

## Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of the Municipal District of Ballybay-Clones held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 10.00am in The Civic Offices, Ballybay, Co Monaghan.

**Members Present** The Cathaoirleach, Cllr Sean Gilliland, presided

The following members were also present: - Cllrs: Cathy Bennett, Pat Treanor Hugh McElvaney, Seamus Coyle and Richard Truell

**In Attendance** Aidge King, Director of Services, Kevin McNally Municipal District Co-ordinator, Colin Murphy Executive Engineer, Mr Rory Treanor Assistant Engineer and Seamie Mc Mahon, Staff Officer.

Cllr Sean Gilliland welcomed all to the meeting.

### **1. Confirmation of minutes of monthly meeting**

Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed the previous minutes, Cllr Cathy Bennett seconded the proposal and were agreed by all.

### **2. Correspondence Sent**

The correspondence sent was noted by all present.

### **3. Correspondence Received**

Cllr Cathy Bennett spoke on the correspondence received from the Department of Rural and Community Development in relation to Clár, she stated that she was delighted that a review of the current Clár area was been reviewed. Regarding further correspondence from the department Cllr Cathy Bennett stated that she was disappointed that Minister Michael Ring TD would not visit the Sliabh Beagh area. Cllr Cathy Bennett added that she hoped that Minister Heather Humphreys would be in a position to visit the area. All the members welcomed the review of the Clár areas. Cllr Pat Treanor proposed, **That this MD write to Minister Michael Ring TD indicating that we wish to make a submission to the review of the Clár programme and that the MD are seeking information in how to do this.** This was seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all

Cllr Seamus Coyle spoke of his disappointment with Irish Waters response to repeated requests to meet with the elected members. He proposed, **That this MD writes to Irish Water expressing its total disgust at their failure to meet with the elected members to discuss on going water discolouration in the Ballybay area. Cllr Seamus Coyle also requests that this MD write Minister Eoghan Murphy TD to direct Irish Water to attend a meeting with the elected members of the Ballybay Clones MD to discuss these issues.** This was seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all.

Cllr Sean Gilliland spoke of the issue on costs associated with water connection charges and proposed, **That this MD write to Irish Water asking them to consider a reduction in the cost of Rural water connections for Old Age Pensioners.** This was seconded by Cllr Richard Truell and agreed by all.

### **4. Consideration of Ballybay Clones MD Schedule of Works**

Mr Kevin McNally presented the draft schedule of works for the Municipal District to the members. The members thanked Mr Kevin McNally and staff for there continued hard work. Cllr Hugh McElvaney proposed the Schedule of Works, Cllr Seamus Coyle seconded, and they were agreed by all.

## **6. Consideration of Phase 1 Proposed works to Ballybay Courtyard**

It was agreed by the members that Item 6 was to be dealt with before item 5.

The members welcomed Mr Rory Treanor to the meeting. Mr Rory Treanor gave an update on the proposed works at Ballybay Courtyard. The members welcomed the report and were delighted to see work begin in this area.

## **5. Consideration of the Naming of the Clones Offices of the Ballybay Clones MD**

Cllr Sean Gilliland suggested that this section of the meeting go In-Committee, Cllr Pat Treanor disagreed with this. Cllr Hugh McElvaney proposed that the meeting go In Committee, Cllr Seamus Coyle seconded. Cllrs Hugh McElvaney, Seamus Coyle, Richard Truell and Sean Gilliland vote in favour of Cllr Hugh McElvaney's proposal, Cllrs Pat Treanor and Cathy Bennett voted against. The motion was passed, 4 votes to 2 and the meeting went In Committee.

After a long discussion no agreement was reached, the members all agreed to exit the in-committee section of the meeting.

