

## Ceantar Bardasach Carraig Mhachaire Rois – Baile Na Lorgan

### Comhairle Contae Mhuineachain



## The Municipal District of Carrickmacross – Castleblayney

### Monaghan County Council

Minutes of proceedings of January monthly meeting held in the Civic Offices, Riverside Road, Carrickmacross, Co. Monaghan on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 at 10.00am.

**Present** : Cathaoirleach Colm Carthy.

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

**In Attendance:** Paul Clifford, Director of Services, Gareth McMahon, Co-ordinator, John Fox, Assistant Engineer, Amanda Murray, Staff Officer, Stephanie McEneaney, Assistant Staff Officer.

#### **1.0 Confirmation of Minutes**

On the proposal of Cllr. Keelan and seconded by Cllr. McNally the minutes of the monthly meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018 were adopted.

#### **2.0 Matters Arising**

*Cllr. O Hanlon:*

Requested that a copy of the map layout of the stedfast junction pedestrian crossing be forwarded to St. Joseph’s NS. He also asked when the works would commence.

Response – Copy of same will be forwarded to the school. Project went out to tender and should be awarded within the next few weeks.

He requested for an update on the roads funding and in particular funding for the gyproc detour. Response - No confirmation on roads budgets to date. Roads design office formulated plans for works around gyproc detour and have applied for additional funding, to date no response.

*Cllr. Carthy:*

Requested an update on signage for the Lace Gallery and Craft Centre in the Market Square Area, Carrickmacross.

Response - 2 finger post sign proposed, signage cannot be placed directly on building as it is a protected structure. Cllr. Carthy requested that the lace gallery committee are consulted on same.

Asked that trees in the green area between upper and lower Drummond Etra would be included in the hedge trimming program.

It was agreed that John Fox, Assistant Engineer would meet with Cllr. Carthy to review same.

*Cllr. McNally:*

Asked would the program for alternative route for gyproc detour be completed within a 12-month period.  
Response – Subject to funding and agreement with landlords it would be envisioned that there should be no delay.

Requested an update on Kavanagh Centre.

Response - Contractors on site.

Update on Castle Street Trees to be cut.

Response – Landlord contacted in relation to same.

Update in relation to the Killanny Road and sinking part at the bridge.

Response – Works to commence next week.

*Cllr. Campbell:*

In relation to the Notice of Motion from the December meeting calling on the executive to initiate the process of introducing a bye-law preventing camping at Lisanisk lake. He stated that a lot of people had contacted him issuing their concerns in relation to same and the actual wording of the motion.

It was agreed by all members to invite representatives of the local course anglers group to the next meeting. It was proposed by Cllr. O Hanlon and seconded by Cllr. McNally that a letter be sent to the course anglers group advising them to continue fishing as normal.

*Cllr. Keelan:*

Requested an update on meeting with Adge King, DOS in relation to the public lighting on Main Street, Carrickmacross.

Response – Will be invited to the next meeting.

### **3.0 Correspondence**

*Letter from Hudson's Funfair requesting use of Drummod Etra Car Park, Carrickmacross for the St. Patrick's Day Weekend (Friday 15<sup>th</sup> to Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March).*

Proposed by Cllr. McNally and seconded by Cllr. Carthy.

*Letter from Adrian O'Sullivan, Road Safety Officer, Monaghan County Council in relation to ongoing issues with Traffic Calming measures at Cloughvalley Schools area.*

Cllr. McNally stated that there were parent's groups that could attend meetings. It was agreed to invite a contingency from the parents group to a forthcoming meeting. Members to send contact details of who to invite.

### **4.0 Consideration of Co-ordinators monthly report**

Gareth McMahon read through the contents of the report.

*Cllr. Crowe:*

Welcomed the good news of the €100,00 funding for Castleblayney under the "Pilot Residential Town Centre Scheme".

He also welcomed the south lodge fishing stands.

He asked when would the Annadrummond flooding project commence.

