

## CARRICKMACROSS TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of proceedings of monthly meeting of Carrickmacross Town Council held in the Old Union Workhouse, Shercock Road, Carrickmacross, on Monday the 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2010 at 2:30p.m.

Cllr. M. Kerr-Conlon, Meara Bhaile presided.

Present: Cllrs. T. Carolan, M. Clarke, K. Jankaitiene, N. Keelan, P. McNally, P.J. O'Hanlon, M. Carthy and C. Martin.

Also in attendance: - Paul Clifford, Town Manager, Alan Hall, Senior Executive Engineer, Frances Matthews, Town Clerk and Amanda Murray, Staff Officer.

### **1. Confirmation of minutes of Council meetings:-**

The minutes of the May monthly meeting were adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Clarke seconded by Cllr. Carolan.

### **2. Matters arising.**

There were no items discussed on foot of the minutes.

### **3. Correspondence.**

The members noted a letter from the office of Minister Michael Finneran, T.D. acknowledging the Council's disappointment in the lack of provision of funding for the remedial works scheme at Cloughvalley. It was noted that Monaghan Co. Council had proposed a deputation to meet with Minister Finneran to discuss the matter, and it was agreed on the proposal of Cllr. Carthy seconded by Cllr. Carolan that the Town Council seek to be part of this deputation. It was further agreed to write to the County Council and request that they carry out a general tidy up of the area.

The members noted a letter from the Polish Ambassador thanking the people of Carrickmacross for their letter of condolence.

It was agreed that Cllr. Noel Keelan, should attend the Carrickmacross Lions Club AGM on behalf of the Council.

A letter from the Carrickmacross Twinning Committee was acknowledged by the members.

The following notice of motion from Mullingar Town Council was adopted by the members:-

*"That Mullingar Town Council calls on the minister for Family and Social Affairs, Mary Hanafin, T.D. to amend the eligibility criteria for the Mortgage Interest Supplement Scheme (MIS) having regard to the existing anomalies contained in this Scheme".*

The following notice of motion was received from Castlebar Town Council:-

A. *"That this Council would facilitate the holding of a public rally on the Mall, on a date to be decided, to allow the citizens of this*

*town express their outrage at the disgraceful fallout from the banking crisis that has involved a doubling of the national debt and the wasting of taxpayer's money on Anglo Irish Bank and Irish Nationwide.*

*The effects of this bailout will be felt by every worker in this town for the next 10 to 15 years in tax increases. It will also result in cutbacks in health, in education, in social services and in the failure to deliver the basic infrastructure that this country needs.*

*It behoves us as councillors to facilitate the anger and outrage of the people affected by this financial disaster and to invoke the spirit of Michael Davitt at this time, in Co. Mayo in general and in Castlebar in particular”.*

*B. “That this motion would be circulated to all other local authorities”.*

The following notice of motion from Clones Town Council was adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Carthy:-

*“That this Council calls on Minister Batt O’Keefe, Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment to work with the regulator to ensure that the UK/Northern Ireland business is re-opened with immediate effect to safeguard the 2800 highly skilled jobs at Quinn Insurance”.*

The following notice of motion from Cobh Town Council was adopted on the proposal of Cllr. Carthy:-

*“That this Council supports that “Justice for Robert Delaney Campaign” and the recently established website [www.innocentvictimsfoivoilence.ie](http://www.innocentvictimsfoivoilence.ie) which was set up by the Delaney Family as a forum of support and information for the campaign and furthermore calls on any citizen with information on the callous crime which resulted in Robert’s hospitalisation to inform the Gardaí of any such information”.*

The members noted the following notices of motion from Donegal County Council:-

*“Recognising that the recent decision to ban certain substances sold in “Head Shops” is welcome, Donegal County Council calls on the government to bring legislation to ban all “Head Shops” and the sale of all psychoactive drugs associated with them”.*

The members noted the following notice of motion from Donegal County Council:-

*“That the Council call on the Government not to introduce V.A.T. charges on Council services until January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011”.*

The members noted two letters of acknowledgement from the Department of the Taoiseach regarding the public sector pay talks.

A letter was received from Scoil Rois regarding the traffic issues in the area at school times.

