

**Minutes of Meeting of Monaghan Municipal District held in the Council Chamber, M-Tek I Building, Knockaconny, Monaghan on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> November 2025 at 11.15am**

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

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

**1. Confirmation of Minutes of MD Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

On the proposal of Cllr S. Conlon, seconded by Cllr A. Johnston, it was agreed that the Minutes of the Monaghan Municipal District Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2025 be confirmed.

**2. Matters Arising**

In relation to additional funding for serviced sites, it was noted Members would bring this to the attention of the full Council.

Members thanked the MD Coordinator and MD staff, together with An Garda Síochána, for their efforts in ensuring a peaceful Halloween in Monaghan town.

**3. Report from Municipal District Co-Ordinator**

Mr. M. Taylor took Members through the October-November report. The Members noted the report which had been circulated with the agenda.

Members extended gratitude to the Friends of Rossmore Park and all volunteers involved on a hugely successful Halloween event which took place in the park on the evening of the 31<sup>st</sup> October.

Members also acknowledged the work of Monaghan Municipal District and An Garda Síochána in ensuring a safe celebration of Halloween for all; while noting that there was disappointment amongst the communities, particularly in rural areas, by the lack of a fireworks display in Monaghan Town. Staff were commended for organising clean up operations, often at short notice, to ensure materials could not be stockpiled for use as illegal bonfires.

Referring to the 2025 IPB Pride of Place Awards, Members commended Doohamlet Community Centre who won first place in the Community Wellbeing Initiative category, and Carrickroe Community Development was named runner-up in the Population 0–300 category.

Members congratulated Monaghan Town Team, the staff in Monaghan Municipal District and Motor Tax Office on a hugely successful Monaghan Town Voucher Scheme, as we move towards a county wide County Monaghan Gift Card. The level of spend of the current Monaghan Town Voucher scheme was commended along with the level of interest of businesses willing to accept the new County Monaghan Gift Card.

In response to Members queries, Mr. M. Taylor advised:

- A meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> November in relation to flood alleviation in Monaghan Town; rural areas will also be discussed. Roads Dept have engaged a consultant to review the issue of flooding.
- The playpark at Luí NaGréine is a public playpark.
- Belgium Park All Weather Pitch - will require additional funding to consider works at this location – MD Exec to look into this.

- The apparatus outside Dunnes Stores, on Dawson Street – MD have been in regular communication with Dunnes Stores Management in relation to this.
- An application has been made for a pedestrian light at the new pedestrian crossing in Emyvale but no conformation has been received to date. Awaiting an ESB connection. MD will enquire if there is a possibility of erecting temporary lights in the interim.
- Bus Stop Enhancement Scheme – A discussion was had if Mullan Village could be included on the Bus Stop Enhancement Scheme due to the current level of employment. It was agreed this would be investigated.
- The MD will get repair works carried out to the recent damage caused to the Courthouse gates at entrance/exit to Courthouse Carpark.
- Re-paving works on Armagh Road N12 are completed and were required and as this is a national road, funding is non-transferable. The previous surface had reached the end of its design life and was showing signs of deterioration.
- Regarding the County Monaghan Gift Card it was confirmed that salespoints will be established in each of the larger towns with potential consideration to be given to demand for sales points in smaller towns/villages in 2026. The paper Monaghan Town Voucher is still being redeemed but will not be sold after the new County Card launches on 21<sup>st</sup> November.

Members commended the movement on the project of the Community Hub to the former Red Boys public house, Emyvale.

