by Failte Ireland with match funding provided by Monaghan MD and Roads Department as a performance space for Festivals and Events within Monaghan. A programme of events is being prepared by Monaghan MD and the Town Team. Ms. Monahan also encouraged community groups to contact the Municipal District office to book the free event space for their group or activity. Mr. O'Neill confirmed that MD will review additional seating and bins in the area following completion of works.
- Ms. Monahan advised she will check with the Planning Section regarding the relocation of the Hive of Knowledge Monument and if the location proposed in the Part 8 Planning application can be reviewed.

#### **Roads**

- In relation to the Scotstown Bog Road, Mr. O'Neill advised that under the current grants from the Department for resurfacing only, this grant is unsuitable for the level of works required. MCC Roads Section are in discussions with the Department with regard to the Bog Road and requested the Departments assistance for a solution.

- Mr. O'Neill confirmed that Seminary Hill will also be a major project due to bog conditions of this road and the previous settlement on the road following works. This Road will be referred to the Roads Department.
- Mr. O'Neill confirmed the traffic Count is complete on the Scotstown to Ballinode Road and the draft proposals are being prepared for review by the Roads Section.
- Mr. O'Neill will get a full report for July MD meeting on the Glen Road Culvert for members.
- Mr. O'Neill confirmed that a solid central line will be replaced in Tydavnet Village.
- Mr. O'Neill agreed to share the proposed initial designs for the Emyvale Roundabout with members.
- Mr. O'Neill to request an update from Roads Section for the N12 Liscarney to Tullyish road for the next Municipal District meeting in July.
- Mr. O'Neill to request an update from Roads Section regarding line-marking on the N12 at New Houses, Tyholland.
- Mr. O'Neill to request an update from Roads Department on a Yellow Box Junction from Park Road onto Clones Road and review painting lines on the Clones Road onto Scotstown Road as vehicles are entering junction onto the wrong side of the road.
- Mr. O'Neill confirmed that the Cootehill Road to Drumbear Woods exit is on the list for a traffic count to be completed at same.
- Tullyhirm lane / Coolshannagh AT Scheme Options Selection Report is ongoing with the Design team reviewing report in line with the NTA requirements/comments. Mr. O'Neill confirmed that the report will be presented to members by the Active Travel Team on completion.

#### 4. Questions and Motions

**Clr Seán Conlon asked:**

1. Following repeated requests seeking long overdue improvements for disabled access measures to be implemented at the Diamond car park, please advise what plans are in place that will improve conditions for wheelchair users in this area.

**Response:**

**The Diamond car park is a privately owned site, which is leased by Monaghan Municipal District. Due to issues with the previous ownership, there was a protracted legal process, during which time it was not possible for the Municipal District to initiate or achieve any improvements to the property. The property was acquired by a new owner in the last month. The Municipal District is now in discussions with the new owner about the lease arrangement and surface restoration works.**

#### 5. Correspondance

It was proposed by Clr. Conlon that a letter of thanks be sent to Doctor Marian Smith, Monaghan following 30 years of hard work and dedication of service within

Monaghan and to wish her every happiness in her retirement. This proposal was seconded by Cllr. Bennett and supported by all members present.

**6. Votes of Congratulations and Sympathies**

It was proposed that the sympathy of the Council be extended to Councillor Sinead Flynn on the passing of her father Mickey Flynn.

It was proposed that the sympathy of the Council be extended to Kim McKenna, Community Section, on the passing of her sister Rachel McKenna.

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

**Emergency Motion:**

That Monaghan Municipal District Council write to the Minister for Justice and the Minister for Defence and request that a soldier who walked away with a suspended sentence after beating a woman unconscious should be suspended immediately pending a disciplinary review.

*Cllr. Cathy Bennett*

This motion was seconded by Cllr. Conlon and supported by all members present.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Dated this 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024.

Signed:   
Cathaoirleach

Signed:   
Meetings Administrator