

**Ceantar Bardasach Carraig Mhachaire Rois – Baile Na Lorgan  
Comhairle Contae Mhuineachain**



**The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney  
Monaghan County Council**

Minutes of proceedings of MD monthly meeting held in the Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 at 3.30pm.

**Present** : Cathaoirleach Colm Carthy.

Noel Keelan, Aidan Campbell, PJ O’Hanlon, Pdraig McNally.

**In Attendance:** Gareth McMahon, Co-ordinator, John Fox, Assistant Engineer, Craig Connolly, Graduate Engineer. Amanda Murray, Staff Officer, Stephanie McEaney, Assistant Staff Officer.

**Apologies:** Paul Clifford, Director of Services.

At the outset of the meeting Cathaoirleach Colm Carthy informed the members that Cllr. Jackie Crowes sister Ann McMahon had passed away. The meeting was adjourned for 5 minutes as a mark of respect.

**Matters arising**

Cllr. O’Hanlon asked that contact be made with Mary Capaldi, New Principal of St. Joseph’s NS in relation to an update on the Stedfast Junction.

Cllr. Campbell requested an update of the Market House Area, Castleblayney. The area has been cordoned off since 25<sup>th</sup> January last and there was a lot of public concern in relation to same and requested that the Council liaise with residents in the area in relation to any updates etc. He added that the building was ready for full planning several years ago but there was no funding available and at the time small monies would have rectified same.

Cllr. O Hanlon proposed a letter be sent to Minister Heather Humphreys requesting to meet with members to discuss the Market House Area and funding for Roads, Public Lighting and Footpaths. This was seconded by Cllr. Keelan and agreed by all.

Cllr. Keelan asked for an update on the Killanny Road (roundabout area).

Cllr. Keelan proposed that a one-off payment in the sum of €4,000 could be taken from the MD fund allocation and donated to Donaghmoyné Playpark committee in order for them to complete outstanding works. This was seconded by Cllr. Carthy. After a lengthy debate it was agreed to defer same until further information was made available and the Budget for the MD fund was brought to the March meeting.

## Correspondence

*Letters from Office of the Taoiseach, Minister Shane Ross, Brendan Smyth TD acknowledging this Councils letter in relation to lack of Roads funding for the area.*

Cllr. O Hanlon stated that with Brexit coming down the line the border region is going to suffer. As stated in the Roads area meeting previously the allocation received for 2019 was only going to cover works on 8 roads and these weren't even the full stretch of road. He added that it was an absolute disgrace.

## Consideration of Co-ordinators monthly report

Cllr. Campbell welcomed the Rural Regeneration Funding event held in the Iontas Centre, Castleblayney on 14<sup>th</sup> February last and funding of €2,138,560 in respect of new Enterprise Hub for McGrath Road, Castleblayney.

Cllr. O'Hanlon concurred with Cllr. Campbell. He stated that he was disappointed that Carrickmacross did not received funding for a second C:TEK building as the first building was working extremely well and there was a need in the area for a second especially with Brexit coming down the line. He added that to date Minister Heather Humphreys has not met the members in relation to same although there was numerous requests to do same.

Cllr. McNally stated that a letter should be issued to Minister Humphreys highlighting the success of C:TEK 1 and requesting that she consider the next application without hesitation.

Cllr Carthy asked for an update on the recreation area at Muckno.

Reply: Ski Club recreation works at Lough Muckno which had been tendered last year and on hold has now recommenced.

Cllr. Carthy asked for an update on the Pilot Residential Town Centre Scheme and asked for an update on one derelict site which has had scaffolding placed round same for a long period of time.

Reply: Planning application currently running in relation to the derelict buildings in area and take it from there.

Cllr. Keelan stated that is was imperative to have public amenities included in Phase II of the Market House Project, Carrickmacross

Reply: Plans for the new public toilets have not, as yet, been formalised.

## Questions

*Questions raised by Cllr. Jackie Crowe for February 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:*

**1. Will this MD prepare a snag list for the recently installed footpaths and lights on the Old Coach Road Castleblayney.**

Response:- A list is being compiled by Co. Council staff and the Contractor, and snag works to take place in the coming weeks.

**2. Would this Council ensure that the dangerous potholes at the traffic lights, York Street and the severe damage at the roundabout are patched as soon as possible.**

Response:- This work has been completed.

**3. Is there any news when the football posts will be erected in the Children's Play Park in Drumillard.**

Response:- The goal posts have been ordered and the Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD are awaiting delivery and installation of same.

**4. Repairs to a footpath in Park Road, Castleblayney have never been finished. Will this MD make sure that this is carried out.**

Response:- Contractor has been instructed to carry out these works and they should be completed by close of Q1.

Would this MD ensure that a snag list be carried out on the pavements and footpaths after the works are finished on the Main Street of Castleblayney.

Response:- The MD Engineering staff and the Contractor will ensure that all works are carried out in compliance with the Road Opening Licence granted.

Questions raised by Cllr. Pdraig McNally for February 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

5. Has this MD received any correspondence from the OPW regarding the flood risk improvement works at Drumganny Carrickmacross and Drumgossat, Magheraclone, Carrickmacross.

Response:- There has been no response to date from the OPW regarding this application.

6. Has this MD put plans in place to reinstate the various sewerage cuttings our streets and approach roads?

Response:- This MD will carry out repair works on all affected areas by the end of Q1.