The following proposal arose from an issue where works took place at the traffic lights on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November which had not been notified to the Council in advance:

*On the proposal of Cllr B. McAree, seconded by Cllr A. Johnston, and agreed by all that Monaghan County Council write to TII asking for forewarning / notice of any road works to take place in Monaghan.*

#### 4. **Correspondence**

The following correspondence was circulated with the meeting agenda:

- Response from Minister Browne in relation to Wastewater treatment capacity in Monaghan
- Acknowledgement letter from Minister of State, Kevin Boxer Moran TD in relation to Flooding in Monaghan Town
- Acknowledgement from Minister Darragh O'Brien in relation to Flooding in Monaghan Town
- Response from Commission for Regulation of Utilities in relation to information on ESB eCars and charging infrastructure

*On the proposal of Cllr S. Conlon, seconded by Cllr A. Johnston, and agreed by all that the MD respond to the letter from CRU asking what the rules are and if CRU has oversight over these.*

#### 5. **Questions & Motions**

**Cllr Niamh McCooey will ask:**

1. Could Monaghan County Council confirm whether safety bollards could be installed, on the road edge, on the R213, in the vicinity of LT54203.

**Response: The Municipal District will review the requirement for the installation of additional reflective bollards in the vicinity of the R213 / LT54203 junction and add to their programme of works.**

2. Could Monaghan County Council advise when the consultation process is expected to commence for the proposed Active Travel measures on the Cootehill Road.

**Response: The public consultation process for the active travel scheme is expected to commence in quarter 1 of 2026.**

3. Can Monaghan County Council provide an update on the development of the play park in Lui na Greine, Scotstown.

**Response: A tender competition has recently concluded, and a Contractor has been appointed for the installation of new play equipment in Lui na Greine, Scotstown. The play equipment is currently on order and is expected to be delivered in early December 2025.**

4. Following the recent announcement of ORIS funding for Castleshane Forest, could the Council confirm when works are expected to commence?

**Response: MCC has been given 24 months to complete the project. Detailed design (for car park, trail furniture, signage, interpretation panels etc) is required before any construction work takes place and procurement for this element will be completed in Q 1 2026. Construction work is likely to commence in Q4 2026.**

5. Can Monaghan County Council:

- a. Explore the possibility of traffic calming measures on the approach to Scotstown village, at St Dymrna's Terrace?
- b. Has a speed survey been carried out recently on this section of road? If so, could the Council provide the results?
- c. If a survey has not been conducted recently, could I request that the Council arrange for one to be carried out in this area?

**Response: The Municipal District of Monaghan carried out a speed survey on the L-2010 at St Dymrna's Terrace in May 2024 which showed a speeding issue along this section of road. Additional road markings were installed (as per Stage 1 of the MCC Traffic Calming Policy) in October 2024 and follow up survey in 2025 showed a marginal improvement in speed results. The Municipal District have completed a design for additional traffic calming measures (as per Stage 2 of the MCC Traffic Calming Policy) which will be considered for installation dependant on available funding streams.**

**Cllr Alan Johnston will ask:**

1. Can the MD provide an estimated date for the completion of works at the horseshoe bridge

**Response: The works at Horseshoe Bridge are expected to be completed by end of March 2026.**

2. Can the MD provide an estimated date for the completion of the housing development works at Cortolvin (Cois Coille)

**Response: With regard to the housing development at Slí na Coille Mullaghmatt (referred to as Cois Coille Cortolvin) the construction work will be practically complete at year end of 2025 and the houses will be allocated to tenants in March 2026**

3. Can the MD provide an estimated date for the completion of culvert works at the Plantation

- a. Can the MD ensure that a two way system along the Plantation Road will be in place for the Christmas period

**Response: The works to the Plantation Road/Peter's Lake Culvert are expected to be completed in early 2026. The current traffic management system that is in place on the Plantation Road will be removed at the start of December.**

4. With regards to the proposed culvert works at Castle Road/Monaghan Credit Union - Can the MD provide further guidance on:

- a. When this work is expected to commence

**Response: Following review of the current design and a successful procurement process which is planned to take place in Q2 2026.**

- b. The estimated duration for the work

**Response: 8-12Months**

- c. An overview on any lane & footpath closures

**Response: This is to be submitted by the contractor as part of the tender process; however, two-way traffic must be maintained on the National road throughout the duration of the contract.**

- d. Where the funds to do the work will come from?

**Response: A funding request has been made to the DOT for 2026.**

**ClIr Pauric Clerkin will ask:**

1. Can the Monaghan MD provide an update regarding the lands, known as Moyna's Field, in Scotstown Village and when a consultation is planned to take place.

