

Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, M-Tek 1 Building, Knockaconny, Monaghan on Monday, 21st October 2024 at 11.30am.

Present: Cllr Seán Conlon, Cathaoirleach
Cllrs Cathy Bennett, Bronagh McAree, Raymond Aughey, Seamus Treanor, David Maxwell and Pauric Clerkin

In attendance: Ms. Patricia Monahan, Director of Services, Mr. Donal McElwain, Municipal District Co-Ordinator, Mr. Ruairi O'Neill, Executive Engineer and Ms. Liz Brannigan, Administrative Officer

1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 16th September 2024

On the proposal of Cllr D. Maxwell, seconded by Cllr B. McAree, it was agreed that the Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting held on 16th September 2024 be confirmed.

2. Matters Arising

Regarding the re-location of the Hive of Knowledge, the Executive advised this would be brought to the November meeting for consideration.

Cllr D. Maxwell welcomed the installation of the compostable toilets at Rossmore Park and acknowledged the commencement of works to extend Rossmore Playpark.

Mr. R. O'Neill advised proposals are currently being examined to address speeding issues at Drumbear Wood, Monaghan Town.

Mr. McElwain advised the Christmas Lights Switch On will take place on Sunday 17th November from 4-6pm.

3. Report from Municipal District Co-Ordinator

Mr. D. McElwain took Members through the report. The members noted the October report which had been circulated with the agenda. The Coordinator and Director of Services responded to queries from the Elected Members.

Mr. McElwain thanked the Friends of Rossmore Park for their efforts in organising the upcoming event – the Haunting of Rossmore Park.

(Cllr R. Aughey left the meeting).

Members referred to a discussion at the Sub Committee meeting regarding correspondence from Monaghan Has It seeking free long-term parking for the Christmas period and paid short-term parking. The Cathaoirleach referred to a debate at the MD Sub Committee Meeting whereby a vote was taken and it was decided to retain the existing approach.

Members all agreed to maintain the status quo approach in relation to the free parking provision during the Christmas period, with the following dates agreed: commencing from noon on Monday 9th December 2024 and ending at 6pm on the evening of Wednesday 1st January 2025.

In relation to recent roadworks on the Mall Road, on the Emyvale Road and on the N12, members asked that Contractors be held accountable for their work and work schedules, and requested that a

number be provided, whereby Contractors can be contacted out of hours in respect of last minute changes to planned works which must be communicated to the public.

Members asked that this be conveyed to the Roads Department.

(Cllr C. Bennett rejoined the meeting).

A query was raised regarding Ballinode to Scotstown link with Mr. D. McElwain advising that land negotiations are continuing and an update will be provided at a later date.

Members acknowledged the huge effort made by those involved in organising the Halloween activities over the coming weekend and thanked the Town Team and the Friends of Rossmore for their work.

4. Questions and Motions

There were no questions/motions submitted.

5. Correspondence

The following correspondence was circulated with the meeting agenda:

- Response from the Office of the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence in relation to the criminal trial of an ex-serving soldier

Members acknowledged the continuing need for a domestic abuse shelter in Monaghan.

6. Votes of Congratulations and Sympathies

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

- Emyvale Ladies GFC on winning the Monaghan Senior League yesterday.

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

- Mr. Colm Lynch, General Services Supervisor, Municipal District of Monaghan on the passing of his father-in-law, John Kennedy, Ballyshannon
- Ms. Bernie McEivane, former Staff Officer with Monaghan Municipal District, on the death of her mother, Mary Kate McElvane, Threemilehouse
- Ms. Deirdre McQuaid, IS Technical Officer, on the death of her father, Pat McElroy, Smithboro

7. A.O.B.

On the proposal of Cllr B. Aree, seconded by Cllr C. Bennett, it was agreed that this Council write to the Regional School Transport Minister to respond to continuous email and reps made by the Elected Members or ask if we can have a dedicated email address for representations.


On the proposal of Cllr B. Aree, seconded by Cllr C. Bennett, it was agreed that Monaghan Municipal District write to the Minister for Education, Norma Foley, and to the Minister with responsibility for Special Education and Inclusion, Hildegard Naughton, asking that they lift the cap on numbers in both Edenmore National School mainstream and Edenmore Le Cheile Unit and allow them to accommodate children at the capacity available and intended.

On the proposal of Cllr S. Treanor, seconded by Cllr R. Aughey, it was agreed that this Council write to Transport Infrastructure Ireland / Local Link regarding a service for the graveyard road at Latlorcan as there are up to 50 houses on this road and 42 houses at Cathedral Walk.

In acknowledging Minister Heather Humphreys decision to retire from politics the Members expressed their gratitude to Minister Humphreys for her work ethic, her stamina, her dedication to serving her community and her county, which she did with distinction. Members referred to Minister Humphreys as being a great advocate for women in politics. Members wished Minister Humphreys and her family good health to enjoy many years of retirement.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: 
Cathaoirleach

Signed: 
Municipal District Coordinator

Dated this 25th day of November 2024