A copy of letter from the Department of the Environment, Heritage & Local Government regarding costs incurred by the Council from proceedings related to 28, St. Macartans Villas was circulated to the

members. The letter stated that it would not permit the Council to pay the legal costs associated with this High Court action with capital monies. It was noted that the legal fees, which had been substantially reduced, amounted to €133,202.23 and would have to be paid through the revenue account. On the proposal of Cllr. Carthy seconded by Cllr. Clarke it was proposed to provide funding in the 2011 budget and continue to do so over the next 5 years to clear the amount outstanding.

#### 4. Reports:

- a. Water
- b. Sewerage.

The following programme of works for May and June, 2010 was circulated to the members:-

Crew 1: **Cloughvalley Estate** - Works for the laying of sewer, storm & water mains at this location are near complete. This crew will then move to Church Grove, the Dundalk Road and the Ballybay road to carry out similar functions over the coming weeks.

Crew 2, & 3 : **Mullanarry Road** – Work has commenced for the laying of sewer and water mains and is due to continue until the end of June. A road closure is currently in place.

Crew 4 : **Drumcondrath pumping station** – Works are continuing at the Drumcondrath road pumping station and the site is being prepared for kerbing. This crew will then move to the Dundalk and Ardee Road pumping stations to commence excavation for pump sumps and backfill the precast tanks.

Crew 5 :- **Mullanarry Road** – This crew will be working on the laying of a temporary water main and the connection of houses until the completion of new main. This crew will then move to the Castleblayney and Ross Road and Chapel lane to carrying out testing and connections.

Crews 6 **Oriel Road** – Works will commence in the following locations for the permanent reinstatement of roads:-

Oriel Road – Mid May

Dundalk Road – End of May

Shercock Road – Mid June

Rockdaniel Road - July

Chapel Lane lower - July

Camera surveys & remediation works are on going.

#### Road Closures

The following are a list of road closures that are necessary to complete the above mentioned works. These details are indicative and **may be subject to change**:-

#### **Location**

#### **Dates (subject to change)**

Mullanarry Road currently in place until the 28<sup>th</sup> of May, 2010.

The Engineer Alan Hall told Cllr. Carthy that he would advise P. & S. of the poor state of the entrance to Derryolam Court. Cllr. McNally stated that he was extremely unhappy with the state of repair of some of the roads in Carrickmacross. He said that P. & S. should be more vigilant in bringing roads back to a useable state of repair in the interim of carrying out works. He said that the current state of repair of the Castleblayney and Shercock approach roads and the Main Street were completely unacceptable. When advised by the Manager that the forum for raising these concerns was the steering committee meeting, he stated that he had done so on numerous occasions but his requests had fallen on deaf ears. He proposed that a letter issue to the Water Services Section of Monaghan Co. Council and the Roads Section and request that they exercise their authority in having these black spots looked at. This was seconded by Cllr. Keelan and unanimously agreed by all the members present.

**c. Housing.**

The Town Manager informed Cllr. Keelan that an up to date housing list would be available by the end of the summer.

**5. Notice of Motion:**

The following Notice of Motion was proposed by Cllr. McNally and seconded by Cllr O’Hanlon:-

*“ That this Council organises a civic reception for Margaret McGovern nee Birdy who recently received an MBE for her exceptional contribution to the Hospice Care Movement in Jersey. Margaret originated from Carrickmacross, is a sister of Mickey Birdy of Birdy Oils and first cousin of Cathal Birdy, Birdy’s Newsagents. Carrickmacross “.*

The following questions were asked by Cllr. McNally:-

*a. “What plans has this Council got in place to expend the €15,000 allocated in the Budget for the promotion of the town”.*

The Town Manager stated that the money was to be spent on projects decided in conjunction with the Carrickmacross Chamber of Commerce. He said that the idea was to invest in the promotion of the town and he had already spoken informally to the chamber. However Cllr. Carthy said that these decisions should be made in conjunction with the members. The Manager agreed stating that the members would be involved in any decision making and that the final decisions regarding spending would have to be passed by the Council. Cllr. Clarke said that there would be a need for feedback on the benefits of any such funding to enable the members to make informed spending decisions in the future.