Cllr Sean Gilliland stated that he was now referring the matter to the April meeting of the Municipal District and that if a unanimous decision was not reached he would defer the decision until after the new council was in place. Cllr Pat Treanor thanked the Cathaoirleach Cllr Sean Gilliland for his efforts to unite the elected members but still felt strongly that the wishes of the public must be listened to. He added that this could lead to mistrust between the elected members and the public. Cllr Hugh McElvaney stated that he was willing to compromise and support the name The Clones Market House however he would never compromise and support a politically motivated name. Cllr Seamus Coyle added that he would support the name The Clones Market House while Cllr Cathy Bennett stated that she would support the will of the people who took part in the public consultation. It was agreed by all that the issue will be discussed further at April's Municipal District monthly meeting.

## **7. Municipal District Coordinators Report**

**Mr Kevin Mc Nally gave his report:**

### **Former Clones Post Office**

Works are progressing well. It is envisaged that they will be completed by the end of Q1 2019. Tenders for the fitout aspect of the project have been received and assessed. Number of contracts have been awarded for this element of the project. We are now in the process of preparing the necessary terms and conditions to enable the various studios to be leased to artists. It is hoped that the building will be operational during April.

### **Sliabh Beagh**

The iconic sign proposed for a site in the vicinity of the penal cross in Knockatallon is at production stage. We are hopeful that the sign will be installed by April this year.

### **Ballybay Town Park**

Part Eight Planning application has been submitted for works to Ballybay Town Park – these works are being funded from allocations received under the Departments Outdoor Recreation Programme. Procurement of a landscape architect to provide advice on planting etc is nearly completed.

### **Ballybay Courtyard project**

Part Eight Planning application for works to the Ballybay Courtyard project has been submitted. These works consist of the development of an access roadway to the site and the provision of a temporary carpark. Separately we are in the process of procuring masterplan for this site.

Meeting is proposed with Ballybay Regeneration Committee for Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April at 6.00pm. A formal launch of the Ballybay Economic and Public realm plan will occur at the meeting.

### **Ulster Canal Greenway update**

Ballybay – Clones Municipal District are exploring the feasibility of extending a new greenway, roughly along the line of the disused Ulster Canal, from Smithborough to Clones. This project is being funded by funding from the Municipal Districts allocation. The Municipal District have procured consultants, Fehily Timoney/Clandillon Civil Consulting to aid in developing a feasibility study. The consultants will be carrying out walkover surveys of the lands in the vicinity of the route over the coming weeks. Letters will be issued to relevant landowners over the course of next week notifying them of the proposed survey.

### **CLÁR Funding Scheme 2019**

The CLÁR 2019 programme includes new measures to support rural communities. Measures 1, 2 and 3(c) will be managed by Monaghan County Council and Measure 3 (a) & (b) will be managed directly by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

I would like to congratulate Ballybay Community College on their recent All Ireland Colleges Senior Rice Cup Final win on Saturday last. It was a great achievement for the players and the school.

I would also like to acknowledge the great work of the organising committees for the St Patrick's Day parades in Clones, Ballybay and Killeveen. There was a great attendance on both days and the great crowds were a testament to the strong community spirit that exists in the Municipal District.

### **Mr Colin Murphy gave his report:**

#### **Roads Programme**

Receipt of Tenders for the Bitmac Contract are due on 5<sup>th</sup> April with a projected start date of the 13<sup>th</sup> May for works. The contractor will be starting in the Ballybay-Clones MD this year.

Drainage works is complete on the 6 roads on the 2019 Roads Programme, the LP4007 at Lacken Bridge, LP3403 Ballybay to Cremartin Road, LS6210 Doohat to Drunanan, LS 8103 in Laragh, the LT80001 Drumhonnion Rd and on the LP4020 Corvally Church Road this week.

#### **Town & Village Renewal Funding**

Latton - A meeting has been organised with residents of the community later this week to discuss the proposed options for the village. It is hoped to go to tender on these by mid-April.

Scotshouse Part 8 planning documents have been submitted and it is the intention that these will go before the May Council Meeting. Documents are currently being prepared to procure a landscape Architect, to help finalise the design

Ballybay Town Park - Part 8 planning for the works in the Ballybay Town park will be going before the full council meeting in April. A landscape architect will also be appointed in early April to advance the works.