7. Has this MD finalised arrangements to proceed with the additional 2no. public lights at Killanny Church?

Response:- Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD staff are in discussions currently with the Church Committee regarding the provision of new lights at this location.

Questions raised by Cllr. Noel Keelan for February 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

8. What plans have this Council to carry out improvement works, including better vehicular access, to the rear of Deery's Terrace & Dunard estate in Inniskeen village as discussed on site with our senior engineering staff and local residents?

Response:- The MD has assessed the works and carried out costings, however, there is no plans currently to carry out these works.

9. As a matter of urgency, will this Council carry out some improvement works such as advanced warning signs/extra road markings etc. and other traffic calming measures deemed necessary at Essexford junction; given how dangerous this junction has become especially for large vehicles including school buses trying to access the very busy Dundalk Regional Road R178 from the Inniskeen road?

Response:- The MD will submit an application to the Department for Low Cost Safety Works at this location.

10. Has there been any further progress in relation to the provision of WiFi facilities throughout our villages including for example Donaghmoyne, Corduff, Lisdoonan, Inniskeen given the very poor, or indeed non existent, broadband in these areas?

Response:- The Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD will continue to liaise with the County Council's Broadband Officer in order to progress the possibility of putting in place WiFi facilities throughout the District.

11. Has there been any further progress in relation to the provision of a CCTV camera system for Carrickmacross town and its environs given that up to four million euro has been allocated for this very important crime prevention and detection measure?

Response:- The provision of CCTV camera systems has been suspended across Monaghan County Council until the full ramifications of the Data Protection Regulations are assessed and a policy put in place.

12. What is the up to-date position in relation to the provision of traffic calming measures on the Donaghmoyne Road R179 including the provision of a pedestrian crossing at the Lisanisk junction given the speed of traffic at this location as requested by local residents including Ascaill Dubh and Lisanisk residents associations?

Response:- An application was made for funding for a new pedestrian crossing on the R179 to the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport under the Low Cost Safety Improvement Scheme in October, 2018 however, this application was unsuccessful. It will be included in an application for 2019.

Questions raised by Cllr. Colm Carthy for February 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

13. When is it envisaged work will commence on the Steadfast (Dundalk/Donaghmoyne Road) Junction, Carrickmacross (Low Cost Safety)?

Response:- Funding has been allocated to carry out these works under the Low Cost Safety Scheme. Tender documents are currently being compiled.

14. What will the first phase of Rural Regeneration Funding for Carrickmacross (€600k+) be used for specifically?

Response:- The funding application consisted of both a Category 1 element – the construction of the carpark at Shirley House Lane and a Category 2 element. We will know more regarding the breakdown when the Letter of Offer is received from the Department.

15. When is it expected that the extension to balustrade/handrail, at the bottom of St. Macartans Villas/Emmet Road, Carrickmacross, will be fitted?

Response:- It is proposed to have this in place in early 2019 following consultation with the residents.

16. What is the up-to-date position on works being carried out on the Convent Avenue, Carrickmacross, and when is it expected that works will be completed?

Response:- Funding has been received for these works under the Outdoor Recreation Scheme and works are ongoing.

17. When is it envisaged that works will commence on trimming trees in Drummond Etra, Carrickmacross, and will the Council agree to trim/tidy all trees in the estate as well as the row of trees behind numbers 1-10 (already agreed)?

Response:- These works have been included on the MD's Hedge Cutting Programme for 2019.

**Director of Services Orders**

Directors Orders 05/2019 to 10/2019 were noted.

**Votes of Sympathy / Congratulations**

*Vote of sympathy was passed to:*

Patricia Marron & Family, Mullaghrafferty, Carrickmacross on the death of her husband Noel Marron.

*Vote of congratulations was passed to:*

Born to Perform Stage School on Hiphoptical group getting through to the next round of Ireland's Got Talent.

CMU (Cavan Monaghan United) U13's on winning the Liam Miller Cup.

**AOB**

Cllr. O'Hanlon - Ramp on the Ardee Road and Shercock Road, Carrickmacross. He believed these works should have taken place by now. He has had several reps made in relation to same. He added that this has been going on for over 12 months. He appealed to the Executive and Engineering staff to have an update in relation to same for the March meeting. Garth McMahon, Co-ordinator stated that a traffic calming procedure was in place in the Ardee Road at present and added that it was the first time he was made aware of the Shercock Road Ramp. A design was currently being worked on and was going to the Roads Section, Monaghan for approval. Report on same will be brought to the members as soon as it is completed.

Cllr. Keelan - Update on the removal on piers and gates at Convent Land. He also asked if the Council can pursue Shirley Estate in relation to the wall on the Kingscourt Road and repairs to same. Some repairs are not in keeping with the protected structure already in place.

Finnegan's Cross, Inniskeen update on small works needs.

Reinstate sign for Ballymackney, Carrickmacross

Cllr. Mc Nally requested an update on the public lighting at Killanny. Craig Connolly stated that contact had been made with the Church and Bishops House, Monaghan as permission was needed to dig in Church Grounds - to date no response had been received.

It was agreed to hold the March meeting on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 4.00pm.

Meeting concluded at 5:00pm.

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Cathaoirleach

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Meeting Administrator

Dated \_\_\_\_\_