

**Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, M-Tek 1 Building, Knockaconny, Monaghan on Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> December 2024 at 11.30am.**

**Present:** Cllr Seán Conlon, Cathaoirleach  
Cllrs Pauric Clerkin, Raymond Aughey, Seamus Treanor and Bronagh McAree

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

**Apologies:** Ms. Patricia Monahan, Director of Services

At the outset of the meeting the Members congratulated David Maxwell and Cathy Bennett on their successful Election to the 34<sup>th</sup> Dáil, as Teachta Dála (TD) for the Cavan-Monaghan constituency. Members noted that, between the 2 candidates, they have given almost 30 years' service to the people of County Monaghan in their positions as Elected Members to Monaghan County Council. Members wished them well in their new roles.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

On the proposal of Cllr S. Treanor, seconded by Cllr P. Clerkin, it was agreed that the Minutes of the Municipal District Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2024 be confirmed.

**2. Matters Arising**

Members welcomed the decision of An Bord Pleanála in relation to Dublin Street South Regeneration Plan, noting, however, their disappointment at the long delay of 23 months, in reaching this decision.

Members welcomed assurances from Mr. D. McElwain that a meeting had taken place with members of An Garda Síochána in relation to events which happened in the Killygoan and Mullaghmatt areas of the town on Halloween night. Members asked that a meeting take place early in 2025, with the relevant parties, in order to ensure, as far as is possible, that there is no repetition of this in 2025.

**3. Report from Municipal District Coordinator**

Mr. D. McElwain, MD Coordinator, took Members through the December Report. The Members noted the Report which had been circulated with the agenda.

In response to Members queries, Mr. McElwain and Mr. R. O'Neill confirmed:

- At present the date given by the contractor for completion of the works to the Glen Road culvert is January 2025.
- To investigate the possibility of the inclusion of Emyvale Playpark in Monaghan County Council's 'Playground Passports' which is pocket-sized booklet guide with a map detailing 22 playgrounds in Monaghan.
- The MD to do a general tidy up of the property known as 'Red Boys' in Emyvale.
- Members raised the issue of the need for traffic calming measures in the towns and villages.
- Plantation Road culvert – The members asked that when dates have been finalised for the project, that the MD, liaise with business & property owners to keep them informed of the works.

- Low-Cost Safety Measures – The MD put forward safety measures at Bogues under this scheme. The council’s Roads Dept make the applications for all funding under the scheme. This funding to be announced in February 2025.
- Aldi works on Macartan Road - The Contractor has been requested, (through Roads Dept), for electronic signs for works at Macartan’s Road. Members asked that this is published to ensure the public are fully informed.
- Bus parking at Peace Campus – The MD to liaise with the Peace Campus for a solution.
- Mr. McElwain confirmed sales of Monaghan Town Voucher have surpassed the €1.1million mark in December, to date. Mr. McElwain also confirmed that procurement documents have been published on E-Tenders, at end of November, for a digital solution to the current paper format of the Monaghan Town Voucher. Tender evaluation to be completed, by an Assessment Panel, later this week. Mr. McElwain confirmed the tender process will take 4-5 months and it is planned to have a digital solution by Q2 2025. Mr. McElwain thanked Monaghan MD staff for their work in administering the paper vouchers and also Monaghan Town Team for their work throughout the year and for their efforts in promoting the scheme.

The Members acknowledged the hugely cumbersome work involved in the administration of the paper Monaghan Town Vouchers and thanked the MD staff for their efforts. Members noted, the increased workload for Council staff, generated by the Scheme, strengthened the argument for a digital solution. Members thanked local businesses for their support to the success of the scheme, acknowledging the huge benefit to our local economy.

Members thanked all staff, who worked in dangerous conditions for the safety of the public, during the recent severe weather event ‘Storm Darragh’, and acknowledged the efforts of ESB in restoring power supplies.

Members acknowledged the work done by Council staff in maintaining the county’s playgrounds and referred to the works which are almost completed to the extension of Rossmore Playpark. Members acknowledged the work of all involved in the Christmas Street Food Festival and Crocus Christmas Grotto, bringing to a conclusion the many festivals and events held throughout 2024, which saw huge numbers of visitors to our town.

#### 4. Correspondence

The following correspondence was circulated with the meeting agenda:

- Response from Minister of State for Special Education and Inclusion, Hildegard Naughton, in relation to Edenmore National School

#### 5. Questions and Motions

**Cllr Seán Conlon asked:**

1. What progress is occurring in relation to my previous queries regarding the installation of directional signage at Mullaghmat?

**Response:** This project was on hold due to the additional request to consider naming of Roads in the estate. The Municipal District can advance the proposed directional signage scheme without street names and complete the project in Q1, 2025.



2. What is the reason for the extensive delay in completing works at the entrance to the Ulster Canal Park off the Glen Road (beside Car L Parts) where temporary fencing has been in place for most of the year? (photo attached).

**Response:** The upgrade works to the memorial park were substantially completed earlier in the year. As the water connection has now been completed by Uisce Eireann, the water fountain was installed on Monday 9th December. The council's contractor is now due to return to site to complete the remaining works and to remove the barriers before the Christmas break.

3. Following recent clarification of the wayleaves / rights of way issue being addressed, what processes will be initiated by the Council for the lane servicing Killyvane, Ballybay Road to be 'taken in charge', and then can become eligible to secure funding for resurfacing?

**Response:** Following receipt of the final information from the residents on this section of the Killyvane lane the Council have publicised a Notice of Intention to declare the road to be a public road in the Northern Standard on the 12th of December 2024. The Closing date for receipt of objections/representations is 5.00 p.m. on Thursday 6th February 2025.

Following on from this process and subject to the submissions received it is intended to bring this to the Municipal District meeting on 17th February 2025 for consideration/approval.

#### 6. Votes of Congratulations and Sympathies

Members expressed their congratulations to Ms. Kayleigh Trappe, wishing her every success in her appearance on RTE's Dancing With The Stars in 2025.

#### 7. A.O.B.

Members raised concerns regarding a number of incidents at Westerra Terrace and Stanley Terrace resulting in crashes and damage to property and requested traffic calming measures at these locations and also at Latlurcan Graveyard Road. Traffic calming issues to be discussed with Roads Department.

Mr. McElwain advised Members an additional Farmers Market will take place in Church Square on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December.

The Cathaoirleach and Members, together with the MD Coordinator, wished all Members, MD staff and the members of the Press a peaceful Christmas.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed:   
Cathaoirleach

Signed:   
Municipal District Coordinator

Dated this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2025