Response:– Co-ordinator will follow up on same.

He commended the work at the Castleblayney new fire station.

*Cllr. Campbell:*

Complimented all the work that's taking place and in the pipeline.

Commended the commencement of the Patrick Kavanagh Centre project.

He asked for an update on the Market House Building in Castleblayney which had been cordoned off on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> January last. He stated it was of utmost importance to consult with residents in the area. He also stated that it was imperative the Big Tom Statue would be protected. He thanked the staff for the work in sealing off the building and hoped that the area would only be sealed off for a short term as people

were coming visiting the Big Tom Statue and it is now covered. He added that the area in question was already very busy with traffic etc. due to water works taking place. He requested that a sign be put in place "No through traffic" in the area.

Response:- A Structural survey took place recently and it came to light that an internal structure wall was unsafe, as a precaution the building had to be stabilised. A comprehensive report is to take place and then there will be a better idea of where to go from here. In relation to the water works in the area they are moving to a different location in the town.

*Cllr. Keelan:*

In relation to the Market House Building he stated that it was a failure on the governments behalf that funding was not put in place for same over the years.

While happy to see that an application for funding has been made to the OPW for the Drumganny Road he stated that the Road was in a serious condition and funding was badly needed. He added that due to lack of funding that some roads continued to be in bad repair.

Response:- Reduced specification. Costs reduced. More achievable. Application with the OPW.

He stated it was imperative for public toilet facilities to be in place in the Market Square area Carrickmacross.

*Cllr. O Hanlon:*

Regarding the Market House Building, Castleblayney he stated that it is very unfortunate that the building is in a state of despair. His opinion is that the local community needed to get involved together with the Council.

*Cllr. McNally:*

In relation to the Ski Club facility he questioned the wisdom on spending money on same and stated that the members needed to know what is the overall plan for Muckno?

Response:- Confirmation received funding has been secured for works to include re-roof of the clubhouse building; provision of a new walking route linking to the Dundalk Road and provision of a new open water swimming facility. The next step is to seek Expressions of Interest for a short-term leasing agreement. These three low cost measures would make the area more appealing during the summer months. In relation to the long-term plan there is significant costs in relation to same. In order to take the overall area to the market costs to do same are significant and currently the council were looking for funding to take it to the next step.

He requested that lighting be put in place at the Tullynaskeagh East Walkway.

Response:- Budget would not stretch however it can be looked at in the future perhaps under funding under the sports infrastructure grant. Incorporate into that grant application. Closing date for same is the 17<sup>th</sup> April. Working on same with Rovers Aces and other interested parties. Information briefing last week more diverse use for the facilities the better the scoring will be on the funding.

He was disappointed at the ongoing delays in relation to the Tullyvaragh Lower junction Realignment and Ghost Island.

In relation to the Drumganny Road flooding monies he asked what had exactly been applied for the OPW? He welcomed the ongoing development at the Market Square, Carrickmacross and added that proper toilet facilities were needed.

*Cllr. O Hanlon:*

In order to set a date for the roads program he stated that the members needed to know exactly what funding was in place. With Brexit coming down the line it was imperative, and he added that the Border counties should be appointed more monies due to same. He proposed that a letter be sent to the Taoiseach and (cc), Ministers' Heather Humphreys and Shane Ross requesting a meeting to discuss same.

Response:- In relation to the Roads Program budget currently budgeting same monies as last year. Roads area meeting in February and will have idea of funding by then.

*Cllr. Carthy:*

Requested that a 30k speed limit be put in place at Chapel Lane and also additional signage be put in place. He asked what was the situation with Pier on Church Hill been removed in recent weeks?

Response:- the Pier at Church Hill has been removed by the property owner. A complaint was received into the office and sent to Planning Section for report.

## **5.0 Questions**

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

**1. What is the up-to-date position on the cleaning/clearing of the stream/shuck running through Foxfield which was supposed to be cleared in the first half of 2018?**

Response:- It is expected that works will commence in the Q1 2019.