*b. “Will this Council re-examine the possibility of extending the footpath across the high road at Mullanary as it is extensively used by pedestrians”.*

Cllr. McNally requested that the Engineer look at this area as it was widely used by pedestrians. The Engineer said that this was already

looked at in conjunction with other works, but would require the procurement of land from private landowners.

## **6. Fixing date of Annual General Meeting.**

It was unanimously agreed to hold the AGM on Monday the 14<sup>th</sup> of June, 2010 at 2:30p.m.

## **7. Allocation of Additional Community Grants 2010.**

The provision of the following allocations was unanimously agreed by the members:-

Lions Club	€500
Kevin O'Hanlon, Annacroft	€500
Evolve, Parents & Toddlers Group	€500

## **8 Manager's Orders.**

Manager Order nos. 16/10 to 18/10 were noted by the members.

## **9. Planning Applications.**

The following planning applications were noted by the members:-

10/05 **Applicant :-** Mr. Seamus McEneaney

**Proposal:-** Change of use from a retail unit to a pizzeria take-away with opening hours of up to 3:00 a.m. and all associated site works at 32, Main Street, Carrickmacross.

10/06 **Applicant :-** Carrickmacross Baptist Church.

**Proposal:-** 1. provision of 2 no. signage boards at proposed new entrance (previously granted ref. 09/3) and retention of increased height of reinstated boundary wall at the southern end of site, revised car parking layout. Also vary condition 7 of planning ref. no. 09/3 "no use of the development shall be made before 9:30 a.m or after 21:30 p.m on any day" to read "with the exception of special services such as Christmas Eve, New Years Eve and Easter morning and other occasions (not exceeding 12 days in a calendar year), no formal activities should take place before 7:30 am. or after 11:00 p.m. Activities involving large number of people (ie. more than 30) should be further restricted to the hours between 9:00 am and 10:30 pm. With the exception of the above special services, people or traffic movement to or from the premises should be restricted to the hours between 7:00 am and 12:00 midnight

The Manager informed the members that construction works on the new civic offices would begin on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. This news was welcomed by all present.

## **10. Conferences.**

It was agreed that Cllr. McNally would attend the Defamation seminar in Limerick, and Cllr. Kerr-Conlon would attend the National Emergency Management seminar in Croke Park.

### **11. Votes of Sympathy/Congratulations.**

Votes of sympathy were passed with each of the following:-

The Kieran family, Drumboat on the death of Laurence Keenan.  
Mary McNally and family, Ballymackney on the death of Michael McNally.  
Liam & Ann Rooney & family, Tornadrola, on the death of Paul Rooney.

### **12. Any Other Business.**

The Manager informed Cllr. Jankaitiene that an incorrect sign on the approach road to Carrickmacross had been brought to the attention of the NRA. He said that he would bring the matter to their attention again.

Cllr. Martin congratulated Mr. Joe McCabe on the expansion of the Carrick Gazette to the Monaghan Gazette and this was unanimously agreed by all the members.

Cllr. O'Hanlon requested that a letter issue to CIE requesting that they run their busses through the town, down Main Street and out onto the bypass.

The Manager told the members that the CCTV cameras would be put in place on the Convent Lands play park in the next couple of weeks.

Cllr. Carthy requested that the Council look at some form of litter collection points around the Convent Avenue walk. A clean up had recently taken place at this location and the lack of bins in the area was noted. The Town Manager took the opportunity to thank all those who had participated in the clean up week and commended them for their hard work.

Cllr. Carthy proposed that a letter issue to the HSE seeking an exact update on their relocation plans from St. Macartans Villas to the Union Workhouse, the timescale involved and the facilities which would be provided at the new location.

Cllr. Keelan requested that a letter issue to the owner's of McEaney's site on the Ardee Road and request that they replace the hoarding at this location as it had become unsightly and possibly dangerous.

Cllr. Carolan reminded the members that they would be hosting the Senior Citizens Party on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June.

The members noted that a petition objecting to the funfair for the June Bank Holiday Festival being relocated to the Convent Lands and requested that a copy be circulated to each of them.

The meeting concluded at 4:15 p.m.

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Meara Bhaile  
14th June, 2010.  
Date

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Town Clerk