**Response: As part of the Tier 4 Village Plans it was agreed to complete the Scotstown Village plan in 2027. Consultation on Moyna's Field will form part of this Village Plan. Also an application has been made under the Project Development Measure through Town and Village funding to look the Village Green and complete a Master Plan for this area.**

2. Can Monaghan MD provide an update regarding the installation of public lighting from the from the Scotstown Road to the Rat Houses on the R186.

**Response: The Municipal District have completed received a design and quotation to install additional lights as far as the Town boundary (50km/h sign). Considering the available annual budget for new public lighting, these lights will be considered for installation in 2026.**

3. Can Monaghan MD provide an update on the progress regarding housing developments in both Ballinode and Carrickroe.

**Response: Ballinode: The construction of ten houses will be practically complete in November 2025 and the remaining twelve houses will be complete in 2026. It is anticipated that all of the houses will be allocated to tenants by March 2026.**

**Carrickroe: The three unfinished houses at Carrickroe will be complete in December 2025 and will be allocated to tenants in January 2026.**

**ClIr Raymond Aughey will ask:**

1. Can the Monaghan MD provide an update on our two council owned houses beside SIPTU in Old Cross Square?

**Response:** The two houses in Old Cross Square beside SIPTU were acquired by Monaghan County Council with the intention of demolishing the houses and developing apartments in their place. In consultation with the Housing Advisory Unit in central government's Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, plans were prepared for the construction of a 3-storey apartment building (basement / lower ground level and 2 storeys at street level) and a Part 8 planning submission was prepared. During the consultation process the Heritage branch of the Department highlighted the sensitivity and significance of the location from a Heritage perspective. As the houses are located in a prominent location in Old Cross Square near a historic monument (sun dial) and beside the church in a highly visible location at the foot of Dublin Street and as they are surviving examples of the "historic street fronted terrace to Old Cross Square" they are considered to be important from a Heritage perspective and should not be demolished. Please see relevant extracts below from the report received from the Development Applications Unit of the Heritage branch of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

To proceed with the housing project at this location Monaghan County Council has been required to procure a new design team that includes a Grade 1 Conservation Architect. The procurement process for the new design team including a Grade 1 Conservation Architect has been completed and it is intended that a new proposal for the two houses will be prepared in keeping with the requirements of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage.

The Department's assessment noted the evolution of the historic street fronted terrace to Old Cross Square which provides a distinctive historic setting to the church and graveyard at the entrance point to the historic town centre. An assessment of the subject site indicates it is part of the historic core of the town, within the zone of archaeological potential adjoining the Shambles River and the site of the first Presbyterian Church, constructed 1745 and subsequently replaced with the present day church in the C19th. (Historical mapping attached)

The Department considers the proposed demolition detrimental to the character of the historic town centre and the cultural significance of the historic terrace as part of Cross Square.

The photographic images of the exterior only, inserted within the architectural design statement, indicate the early construction of the terrace to Dublin Street with large timber bresssummers embedded in the front face, thick masonry construction, stone gable with irregular plan form, traditional linear form, exposed window frames and basement suggesting an early construction period. Unfortunately, no assessment of the upstanding structure has been provided and information pertaining to the interior of the house would be necessary to clarify the cultural significance of the subject properties. In this context, the proposal of full demolition and replacement with a development of significant scale and prominence is not supported as it does not adequately protect nor enhance historic character and amenity of the historic square, the church and its setting. A key concern is the scale of the proposed gable and stairwell aligning immediately to historic river course the River Shambles and the prominence of the proposed development on the architectural character of the town.

Having regard to the proposed development there appears to be significant scope to adjust the current design approach to accommodate the extant 3-storey structure within an overall

.....  
3

---



proposal, and to provide ancillary contemporary accommodation to the rear with careful consideration of the connection between new to the old construction, hierarchy of scale, circulation within the overall development, and materiality as part of the mitigation of impact on the historic setting.