**2. Are there plans currently in place to deal with the parking situation at the doctor's surgery/primary schools in Cloughvalley – new barrier to prevent parking, signage etc as discussed and requested previously?**

Response:- A letter has been received from the Road Safety Officer regarding this issue and will be discussed under correspondence.

**3. When will ramps be added to the Ross Road (at Barford meats site), Carrickmacross, to deal with the excessive speed which was confirmed through a traffic count in 2017?**

Response:- A traffic count had been completed at this location and designs are currently being drafted, which will be brought to the members at the next roads area meeting.

**4. When is it envisaged that road markings, loading bay and parking regulations will be implemented on Farney Street, Carrickmacross?**

Response:- It is intended that the parking bye-laws for Carrickmacross will be reviewed in 2019. This location will be considered during the review process.

*Questions raised by Cllr. Padraig McNally for January 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:*

**5. In light of the fact that Monaghan County Council has now received flood reports on both the Aghaille Road and Magheraboy Road, what are the reports' findings and what solutions are being put forward by the Consultants to alleviate flooding?**

Response:- A review document is currently at draft stage. When it is complete it will be circulated to the members.

**6. In light of our dismal showing regarding our regional roads in a national survey recently, has this MD been consulted by Monaghan County Council to prepare a detailed report on our roads sections under the above heading in order for additional monies to be sought and to urgently improve some of these roads that are very dangerous especially for large vehicles?**

Response:- The Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD are in consultation regarding this matter.

**7. Has this MD finalised its plans to make the bridge at the Glebe, Inniskeen safe for pedestrians and cyclists? And are we still considering an independent footbridge either adjacent or down stream.**

Response:- Under the 2018 Town and Village Renewal Scheme consultants are being appointed to look at the Kavanagh Trail and pedestrian routes around Inniskeen. Part of their brief will include an assessment of the route from the old train station to the village centre.

**8. Has this Council finalised its plans to install two public lights at Killanny Church?"**

Response:- The Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD are currently liaising with the Killanny Church Committee to progress this matter further.

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

**9. Would the Environment Section of this MD indicate what action has been taken to investigate the obnoxious smell that has daily plagued the residents of Drumillard Castleblayney. This smell has been ongoing for years but has recently got worse?**

Response:- This question has been forwarded to the Water Services Section, Monaghan Co. Council.

**10. Would this MD Council please give an update on the appointment of a consultant to prepare tender documents to provide a pedestrian crossing and accessible bus stop at York Street Castleblayney?**

Response:- An application has been made to the National Transport Authority. The Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD are currently compiling tender documents for these works.

**11. Could I have an update on the proposal to employ consultants to prepare an overall traffic calming and streetscaping plan for the Monaghan Road. Starting at the Ballybay Road and ending at McGrath Road Castleblayney?**

Response:- The Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD are currently drafting design options which will be circulated to the members when complete.

**12. The goal posts proposed for Drumillard Play Park. When will they be installed?**

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

**13. Will this MD restore the signs at the roundabout in Castleblayney which indicate the Shercock and Monaghan Roads?**

Response:- The Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD will reinstate these signs in the coming weeks.

Questions raised by Cllr. Aidan Campbell for January 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:

**14. In Welcoming the €11 7,000 funding which was received for the works to be carried out at Lough Muckno to:**

**(A) Upgrade the roadway and create a loop from the park out to the Dundalk Road.**

**(B) Up grade the Ski Club area.**

**(C) To create open water swimming area and changing facilities at the shore line.**

**When will these works commence and can the work be completed as soon as possible to enable full use of the facilities for the summer period?**

Response:- As tenders for the work to the clubhouse have already been received works on this element can commence immediately. Works on the other two elements will be designed and tendered over the coming months.