### **Regional Road Signs**

A gang has commenced cleaning and repairing all signs on the Regional Road Network and intersecting road junctions within the MD boundary

### **Clonkeencole**

Works are continuing to improve access and parking at Clonkeencole Community Centre, in addition to the removal of the large evergreen trees at the pedestrian access and the installation of additional lighting.

### **Swanns Cross Bus shelters**

The bases have been installed for the 2 bus shelters to be located at Swans Cross, and the shelters themselves will be installed the week beginning 1<sup>st</sup> April. Paths have also been installed to improve safety for children accessing the shelters

### **Cycle Path in Mulladuff**

Works have commenced on the installation of a cycle path around the perimeter of Mulladuff Green in the Area.

### **Extension of footpath out to Famine Memorial Graveyard**

Works on the footpath have commenced on the Scotshouse road. We are currently waiting on Eir to underground the existing overhead cables

### **Cannons Lane**

Works have commenced on the first phase of works on Cannons Lane. There is a double hedge along the first section and it is the intention to remove the hedge on the lane side for a length of the first 4 residents and widen the lane to allow for a pull in area for meeting traffic.

### **Threemilehouse Residents Association**

Works have commenced on installing a fenced off area so that the residents can locate a storage shed and tools. This will be completed at the start of April.

The members thanked both Mr Kevin Mc Nally and Mr Colin Murphy for their report.

Cllr Seamus Coyle asked would there be improved visibility at the Cannons Lane entrance, Mr Colin Murphy stated there would. Cllr Pat Treanor asked for updates on the Rural Regeneration funding and the Clones Renewal Scheme. Mr Kevin Mc Nally stated that the MD was waiting on clarification from the department regarding the Rural Regeneration Fund but that the MD were working to advance the various projects. Mr Kevin Mc Nally stated that the Housing section was in the process of approving tenders for the Clones Renewal Scheme and that the MD had appointed a contractor to demolish the old Boyle Sports building. Mr Adge King added that the Environment section were in discussions with Waterways Ireland regarding the Marina at the Canal Stores. Cllr Cathy Bennett raised issues of speeding in Scotstown and a zebra crossing at the Sliabh Beagh Hotel. Cllr Hugh McElvaney asked for an update on the speed limits at Gransha, Mr Kevin McNally stated that a submission had been made requesting extension to the 60km zone on behalf of the elected members.

## 8. Questions

**Cllr Seamus Coyle asked**

(1). Will Monaghan County Council immediately examine/apply for funding and have works carried out to address the very dangerous junction of the Ballybay-Cootehill Road(R190) and what is known locally as the Balladian Road,Ballybay(L39002),the Balladian Rd. exits at a very dangerous bend to the Cootehill side of the junction and unfortunately this very dangerous bend and junction have been the scene of numerous accidents and fatalities?

**Answer:**

Ballybay-Clones MD will include this junction in its application for funding in 2020 under the TII Low-Cost Safety Improvement Scheme.

(2). Can Monaghan County Council immediately have design and costings completed for a Public Lighting Scheme on the Keady/Cremartin Road,Ballybay(LP03403) as this section of road has a continuous housing and is heavenly pedestrianised, with the erection of Public Lighting essential in the interests of Health and Safety?

**Answer:**

The Municipal District have carried out a review of all proposed locations for new public lighting within the Municipal District area and have prioritised these locations. This included 33 sites consisting of 193 no new lighting columns. The LP3403 Keady-Cremartin Road was one of these locations reviewed. It is the intention of the Municipal District to install lighting as per the prioritised site list and subject to funding being available.

(3). Will Monaghan County Council immediately have Safety Strips/Dangerous Junction Signage replaced on the Ballybay-Carrickmacross Road(R180-2) at what is known locally as the Sra Road/Bridge(LT71001),as this is a very dangerous junction for traffic exiting the Sra Rd. On to the Ballybay-Carrickmacross Rd., there was previously Dangerous Junction Warning Strips, until the road was resurfaced, and they were never replaced?