For this reason, the input of a Grade 1 Conservation Architect is recommended to provide the assessment of the existing buildings, the re-imagining of their fabric as part of the larger residential scheme and a design approach to mitigate adverse impact within the historic town centre.

2. Can MD provide an update on where in the MD the traffic calming is taking place i.e. villages and towns, especially Mullan Village and Scotstown.

**Response: The Municipal District have submitted an application to the Department of Transport for funding through the Low Cost Safety fund to install additional traffic calming measures (as per Stage 2 of the MCC Traffic Calming Policy) in Mullan Village and Roslea Road Scotstown**

3. Can MD provide an update on the installation of public lighting at Lisbannagher housing estate, Glaslough

**Response: The Municipal District have recently installed additional public light columns along the road from Glaslough Village to Lisbannagher Estate. All works have been completed and are awaiting an ESB connection to energise the new lights.**

4. Can the MD provide an update on installation of playground at Lui na Greine, Scotstown

**Response: A tender competition has recently concluded and a Contractor has been appointed for the installation of new play equipment in Lui na Greine, Scotstown. The play equipment is currently on order and is expected to be delivered in early December 2025.**

**CLlr Sean Conlon will ask:**

- 1 Further to previous site visits with Council officials over the past three years to St. Michaels National School Rackwallace, in efforts at highlighting hazardous road conditions, and seeking appropriate road safety measures to be put in place, I ask what initiatives are under consideration that will minimise risks to both vehicle and vulnerable road users within metres of this busy school?

**Response: The Municipal District have reviewed this location with consideration given to both the corners on the road in advance of the school and the busy location at school drop off and pick up times. The solution to this section of road will require these two elements to be address simultaneously. The MD will finalise preliminary designs for discussion with the Principal of St. Michaels National School.**

- 2 In relation to raising awareness of speed limits, especially through towns and larger villages, are the Council satisfied that legislation set by Transport Infrastructure Ireland, and the National Transport Authority regarding repeater signs is being adequately met?

**Response: With regards to all speed limit signage, including repeater signs, guidance is laid out in the Department of Transport publications 'Guidance on the setting and managing of speed limits in Ireland' and the 'Traffic Signs Manual'. MCC endeavour to implement the guidance and legislation, including adequately providing and positioning repeater signs where they are deemed to be required. Repeater signs act as a reminder for drivers who are already on the road and for those entering from minor roads or junctions. Importantly, they are not intended to highlight the presence of an upcoming hazard, wherein other more suitable signage is utilised. Repeater signs will be included under the speed limit review for urban areas which is due to begin in 2026**

- 3 What updates are available regarding the potential occupation by commercial / industrial business into the IDA building, sitting idle since being officially opened five years ago, at the Knockaconny Business Park on the N12 / Armagh Road?

**Response: Minor works were completed on the IDA Advance Technology Building in recent weeks. Monaghan County Council anticipate the 1,329m2 facility, comprising 900m2 of high-tech manufacturing space and ancillary office space will be occupied by industry in 2026.**

4. With the most recent phase of the planning process having concluded for the Dublin Street North Regeneration Plan, what are the next stages of development that will advance this project to commencement stage?

**Response: Monaghan County Council are delighted with An Coimisiùn Pleanála's recent decision to grant Planning Approval for the Dublin Street North Regeneration project. The next phase in the project development is to make an application to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage to move to the next stage in the project lifecycle, to prepare detailed design proposals.**

- 5 When are the extension works to Dr. McKenna Terrace, and Devin Reilly Terrace parking bays expected to begin considering members were informed earlier in the year works would commence in October?

**Response: As per the update provided in the Octobers MD Co-Ordinators report, the Municipal District have completed designs for additional car parking spaces at both Dr McKenna Terrace and Devin Reilly Terrace. These proposals have been shared with Killygoan Residents Association, who have agreed to**

**complete the public consultation in the local community. On confirmation from Killygoan Residents Association that agreement has been reached the Municipal District can commence the works.**

**Cllr Bronagh McAree will ask:**

1. In relation to the Mullaghmatt Forest Cycle Trail, currently being assessed for contractor selection, what is the total land acreage being made available by Coillte for this recreational amenity, and also, will there be a public consultation opportunity following the consultant led design outcome?