**15. In relation to the Pilot Residential Town Centre Scheme where Castleblayney was one of 6 towns in Ireland to receive funding for €100,000, what process will be used to get the local businesses, residents and community groups to feed into this plan and what timeframe will this take?**

Response:- It is intended to identify a study area for this project and to contact all property owners within the study area. Workshops will also be held in order to ascertain the views of the property owners and to establish the best scheme to assist in getting town centre properties reoccupied.

**16. There is a number of very bad dips in roads around the area including the Churchill Road, Annadrummond, Bree Road, Corrygary beside the Toome football field, when will work be carried out on these?**

Response:- The Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD are currently carrying out a tender of works of the worst effected areas.

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

**17. What is the up to-date position in relation to the provision of traffic calming measures on the Donaghmoyn Road (R179) including the provision of a pedestrian crossing at the junction of the Donaghmoyn Road / Lisanisk junction, given the speed of traffic at this location and also given that a vehicle crashed through a fence and landed in the Ascail Dubh estate last year?**

Response:- An application has been 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 and we are awaiting a decision on same.

**18. What is the up to-date position in relation to the provision of much needed proper safe walking routes / footpath links throughout Inniskeen Village & in particular from the school out to Magee's corner & linking in to the Monaghan Way walking route?**

Response: Inniskeen Village is included in the communities which will be contacted regarding Community Plans. It is intended to offer the community the opportunity to avail of the Council's assistance to prepare a plan, but it is ultimately up to the community if they wish to take it up. It is also up to the community to identify what they set as a priority within any plan which emerges from the consultation process.

**19. Has there been any further progress in relation to the provision of a CCTV camera system for Carrickmacross town and its environs?**

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.

**20. What is the up to-date position in relation to the provision of a post box in Donaghmoynne Village in order to serve the local resident and business community?**

Response: The Carrickmacross-Castleblayney MD had made contact with An Post on 3 separate occasions regarding this matter, and we are still awaiting a response.

**21. Will this Council's Senior Executive members continue to liaise with the County Council Broadband Officer in order to progress the possibility of putting in place Wifi facilities throughout our villages including for example Lisdoonan , Donaghmoynne , Corduff , Inniskeen?**

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.

## **6.0 Notice of Motions**

*Motion by Cllrs. Colm Carthy & Noel Keelan for January 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblayney Municipal District Council:*

1. 'The Municipal District of Carrickmacross-Castleblayney calls on the executive, using the discretionary funding for economic purposes, to hire a Town Development officer, similar to the position afforded to Monaghan Town, in order to develop, promote and enhance to the Carrickmacross area.'

Cllr. Carthy added that Carrickmacross is the only town in the county with no Town Team. However, the Chamber of Commerce and the MD work well together. He added that the Town Development officer in Monaghan was paid out of the pay parking monies and that this would not be possible in Carrickmacross, however, it may be possible to pay through the municipal district fund.

Cllr. Keelan said that there were significant challenges in the time ahead. Online shopping had become very popular and we needed to protect the heart of the town. Lucky have a very active chamber of commerce that work with the MD. Active tidy towns committee and good community spirit. Mindful of the future and the fact that a lot of the population going to Dublin and we need to "Protect our own patch".

Cllr Campbell requested that the motion be amended to include Castleblayney.

Cllr O'Hanlon stated that he was in favour of anything that would improve both towns.

Cllr. McNally had mixed views and wondered what better off are Monaghan town having a town development officer. He added that the MD was performing well as it is, and perhaps a staff member already employed could take on the roll.

The Town Manager stated that the MD should consult with the chamber of commerce in relation to same. Each town in the county is different. Carrickmacross have a unique relationship with chamber and tidy

towns whereas there is a gap in Monaghan Town as there is no chamber therefore part of the town development officers roll is to set up a chamber.

It was agreed to defer the motion pending further investigation.

Motion by Cllr. Padraig McNally for January 2019 meeting of Carrickmacross/Castleblaney Municipal District Council:

**2.** As promised at the public meeting on January 15th regarding the Gyproc situation, that this MD calls on the Department of Transport to immediately provide funding for the upgrade of the various roads being used as a detour following the closure of the L49000/Knocknacran due to subsidence in the area.