**Answer:**

The traffic signs manual dictates that yellow bar markings should only be used on approaches to roundabouts and should not be used in an attempt to reduce speed at sharp bends or other hazards. The Municipal District will investigate if additional signage on the approaches to the junction is required.

(4). Will Monaghan County Council examine/apply for funding and have works carried out on the Ballybay-Castleblaney Road(R183-12) at the entrance to Wylie's Hill Housing Estate, Ballybay as the visibility is limited at this junction, with greater road markings/signage required in the interest of Safety for all?

**Answer:**

The Municipal District have carried out a review of this location and have determined that the site visibility provided is greater than the standard 45m required within a built-up area and 50km/h zone and therefore do not propose to carry out any addition works.

(5). Will Monaghan County Council prioritise the installation of a Public Lighting Scheme at Derrygooney Community Centre,Derrygooney,Bawn as this venue is located on the LP03002,it is

widely used for Community/Social events, with it very dangerous for elderly persons or children entering or exiting the building on dark winter evenings?

**Answer:**

The Municipal District have carried out a review of all proposed locations for new public lighting within the Municipal District and have prioritised these locations. This included 33 sites consisting of 193 new lighting columns. Derrygooney Community Centre was one of these locations reviewed. It is the intention of the Municipal District to install lighting as per the prioritised site list and subject to funding being available.

**Cllr Richard Truell asked**

Q1: I request that Monaghan County Council examine the requirement for the addition of traffic calming measures on the R189 Cootehill Road approaching Newbliss village.

**Answer:**

There is currently a traffic feedback sign on the approach to Newbliss from Cootehill. The Municipal district have no plans to install additional traffic calming measures at this location. The Municipal District will liaise with the Gardai and request that enforcement of the speed limit in this area is undertaken.

Q2: I request that Monaghan County Council examine the requirement for the addition of traffic calming measures in Drum village, as there is a busy infant school in the middle of the village and traffic are ignoring the speed limit.

**Answer:**

There are currently traffic feedback signs in the village of Drum. The Municipal district have no plans to install additional traffic calming measures at this location. The Municipal District will liaise with the Gardai and request that enforcement of the speed limit in this area is undertaken.

Q3: Will Monaghan County Council consider preparing a local area plan for the Drum area. In light of recent local development plans in towns and villages taken by local community groups this would seem timely.

**Answer:**

Monaghan County Council are currently working on 8 Community plans – finishing off 4 from last year and starting 4 more. No further plans will be undertaken until Autumn of 2019 and we will be glad to consider Drum at that time.

**Cllr. Pat Treanor will ask**

1. What progress has taken place on the regeneration of derelict buildings on Fermanagh Street and Analore Street, and what is the timeline for completion?

**Answer:**

Monaghan County Council has been granted Stage 3 Funding Approval by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government for the demolition of 10 derelict properties and replacement with nineteen new Apartments and two new Townhouses on Fermanagh Street and Analore Street in Clones. The scheme has successfully completed the Part 8 Planning consultation and subsequently advertised for tender competition. Monaghan County Councils Housing Department have submitted The Stage 4 Funding Applications and Tender Report which are currently being reviewed by the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government.

**Subject to Stage 4 Funding Approval from the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government,** Monaghan County Council aim to be in a position to appoint a contractor in Q2 2019 with an 18 month construction programme anticipated.

2. Is Monaghan County Council making progress with buying the Lennard Arms hotel. Are there any plans this site?

**Answer:**

The Lennard Arms site in Clones is privately owned. This building has been vacant for a number of years and is now derelict. The Council is currently investigating a number of options to address this issue.

3. When will Monaghan County Council repair the LT21401 road at Conaghy, Newbliss and the LT62012 road at Searkin, Drum?

**Answer:**

The LT21401 road at Conaghy, Newbliss and the LT62012 road at Searkin, Drum are currently not included on any works programme but can be included for consideration for future roads programmes subject to the members approval and availability of funding.