**Response: The Coillte-owned land area within the curtilage of Mullaghmatt Forest is 12.24ha (30 acres). A multi-disciplinary design team is currently being procured for this project and consultation has been included in the project brief.**

2. Can I be provided with an update on bus stop enhancement scheme, identified locations and timeframe for works.

**Response: We are currently waiting on appointed Contractor to carry out new TFI branded pole installation works at selected bus stops in Monaghan MD area.**

**These existing bus stop locations include stops in Monaghan town – Hospital Hill, Annayalla , Clontibret, Emyvale, Glaslough, Mullan village and Tyholland.**

**These works are due for completion in Q4 2025**

3. Can Monaghan Co Council please consider a introducing a walkway between the parish field Emyvale and Emyvale GAA grounds on the Glaslough road.

**Response: The Municipal District of Monaghan will investigate the feasibility of installing a walkway between the Emyvale and the GAA grounds.**

## **MOTIONS**

**Motion by Cllr Alan Johnston, seconded by Cllr Pauric Clerkin:**

That the MD write to the Minister for Agriculture Martin Heydon TD requesting that the current compensation scheme paid to farmers who have to cull animals under a notifiable disease order be reviewed so that a fair compensation is paid over and above the market value of the animals to include a proportion of consequential loss.

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

**Motion by Cllr Alan Johnston, seconded by Cllr Pauric Clerkin:**

That the MD write to the Minister for Housing James Browne TD requesting that flexibility be given to Monaghan County Council to allow for tenants in Part V housing to purchase their home and further, to give MCC the flexibility to allocate and change part V housing to better suit the needs of tenants with regards to home ownership.

*Following a short discussion on the motion, the Cathaoirleach put it to the meeting, and it was agreed unanimously. MD to discuss wording with Director of Housing before issuing correspondence. Ms. P. Monahan to discuss with Corporate Services regarding including this motion on full Council Meeting agenda.*

**Motion by Cllr Raymond Aughey, seconded by Cllr Seamus Treanor:**

That the MD need to progress the link roads around town because of the traffic situation.

Following presentation from Mr. K. West earlier in the meeting, it was agreed that more clarity on this issue had been provided.

**Motion by Cllr Bronagh McAree, seconded by Cllr Raymond Aughey:**

Can I propose that Monaghan Co. Council work in conjunction with all vintners, restaurateurs and hoteliers within the MD to introduce the "Ask For Angela" scheme widely recognised across larger towns and cities.

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

Cllr R. Aughey confirmed he has been in touch with the Vintners Federation in relation to this.

**6. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations**

- On the proposal of Cllr Seamus Treanor it was agreed that the sympathy of the Municipal District be extended to Mr. Jimmy Askin, School Warden, on the death of his brother, Frank.
- On the proposal of Cllr Bronagh McAree, seconded by Cllr Niamh McCooey, it was agreed to extend a vote of congratulations to Emyvale Ladies GAA U16s on winning the Division 2 Championship title and completing the U16s double.
- On the proposal of Cllr Niamh McCooey seconded by Cllr Bronagh McAree it was agreed to extend a vote of congratulations to Tyholland GFC on winning the Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha medal in Croke Park for the promotion of our language and culture within the club.
- On the proposal of Cllr Pauric Clerkin seconded by Cllr Alan Johnsnton, it was agreed to extend a vote of congratulations to Carrickroe Community Development on their second place finish at the 2025 IPB Pride of Place Awards

**7. AOB**

*On the proposal of Cllr Seamus Treanor, seconded by Cllr Pauric Clerkin, it was agreed that this Council writes to the Minister of Environment regarding the height of trees in urban areas and rural areas where there are large trees in back gardens growing up to 90ft. this is totally unacceptable and very dangerous and is causing friction in neighbourhoods.*

This concluded the business of the meeting.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Cathaoirleach

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Municipal District Coordinator

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of December 2025