Cllr. McNally added that he drove round the detour and in a few places large hedging will need to be moved. He stated it was imperative to future proof detour arrangements

Cllr. O'Hanlon stated that a request be sent on to Sean Canning, Minister for State for OPW and Flood Relief, and Heather Humphreys, Minister Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation who attended the meeting and requesting an update on funding for same. He added that people in the area have been to hell and back and still are. He acknowledged work of the outdoor staff and they were keeping detours in the best possible condition, but these small roads were not fit for traffic. He stated that Local businesses had been severely impacted, and the issue will remain ongoing for weeks, months and perhaps years to come.

**7.0 Set Date to Meet Tidy Towns Groups and Kavanagh Centre Group**

It was agreed to meet the 3 local tidy town groups and make a small presentation to them to acknowledge their ongoing successful work directly after the February meeting at 6pm.

In relation to the Kavanagh Centre, contact to be made with Art Agnew to see if the committee still want to meet.

**8.0 HGV Restrictions at Main Street, Carrickmacross**

Ongoing investigations taking place.

**9.0 Set Date for Roads Area Meeting**

It was agreed to hold the meeting Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February at 2.00pm.

**10.0 Directors Orders**

Directors Orders 86/2018 to 04/2019 were noted by members.

**11.0 Vote of Sympathy/Vote of Congratulations**

*Vote of sympathy was passed to:*

Sharon Finnegan (staff member) on the death of her father Pat Finnegan.

Anne O'Reilly (staff member) on the death of her father Gerry O'Reilly.

Jennifer Lavery & Family on the death of Eileen Callan.

Lily Gartlan & Family on the death of her brother Tommy McEneaney.

Frank Cunningham & Family on the death of Seamus Cunningham.

Ann Cunningham on the death of her husband Seamus.

Robert Ashfield & Family on the death of his wife Christine.

Kathleen Carville, Noel, Donal and Tommy Marron on the death of their mother Mary.

*Vote of congratulations was passed to:*

Castleblaney Hurling Club on reaching the All Ireland Final.

St. Louis Secondary School, Carrickmacross on winning the U19 All Ireland Basketball Title.

Monsignor Larry Duffy on his appointment as Bishop of Clogher.

## **12.0 AOB**

It was agreed to hold a small reception for St. Louis Secondary School, Carrickmacross U-19's Basketball Team and Our Lady's Secondary School, Castleblayney for the winning all Ireland Choir contest on their recent successes and hold same directly after the March meeting to be held on the 25<sup>th</sup> March at 4pm. It was noted that the Castleblayney Hurling Club had reached the final of the All Ireland, and it was agreed to wait on the final result to decide on hosting a reception for them.

In relation to Casual Trading in was agreed to promote same via internet and local newspaper. The Co-ordinator informed the members that options were being considered to create a craft market in the market square area which he hoped would be up and running for the summer months.

It was agreed to make a small presentation to Monsignor Larry Duffy at his leaving function on Wednesday next.

Cllr. O'Hanlon asked for an update on the on footpath repairs throughout Carrickmacross town area.

Cllr. Keelan asked again that the Killanny road (area where 2 mini roundabouts are in place) surface be looked at as it is not fit for purpose.

Cllr. Keelan asked was there any update from the corporate policy group in relation to funding for Donaghmoyne Playpark new surfacing.

Cllr. McNally stated that there were a number of people parking cars on the left hand side near the bend on Monaghan Street / Castleblayney Road. Could same be assessed.

Cllr. McNally asked if there was a possibility that the MD could erect a group sign leading into the Carrick Aces Running Track. It was agreed that the Council could get signage and a small fee be charged to relative businesses. Spaces to be left on same for further business.

Cllr. Carthy requested a "Taking in Charge" application form be sent to him in relation to Drummond Otra.

Meeting concluded at 1.20pm.

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Cathaoirleach

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Meeting Administrator

Dated :