4. When will the new footpath at Clonboy, Clones, be finished off?

**Answer:**

The footpath at Clonboy, Clones is now complete

5. When will the 'Yellow Box' be painted on the road at Applegreen and the NTB road at Fitzpatrick Square to facilitate lorries turning into CPV?

**Answer**

The yellow box at Fitzpatrick Square is installed. The Councils Roads Section have indicated that the yellow Box at Applegreen will be installed in the next month. The Municipal District will continue to follow up with the Roads section on this matter.

## **9. Notice of Motions**

Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed

**That Ballybay-Clones Municipal District requests of the Minister for Communications, Richard Bruton T.D., An Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar T.D., local Minister Heather Humphreys T.D. and the government the immediate roll out of the National Broadband Plan, as it is now 7 years from the launch of the plan by the government and expresses its concern at the recent comments of An Taoiseach, that the plan may cost "many multiples" of its original price €500 million, placing the viability of the plan as originally announced in question, with Rural Ireland and particularly County Monaghan being treated as second class citizens by the current Government. Motion to be circulated to Monaghan County Council. This was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.**

Cllr Pat Treanor proposed

**That this MD ask the County Council Broadband Officer to Investigate and promote the possibility of Community Broadband Groups similar to that of Group Water Schemes.** This was seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all

Cllr Sean Gilliland proposed

**That this MD request a representative from Eir to update the members on the current roll out of rural broadband . The members want to know where the current routes stop and the reason for this.** This was seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all.

Cllr Cathy Bennett proposed

**That this MD write to Eir requesting that Fibre Optic Broadband be extended to the Houses in Ard NaGaoithe in Knockatallon. Eir are currently rolling out Fibre Optic Broadband in this area and have overlooked this Development.** This was seconded by Cllr Pat Treanor and agreed by all.

Cllr Pat Treanor proposed **That the Ballybay/Clones Municipal District investigate employing a Business Co-ordinator, to work with the Town Teams, Regeneration Partnerships, Public, Private and Community sectors in our towns and villages, with the objective of retaining current jobs and attracting new businesses.** This was seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all.

#### **10. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes**

**Page 1 :-** Cllr Pat Treanor stated that the speed review committee had met and that the turn into Aghagaw Lane would be monitored

#### **11. Chief Executive Orders**

Chief Executive orders BCMD 11/19 to 19/19 were noted by the members.

#### **12. Votes of Congratulations and Sympathy**

Members extended a vote of Congratulations to the following:

- To Ballybay Community College on winning the Rice Cup

The members discussed this matter and it was agreed to hold a civic reception in honour of this historic achievement.

Members extended a vote of Sympathy to the following:

- Aileen Owens and family on the death of her mother
- Cathal Flynn and family on the death of his father
- Adrian Walshe PP on the death of his mother
- Gerry McElroy and Family on the death of his mother Minnie
- The Rushe Family on the death of Michael
- The Traynor Family on the death of Philomena
- The Rice family on the death of Joe



- Fr Tom Quigley on the death of Maura Quigley
- The Wilson Family on the death of Tony

### **13. A.O.B.**

The members spoke on the recent correspondence sent to businesses from the Valuation Office, the following motions where proposed.

Cllr Pat Treanor proposed

**That this MD invite an official from the Valuation Office to meet with the elected members before the 40 day representation period closes.** This was seconded by Cllr Cathy Bennett and agreed by all, Cllr Seamus Coyle proposed **That the Valuation Office locate a walk in clinic in Ballybay town giving local business the opportunity to meet with them.** This was seconded by Cllr Sean Gilliland and agreed by all.

Cllr Pat Treanor spoke on recent correspondence regarding the beef industry and proposed

**That this MD write to Minister for Agriculture Michael Creed asking for support for beef farmers to address the issues effecting the unsustainable price of beef.** This was seconded by Cllr Richard Truell and agreed by all. This letter also to be sent Michael Rafferty Chairman of the Monaghan Beefplan Movement.

That concluded the meeting.

Next meeting scheduled April 15th at 10.00am.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Cathaoirleach

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Meetings Administrator

Date

15/04/2019